

# KIDSPOEM/BAIRNSANG

IT WIS JANUARY  
AND A GEY DREICH DAY  
THE FIRST DAY AH WENT TO THE SCHOOL  
SO MY MUM HAPPED ME UP IN MA  
GOOD NAVY-BLUE NAPP COAT WI THE RID TARTAN HOOD  
BIRLED A SCARF AROON MA NECK  
PU'ED OAN MA PIXIE AN MA PAWKIES  
IT WIS THAT BITTER  
SAID NOO YE'LL NO STARVE  
GIE'D ME A WEE KISS AND A KID-OAN SKELP OAN THE BUM  
AND SENT ME AFF ACROSS THE PLAYGROUND  
TAE THE PLACE AH'D LEARN TO SAY  
IT WAS JANUARY  
AND A REALLY DISMAL DAY  
THE FIRST DAY I WENT TO SCHOOL  
SO MY MOTHER WRAPPED ME UP IN MY  
BEST NAVY-BLUE TOP COAT WITH THE RED TARTAN HOOD  
TWIRLED A SCARF AROUND MY NECK  
PULLED ON MY BOBBLE HAT AND MITTENS  
IT WAS SO BITTERLY COLD  
SAID NOW YOU WON'T FREEZE TO DEATH  
GAVE ME A LITTLE KISS AND A PRETEND SLAP ON THE BOTTOM  
AND SENT ME OFF ACROSS THE PLAYGROUND  
TO THE PLACE I'D LEARN TO FORGET TO SAY  
IT WIS JANUARY  
AND A GEY DREICH DAY  
THE FIRST DAY AH WENT TO THE SCHOOL  
SO MY MUM HAPPED ME UP IN MA  
GOOD NAVY-BLUE NAPP COAT WI THE RID TARTAN HOOD  
BIRLED A SCARF AROON MA NECK  
PU'ED OAN MA PIXIE AN MA PAWKIES  
IT WIS THAT BITTER.

OH SAYING IT WAS ONE THING  
BUT WHEN IT CAME TO WRITING IT  
IN BLACK AND WHITE  
THE WAY IT HAD TO BE SAID  
WAS AS IF YOU WERE POSH, GROWN-UP, MALE, ENGLISH AND DEAD.

LIZ LOCHHEAD