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## Smiles Change the World

Cinde Rawn

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## STILL RUNNING

David Drane

I hit the ground running  
Sixteen and a half years old  
When I first touched the streets  
It was stunning  
For the things I had to do  
To put food in my stomach  
Never thought I would have to do  
But there was no future in my fronting  
Now cold concrete is on the meet and greet  
That's how it is  
When you are looking for a place to sleep  
At night under the stars  
I couldn't find any peace  
Because the M.P.D.  
Wanted me off the streets  
So I'm thinking  
Maybe I should learn to sell junk to fiends  
Exploit their weakness  
And help crush their dreams  
But God gave me a conscience  
I couldn't be that mean  
Because  
Pain recognizes pain  
If you know what I mean  
Plus I've seen what the junk did to my mama  
My adolescent years was full of that drama  
Almost wrecked the whole family  
But I forgave my mama  
So God bless my mama  
Now next on the list  
Is to get a nine to five  
For I rather collect paychecks  
Than accumulate jail time  
And shame on my father  
For he didn't tell me in time  
That it would be hell on a young man  
From sixteen to twenty-five



## SMILES CHANGE THE WORLD

Cinde Rawn

If it wasn't manhood trying to rough me up  
It was the ills of society trying to trip me up  
I hit the ground running  
Sixteen and a half years ago  
When I first touched the streets  
It was stunning  
By the grace of God  
I made it off the streets  
And I'm still running