

Section 28: School's Not Out

Eric and Martin lived with Jenny
Jenny had a little doll called Anne
But it was all too much for Kenny
Enraged he told Dave who wrote a ban

Kenny, Davey and their Tory mates
Easily passed Section 28
A subordinate clause promotes hate
'Acceptability' shaped my fate

Just 2 weeks later look here's me
Kicking, crying, shitting and screaming
In a world that wasn't yet ready
Waving? Drowning? Maybe just dreaming

"Fucking Dyke" they would shout at play time
"Lezzer Gay" they would shout over lunch
"Dyke" again on the bus at home time
Coat hood pulled up tight, shoulders hunched

To avoid them throwing dog biscuits
Pedigree felt like my only chum
While they all excelled at ballistics
I'm dodging each and every crumb

Every day except Baker Days
Kenny's unknowing reprieve inset
other kids would torment assumed gays
they were taught no better – presumed threat

forced to sit girl – boy – girl – boy each year
left this girlboy with no space their own
trapped in this binary and in fear
no place to be at school or at home

It wasn't just us queer kids alone
LGBT teachers closeted
afraid of students and staff if truth be known
hiding their family called 'pretended'

In adulthood we emerged not straight
finding guidance and community
in shadows of section 28
queer teenadults now allowed to be