

# Four Blank Slates

David Rovics

Be - side an un - used u - nion hall And an a - ban - doned fac - to - ry

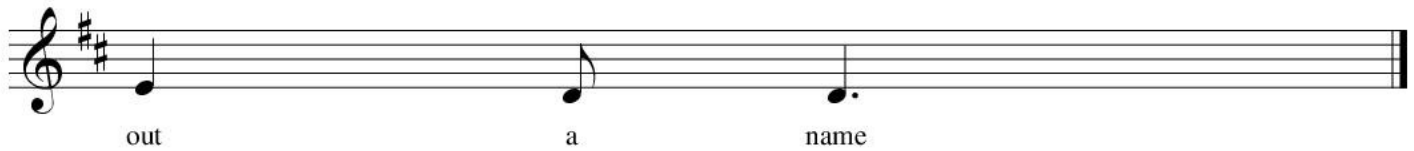
By the Al - le - ghe - ny Ri - ver In a - no - ther rust belt ci - ty You can see the

well - dressed fam - lies On Me - mo - rial Day Read - ing the names on the walls

Of those who went a - way Four blank slates For bat - tle - fi - elds yet un - known

That soon some will call their own A word - less mes - sage in a frame Four

blank slates For the dice that aren't yet tossed For the lives that aren't yet lost For a war with -



Who went off in a ship  
And came back in a bag  
Packed into a coffin  
Wrapped up in a flag  
I saw a war on every stone  
I read a name on every line  
And when I reached the end  
A chill ran down my spine

*Chorus*

What will be written on that stone  
Will it be on Persian soil  
Will they say it was for freedom  
Or Venezuelan oil  
The only thing that's certain  
Is it will be across the sea  
And the new names on this rock  
Will have died in someone else's country

*Chorus*

How many other nations  
Are already planning their next war  
How many people know  
It'll be on someone else's shore  
Will there come a time  
When all good people are enraged  
To see a slate awaiting  
A war that's not yet waged

*Chorus*