

Poetry Series

richard (mak) makinson
- poems -

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richard (mak) makinson()

Beg Steal Or Borrow

Tiger hiding daytime fears
Nightly buying dreams are here
Crowded station empty hands
Daughter stares at the man
Flashing lights she flies
Dragon bites tells me lies

Giant crying hear us jeer
Siren drowned by tears
Itchy skin yellow bruise
Shadow falls again I lose
People pass he sighs
No emotion in their eyes

Spider fighting over spear
Candle light and cooks gear
Fox lounges again on tomb
Mobile phone calls the tune
Giving spiel nobody buys
Life's a gas set on high

Cider drinkers in the park
Glowing eyes set apart
I'll see you yesterday
Where adult children play
Beg steal or borrow
Give me back my tomorrows

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Bridges

Underneath the canal bridges
Angler waits artist reaches
Graffiti scrawl pigeons breeding
Unused barges paintwork peeling
Excited youth mind aflame
With lover playing games
Rubbish strewn water course
River police spent force

Underneath the motorway bridges
Hedgehog dies muscle twitches
Graffiti scrawl old exhaust
Gypsy camp tethered horse
Lorry passing sports car
Freshly laid concrete floor
Long forgotten traffic cones
Van driver speeding home

Underneath the railway bridges
Motor repairs antique dealers
Graffiti scrawl Smokey walls
Thrown away abandoned wreck
Rubbish burns council let
Wicker basket carries shopping
Flea bites babies coughing

Underneath the village sky
Trestle table people buy
River winding boats galore
Holiday tours come ashore
Ivy covered stone walls
Roses round cottage door
Bus shelter graffiti scrawl
Dial a ride and the W.I.

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Child (Lyrics)

Saw you for the first time
A pretty little thing
I held you that first night
A new chapter begins
Walked with you that first time
And you held my hand
I've shared love in my life
This love's a different kind

Saw you for the first time
Made my head spin
I loved you at first sight
Even bought a ring
Walk with me the next time
Hope he won't mind
I've shared love in my life
This love's a different kind

Chorus

I didn't realise that love
Would make my heart go wild
Till I held you baby
For the first time
When you were just a child

As a boy for the last time
I saw my son today
As a man for the first time
My son cried today
As I bent to kiss you
He whispered your name
Then he took you from me
And I heard him say
I didn't realise that love
Could make my heart go wild
Till I saw my father holding
The child of his child

Chorus

I didn't realise that love
Would make my heart go wild
Till I held you baby
For the first time
Child of my child.

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Cut Shuffle And Deal

Cut Shuffle and deal
To the accountant you say
Why can't the kids have
A second holiday
You don't need money
Just sign the slip
It seems such a silly game
Playing cards like this
Take another loan
To pay what you owe
Take a second mortgage
Make sure you keep your home
I'll never get divorced
I can't afford an ex
She's got a gold card
And platinum comes next

Cut Shuffle and deal
To the accountant you say
Can I afford to have
Another rise in pay
I haven't seen money
Since I got a credit card
Open up my wallet
It stretches a yard
Got a letter in the mail
From the taxman it came
Said that I should pay him
Or go straight to jail
I pay Visa with my Diners
My Diners with Amex
Every day I get deeper
And deeper into debt

Cut Shuffle and deal
To the accountant you say
Which card should I
Be using today
I'm playing with no ante

My finances are a fantasy
I don't know how I'll pay
But I'll up and stay
You should spread the cost
And save for a rainy day
But once you start signing
You pay and pay and pay
I pay Diners with my Visa
My Visa with Amex
It's so very easy
To get deeper into debt

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Darling Are You Still There

Can you be strong enough to bear
Troubles I'm going to cause you
Although I still care
I don't mean to stray
But you know I'm a fool
I'll always be a friend
Of anyone with some booze
Darling are you still there

It seems that I'm on self destruct
I ain't got no self respect
No loyalty I should expect
Losing all the love and trust
That we shared for years
What chance for me
When all I bring is tears
Darling are you still there

