

I Been

I been boatin' & fishin' & mopin' & wishin'
And skiin' on water and snow
Walkin' & joggin' & skatin' & tobogganin'
And missin' you don't you know?
I been wonderin' worryin' slowin' down hurryin'
Walkin' the floor it's true
Yawnin' & a-blinkin' & a-smokin' & a-drinkin'
And a-waitin' for the other shoe

I've been lyin' & cheatin' nudgin' browbeatin'
In a jam on the lam at sea
Bullyin' bashin' & a bit of talk trashin'
Givin' it away for free
I'm fussin' & frettin' I'm underpants wettin'
After all I'm just a man
Moanin' & a-groanin' & amendin' & atonin'
And doin' the best that I can

I been tellin' & showin' comin' & goin'
Tryin' to get the hell out of town
Schemin' & redeemin' & day & night dreamin'
Then forgettin' to write it all down
I'm beggin' & pleadin' sweatin' & bleedin'
Just wonderin' what to do
Kneelin' & a-prayin' & agreein' & naysayin'
And admittin' that I love you

And I'm catchin' & throwin' & hardly even knowin' it
And fartin' whenever I sneeze
Doin' my best at your behest
And at the same time as I please
'Cause I wanna tell the truth find a fountain of youth
Die with both of my boots on
Yeah figure out a way to live one more day
Keep goin' until I'm gone

One Wish

There in that moment as I took that big breath
I had an inkling right before I blew
Out all of those candles I felt it might happen
And the wish I was wishing would surely come true

It doesn't seem fair that we only get one wish
We should get a couple. three or at least two
A few for yourself and a wish for the whole world
But we only have one wish with which to make do

When we were children we'd wish for more wishes
Greedy but practical we probably knew
You never stop dreaming you live life by wishing
Wishfully thinking is how you get through

What do we wish for? toys, fame, or money?
Health, happiness, long life, a love that is true?
A puppy, a pony, some peace in the valley?
All our desires are long overdue

And we only have one day to wish, that's our birthday
Candles on a cake on a day we may rue
And I'd like to tell you what it was I wished for
But you know if I told you it wouldn't come true

It Takes 2

I have you to help me through
Each and every day
So lucky that we're not alone
That's what I have to say
And if you weren't here it's unclear
Just what the hell I'd do
When things get rough one's not enough
These days it takes two

Two for the road, we shoulda knowed
Two when it's time for tea
It takes two to boogaloo, yeah

Two is company
Can't you see it's you and me
If we are to get through?
One's not the cure, that's for sure
These days it takes two

Till all of this blows over
And the world gets back on track
Sure hope that Higher Power
Kicks in and has our back

These strange days seem worse than crazy
They feel downright grim
Things get worse like we've been cursed
One's chances sure seem slim
And that royal we is not just me now
Babe, it's me and you
"One Man Guy," it's a lie
These days it takes two

Till all of this blows over
And the world gets back on track
Sure hope that Higher Power
Kicks in and has our back

I have you to help me through
Each and every day
So lucky that I'm not alone
That's all I have to say
And if you weren't here it's unclear
Just what the hell I'd do
When things get rough one's not enough
These days it takes two
When things get rough one's not enough
Thank God I have you

These days it takes 2

Fam Vac

I need a family vacation

I mean a family vacation alone
I'm gonna pack up the car, load up the bike and the kayak
And leave the fucking family at home

A vacation away from the family
A vacation away from the fray
When it comes to your so-called "loved ones"
Sometimes you gotta get away

Maybe I'll go to the mountains
Or else I'll get down to the shore
Yeah and I guess there's a chance I might miss my people
But right now I can't stand them no more

When I'm barbequing there on my Weber
I might be focused on my family
Then I'll throw down some hotdogs, burgers, and some chicken
And I'll burn them all in effigy

When I get back from my family vacation
Tanned and relaxed'll be the shape that I'm in
Yeah, I'll be patient and loving, not to mention detached
When I'm dealing with my kith and my kin

We all need a family vacation
You got to keep the mishpachah at bay
Tolstoy got it right when he wrote, "Each unhappy family
Is unhappy in its own way"

I ran away from my parents
I still run away from my kids
As for brother and sister, we're playing Twister
It's a cover up to keep ourselves hid (from each other)

