

This Time

There's a SERT call
Just as I get to the door
So I'm forced to wait
And stare at the floor

This time when I get out
I'm going to do it right
This time find a job
Stay clean every night

I said this after juvie
Said it each lag since
Said it as the truck approached
The razor-wire topped fence

But something always stuffs me up
And brings me back inside
No matter all my good intent
And all the tears I've cried

But this time I will do it right
I'm getting older now
My daughters' eyes keep pleading
For me to stay outside somehow

There's lads I know keep coming back
They say they miss the place
The warmth, the food, the clean pressed sheets
And Bobby's gawking face

But I miss the big sky over me
Miss Debbie and the kids
Miss the dog and silly things
Like my brother's wailing didge

The SERT calls over, life returns
The gate has opened wide
The interruption to this day
In my interrupted life

This time I will do it right
I won't be back inside
I'll pray and hope and try real hard
This time, this time, this time.