

# Breakthrough

Peter Hammill

The visitors find the children gone from school:  
aged relations sling their guns across the desks...  
there'll be no break-time for them unless  
they talk about tomorrow  
as though it's already on its way.  
Amen, oh yes, they're  
waiting for the breakthrough  
h in time.

The visitors hide no aces up their sleeves  
and the classroom pulses to many different drums.  
If only a breakthrough in time would come  
there'd be some chance for the visited ones.  
We could talk about tomorrow  
as though we believed in that.

W  
e could talk about it right now,  
and it would come as a shock  
to feel the fingernail grow on the trigger finger -  
still the visitors clock us  
waiting for the breakthrough,  
waiting for the breakthrough  
with time on our hands.  
(It's there all the tim  
e.)