

Hello my name is: Resilience
by Edward Ballo

I am a child, or am I the parent, or am I their spouse
I shop, caretake, and provide support
It's 10am and she is sleeping

Don't upset her
I must be her favorite
Pray nothing goes wrong

Open the refrigerator
Butter, ketchup, cold pizza
Electricity shut off again
It's 1pm and she is sleeping

Achieve to better yourself
Achieve to escape
Achieve perfection and all will be fine

My arm goes through a glass door
Dishes fly, words too
The child did wrong
It's 4pm and she is back sleeping

You are too uptight I'm told
I know no different
Uptight is my protector

You achieve, you move forward
Others parent, feed, teach
The journey has value, you have value
It's 7pm, I know she is safe; I think she is sleeping

I am growing, I am growing up
Coping skills, education, relationships, independence
I am not alone, I am not unique

It's 2020, I am not sleeping
I am alive
Thank-you my friend, I didn't catch your name
Hello my name is: Resilience