

#15 Graduation Day

Graduation day has finally come.
So do you think the hard part's done?
No more pop quizzes and no more tests.
Soon it will be time to leave momma's nest!

So take that flight now, just spread your wings
To see what fate tomorrow brings.
"You'll make your own bed", your elders will say;
And in it kid you'll have to lay!

You'll have to learn to play the odds.
Just don't start worshipping Idol gods,
Like money or sports stars or even fast cars.
And for goodness sakes ***please stay out of bars!***

I'm telling you things you need to know
So your young mind can start to grow
From these words you'll read and those you'll hear
Given by those who love you so dear.

The world is rough and will eat you for lunch
If you start hanging out with the wrong kind of bunch.
I know you're young and you've got wild oats to sow
But I don't want you to hear "I told you so".

So listen up now and don't be a fool.
Don't think that you are so hip and so cool,
Because attitude determines just where you will go.
You need to learn quickly just *who's* you're real foe.

It's the Devil, my friend; don't think that I'm lying.
Don't wait till you're on your death bed and dying
Because you don't know when that time will be.
Avoid saying, ***"That will never happen to me".***

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That's arrogance and denial and above all pride.
Don't wait too late to listen to those who've tried
To tell you that the best mindset is to be humble.
And listen to yourself when you start to grumble.

By knowing why you say such things
Is called **maturity** when that little bell rings
That opens up your mind to the obvious truth...
That **"I was plain ignorant while I was a youth"**.

And good thing that ignorance can be subdued
When one refuses to be a tough guy and crude.
Its definition is only "a lack of knowledge"
That one can reverse with a few years in college.

Just be careful with what gets put in your head;
And in what direction your spirit gets led.
Remember to stay close to who gave you your life.
You'll need His guidance to find a good wife

Who'll love you back more when you're willing to give.
Who'll show you the **right way** to make it and live.
She'll understand it's God who's first on the list,
And she'll help you see options you might have missed.

A family's the unit God wants you to be in;
So when you have sex, **it won't be a sin.**
And if offspring is what comes out of your bond
Then Love will be present and God will be fond

Of what He sees and where it is going,
And the love that's shared and how it is showing;
Knowing your family will all stay together
No matter how gloomy becomes the weather.

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Because God hates divorce, that's stated in scripture.
Just look at the world and you'll see the sad picture
Of what happens when **children** come **before** marriage.
It usually turns into chaos and utter disparage!

For when it's not built upon "**THE SOLID ROCK**",
And by leaving God out ... you're just a big jock
*Who's asking for trouble, that **you'll surely find***
And in your walk with God ... you'll get way behind.

So far back maybe you stopped and gave up?
You'll see you're *not* a big dog, *you're just a pup*
*Who **needs** to be **disciplined** from our Great Master*
And pick up the speed and walk much faster

So when He comes back He'll see that you have tried.
You'll know "**The Way**" because **He'll** be your guide.
He's showed you He loves you though you've made mistakes.
If you live in **repentance**, that's all it takes!

I hope you've taken **to heart** this long poem
'Cause in it I've given all that I owe 'um;
That's to spread the good word that **God wants you saved**,
And to do my part to see that you've behaved!

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