## **Ground Zero**

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Just another day at work, The sirens wail their mournful cry The newly homeless passing by The spirits of the near and dear Need no longer struggle with their fear

Just another day at work, The acrid air smells of sulfur The stench of blood and mortar The blinding rain of ash and water, Mixed with dusty light and milky powder

Just another day at work, Broken windows and fallen beams Step high and lightly across the seams Pathways to the sky are broken Words of commerce are no longer spoken

Just another day at work, Nostrils filled with sooty glaze Eyes peer through grime and haze Pads scraped raw by rough terrain Aching limbs no rest attain

Just another day at work, Sniff this mound, is someone here? Search that pile, is something there? Too much ground to cover, will I be in time? Could use more help from those of my kind Not just another day at work, Many have answered Valhalla's call, And now serve within those hallowed halls Yet, glorious the sight When one is found who has not given up the fight

Not just another day at work, Too many have died, sentient beings everyone With olfactory prowess I'll search until the task is done Too many are missing, loved ones are in doubt With limbs of steel I'll climb and dig 'til my strength gives out

> Not just another day at work, Hope and love shine from the volunteers We smile and bark and try to hide our tears As long as there is hope at all I'll continue to answer humankind's call