I need a family vacation
My family needs a vacation from me
Because your dearest and nearest, they're the most dangerous
They're the ones that make you crazy
That's right, your nearest and dearest, they're the most dangerous
They're the ones that make you fucking crazy

Hell

Welcome back to hell, boy, where the heck you been?
Thought you'd get here sooner son, due to the shape you're in
You're one sorry S.O.B., your life turned out all wrong
Welcome back to hell, boy, you been away too long

Welcome back to hell, boy, heaven's out of reach
It's much hotter here than there, hence that figure of speech
No need to dread the devil though, him you don't have to fear
He spends all his time on earth recruiting for down here

Welcome back to hell, boy, you been here before
After your last lifetime, you came through this very door
You burned for an eternity, it didn't last that long
Then you got another body, but then again you got it all wrong

Welcome back to hell, boy, we could use another man
We're forming a softball team, that's our hellish plan
Hitler's pitching, Stalin's catching, old Pol Pot's playing third
Milosevich'll be at short, he's quick or so we heard

Welcome back to hell, boy, no, there's no turning back
You can't undo the wrong you've done, you can't pick up that slack
Dante spent some time down here, Orpheus did too
Both of them got the hell out of here, Lord knows what'll happen to you

Welcome back to hell, boy, make yourself to home
Pick yourself a circle, son, have a little roam around
Next time you get a body, maybe you might take a care
But if you don't, don't worry, son, because you're always welcome here

Little Piece of Me

I got a little piece of me that I left here in this town
Every time I come back, I always have a little look around
Yeah, that little old chunk of little old me
I'm wondering where that piece might be
Got a little piece of me I left here in this town

I been coming here since 1971

I didn't get a lot of sleep back then, but I sure had fun
Oh, half a century come and gone
How much longer can this go on?
Hey, I'm coming here since 1971

Oh, yes I laughed and certainly I have cried
Quite a few that I have loved have up and died
But I'm eternal you could say
I'm immortal, maybe for today
Oh, yes I laughed and certainly I have cried

And my future's being subsumed by my past
Every time I come back here, might be my last time here
One of these days I'll be gone
All that will be left is this song
My future's being subsumed by my past

I got pieces of me that are strewn around the globe
There's not much left, I'm lightening up my load
I leave a dollop here and a particle there
And I'm stripteased down to my underwear
Hey, I got pieces of me strewn around the globe

And there's a dog that's barking in a room next door
As if to remind me, ain't got a whole lot more time left
Oh, don't put us down, that mutt and me
Just put us out of our misery
Got a dog that's barking in a room next door

There's a little piece of me I left here in this town
Every time I come back, I'm looking in the lost and found
Yeah, for that little old chunk of little old me
I'm wondering where that piece might be
Hey, little piece of me I left here in this town

No Man's Land

He lives on the East Side, now she's on the West
The park is in between 'em and I guess it's for the best
There in no man's land I can get me a walk
When they meet in the middle to hand me off

I got a big bark but not much of a bite
At the foot of her bed I sleep there through the night
She pets me and spoils me, calls me her little boy
And each and every Christmastime I get a new squeaky toy

But when I stay with him we're both at a loss
'Cause he gets kinda alpha, acting like he's the boss
He and I used to wrassle back when I was just a pup
But we're older and slower now, we gave that all up

I never did figure out who was in the wrong
All that cryin' and yellin' went on way too long
Everything changes I suppose that was it
But they both seem so sad since the day they split

I'm in the middle here in no man's land
I'm hopin' for a truce, it's hard to understand
Why all this had to happen, it don't even seem real
Why don't they just lick, make up? What's the big deal?

I never won a ribbon, I'm no best in show
I'm just a dumb mutt and what the hell do I know?
Except the day that they got me sure was a great day
And they'd get back together if I had my way
They would lick and make up if I had my way

Back in Your Town

I'm back in your town
I'm walking around
Crossing the street, unsure on my feet
And I'm carefully looking around
Because I'm back in your town

I'm back in this burg
Oh, haven't you heard?
I better look to the right
A double decker just might
Hit me when I step off the curb

That's why I'm back in this burg

Yes and I'm back in that place
Last time I left with hardly a trace
Now that I've returned
Ask me what have I learned?
Go ahead and take a look on my face
I'm back in that place

You leave someone behind and you think you won't mind it
Till you go back and find you still care
Yeah, you're back where you started, undermined, outsmarted
By a feeling you thought wasn't there

