When I Was a Boy

Dar Williams

Advisory - the following lyrics contain explicit language:

I wont forget when Peter Pan
Came to my house, took my hand
I said, "I was a boy"
Im glad he didnt checkI learned to fly, I learned to fight
I lived a whole life in one night
We saved each others lives
Out on the pirates deckAnd I remember that night
When Im leaving a late night with some friends
And I hear somebody tell me
Its not safe, someone should help meI 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 uponAnd I dont 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, tooI was a kid that you would like
Just a small boy on her bike
Riding topless, yeah
I never cared who sawMy 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 flatWhen 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 inThey've got implants to remove
But I am not forgetting
That I was a boy tooAnd 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 guardAnd I've had a lonesome awful day
The conversation finds its way
To catching fire-flies
Out in the backyardAnd 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 seeWhen I was a girl, my mom
And I we always talked
And I picked flowers
Everywhere that I walkedAnd 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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