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*When Things  
Are Tough*



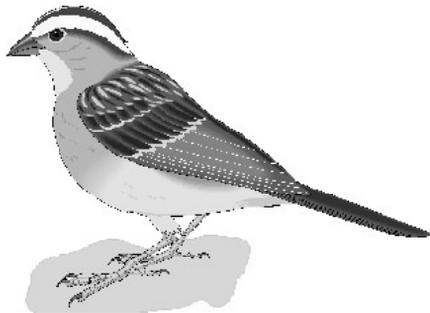
*I said, Oh that I had  
the wings of a dove!  
I would fly away and be at rest--  
I would flee far away  
and stay in the desert;  
I would hurry to my place  
of shelter  
far from the tempest and storm.  
Psalm 55:7,8*

## *Smile a Lot*

Smile a lot, friends, smile a lot,  
You never know how long you've got  
So while you travel planet earth  
Keep smiling big for all you're worth.  
God doesn't tell how long you'll stay  
So live your best from day to day.  
If you've no smile upon your face  
You might give up and leave this place.

God made a lot of pretty stuff  
So you could smile when things get tough.  
Don't let your life go down the drain  
Though problems come along with pain.  
God knows how much your heart can bear  
And He'll stand by you anywhere.

Count up the blessings that you've got  
Forget the things that you have not.  
A smile can heal a bunch of ills  
That can't be helped by lots of pills.  
So get your heart in tune today  
You'll find a smile will make your day.



## *God In Our Corner*

Life can be pretty tough, you know,  
When pain sets in and steps are slow.  
Sometimes we'd like to run and hide  
Until our aches and pains subside.  
It often takes a lot of pluck  
To hum and sing when we are stuck,  
Especially when we have no friend  
Who's in our corner and can lend  
A helping hand to see us through  
When we don't know just what to do,  
And no one cares a little bit  
As in our rocking chair we sit.

But let me tell you, friend of mind,  
God's in our corner and He's kind  
And if we've come to our wit's end  
He lets us know He is our friend.

If God be for us,  
who can be  
against us.  
Romans 8:31





*Happy  
Campers*

If you're not a happy camper  
I wonder what went wrong--  
Did envy, sin, or jealousy  
deprive you of your song?  
A lot of folks have problems  
with this very sort of thing,  
If there is hatred in your heart  
it's tough to hum and sing.

Forgiveness is a magic word  
that helps to make things right,  
Apologizing also works  
to make your burden light.  
So take a bit of time, my friend,  
and sit down in your chair  
And check what's in your heart and mind  
and see what's brewing there.

No matter if your life is short  
or if it's pretty long  
A person's mighty foolish  
if you live without a song.

Forgive whatever grievances you may have  
against one another. Forgive as the Lord  
forgave you. Colossians 3:13

## *When Clouds Hang Low*

It's hard to stay on top th' heap  
    when troubles come our way  
And realize they come to pass  
    and do not come to stay.  
No matter how much dough we have  
    or if we're mighty poor  
We'll find some days all we can do  
    is simply to endure.

Some days when clouds are hanging low  
    and darken up our skies  
God knows just how we feel inside,  
    to Him it's no surprise.  
But if we talk to Him a bit  
    and tell Him we can't cope  
He just might send an angel down  
    to bring us joy and hope.

So don't give up, my hurting friend,  
    and think God's far away  
For if we give Him all our heart  
    He hears each word we say.  
God never is a loser; He heads up  
    the winning team  
And if we tell Him we need help  
    He'll know just what we mean.



## *Clutter*

If you could see inside your heart  
I wonder what you'd find--  
Is it all cluttered up with junk,  
or have you peace of mind?  
It might be good to rid your soul  
of stuff that doesn't pay,  
If you've hard feelings in your heart  
it's no good anyway.  
It sure can load a fella' down  
to harbor all that stuff,  
Besides it turns your sky to gray  
and leaves you feeling tough.  
So rid yourself of clutter  
that you've gathered here and there  
And ruminate on happy thoughts  
while rocking in your chair.  
Be careful what you say to folks  
and keep your words all sweet  
For they will taste much better  
if those words you have to eat.





## *Unraveled*

Has your life become unraveled  
and living's pretty tough,  
Is it hard to do the things you should  
to keep life up to snuff?  
Sometimes we make mistakes, you know,  
and get ourselves fouled up  
And days on end we try to live  
with just an empty cup.

A lot of folks have gone this route  
and feel that life's a bore,  
But if they'd give their heart to God  
they'd find there's something more.  
There is no case too hard for Him,  
He knows what things are wrong  
And if you do the things He says  
He'll give your heart a song.

There's nothing like forgiveness  
that can set a person free  
And if you've kindness in your heart  
I think you will agree  
That living can be beautiful  
and bring you love and peace,  
And if you walk each day with Him  
your joy will just increase.

*The  
Polished  
Stone*



Life has its troubles and its woes  
and times can be quite tough,  
In fact, some people will declare  
that they have had enough;  
So they give up before their time  
and trials grind them down,  
They seldom have a smiling face,  
but often have a frown.

