

Scars, Comma, High School Fights

Michael Casey

my partner white hat patrol was quite often Wiley
roughly my age he'd been permanent
party at Fort Wood
maybe three months longer
and so he was senior man
and excepting
for being military police school graduates
and fights in high school
we had nothing in common
by fights I mean scars
one of my battles
my opponent had a ring
and I have a two inch long scar
above the left eye
did I say my high school was rough
well Wiley had scars
all over from razor fights
my puny wound bled like hell
I mean there's no vein up there
why so vascular
so for Wiley

post fight
it might have been pints
I am thinking
saw him at the PX once
he was with some Brothers
he introduces me
says Brother Casey's
a homeboy from Boston
what kind of brother
guess why don't you

Michael Casey had a book *Obscenities* in the Yale poetry series in 1972. The Loom Press of Lowell, Massachusetts has recently reissued his second book *Millrat*.