THE JOURNEY OF LIFE

'Lacks concentration', that's what I was told.
'You're not paying attention; you must have come out of the naughty mould.'

That was the label my teachers had given me.
I thought, you are wrong; I'll show you, just wait and see.

After leaving school, I got a job in the print.
I left there after a seven year stint.

For motherhood was calling me along the way,
I couldn't care less that we dropped one pay.

For I had found the most worthwhile job of all,
Loving and nurturing my children so one day they would stand tall.

But as we all know, children grow up very fast,
And I began to dread the day they started to ask,

'Read me that, spell me this'
I didn't want to answer them with a hiss.

'I'm busy, can't you see?'
Or, 'later when we have had tea.'

I didn't want to make up any old excuse.
So I found it within myself to make any uneasy truce.

I decided to go back to class.
To face my demons of the past.

To prove to myself that I wasn't naughty or bad,

Just that I never got the right teaching, which is quite sad.

When I went to the English class, I met my tutor called, Sue.

And she gave me loads of hard work to do.

She told me I had Dyslexia, that was the name.

So this was why things got muddled and she taught me I didn't need to feel shame.

For Sue has worked close with me over the last few years.

It has been a long hard journey and it hasn't been without some private, frustrating tears.

She has been an encouraging teacher, nurturing me along the way.

Helping me to enjoy English, to this very day.

Teaching me how to spell the words and telling me how they should sound

And learning about grammar and punctuation I have found,

That English is no longer a bore

All because I understand so much more.

She has been a confidence-giver, picking me up when I fall down.

So now when I'm nurturing my children, I'm no longer the class clown

I remember who's nurturing me in the joys of the English language and that holds the very key,

To the person I am and the person I want to be.

Mel Finch