

“The Fraud of Men”  
By Katy Mulvaney  
Produced by Ben Wermund

Inspired by Shakespeare’s *Much Ado About Nothing*

**Verse 1 - Before**

You were the one who dreamed of fairy tales.  
You were the one who longed for bridal veils.  
I was the one who knew they would break your heart,  
So I made myself someone they could not take apart.

You found a boy with no gift for poetry,  
And you ran circles round him that he couldn’t see.  
I spent the time making sure that I was too strong  
To need one special person to whom I could ever belong.

They thought I was docile, they thought I was meak,  
But I knew your fairy tales were not for the weak.  
Then one day your poet taught you that men’s words are cheap,  
But your fairy tales had left you too proud ever to weep.

**Chorus**

Was I more ready for men’s cheerful lies?  
Did I look deeper into their eyes?  
Or did you see behind the mask as well as me  
And somehow still believe?

**Verse 2 – During**

You were the one who put your faith in chivalry,  
Who asked a token of your knight’s love so faithfully;

And as I watched my life burning to dust  
I was the one who knew that men's honor would never protect us.

I made myself strong enough to survive being betrayed.

I made myself strong enough to crawl into my grave.

Now all I wish is that I had your faith  
In the romance and the men who have made your heart so brave.

### **Chorus**

#### **Verse 3 – After**

I chose a man with whom I will always feel alone,  
A man who treats my body like property he owns;  
And while I settled down so respectably,  
You found a heart as wild and proud and your own.

I decided long ago to be enough in myself.  
I wanted to be safe no matter what hand I was dealt.  
Could you teach me now how it is you trust,  
To put your faith in a valiant, feckless speck of dust?

### **Chorus**

#### **Coda**

O help me somehow to believe...