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Thank you for your interest in my work.



## The Sort

By Michael William Hogan

Come one, come all; please form two lines.  
If homeless, by choice, move into line A;  
If homeless by happenstance, enter line B.

Now those in line A, split your line into two.  
If rejecting all help, you'll form a line C;  
to accept some assistance, please enter line D.

Attention line B now divide into two.  
Mental issues, addictions, line E is for you;  
other health services, line F will do.

Your turn again C, split again into two.  
To sleep in the streets, file into line G;  
for a bus out of town, line H is for thee.

Now D, listen up and divide once again.  
For a bed and a blanket, shuffle into line I;  
for a meal and a shower, line J is the way.

Line E it is your turn to split one more time.  
To check into rehab, you'll form a line K;  
line L is the one for psych eval day.

All those now in F, kindly diverge.  
If you need a doctor, line M is the way;  
for all forms of dentistry, take N this day.

Line G and line H and line I and line J,  
sort the children, the veterans, the immigrants, hey!  
The homelessness crisis is very complex;  
more beds without services won't solve this mess.

Once healthy and sober and back on their feet,  
these people need help to defeat the street.  
Job training and schooling and placement to cope;  
and the thing they need most is a big dose of hope.