

# Cherry Almond Streusel Cake

*by* Claire King

I am baking you a cake,  
It is rising in the gas oven, which is no good for cakes;  
Twenty years old or more; all the heat is at the bottom.  
I beat the mixture silently with a wooden spoon after the children  
had gone to bed so that no-one would lick the bowl;  
It's not that kind of cake.  
I used almonds, both ground and sliced,  
Bitter chocolate and a whole layer of sour cherries with their hearts  
thrust out,  
Tomorrow we will eat it in anger,  
The sugar hiding the taste of burning.

