

## Hollow Grottos

By Henry Gabriel

1

He walked with the breeze  
A pale cloak flutters around him  
His young slim shoulders  
Set in the darkness down here  
Nothing more than frost and stone

2

Our silent room  
All empty

Not a sound  
Just smooth walls  
Frost coated faces  
Unblinking eyes

Our silent room

3

We all live here  
No change, just time  
Time to wait  
We hear day after day  
The sound of them in the caves  
And we know  
That it will never change

4

He comes  
*Not here not now*  
*We are not ready*  
But here he is  
And he will not wait  
He comes

5

When they're near us we hide  
Not to be seen or heard  
Not again  
We hear their feet on the stone  
They approach us  
And they take  
Our food  
Our children

6

The darkness in the caves swells around us

Never receding  
The sound off falling stones  
Far off drills  
Our own feet on the damp ground  
But we must do it  
Or we will have to go  
We cannot go

7

He is here now  
Questioning us  
We do not have answers  
All we say is  
Whispering in the wind  
With nothing to see  
Only to touch, to hear  
We will not fall

8

We are rats in the walls  
Skittering around in our holes  
Our dens  
We try to go up, to escape  
But we are caught  
And pulled back down