

Of Mugs and Men

by Emily Sparkles

My boss has a coffee mug.

His name and its meaning are painted and fired onto it:

TED

Meaning: Gifted

Below this misleading statement is a poem of praise for the bearer of the name; the bearer of the mug.

Whatever desk or table he is seated at, the mug is always positioned so that the poem faces him; I imagine his head is inflated anew each time his eyes scan the words.

I want to break that mug. (Break him.)

But that mug is always near him

It's clearly never even been washed

Years of coffee and black tea; stains upon stains upon stains...

Maybe that mug does represent his soul after all.