I walked right past your house
Feeling like a refugee and a louse
You were at home, but you were not alone
You were there with your kids and your spouse
I walked right past your house

Yes and I'm feeling bereft
I'm feeling like I never even left
Everything's changed, but it's the same
It's still all here, but nothing is left
I'm feeling bereft

You leave someone behind and you think you won't mind it
Till you go back and find you still care
Yeah, you're back where you started, undermined, outsmarted
By a feeling you thought wasn't there

I'm back in your town
I'm walking around
Crossing the street, unsure on my feet
And I'm carefully looking around
I'm back in your town

Town and Country

I'm in the city and the sirens are screaming
All day and night long where it's twenty-four seven

I'm on a mission, I'm in the city, I'm here
I been in the country, out on an island
I feel good now, I'm damn near smiling
I'm in the city and I can hardly believe that I'm here

I took the train, when I got to the station
I felt a release, you could say it was elation
Just to be back in the city with all of you people down here
Thousands of faces I never seen
Out of my mind in a fever dream
I'm in the city with all of you people down here
Behind those masks there's all those faces
I'm so excited seeing parking spaces
There's talking & there's laughing & there's screaming & there's singing down here
I'm in the city, you better believe it
I'm done with the country, no fun, I had to leave it
The crickets made me nervous, I'm in the city I'm here

Last night we ate in a restaurant
Fine wine good food all that we wanted
Just like in the old days sittin' round havin' us a meal
But there was a moment that was a little unstable
A rat big as a cat ran under the table
I guess the rats are all happy, there's plenty to eat down here

A couple of drunkards on a subway train
Made me feel right at home, no, not much changes
When you're in the city, bright lights look pretty down here
I was afraid I might feel a little empty
But now that I'm here, go on and tempt me
I'm here to get tempted here to get rid of that fear

My dear mother was afraid of the city
She'd say, "Don't go there Loudie, it's shady and it's shitty"
She was raised in the country, what could that poor woman know?
My father went to town, he was a workin' slob
Getting into trouble was his other job

Island

Living on an island in an ocean
Living on an isle in the sea
We're walking around, surrounded by water
Living on an island, you and me

Couple of kids in a hammock
One on a swing hung from the same tree
Hey, I'm on a lawn mower, you're folding laundry
Living on a island, you and me

Jigsaw puzzle helps quell the boredom
When the rain came, we played a board game on the island

Back on the mainland, they're goin' crazy
I'm getting too old for that insanity
A meal or a movie, not much can move me
From off of the island in the sea

Jigsaw puzzle helps quell the boredom
When the rain came, we played a board game on the island

Living on an island in an ocean
Living on an isle in the sea
We're walking around, surrounded by water
Living on an island, you and me

It

It's a chase it's a race
It's gonna scratch you
It's bound to catch you
So vacate your bed
If you don't if you won't
It'll go through you
It's lying next to you
It's inside your head

It's a curse it's a hearse
It's come to claim you
Fold spindle and maim you
It's in your garage

It's a cloud it's a shroud
It will enfold you
So do like I told you
Get outta Dodge

It's gonna tail you
It's gonna nail you
It will defeat you
It's gonna eat you
It's gonna bite you
It's bound to smite you
Let me remind you
It's right behind you

It's a bore it's a whore
It won't reject you
But it will infect you
So leave it alone
It's a bog it's a fog
A dog along side you
It'll bury and hide you
You're just its bone

It's a bitch it's a witch
It's got you in its headlights
It won't read you your rights
It'll take you away
To a cell with a smell
Unlike any other
It's gonna smother you
You'd better pray

It will erode you
It will explode you
It's gonna shrink you
It's gonna sink you
It will capsize you
It will surprise you
It's gonna drop you
It's gonna stop you

It's a sphinx it's a jinx
It's a total stranger

You're in grave danger
The danger is it
It's a snake a mistake
It's bound to happen
It sits on your lap and
Then it takes a shit

It feasts on your entrails
It has your details
It's a crime it's some slime
In a poisonous cup
It's a plot it's a rot
It's a lie it's a spy
You don't stand a chance
And your number is up

It's gonna do you
It's gonna screw you
It's gonna take you
It's gonna break you
It will deplete you
It will unseat you
It's gonna kill you
It's gonna still you

