A sword-great story

Edward Estlin Cummings (1894-1962)

in Eight Harvard Poets (1917)

Gary Bachlund

Copyright © 2009 Gary Bachlund All international rights reserved. www.bachlund.org
A sword-great story

vast arm-ies_ of the marching_ dead.

with standards and the neigh-ing of great steeds, moving to war_ a-

cross the smi-ling meads;

by whose page we break the precious bread of communion_ with the
past, and wed to valor battle with heroic breeds.

Thou, Froisart, for that thou didst love the pen while others wrote in steel accept all praise (accept all praise) of after ages.
A sword-great story

70

and of hungry days for whom the old glories move,

77

the old trumpets cry; who gav'st as one

84

of those immortal men, his life

93

his life that his fair city


A sword-great story

_ might not die._

Thou in whose sword-great story_

_ shine all the deeds deeds of history her he _

rites, (a sword-great story)