

EIGHT UNNECESSARY SONGS (And An Odd Little Hymn)

All lyrics ©2016 Susan Werner (Frank Chance Music, ASCAP) except The Motorist's Prayer, words excerpted from a prayer card purchased in a Catholic bookstore in Des Moines, Iowa; source Anonymous

SMALL PLANES

SWEET BABY
YOU'RE THE LIGHT OF MY LIFE
I'M HAPPY NOW AS I CAN BE
BUT IF YOU LOVE ME
THINK OF ME
AND BABY WON'T YOU PROMISE ME
THAT YOU'LL NEVER
STROLL HOME THROUGH THE ALLEY AT NIGHT
YOU'LL NEVER RIDE ALONE ON TRAINS
DON'T YOU EVER STOP
FOR HITCHHIKERS
AND NEVER EVER FLY IN SMALL PLANES

'CAUSE SWEET BABY
IT'S A SAD SAD WORLD
FULL OF BROKEN HEARTS AND HERNIATED DISCS
THINK OF ALL THE WIDOWS OF THE TOTAL FOOLS
WHO TOOK UNNECESSARY RISKS
SO DON'T YOU EVER
STROLL HOME THROUGH THE ALLEY AT NIGHT
DON'T EVER RIDE ALONE ON TRAINS
DON'T YOU EVER STOP
FOR HITCHHIKERS
AND NEVER EVER FLY IN SMALL PLANES

'CAUSE BUDDY HOLLY
MUCH TOO LATE HE LEARNED
ONE SHOULD ONLY TRAVEL IOWA BY CAR
AND PATSY CLINE
WHEN SHE FELL TO PIECES
SHE TOOK IT JUST A BIT TOO FAR

YOU CAN CALL ME CRUEL
CALL ME CRAZY
SAY ANYTHING YOU WANT TO SAY
BUT I COULDN'T MAKE IT
I COULDN'T TAKE IT
IF ANYTHING TOOK YOU AWAY
SO DON'T YOU EVER
STROLL HOME THROUGH THE ALLEY AT NIGHT
DON'T EVER RIDE ALONE ON TRAINS
DON'T YOU EVER STOP
FOR HITCHHIKERS
AND NEVER EVER FLY IN SMALL PLANES

NO NEW FRIENDS

YOU AND I ARE BLESSED WITH BUDDIES
I LOVE YOUR PALS, YOU LOVE MINE
BUT WE'VE GOT SO MANY BUDDIES -
SOMEONE'S GOT TO DRAW THE LINE -
SO -

NO NEW FRIENDS
WE'VE GOT ENOUGH ALREADY
NO NEW FRIENDS
TELL GENE, MICHELLE AND EDDIE
DON'T BE BRINGING GUESTS ALONG TO DINNER
WE CAN'T STRETCH OUR SOCIAL LIVES
MUCH THINNER
CAUSE OH MY GOD ITS OVERWHELMING
NO NEW FRIENDS

THAT'S IT AND I'M NOT KIDDIN'
NO NEW CHUMS
NO PALS, THEY'RE ALL FORBIDDEN
WE CAN'T FIND THE TIME TO SEE YOUR MOTHER
NOT TO MENTION EACHOTHER
NO NEW FRIENDS

NO NEW FRIENDS
EIGHT IS ENOUGH PLACE SETTINGS
NO NEW FRIENDS -
FRIENDS ALL HAVE KIDS, THEN WEDDINGS
THEN WE'LL GET THE STACK OF INVITATIONS
TO EVENTS WITH DRINKS AND CONVERSATIONS
I WANNA SIT AND READ A BOOK SO
NO NEW FRIENDS
I DON'T CARE, THEY'RE RICH OR FAMOUS
NO NEW FRIENDS
AND THERE'S NOT A SOUL WHO'LL BLAME US
THEY ALL THINK THE SAME THING BUT DON'T SAY SO
AND WE FEEL THE SAME WAY
SO NO HURT FEELINGS
I'M SORRY, MY BUTTERCUP
BUT WE REALLY JUST CAN'T KEEP UP
SO IF YOU LOVE ME, BABY
NO NEW FRIENDS
NO NONE
EXCEPT FOR MAYBE ONE -
GEORGE CLOONEY

