

# Folk & Traditional Song Lyrics

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## Doors to My Mind

Doors to My Mind  
(Frankie Armstrong)

I've been told since a kid in my cradle  
To be ladylike sweet and demure  
To rely on my elders and betters  
And I'd grow up loved and secure

As a kid I was sent to a convent  
And it wasn't that they were unkind  
But they told me that school was to teach me to learn  
Then they locked up the doors to my mind

I felt trapped like a bird in a cold iron cage  
So I ran to the rocks and the sea  
Flew away from that cage of a convent  
But the nuns send the cops after me

They followed, they cornered, they caught me  
Had me up at a Juvenile Court  
The Magistrate said "You're an ungrateful girl  
It's approved school that deals with your sort"

Now I'd never known what you'd call a real home  
Even less had I known a real bloke  
So that cooking and sewing and home care Seemed like a cruel joke

I couldn't take all their preaching  
So up to the city I fled  
When you're feeling as lonely as I did  
Your price is a meal or a bed

And though men were the custom I dealt with  
It was me that they clapped in the pen  
The man at the bench put the blame square on me  
For the laws are made by and for men

When a woman comes out of a prison  
Life's hard as hell outside  
But there's ways to forget all the hurt and the rage  
And to climb from the depths to a high

But the high it was never for ever  
And always the pain burned back through

When you're way past despair, past caring to care  
There seems nothing that no one can do

It was stomach pumps, shrinks, social workers  
Most of them sold on square lies  
Never questioning all of the rules they obey  
Never asking the hows and the whys

One question I'd always been asking  
Was "Why should this happen to me?"  
There my sisters helped me feel how we all get this deal  
That's what they don't want us to see

For the first time I've pride and respect now  
And some power to change things myself  
So we need not be outcasts, my sisters.  
If we stand up and fight for ourselves

Written and recorded by Frankie Armstrong  
SOF