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ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE SWEDISH POEM "BOYS WILL BE BOYS"

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Boys will be boys

We say "boys will be boys"

Already when I was in primary school

Because I had just started to dress in an alternative way

And had black'n'white stripes arm warmers with bow ties on

And I took kicks, beatings and violation after violation

And "shut up you fucking emo-whore you're so ugly"

Until I one day

Raised my arm

Ready to strike back

When a teacher came forward

Grabbed my arm

And said "no, you can't fight, boys will be boys as you know and I bet he's just in love with you."

So I lowered my arm

After my teacher had walked away

To the tunes of sneering laughter

And we continue to say

"Boys will be boys"

When I was older

And went out

And partied last weekend

When a man whistled after me and my friends on our way home

When one of us said "but boys will be boys"

And some of us dressed quite revealing

While looking at me

And I thought

Honey, let me tell you that the day I dress for a man

And not myself

Is the day they put me in a coffin

To meet Jesus

So we say "boys will be boys"

When I published my poetry-slam videos online

With comments flowing in

About how I was just a feminazi

Who needed to get laid

And who needed to put focus on more important things
Like the gang rapes in India
Like for as long as it happens there
Makes it suddenly okay to happen here
Comments online
About how vile and disgusting I am
And I wonder
To all of you invisible men
Who comments like that
Who do you think I am, a feminist?

Because we said "boys will be boys"
When he kissed my best friend
Took the liberty
And classed himself as a rapist
And he went back home happy and drunk
And she went home and cried in my arms
But we still say "boys will be boys"
Because we live in a world ruled by men
And in a world ruled by men
There is no place for a thing called "rape culture"
In all honesty to say "boys will be boys"
Is such a lame excuse
It's like I would say
"Whoops, I accidentally stabbed that rapist because I'm on my period, and I get so easily annoyed then you know and never seem to take the right decisions."
Because "boys will be boys"
And apparently it's already in their blood
That they want to fight
And be macho men from birth
And the legal system say "boys will be boys"
When another one was freed from rape charges
And her boyfriend said
"We boys are who we are"
When he showed pictures
To his squad
That she send for his eyes and his eyes only
And society said "boys will be boys"
When us girls clearly should stop to party as much
Because you never know what kind of situation
You can find yourself in

So drink carefully
And don't do anything stupid
And the bus driver said to me
"Oh, boys you know"
With sparkling eyes
When I ran home with keys between my fingers
With my heart in my throat
After the group of boys
Who sat in the back of the bus
Screamed after me
How they would complete me
And yes I should
Just take it as a compliment
How they thoughtfully thinks about me
That must mean
That at least I'm hot
And my friends say "boys will be boys"
When I dumped my ex
And I went from being called a princess
To be branded a whore
Because why stay with someone
Who doesn't see your body as a work of art
And your lineaments as masterpieces
So just out of the door
Because if you don't love the way he kisses you
Then you won't like the way he will make love to you
So head out first
Out the door
And society still said "boys will be boys"
Because men are afraid
That women will say that they have small dick
And women are afraid that men will beat them to death

So I guess boys will be boys

But then I will go for the period-excuse

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