

Hope was ebbing away

*As we landed on that beach
We were hopeful
But hope was ebbing slowly away.
We knew men would die
We just hoped it wasn't us
For our sake, for our families' sake
But hope was ebbing slowly away.*

*We ran, hacking our way through barbed wire
Hoping we wouldn't set off a mine
But hope was ebbing slowly away.
Bullets flew, shells were dropped and men fell
We all hoped we wouldn't be the next
For our sake, for our families' sake
But hope was ebbing away.*

*I felt a sharp pain in my foot
I ran on, stumbling, falling
Hope was ebbing away.
I tripped, I fell and I could no longer move
I felt a blinding pain, then nothing
I had joined the ranks of the fallen soldiers
Hope for me was gone.*

*From my silent grave I watched,
More blood was spilled
Hope was ebbing slowly away from them.
I watched as they tried to scale the cliffs
While some were almost at the top,
More men were falling on the beach
For them, hope was gone.*

*I watched my family receive the news,
They wept for me
As any hope was ripped from their grasp.
They brought me home to be buried
I'm glad they did,
But sad for those who will never return home
And every day I watch and remember.*

Elspeth Newlin