

1. Outside Problems

Experts see what I could shout, rip me off and sell me out.

What was that you said? You did not pay rent!
You landed on my head and now you've spent the thoughts I lent.

Package me up and send my junk away to the
American Visionary Museum's new display.
You know what artists make. I'm just a
friend of a friend of a friend of someone with taste.

Outside's in and inside's out.
Little rich kids can live without.

How can I be out, when I'm clearly so in?
I was out until that was in; soon, I'll be out again.

I'm glad I grew up the way I did.
I've got absolutely no intentions of going back on what I did, but
you say we were so hard done by.
You claim you're just some kind of outsider guy.

Quit your whining! Hey, what's the matter?
You were handed all this on a platter!
Stop complaining! What's your fucking problem?
You were born in a silver water fountain!
Stop your whining! Hey, what's the matter?
You were handed all this on a platter!
Stop complaining! What's your fucking problem?
You were born in a silver water fountain!

2. Will

If I was a rocker, I bet I could really rock her and you.
And if my name was Elvis, I bet I could shake my pelvis too.
If I was a doer, there'd be nothing that I couldn't do.
And if I was a singer, then, I would sing this song for you.

If I was, I would have been.
Yes I am! I am being!
If I will, I will be.
Yes I will will! I will be!

If you were a writer, you would have a non-sequitor or two.
And, if you were a prophet, then you would really say something true.
If you knew what you were and what you want, then, you'd have a clue.
You're just doing what you're doing. You're just living. Well, good for you!

If you were, you would have been.
Yes you are! You are being!
If you will, you will be.
Yes you will will! You will be!

If we were lovers, then, I would really really love you.
If you get your numbers right, then one plus one is one less than two.
Baby, I hope maybe we could be we and not me and you.
I've been thinking lately we could be one, three, four, five or two.

If we were, we would have been.
Yes we are! We are being!
If we will, we will be.
Yes we will will! We will be!

3. Other Song

When you go looking in the dictionary,
you'll find something scary. You'll parry! You'll parry!

Words are made of other words are made of other
words are made of other...

When you go looking in the bibliography...
When you go searching in the 'ole library...

Thoughts are made of other thoughts are made of other
words are made of other words are made of other...

When you go looking into your own history...
When you look back into your discography...

Songs are made of other songs are made of other
thoughts are made of other thoughts are made of other
words are made of other words are made of other...

When you go looking into the galaxy...
When you go mingling in the paparazzi...
Do, do, dododo do, do do do do do do do.

Stars are made of other stars are made of other
songs are made of other songs are made of other
thoughts are made of other thoughts are made of other
words are made of other words are made of other...

If you go out in the world today, you'll be in for a big surprise:
all the colors you thought you saw, they look the same as your eyes.
On and on, we're marching on with full respect for time.
On and on, our light shines on. We'll follow the light we shine.

Lights are made of other lights are made of other
stars are made of other stars are made of other
songs are made of other songs are made of other
thoughts are made of other thoughts are made of other
words are made of other words are made of other...

4. Bullies

You were just a little boy playing in the forest.
You were just a little girl singing in the chorus.
Don't give us no more verses and we won't put you in curses, no no.

You were just a little mouse playing in the sandtrap.
You were just a fat cat playing with your mousetrap.
Just give us some of your cheese and we will leave you alone please.

Every time you go away I always act just like you.
I'm saying things that I swore that I never would do.
One day I'll grow up to be bigger than you.
I'm doing things that I swore that I always would do.

5. Teachers and Students

I remember in kindergarten, riding bikes in the spring outside.
I crashed into the fence by the garden; you teased me for a month or five.
Running laps, I know I'm so slow. You all ran until I cried.
I didn't have the confidence to tell you to "fuck off bully, I'm taking my time!"

You called me a dictionary when we were back in grade five.
I could spell better than most children. I helped you study, yeah, we got by.
At summer camp I was the oldest kid. I knew just what to do:
I stole your things and teased and kicked you, then felt bad for a year or two.

Grow! We are growing up. Learn! We are learning stuff.
In every way and every day, we're growing up. We're learning stuff.

You told me you are a computer, but I knew that was a lie.
You and I are normal humans, you are just an average guy.
I could have been something special! Now I'll give it all to you:
I will help you learn to love you and do the things you want to do.

