

Change of Plan

She had a son at sixteen and saw the road ahead
She'd look after little Joe and keep him warm and fed
Then the nuns came to her and took the boy away
Adoption was the way to go, was all that they would say
In time she had a family her days and nights to fill
But she often thought of little Joe and hoped he flourished still.

Sam loved playing football and had a football trial
He hoped to play for Chelsea enjoying wealth and style
But on his way to training one wet and foggy night
An accident and injuries put football dreams to flight
The doctor said that he would mend, would walk and even run
But he must come to understand his playing days were done
He turned instead to coaching, he worked with local schools
He passed on his experience and taught them all the rules
When his teams were playing he cheered them from the side
And when they were successful it filled his heart with pride

Stealing mobile phones was an easy thing to do
Whizzing past and grabbing what does not belong to you
But cameras are everywhere and soon the boys in blue
Arrested him and charged him as you hope they always do

Questioned under caution other things came out
He would go to prison, of that there was no doubt
He didn't waste his time inside, he learned to read and write
He'd missed a lot of school days, was often in a fight
But he knew there was a better life if he could find a way
He'd do his best to look for it when he got out one day.

Jan Rees June 2024