My heart is a river of despair
And it keeps feeding my mind
Like a waterfall going nowhere
Why aren't you here
To put my tortured mind to rest
Do you no longer care
To put our love to test
Darling are you still there

I know I've made you rash promises
But that's all in the past now
It's history not wishes
I'm sorry you're hurting
If it's me that caused you pain
If you come back tomorrow
It'll happen all over again
Darling why aren't you here

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Heroes (Lyrics)

Digging coal in Kentucky
Or panning for Alaskan gold
Fishing in the ocean
In waters clear and cold
They string words together
And make us all believe
That they've been there and done it
And sailed the seven seas

He's a rodeo rider
A cowboy on the trail
He begins to yodel
As the sky fills with rain
He's a modern city dweller
Wearing boots jeans and a belt
With a name that's familiar
And his money's all spent

Chorus

Hail to the man
He who was first
For my heroes are masters
Of music and verse

He doesn't have to work hard
Thinking up new lines
With the lyrics provided
By his two ex wives
You'll find these singing writers
Throughout our fair land
From the northern Rockies
To the Rio Grande

Tapping your feet
When you hear his little tune
The words sometimes escape you
Dum Dee Dee Dum Doo

Standing by the roadside
Waiting for a man
Someone to pitch to
Or just sing in a band

Chorus

Hail to the man
He who was first
For my heroes are masters
Of music and verse

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Laughing Jack (Lyrics)

The smile on his face
As he stands beneath the light
Hides the shame that stops him
From going home tonight
He always pulls his brim low
When he's up on stage
To hide his eyes from the world
So you can't see the pain

Travelling always away from home
Never looking back
The face he shows to the world
They call him laughing Jack

When he sings and smiles
Listen deep and hard
You can almost hear the pain
Hiding in his heart
He always hides his eyes from view
When he's on the street
And if you stare straight at him
He'll look down at his feet

Travelling always away from home
Never turning back
The face he shows to the world
They call him laughing Jack

Though he works under strong light
His face is in shade
He don't want you to see
The price that he's paid
He bought shame to his family
They're treated with disdain
His own wrongdoing has
Filled his eyes with pain

Travelling always away from home
Never looking back
The face he shows to the world
They call him laughing Jack

He'll never get to go back home
Now it's over and done
The pain he carries in his heart
Because he hurt someone
There's no laughter in his eyes
No home for his child
It's the price he pays
For running away
With his own brothers bride

Travelling always away from home
Never turning back
The face he shows to the world
They call him laughing Jack

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Mythagic

Far away where plastic was made
Chocolate ants for the tourist trade
Mares of Diomedes feasting on me
Beyond the dream lies the reality
Colours flying and dice that skate
Bees whisper to sheep hair braid
Cattle of Geryon painted on me
Under the stair hides my identity

Long ago when money was real
Exotic fruit and fleas that squeal
Arms of Morpheus in bravest ivory
Within these walls grows the enmity
Pillbox soldier with eyes gaping loud
Slender bodied woman looks for pound
Sow of Crommyum carved into tree
Behind the clock sits my uncertainty

Once upon a time was very true
Soundless people of a darker hue
Sword of Damocles waiting for me
Between my life there's no harmony
Flying mammals of deep hilly field
Children blind to causes we plead
Hydra of Lerna described as charity
Above my reason waits my sanity.

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Standing By The Grave (Lyrics)

Standing by the Grave of my best friend
Why did her life come to an end
Wish the rain would fall so I could cry
My feelings for her will never die
Just another statistic in county hall
Her name's on file marked crime unsolved

My family came to help pull me through
Helped me say goodbye to one so true
For eighteen years all our lives we shared
Nothing left unsaid nor feelings spared
Just another statistic in county hall
Her name's on file marked crime unsolved

Chorus

Hit and run driver what were you drinking
To take a young life without even thinking
Hit and run driver can you hear me bawling
It's raining now and my tears are falling
Standing by the Grave of my best friend

My mom and dad are both still alive
Standing by the Grave of my only child
A single stone in an old family plot
By us she will never be forgot
Just another statistic in county hall
Her name's on file marked crime unsolved

