

Battle of Britain Service & Parade September 25th 2016

Gaze upon the stars for there are many beyond the few

Gaze not down but up to the blue
And reflect on those who never returned:
There are many beyond the few.

The lucky ones who made it back
Knew nothing of their charms as engines spluttered and churned.
They gazed not down but up to the blue.

The WAAF girls held their nerve through waves of 'ack ack',
Keeping watch over summer skies, calling the angels concerned,
There are many beyond the few.

The howl of sirens signalled attack –
Defiant boys on bikes froze as spiralling Dorniers burned.
They gazed not down but up to the blue.

Mothers mourned sons resting forever under skies of union flags,
Whilst night after night, far into enemy lines Britain's victory too was earned.
There are many beyond the few.

As the roar of Merlins became the cacophonous soundtrack,
It was then that the war effort turned.
Gazing not down but up to the blue.
There are so many beyond the few.

*by Camilla McLean
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