

Our Day Out
By Willy Russell

CAROL is on a rare 'day out' from the back streets of Liverpool where she lives. She is standing on a clifftop watching the waves below. She looks out over the sea, alone and at peace with the warm sun and small breeze upon her - a fleeting moment of tranquility. The schoolteacher BRIGGS approaches.

CAROL:

Don't you come near me! {Pause}

I'm not comin'. Tell Mrs Kay that she can go home without me. I'm stoppin' here...in Wales.

{Briggs starts to move towards her. She takes a step towards the edge of the cliff}

Try an' get me an' I'll jump over

{Briggs stops, astounded. There is an angry pause. She continues to ignore him}

I've told y'...I'm not coming down with y' {Pause}

I'll jump y'know...I will. I've told you. Leave me alone and I won't jump {Pause} I wanna stay here. Where it's nice. I'd be alright.

{Turning on Briggs} What do you worry for, eh? Eh? You don't care, do y'? Do y'? Beacuse if I jumped over, you'll get in trouble when you get back to school. That's why Briggsy! So stop goin' on. You hate me. I know you hate me. I've seen you goin' home in your car, passin' us on the street. And the way y' look at us. You hate all the kids.

{She turns again to the sea, dismissing Briggs}

It's been a great dat today. I loved it. I don't wanna leave here an' go home.

{She moves to the edge of the cliff. Briggs is alarmed but unable to move}

If I stayed though, it wouldn't be no good. You'd send the coppers to get me {pause}

I'm not goin' back though. Sir, sir, y'know if you'd been my old feller, I woulda been all right, wouldn't I?