Hat

Hat was the first word that my Lucy said
So much more than some thing that you just wear on your head
Shade from the sun, cover from snow and rain
Keep your big secret under it - I mean your brain
It's thrown in the air, it's kicked and stomped in the dust
Tip it if you will or doff it if you must

It's Orchestra, Mountain, Monarch, Risen Creek
There's the crown and the band and the brim and the peak
Pull out a rabbit, put in all the names there
Remain a man of mystery, who's losing his hair
The good wear the white ones - it's black for the bad guys
Jack Abramoff the thing down over your eyes

She didn't say Ma, she didn't say Pa

She said the first thing important she saw
Coulda been juice, mighta been cat
Why in the world did Lucy say hat?

She didn't say car, she didn't say star
Those are as important as any words are
Ernie and Bert and the Count who's a bat
She didn't say those, instead she chose hat

You can pass it around or throw it down in defeat
There's the man on the mound and the cop on the beat
Remove it in church, singing "Say can you see?"
Uncover your head for God and Liberty
It's so much more than one thing, yeah, you wear on your head
Hat was the first word my Lucy said
It looks good on a hook, it's bad luck on a bed
Hat was the first word my Lucy said

Hat was the first word my Lucy said

Lifetime Achievement

I have lived a lifetime and it's hard to be believed
I'm near the end, time's almost up, so what have I achieved?
I have done and won some things, awards, I have a few
But the biggest prize, the great surprise is I managed to win you

Trophies on my mantelpiece, citations on my wall
Accolades and autographs, yes, I guess I've got them all
But all these honors don't add to all that much, it's true
That the biggest prize, the great surprise is I managed to win you

Gold records and blue ribbons, bronze statuettes and plaques
We all want to be winners, admit it, face the facts
But I couldn't win what I craved the most, that's the thing we all dream of
It's the loving cup we long for with our names engraved in love

As for my life achievement, it's just a hill of beans
In the end what's justified is not what it all means
I have done and won some things but I lost myself, who knew?
That the biggest prize, the great surprise is I managed to find you

Who needs cash and prizes? What I achieved is you

How Old Is 75?

How old is 75?
So old that you're hardly alive
It's a number that's weighty
In 5 years you'll be 80
Poised way up there on the high diving board
Tell me how old is 75?

Mom made it to 74
Though we all thought she'd get a bit more
Time - you get what you get
So why get upset?
And we all want a just little bit more (time, that is)
Mom made it to 74

And my Dad, he kicked at 62
Way too young, but then what can you do?
When one's number is up
There is no pre-nup
Type agreement between God and you
My Dad he kicked at 62

And so we proceed to go hence
In the hope some of it made some sense
With our allotted amounts
What gets done is what counts
Was time wasted or was it well spent?
Did you do as you chose like you meant?

And I'm having a party this year
I'm inviting all those dear and near
I may need a lift
If you get my drift
And I'm hoping you all will be here then
I'm having a party this year

But I know some of you won't be there
I suppose you could be anywhere
In the ether or soil

Free from sorrow and toil
You'll be missed but you won't really care anymore
I know some of you won't be there

Tell me how old is 75?
So old that you're barely alive
In 5 years I'll be 80
I will hear the fat lady
Bellyflop, jackknife, swan dive
Or a cannonball off of the high diving board
Tell me how old is 75?

Fun & Free

I got my old job back, pushing this machine
I'm mowing my own lawn now like I did at age 14
Six decades have come and gone, hey, I'm the old young me
Mowing my grass, I'm my own boss now and I'm doing it for fun and free

Mom showed me how to vacuum when I was just a kid
That was then and this is now and I'm doing what I did
"Made it Ma, top of the world!" - I'm channeling James Cagney
Now it's wall to wall, I'm having a ball, doing it for fun and free

Hey, doing it for fun and free
That's my new philosophy
It's practically recovery
When you do it for fun and free

The cops keep getting younger and the car salesmen do, too
Just how long can this go on? I can't say I wish I knew
But I'll say this - hear what I say - spend life like it's a spree
'Cause it's one and done - that's it son - so do it for fun and free

Hey, do it for fun and free
Gee whiz and golly gee
C'mon it's easy
When you do it for fun and free

Hey do it for fun and free
It's practically recovery
Hey, you can keep your approval and your damn money
Because I'm doing it for fun and free