

Slip and Fall

By Mike Blood

A slip's not bad:

not necessarily.

Your concentration's

focussed

on nailing the next move

when, foot or fingers

"Off!"

and

down

and

blessedly

arrested,

breathless,

on the gear.

Or maybe not.

A fall may not be

unexpected;

anticipation compounds

the dread:

strength guttering...

cul de sac moves...

irreversibility...

How good's the gear?

How high?

"Watch me!" in a shaking voice;

leg shaking, shaking, leg leg leg leg leg.

Brain googles solutions;

all useless.

A litany of groping.

"Watch me!"

Abrasions...

bruises...

broken bones...

or

"Off!"