

## **The Streets**

### **"On The Flip Of A Coin"**

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From the point he gazed from the choice was made,  
but 'walk the cave or the shore?'  
The oily cave seemed to breathe on him through  
gravestone jaws  
His little hand grasped in anguish as he weighed up his  
coin  
Somewhere a blue-eyed girl in the world is just waiting  
for a boy  
Footprints trailed as if trod by slaves up to the grey  
cave floor  
But not one graze from anything ever escaping this fort  
So with coin on hand his joy came back when ordered  
to take the shore  
'Why on earth', as he wandered the warmth, 'am I  
obeying this coin?'

Turn your life on the flip of this coin  
Turn upside a choice you'd normally avoid  
And promise me you'll follow what it says  
Whatever it says

Again, walk within the trusted beach or swim the swell  
of the sea?  
And again the scarier alternative looked like certain  
death to he  
He'd never learnt to skill of swimming - it never  
occurred to be very easy  
And again he winced as he flipped the coin and it  
twirled to his feet  
'How is this sane?' he blamed the coin now aiming for  
the waves  
As he hesitated at the swirl of water as it raged and  
rained  
Blue-eyed girls were waiting and he was drowning in  
the spray  
Blue-eyed girls he should have been acquainted with  
but for shouting and flailing

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He finally slugs it back to land feeling chewed-up and  
foolish  
Empties his pockets on the sand spewing a pool each  
Staggers back to his dad who's too cool to be  
So he says 'why did you have me follow this stupid rule,  
please?'  
To be honest little fellow I'll tell you  
I was just as afraid as you  
But you said you wanted to get with people and places  
ever new  
And I got a bit scared of the fate of my baby son's  
future  
So I invented a reason to see if you could ever make do  
As soon as you appeared behind that rock looking  
angry at me  
I soon realised what a hell of a man you've ended up  
being  
I knew you'd worked out how to swim, which I hadn't  
had in me  
And I stand as a companion of you, proudest a man  
has ever been

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