Yet many folks with handicaps  
and trials hard to bear  
Will make the very best of life  
e'en though its not too fair.  
Instead of bitterness and hate  
and blaming things on God  
They use the things they still have left,  
and laugh, and smile, and nod.

They're not content to be worn down  
and feel they're all alone,  
Instead they let life's ups and downs  
make them a polished stone.

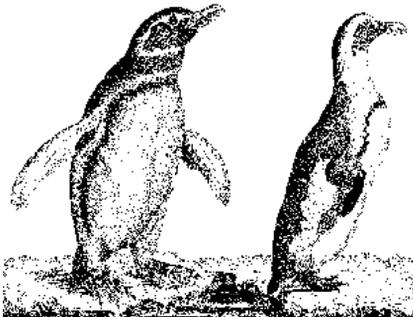
And we know that in all things God works for  
the good of those who love Him. Romans 8:28

## *Making a Hit*

When folks get old it's doubly hard  
for them to change their ways,  
They like to do the way they've done  
for many years and days.  
It's kinda' comfortable to do  
the way they've always done  
For they have learned down through the years  
how some things oughta' run.

When oldsters see newfangled ways  
they know they'll have to change  
Or they will be out in the cold  
because they're kinda' strange.  
When folks get old some parts wear out  
but one thing they can do  
Is keep a song tucked in their heart  
that will their strength renew.

So if you're in that awkward stage  
where you've slowed up a bit  
If you love folks with all your heart  
you're sure to make a hit.



## *The Complainers*

Some folks have lots of blessings  
but they do not count 'em much  
And they complain because they want  
more things to hold and touch.

Somehow they feel they should be served,  
but not a servant be,  
And so they miss the best in life  
for giving is the key.

When Jesus Christ came down to earth  
He served from day to day  
And gave us an example  
so that we could live that way.

Now if the Lord lives in your heart  
you'll find you've peace within  
And you will stop complaining  
to all your friends and kin.



If you live in America  
your life is not too tough--  
Some folks in foreign countries  
never, never have enough.

If you're unhappy take a trip  
to some far distant shore  
Like Africa or India,  
or maybe Singapore.

God likes the folks who sing and hum  
and thank Him every day  
For all the blessings they enjoy  
when they bow down and pray.

So if you are unhappy  
and your life has lost it's zest  
God's good at fixing hurting hearts  
and He can do it best!

*I have learned  
the secret of being  
content in  
any and every  
situation  
Philippians 4:11*



## *Home*

I know folks live in mansions,  
while some others live in flats;  
Of course some folks like trailer life  
and take along their cats;

And then there are the condo folks,  
and some in villas dwell,  
Still others have a house on stilts  
and make out pretty well.

Some folks live in a pent house  
and can watch the scene below;  
Still others may live on a boat  
and move about, you know.

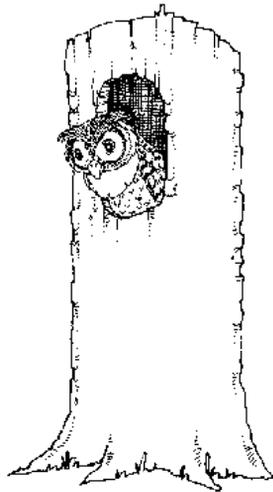
I'm not sure how the folks in caves  
survived with little sun  
Or how the folks who lived on cliffs  
relaxed when day was done.



I've also seen some castles  
that were lived in long ago,  
And England has a palace  
where the Queen walks to and fro.  
An igloo is a home to some--  
I'm not sure if they rent;  
It really matters little  
if your home is hut or tent.

But what I want to say is this:  
no matter where you dwell  
If there's not love within your home  
you won't sleep very well.

Sometimes we find that life is hard  
and times may be quite tough,  
But somehow we can win and sing  
if we have love enough.





*They  
Missed  
a Lot*

I've seen a lot of years roll by,  
I've seen a lot of change,  
I'd guess the youngsters of today  
think oldsters are quite strange.

No doubt they wonder how the folks  
who lived so long ago  
Could live without computers  
and some other stuff, you know,  
Like videos and cell phones,  
and a pair of Nike shoes  
Along with name-brand shirt and pants  
like other fella's choose.

They've never seen a Model T  
that started with a crank,  
And Cokes and Pepsis cost too much  
so these they seldom drank.  
A lamp that used just kerosene  
they never studied by  
And when they think of one-room schools  
they shrug and even sigh.

They can't remember when the stores  
weren't open day and night  
And folks would only get to shop  
when it was broad daylight.  
They've never seen Fels Naptha soap  
on washboard in a tub  
When women washed the family's clothes  
and they would scrub and scrub.

I know the young folks of today  
have missed a lot of stuff  
That oldsters had to deal with then  
when times were really tough.  
But when I reminisce a bit  
and think on it awhile  
I'm glad I have these memories.  
They kinda' make me smile