

# The beautiful young girls from high school

*by* Joe Sullivan

The most beautiful women  
in the world are  
hidden in the dark  
grime of subterranean  
stations and they pass  
each other on trains  
red and purple lips puckered  
and lithe figures moving  
over piss pools with grace

You wondered, as you drove  
through your suburban  
hometown streets in summer,  
what happened to all the  
beautiful girls from your  
high school

Here they all are  
in platforms and skirts  
high-waisted below white  
blouses and small beads  
of sweat above blushes  
and mascaras

Here they all are waiting  
for the uptown trains  
to their air-conditioned  
cubicles and dreams of  
fame and influence

As you drive aimlessly  
and the stores all close  
at 10 you remember  
these beautiful young girls  
and they are all here  
hidden or in plain sight  
on subways and prancing  
through city sidestreets  
and along avenues

Some of them are drinking fancy drinks  
Some of them are eating specialty cupcakes  
Others are delivering messages for high-ranking individuals  
Some are riding on boats that circle Manhattan  
and must wear large sunglasses for this  
Others appear in music videos  
Others, still, are featured on the society pages  
alongside heads of public relations/marketing  
conglomerations

Damn. How can I join  
them, you say.

And you realize this is  
how the beautiful dream  
It's all happened countless times before  
And you realize they've  
forgotten all about you  
You were just there to help with calculus