All we want is for you to love you and believe in the things that you do.
All we want is for you to love you and believe in the things that you do.
All you want is for us to love you and believe in the things that you do.
All I want is for you to love you and believe in what I'm saying.
All we want is for us to love us and believe in what we tell us.
All we want is for you to love you and believe in the things that you do.

6. Fight!

You think I'm crazy, I know.
But, I've got to play another show.
Can't sing a song if no one's going to hear it,
can't be myself if I still fear it,
I've got to sing the songs I wrote.

So I will head out on the road
with my guitar in tow.
Only a fool wants everyone to like them,
only a jerk makes everybody listen,
so I will head out on the road.

We could be allies.
We could be allies.
We could be allies.
We could be allies.

Drove to Olympia a week before the show.
I had to make sure my posters got on the poles.
I used lots of tape and I called all the people I know.
My fingers bled and my feet got wet from the snow.

But there's no need to quit, so I'm not going to quit!
Yeah, there's no need to quit, so I'm not going to quit!

Fight for your right to fight for your right to fight!
Fight for your right to fight for your right to fight!

I don't know what they're talking about, you sounded alright!
Stop complaining, mister, and we'll party all night!
I don't know what they're talking about, you sounded alright!
Stop complaining, mister, and we'll party all night!

7. What's That Sound?

What's that sound? What's that band?
What's that riff-raff that you're driving around in your van?
What's that song? And what's that ditty?
You say your city's ugly, but how about you? You're not so pretty!
Well, jaded neighbours! We could improve here!
You only hurt yourself when you stick up that finger!
You call it a "wasteland!" You wasted your band!
Now turn that frown around and
don't be scared to play your awesome sound.

What's the plan? Where's the future?
Have I told you lately that you're looking so much older?
And who's that man? Yeah, who's that singer?
I can't believe the way those kids are wrapped around his finger.
Where's your hero? Yeah, where did he go?
You have not been the same since we went to Montreal.
Now start a venue and sign a band or two!
You've got the time and now there's nothing that can stop you!

You've got the touch! Yeah, you're so tough!
So do your stuff and show some love and make a
list and start checking things off.

What's that sound? What's that holler?
That "what" is the circumstance that brought you to us, caller.
And what's the catch? Where's the dollars?
What's that in your backpack you've got hanging around your shoulder?
What's your system? What's the exception?
What would you do in an ideal situation?
And what's your problem? You broke your eardrum!
You smashed your wrist and wrecked your face and then you
bent your little thumb.

You can't expect to get a gift if you don't give – if you don't give.
You have no choice but to live, so get a life: your chosen life.

8. All Around It

All around this country there are cool kids on bicycles
and we're gonna try to find them all.

All around this nation there are people with haircuts
and we're gonna play for them all.

We'll roll through the prairie from city to city
and learn how to live on our songs.

Doers are... We try so hard,
and we find that the time we spend trying is all of our time.
You're a fighter. Oh yeah, hey, we're fighters!
But what on earth are we fighting for?

All around this battle there are warriors and medals
and we're gonna conquer them all.

All around this concert there are posters and flyers
and things you could find at the mall.

All around this riot, we can try to find some quiet
but we know we're part of the ball.

Well, the fuckers are... I did not get paid,
he explained, because nobody came. "Now please don't complain."
And the clock ticks: tock, tick... Hey, you know
that time I proposed? If you hadn't said no, I would've really married you
and a family too. It's a nice excuse
to give up on the fight of our life now we're fighting for two.
And all of our food... gotta get it on the table,
because the bun's in the oven and no, no, no, this job won't do.
I would do that for you: go back to school.
No more blues, no more tunes, no more tours, no more no, no, no, no.

All around this graveyard there are hidiers and seekers
and some who aren't trying at all.

All around this ego, so proud and so regal, yeah,
we're gonna get what we want.

All around this island, from Cuba to Thailand, yeah,
we're doing whatever we want.

All around this ocean, over stillness and motion, yeah,
we'll do whatever we want.

9. Land of Opportunity

Whatcha whatcha want? Whatcha gonna gonna do?
Whatcha gonna do when they come for you?
Are you gonna take a walk? Are you gonna make a move?
You can talk a lot of talk, but the people want proof!