RECUMBENT BIKE

RECUMBENT BIKE
I SEE THEM RIDING ON THE PATH
WITH EVERY MUD PUDDLE THEY TAKE A BATH
ALWAYS A GUY WHO'S GOOD AT MATH OR SCIENCE
SOCIETAL OUTSIDER
THAT'S WHAT IT TAKES TO RIDE A
RECUMBENT BIKE

HE'S GOT HIS ORANGE SAFETY FLAG
BLUEBERRY CLIF BAR IN HIS SADDLEBAG
IN ANY GROUP HE'LL ALWAYS LAG BEHIND, AND
HE'LL SMILE AS YOU DRAW NEARER
IN HIS WEIRD HELMET MIRROR
RECUMBENT BIKE

THEY RIDE OUT WHERE ITS FLAT
CAN'T CLIMB UPHILL LIKE THAT
YOU WON'T SEE THEM ON THE MOUNTAINS
THEY STOP AT DRINKING FOUNTAINS
YOU ASK THAT GUY A QUESTION
HE'LL TALK ALL AFTERNOON
ABOUT ABOVE SEAT STEERING
ABOUT DUTCH ENGINEERING
SO DO YOURSELF A FAVOR
JUST SAY "HEY, SEE YOU LATER - "

RECUMBENT BIKE

WHAT DID YOU DO TO YOUR FACE

WELL HELLO MY OLD FRIEND
HOW VERY WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU AGAIN
AND I'M SURE THIS PROBABLY ISN'T QUITE THE TIME OR

THE PLACE, BUT
WHAT DID YOU DO TO YOUR FACE

I MEAN, WHAT
WITH THE EYES
YOU LOOK LIKE EVERYTHING'S A TOTAL SURPRISE
LIKE A HYPER LITTLE HUNTING DOG ABOUT TO GIVE CHASE
WHAT DID YOU DO TO YOUR FACE

'CAUSE YOUR NOSE IS SO SMALL NOW
SO TEENY TINY HOW DO YOU BREATHE AT ALL
AND YOUR LIPS - BALLOONS -
OVERINFLATED AS A PAIR OF PONTOONS

YOU LOOK WEIRD -
YOU LOOK - GOOD!? -
YOU DON'T LOOK ANYTHING LIKE ANYONE SHOULD
'CEPT FOR PEOPLE FROM LOS ANGELES AND DEEP OUTER
SPACE
WHAT DID YOU DO TO YOUR FACE

AND YOU'VE SMOOTHED YOUR BROW
YOU GOT IT FLATTER THAN NEVADA SOMEHOW
AND YOUR CHIN'S TUCKED IN
SO TIGHT YOUR BOOBS GO UP WHENEVER YOU GRIN

HEY, YOU'RE RIGHT
I'M A JERK
(IF YOU DON'T MIND MY ASKING, WHO DID THE WORK?
DO YOU THINK THERE'S ANY CHANCE THAT THEY'D
CONSIDER MY CASE?)
WHAT DID YOU DO TO YOUR FACE
(WAS IT EXPENSIVE?)
WHAT DID YOU DO TO YOUR FACE
(AND WAS IT PAINFUL?)
WHAT DID YOU DO TO YOUR FACE
(WOULD YOU GO WITH ME?)
WHAT DID YOU DO TO YOUR FACE

DOG

OUR EVENING TOGETHER WAS MAGIC
WE HAD DINNER AND WINE
YOU SAID YOUR PLACE OR MINE
WE WOKE UP THE NEXT DAY IN YOUR BEDROOM
WE HAD COFFEE AND LAUGHED
AND A FEW MINUTES AFTER
YOU SAID
"MAYBE IT'S TIME YOU MEET FRED -
MY POLISH LOWLAND SHEEPDOG"
AND THEN FRED HE JUMPED UP ON THE BED
AND AS I PATTED FRED ON THE HEAD

YOU KISSED YOUR DOG ON THE MOUTH
THAT'S WHEN IT ALL WENT SOUTH
THAT'S WHEN MY FEET HIT THE FLOOR
AND I WALKED OUT YOUR DOOR
FOR I COULD NOT UNSEE
WHAT I'D SEEN WHEN YOU SMOOCHED
YOUR POOCH
AND PUT YOUR LIPS ON HIS -
THAT WAS, AND THAT IS -
THE

