

Dar Williams

"When I Was a Boy"

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I won't forget when Peter Pan
Came to my house, took my hand
I said, "I was a boy"
I'm glad he didn't check

I learned to fly, I learned to fight
I lived a whole life in one night
We saved each other's lives
Out on the pirate's deck

And I remember that night
When I'm leaving a late night with some friends
And I hear somebody tell me
It's not safe, someone should help me

I need to find a nice man to walk me home
When I was a boy
I scared the pants off of my mom
Climbed what I could climb upon

And I don't know how I survived
I guess I knew the tricks that all boys knew
And you can walk me home
But I was a boy, too

I was a kid that you would like
Just a small boy on her bike
Riding topless, yeah
I never cared who saw

My neighbor come outside
To say, "Get your shirt,"
I said "No way, it's the last time
I'm not breaking any law"

And now I'm in this clothing store
And the signs say less is more
More that's tight means more to see

More for them, not more for me
That can't help me climb a tree in ten seconds flat

When I was a boy, see that picture? That was me
Grass-stained shirt and dusty knees
And I know things have gotta change
They got pills to sell, they've got implants to put in

They've got implants to remove
But I am not forgetting
That I was a boy too

And like the woods where I would creep
It's a secret I can keep
Except when I'm tired
'Cept when I'm being caught off guard

And I've had a lonesome awful day
The conversation finds its way
To catching fire-flies
Out in the backyard

And I so tell the man I'm with
About the other life I lived
And I say now you're top gun
I have lost and you have won
And he says, "Oh no, no, can't you see

When I was a girl, my mom
And I we always talked
And I picked flowers
Everywhere that I walked

And I could always cry
Now even when I'm alone I seldom do
And I have lost some kindness
But I was a girl too
And you were just like me
And I was just like you

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