

## On Being the Only Veteran in English Comp II

—Jennifer Childress

Put mind to hand  
and hand to pen  
try to go  
where others have been

Walk the talk  
talk the walk  
lines on paper  
blackboard chalk

Little lessons  
learned in school  
basic training  
(I ain't no fool)

Always sitting  
back row bound  
hands fly up  
salute the sound

If I was back there  
on the flightline waiting  
I could still my heart  
from palpitating

But not now.

Oh! Words

please be quick and with a snap

curl 'round on the notebook

and out of your nap

And the blank writing tablet looks up at me and grins:

"Hurry up and wait" :)