END

BUT —
YOU FOLLOWED ME OUT TO MY CAMRY
YOU SAID, "WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL -"
YOU SAID, "FRED, SIT, FRED, HEEL -"
YOU SAID, "DOGS' MOUTHS ARE CLEANER THAN HUMANS"
I SAID, "I HAVE MY DOUBTS
BECAUSE DOGS PUT THEIR SNOUTS IN THEIR *SS
AND EAT CRAP THEY FIND IN THE GRASS
AND THAT'S HOW THEY GET HOOKWORMS"
AND YOU CRIED AND YOU GOT ALL UPSET
AND I TRIED BUT I COULD NOT FORGET

YOU KISSED YOUR DOG ON THE MOUTH
THAT'S WHEN IT ALL WENT SOUTH
THAT'S WHEN MY FEET HIT THE FLOOR
AND I WALKED OUT YOUR DOOR
FOR I COULD NOT UNSEE
WHAT I'D SEEN WHEN YOU SMOOCHED
YOUR POOCH
AND PUT YOUR LIPS ON HIS -
THAT WAS, AND THAT IS -
THE
END

AND I'LL WONDER RIGHT UP TO THE DAY OF MY DEATH
'BOUT THAT SLIGHT HINT OF KIBBLES AND BITS ON YOUR
BREATH

YOU KISSED YOUR DOG ON THE MOUTH
WHY DID YOU DO THAT? — ACK! -
WE HAD A CHANCE AT LOVE
WE'LL NEVER GET IT BACK
FOR I COULD NOT UNSEE
WHAT I'D SEEN WHEN YOU SMOOCHED
YOUR POOCH
AND PUT YOUR LIPS ON HIS
THAT WAS AND
THAT IS
THE END

PABST BLUE RIBBON

LAST WEEK I ASKED MY FATHER WHAT HE NEEDED FROM
THE STORE
HE SAID MY DEAR I DON'T KNOW IF THEY MAKE IT ANY
MORE BUT I'D LOVE SOME
PABST BLUE RIBBON
THAT'S SOME DAMN GOOD BEER

HE SAID
YOUR MOTHER DIDN'T SMOKE
SHE DIDN'T GO FOR FANCY FOOD
BUT THERE WAS ONE THING ALWAYS GOT YOUR MOTHER
IN THE MOOD
AND THAT WAS
PABST BLUE RIBBON
THAT'S HOW YOU GOT HERE

WELL WHO KNEW
MILWAUKEE HELD THE KEY
TO HUMAN REPRODUCTIVITY

AND MY VERY FANCY HUSBAND

HE DRINKS ONLY GUINNESS STOUT
BUT YOU KNOW THAT I GOT PREGNANT
ON THAT WEEKEND WE RAN OUT AND DRANK
PABST BLUE RIBBON
THAT'S SOME DAMN GOOD BEER

WELL WHO KNEW MILWAUKEE HAD IT DOWN
THINK, ALL THESE BABIES RUNNING ROUIND

AND NOW OUR SON IS MARRIED
THEY LIVE RIGHT ACROSS THE BRIDGE
IT MADE ME HAPPY YESTERDAY
TO PEEK INSIDE THEIR FRIDGE AND SEE
PABST BLUE RIBBON
THAT'S SOME DAMN GOOD BEER

BAD BAD BAD

I LIKE CIGARS AND CIGARETTES
I DON'T MUCH CARE WHO THAT UPSETS
I LIKE THE SMELL OF LEATHER AND THE TASTE OF STEAK
I LIKE TO LICK THE FROSTING OFF THE BIRTHDAY CAKE

BECAUSE I'M BAD OH YES I'M BAD
I'M SO PATHETIC ITS JUST SAD
I'M GOING TO HELL AND I'M GOING THERE FAST
RIGHT FROM THE MOMENT THAT I BREATHE MY LAST
BECAUSE I'M BAD BAD BAD

AND I LOVE LOVE LOVE MY AUTOMOBILE
I LIKE TO CORNER HARD, MAKE THE TIRES SQUEAL
I'LL GUZZLE DOWN THE GAS 'TIL ALL THE OIL IS GONE
AND IN THE SUMMER DRIVE AROUND WITH THE WIN-
DOWS DOWN AND THE AIR CONDITIONING ON

