
THE LOCK-UP PRIVATISATION BLUES

Tony Smith

when I was born daddy bought me some shares

in a catering company

then each christmas he's added in turn

 a security firm

 a laund - er - y

 some units to rent

 a fleet of buses

 a merchant bank

 an escort agency

 an engineering shop

 a basketball team

 a supermarket

 a hospital

and a whole party of cuddly politicians

now I am twelve - well almost

and I long for something more

with power drrrrripping off it

but that would be too easy to look after too

all year long I have been dropping hints

drawing broad arrows on the walls
peering through the banister bars
and showing great interest
in crime on tee-vee

i will not be so disappointed
if i do not get a gaol
with lots of inmates to shuffle around
so good i'd be running the place
i'd make the wicked repent
by feeding them nutritiously
and having them bathe in scent

they would not cost so much to keep
they eat up every scrap you throw
and they easily support themselves
by doing little jobs you know
they could make roads and leather bags
launder sheets and sew aussie flags

we'd be such a happy crew
there'd be parties every night
in their roomy airy cells
painted in colours bright

but every time i mention it
how daddy's eyes do frown
it seems he knows a very nice man

who wants to share his goals
but some silly old people complain
'responsible for all'
they say he must remain
now isn't that too greedy for words

i bet they wouldn't do it
if they only knew
their stuffy ancient attitudes
really are so cruel
oh they break my little heart
they don't know how it feels
when you are but a poor poor child
and want something ... so bad