Chorus

Hit and run driver what were you drinking
To take a young life without even thinking
Hit and run driver can you hear me bawling
It's raining now and my tears are falling
Standing at the Grave of my best friend

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Stranger In Town (Lyrics)

Rhinestones on his shirt his boots and guitar strap
He walks onto stage and they all cheer and clap
He begins to sparkle though he's sometimes feeling rough
They yell and stamp and whistle they just can't hear enough
Of his music yeah his country sound

Two hours of singing every day then ten hours of travel
Fourteen towns in fourteen days and still they yell for more
He's been on the road so long he's feeling tired and sore
But he can't stop for rest when they're wanting to hear more
Of his music yeah his country sound

From small-town gigs to football grounds the fans all call his name
They forgot their troubles laid their ghosts to the gigs they came
The buckle on his belt may read (Stranger in Town) not just a name
But they all know and love him cause he never lets them down
With his music yeah his country sound

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Tell Me Those Lies (Lyrics)

Fate decreed I'd be a loser
The very minute I was born
Why can't I be a winner
For a moment now and then
You dress in style for attention
Make advances to all my friends
I've heard strangers mention
Your name and where we live

Fate threw me a curve ball
And I knew I'd lost again
I struck out no home run
The night that I met Jean
I buy her clothes and jewels
I'm just another of her fools
Jumping rope on a freeway
Would be safer than loving you

Chorus

Tell me those lies once more
The ones that keep me here
It's what I want you to say
Tell me what I want to hear

Fate decided to forsake me
Every time I hoped to win
Though she knows how I feel
I knew that I'd lose Jean
I could see she wasn't mine
Someone else was on her mind
Another name on her trophy wall
And I'm heading for a fall

Fate dealt me a low card
And I know I'll never win
I didn't really have a chance
From the moment I met Jean

Abused used ex a has been
I hoped she'd share my name
But I'll wake up every day
Loving her from now till then

Chorus

F. C.
Tell me those lies once more
 G. F c
The ones that keep me here
It's what I want you to say
Tell me what I want to hear

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Test The Suspension (Lyrics)

Leave the kids at your mothers
They love to see Grandma
We'll pack a picnic basket
And set off in the car
We can tune in the radio
To a station that we like
Listening to the country sounds
As we leave the city behind
Though you're nervous in the open
We'll walk barefoot in the sand
And tonight we'll test the suspension
Making love in our old sedan

We'll give the world a miss
For the next three days
And stick to the back roads
On the old desert trail
When we get tired of driving
In the cool evening air
We'll climb the high Mesa
It'd real quiet up there
We'll make coffee with clear water
From the old Indian spring
And tonight we'll test the suspension
Making love in our old sedan

We can hide from the world
For the next two days
When we reach the forest
We can stop and play
We'll take in the scenery
It's beauty never fades
On the shores of the ocean
We'll dance in the waves
You're having happy thoughts
I can see them in your face
And tonight we'll test the suspension
Making love in our old sedan

We've given the world a miss
For the last three days
We've gone through the desert
And crossed the mountain range
We've made coffee with clear water
At the old Indian spring
And you make me love you more
Every time you sing
Next month we'll do it over
But now I'll hold your hand
And tonight we'll test the suspension
Making love in our old sedan.

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The Girl I Married (Lyrics)

Standing tall at the altar
Waiting to take my vows
I saw you arrive
Held my breath and said wow
In your silk lace and pearls
And a bridesmaid or two
At long last I got you
To say I do

Your father stood proudly
And gave you away
Forever in marriage
With me you would stay
I knew that with you
I would spend all my life
And always be proud
To call you my wife

Chorus

Your dress was your Grandma's
My suit was on hire
My boots were my brothers
And my heart was on fire
I remember the men
All scrubbed and in suits
Flirting with girls
And smoking cheroots

I look at you now
In your old rocking chair
Workworn hands
And a wisp of grey hair
Smiling I notice
Behind your blue eyes
That the girl I married
Is still there inside

Chorus

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The Man That Owns You And Me