BECAUSE I'M BAD YES I'M UNREFORMED
AND I PLAN TO GET THIS PLANET WARMED
I'M GONNA KEEP MY CAR NO MATTER WHAT THE COST
AND ALL YOU BICYCLE TYPES CAN JUST KISS MY
EXHAUST
BECAUSE I'M BAD BAD BAD

I LIKE CUTTING DOWN CHRISTMAS TREES
I LIKE SWATTING BUMBLEBEES
I LIKE STEPPING ON FIRE ANTS
I LIKE NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS
AND ITS MUCH WORSE THAN YOU THINK
I LIKE BEAVER I LIKE MINK
YES AND EVERY NOW AND THEN
I EVEN VOTE REPUBLICAN
AND I'M BAD BAD BAD BAD BAD

AND DESPITE THE SPITE OF ALL YOU NAGS
I LIKE PAPER PLATES AND PLASTIC BAGS
I LIKE MY DRINKING WATER SHIPPED FROM OVERSEAS
AND IN A LOVELY PLASTIC BOTTLE, IF YOU PLEASE

BECAUSE I'M BAD I'M A TOTAL PIG
I'M BRINGING DOWN THE WORLD WITH EVERY SWIG
TOSSING OUT MY EMPTIES WITH A CAREFREE SMILE
I GOT NO CONSCIENCE — BUT I DO GOT STYLE!
CAUSE I'M BAD
BAD
BAD
BAD
BAD

CAREER COUNSELING 101 (DON'T)

DON'T WORK WITH YOUR FRIENDS
DON'T WORK WITH YOUR FRIENDS
IT'S FUN IN THE BEGINNING, BUT THE TROUBLE NEVER
ENDS
DON'T WORK WITH YOUR FRIENDS

DON'T SLEEP WITH THE BOSS
NEVER SLEEP WITH THE BOSS
YOU'LL NEVER TURN A PROFIT, AND YOU'LL TAKE AN
AWFUL LOSS
DON'T SLEEP WITH THE BOSS

YOU KNOW, I'VE ALWAYS BEEN AMAZED
AT THE VARIOUS AND SUNDRY LITTLE WAYS
PEOPLE SCREW UP THEIR LIVES
BY DISREGARDING SIMPLE COMMON SENSE
OH, THE CONSEQUENCES ARE SEVERE
(FROM WHAT I HEAR, BUT HOW WOULD I KNOW?)

DON'T HIRE YOUR WIFE
NOT YOUR HUSBAND OR WIFE
WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE AN ARGUMENT OR RATHER
HAVE A LIFE
DON'T HIRE YOUR WIFE

OH, THE CONSEQUENCES ARE PROFOUND
WHEN IT ALL COMES DOWN
I'VE SEEN IT HAPPEN
TO DECENT PEOPLE
MY GOD, ITS AWFUL
SO VERY PAINFUL
(OKAY IT MIGHTA BEEN ME)

DON'T COUNT ON YOUR KIN
NEVER DEAL YOUR KIN IN
NOT YOUR BROTHER OR YOUR MOTHER OR YOUR
SIAMESE TWIN
YOU NEVER CAN WIN
DON'T COUNT ON YOUR KIN
DO YOU WANT A LIFE
DON'T HIRE YOUR WIFE
THINK PROFIT AND LOSS
DON'T SLEEP WITH THE BOSS
HERE'S WHERE THE SONG ENDS
DON'T WORK WITH YOUR FRIENDS

THE MOTORIST'S PRAYER

(music by Susan Werner, lyrics Anonymous)

GRANT UNTO ME, OH LORD ON HIGH
A STEADY HAND AND WATCHFUL EYE
THAT NO ONE MAY BE HURT AS I
DRIVE BY

THOU GAVEST LIFE - I PRAY NO ACT OF MINE
SHOULD TAKE AWAY OR MAR THAT GIFT OF THINE

SHELTER THOSE, DEAR LORD, WHO BEAR ME COMPANY
FROM THE EVILS OF FIRE AND ALL CALAMITY

TEACH ME TO USE MY CAR FOR OTHERS' NEED
AND NEVER MISS THROUGH LOVE OF UNDUE SPEED
THE BEAUTY OF THE WORLD