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What

by Karen Crotty

When thoughts of home tangle my mind
I search within to see what I'll find
When lifestyle leads you to do the crime
"Old School" says that you do the time
Then What

Depression, loneliness, and guilt build inside
While other's thoughts of me continue to slide
This system, full of control freaks, beats me down
Light years from the power I felt in my town
So What

What remains of the comfort, the 'things' I'd known
What can be salvaged, and what's been thrown
Although, like many, I'm here because of a snitch
Ultimately, only I am to blame, ain't life a bitch.
Then What

The power I felt, supplying drugs for so many
Served only to conceal insecurities, I have plenty
A temporary escape, the euphoria, the roller coaster high
Never accepting that prison bars, each needle prick did hide
So What

Faux invincibility and reckless abandon grew
All the while deep inside I knew
When others go down, they're no longer a friend
Each one of us pays a price in the end
Then What

I pay with the demoralization of prison strife
Some pay more dearly, with their life
Weighing the options, can I say I had luck
No. In my shoes, this truly and completely sucks
So What

One more, one less, 25 months to go
My honor in tact, respected by those who know
The hell I chose when I would not sing



They slammed me hard, cuz I refused "operation sting"
Then What

Dehumanization, powerlessness, and fear
I never imagined so many were queer!
Afternoon rides in the sun, No more for me
Endless hours of painful yearning to be free
So What

Loved ones lost, material things gone
I call on the strength I've had all along
Walk on, head held high, a bounce in my step
A lesson well learned that I'll never forget
Then What

I'll get through this bit day by day
Thankful for some I met along the way
Knowing that in a dark garage waits
The two who never judged, argued, or knew my fate
So What

Energize with visions of being reunited with the two
Pride and Joy, Super Glide and Wide Glide, I miss you
Tangled hair, bug guts galore, throttle twisted tight
Memories of prison blown free, lost in the night
Now What??

Chow Time at the Smiling Moose

While on a round about way to Thiensville Via Manitowoc, I decided to stop off at Hoban Bros. Cycle In Newton, WI. Since I haven't been there for many years I figured what the hell. A short time after the visit I took off for the final leg of the run, but didn't get to far. In fact I made it about 1/2 block. We all know what it's like when your riding along and you see 2 or 3 bikes in front of a business, it's like a magnet. Well I decided to check out this place called The Smiling Moose Saloon and Grill.

Since I hadn't eaten all day I asked Cheryl the bartender and owner what's good to eat. She recommended the Mini Moose Burger since I didn't think I could eat a pounder sandwich. All I can say is that between the burger which consisted of a 1/4 # hamburger patty with American cheese and a 1/4# pond brat patty with swiss, served on a Roecks Hard roll with lettuce, tomato, onions and pickles and the Moz. sticks, I was Full. Talk about a mouth watering sandwich.

While eating I got to talking to some of the regulars and they said this is the place to be on Sundays. With live blues music every Sunday, I may have to check it out.

So if your out on a ride and get the urge to eat some good grub stop at the Smiling Moose in Newton (Oseman) on Hwy 42 just 15 minutes S of Manitowoc. They are open Mon-Sat 11 AM and Sunday at 8 Am, or give a call for music info 920-726-4311.



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