

# TREE OF LIFE

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The tree of life  
Extends its branches  
Far and wide  
As life happens  
While nappies need changing  
Tears roll down chubby cheeks  
And mothers find cold teas  
In corners of homes  
Where silence seldom visits  
Wet kisses mop up  
Emotional spills  
That would otherwise build  
Into anger grenades  
Formed by  
Exhausted brains  
That seek  
Rest and calm  
As tired eyes  
Resist sleep  
And life's students  
Need dropping off  
Strong willed boys  
Insist  
On staying  
Then on going  
Early dinners  
Arrive late  
The chefs  
Overcome  
A sense

That what is mine  
Isn't  
That time  
Has no space  
For me  
To calmly negotiate  
Life's meaning  
In warm cups of tea  
Or places where  
Quarrelling voices  
Do not live  
And steal  
Quiet moments to form  
Memories  
That we alter  
As we beat  
The drum of life  
Years after  
Recalling snippets of time  
Through glasses  
Not tainted by little fingers  
Once stained with purpose  
The carousel of life  
Spins slowly  
During these days it seems  
Until suddenly it quickens  
No longer focused on  
When will this time pass?  
But where has it gone?