Well, you can get what you want and you can get what you deserve.
You can think a lot of thoughts and you can speak a lot of words.
Yeah, you can be a man and you can get heard.
You think you've got it bad but it's gonna get worse.

Out in the community, there's an opportunity. Land of opportunity! Social security!

On days like today I feel so good! Everything is working out the way I hoped that it would!

Lucky little pieces falling out of the sky. Nice things happen when you are a nice guy.
Lucky little pieces falling out of the sky. Nice things happen when you are a nice guy.
Lucky little pieces falling out of the sky. Nice things happen when you are a nice guy.
But Chicken Little always had to have another line. I would go with them if I had more time.
Lucky little pieces falling out of the sky. I'd go with them if I had more time.

There are gods of the sky and there are children of the earth.
You can have your fruits of plenty; you can have your time to purge.
You set off to see the king, but there's a lesson you must learn:
it'll happen soon enough you'll be down in the dirt!
It'll happen soon enough you'll be riding in a hearse!

Out in the community, there's an opportunity. Land of opportunity! Social security!

There must be something more to the story than this.
Some important details that I'm sorry I missed.
You tried to put all of your problems into a list.
You tried to put the nail in the coffin, but baby, you missed.
You tried to put the nail in the coffin, but Foxy, you missed.
You tried to put the nail in the coffin, but Foxy Loxy, you missed.

You notice that the air is getting older and you notice that the world is getting older.

You can package it up all nicely in a series of lines.
You can tell all your friends about it in the form of a rhyme.
You can keep on singing your songs until you run out of time.
You can tell me that the sky is falling, but I know that's a lie.
Tell me that the sky is falling, but I know that's a lie.
You tried to put the nail in their coffins, but maybe next time.
Tell me that the sky is falling, but there's something you missed.
You tried to put the nail in their coffins, but Foxy Loxy, you missed.

10. Duckling

How come you're so ugly?
What could have possibly gone wrong?
How come your music's so awful?
Why can't you write a good song?
Well, your mom will not be your mother,
and your dad, he swears he's not your dad.
How come you had to be a duckling?
Why couldn't you have been a band?

For so long you have traveled.
You've travelled all across the land.
You've tried so hard not to be jealous
of all your friends' more successful bands.
But the animals only mock you.
The farmers won't even be your fans!
How come you had to be a duckling?
Why couldn't you have been a band?

It's true. It's true that nobody likes you
until you stand on your own feet – until you don't like them too.

It's true: there's two things that you could do:
get your revenge or you could show them just what they could do.

Me, I'll take good care of you.
I'll keep you safe away from harm.
I'll give you lots of room to practice.
I'll let you sleep in my barn.
So come now, little duckling,
keep on singing your song.
One day you'll be famous,
one day you'll be a beautiful swan.

"No way!"
"Yeah, right!"
"Uh uh!"
"Get lost!"
"Take a hike!"
"Forget it!"
"Never!"

One day you'll be a beautiful swan!

11. Song for Two

When you were younger, you wished you could be older,
but now that you're older, you wish you could be younger.
And now that you're dying, you wish you were living,
but when you were living, you wished you were in heaven.

Is that you what you meant when you said
what I said will not matter when we're dead?

When you were trying, you couldn't stop losing,
but now that you're winning, you're not even trying.
And when we were fighting, I wished I was winning,
but now that I've won everything, I just wish I could fight again.

Is that you meant when you said,
"when you said, 'when you said, which do you mean?'"?
I meant what I hope you said
was what I said and we can both agree.
Yeah I said, "I said what you said
and I meant what I thought you meant to mean."
But you've got no idea. What I
mean is you're not saying much to
me.

Those kids were all just measuring sticks. We've got pals and we've got kicks.
I will be there when you wake, learning from you every day.
I will keep an eye on you. You'll take good care of me too.
I'm still singing all your songs, even though you have moved on.

In five years I will be you and there'll be someone else who does just what I
do and I will look at them like you look at me now and thus we'll prove:

you see yourself in me; I see myself in you.
This is a song for me; this is a song for you.
This is a song for three; this is a song for two.
This is a song by me; this is a song by you.