

## SANDWICH – BY VALERIE BLOOM

We goin' on a school trip today,  
De whole class goin' to Whitley Bay,  
Ah teckin' me ball' an' bat with me  
To play beach cricket, an' let me see,  
Ah mustn't forget me new Frisbee,  
An' teacher say to bring a sandwich.



She say to bring a waterproof mac,  
An' a change o' clothes in a knapsack,  
For it bound to rain, she guarantee,  
An' half o' we gwine end up in the sea,  
An' we mustn't forget, any o' we,  
Teacher say, to bring a sandwich.

She say we can bring a can o' drink,  
Ah will bring some fizzy orange, ah think,  
Some gobstoppers ah can share with Lee,  
(An' everybody else, probably)  
An apple or orange, an' ah definitely  
Won't forget to bring a sandwich.

Ah ask me mother for some bread,  
Some butter, lettuce, an' some cheddar cheese, don't need  
nothing more,  
An' ah just headin' for the door  
When ah bump into me Granny Lenore,  
An' she teck away me sandwich.

She say, don't know what you mother thinkin' 'bout,  
How she could let a growin' child go out  
With one little sandwich alone to eat?  
But don't you worry, chile, in this basket  
Ah have corn pone, chicken an' jerk meat,  
You don't need to teck a sandwich.

Ah say to her, you don't understand,  
Ah can't teck all o' dem things, Gran,  
De whole o' de class will laugh at me.  
She say, ah meck you favourite fricassee,  
Ah say, Gran, teacher specifickly  
Say dat we must bring a sandwich.

But she not listening to a thing me say.  
She waltz pass me an' den she bring  
Out a bowl o' rice an' peas,  
A whole hardo bread, if you please,  
Ah was down on the floor 'pon me hands an' knees  
Beggin' give me back e sandwich.

Den Gran teck out a thermos flask,  
Ah shut me yeye, ah fraid to ask,  
But a wonder what next she woulda produce,  
She say, ah meck you some nice soursop juice,  
So gimme dat fizzy nonsense, dat's no use,  
An' she teck it, just like me sandwich.

Ah say, Gran you have enough to feed de whole class dere,  
She say, dat is right, you must learn to share,  
Ah meck something special for your teacher too,  
An' she pull out a bowl o' callaloo,  
Ah ask meself, what ah going to do?  
Ah only want to teck a sandwich.

Well, no matter how me beg an' plead,  
She was like a mad bull on stampede,  
So wid chicken, rice an' hardo bread,  
Me heart an' foot dem heavy like lead,  
Ah wave goodbye to me street cred,  
An' lef' without me sandwich.

All day long ah try to pretend  
Ah didn' know dat basket, but in the end  
Lunch time come an' we all gather roun'  
Spread some blanket on the groun'  
An everybody settle down  
To open up dem sandwich.

Teacher say, what have you got there?  
Ah pretend ah didn' hear,  
But dat basket wouldn' go away,  
So ah open it an' start to pray  
Dat they wouldn' laugh too loud when ah display  
What ah bring instead o' sandwich.

Well, everybody yeyes start pop out,  
My friend Lee start to lick him mout',  
So ah ask dem if they all want some,  
They look pon me like somethin' dumb,  
In no time we finish every crumb,  
An' dem all feget dem sandwich.

When teacher say, thank your grandmother for us,  
Ah feel so proud, ah nearly bus',  
She say, that was a really super meal,  
Everybody say, yeah, that was well cool, Neil,  
An' you don't know how glad ah feel  
Dat ah didn' bring a - sandwich.