His clothes laid out when he awakes
He never gets up before it's late
His bath freshly drawn he'll dine at eight
Says he works hard but he's got it made
There's nothing he can't afford to lose
He never had to clean his own shoes
Never carried a pail or driven a nail
He's the man that owns you and me

On ski's in Colorado or summer in France
Spends weeks under sail or climbing the Alps
His world is Concorde always been first class
If he doesn't have one it's not worth a glance
Monogrammed clothes and hand built boots
Late summer and autumn birds he'll shoot
Never known boredom or seen junk mail
He's the man that owns you and me

The sweat of your brow made him a rich man
He's got your world right in his hands
Never says sorry doesn't matter if he's wrong
Talks to the President and met the Pope in Rome
Master of Smalltalk at the cocktail party
He tells jokes he knows are not dirty
He knows the world like a favourite jacket
He's the man that owns you and me

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This Must Be My Lucky Day (Lyrics)

Dancing for me at table seventeen
Blonde hair and a body to die for
I reach out a hand she spins around
And shows me a little more
Another green Bill releases her dress
Leaving nothing for me to imagine

Five feet nine a blue eyed dream
She wrote a number on my arm
Saying you've just won the star prize
When you leave wait in this car
A fantasy of mine is coming alive
I hope she can show me the way
My friend said I'll get the cheque
This must be your lucky day

Middle

Just after three the street is clean
From a side door she ran to the car
She got in and turned the radio down
I took the key and shut the door
And when she told me her address
It was somewhere I'd tried to imagine

Like a cat that got the cream
I held her tight in my arms
Saying you gave me quite a surprise
When you looked into my heart
A fantasy of mine has come alive
I know she can show me the way
I said remember to send that text
This must be my lucky day

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Untitled #3 My Wife Left Me

My wife left me saying I'm quitting I need a life
I sold my share of daddy's farm I'm hitting the town tonight
So I've got a million dollars my ex dont know about
Dumped my truck at the airport I'm on the next flight
I spent half the first day looking at the city so bright
Then standing in the garden I asked a lady of the night
Tell me why it is you do what it is you're doing tonight

Chorus

It's frightening it's exciting and I need the money Jack
keep your hands off me fella lets negotiate a price
it's a business I'm running I've got nothing that's free
so pay me now mister it's money that interests me

I went for a few beers at Mick Brady's old saloon
Filled right up with courage I went out to look for love
Down by the old statue that's where the taxi driver said
A dollar for the fare and twenty will get you laid
If you've got the ready cash you can have your say
Looking all around me I asked a lady of the night
Tell me why it is you do what it is you're doing tonight

Chorus

It's frightening it's exciting and I need the money Jack
Keep your hands off me fella lets negotiate a price
It's a business I'm running I'll do nothing for free
So pay me now mister or stop bothering with me

I went back to Brady's to think of what she said
He remarked it's a funny world when you think of it
I looked and saw a girl skirt right up to here
I almost collapsed as she touched me right there
Getting over the shock I bought us another shot
Got myself together saying if you're a lady of the night
Tell me why it is you do what it is you're doing tonight

Chorus

It's frightening it's exciting and I need the money Jack
All my parts need realignment so cut me some slack
Your money buys my tablets I've stopped growing facial hair
I'm going for gender reassignment next month I will be her
All my parts need realignment one day I'm gonna be she
Your money pays the surgeon next month I will be free

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Valley Of Our Youth (Lyrics)

A stream running through
The valley of our youth
It's where the river started
Where you'll find my roots
We became lovers but
From you I hid the truth
I didn't want to stay
In the valley of our youth

Fed by the snow melt
High above the tree line
Carrying clean water
To the city so fine
Eventually we married
But I was living a lie
I yearned for the city
As the grass grew waist high

The river ran steeply
Whispered to me so sweetly
As I wasted my life
In the chasm of time
In a torrent of tears
Caused by my lack of trust
I was dashed against rocks
In the rapids of lust

All power and no pity
In the gorge of desire
Giving light to the city
The ember of my fire
In a flood of emotion
Moving slow and so tired
I knew I'd have nothing
When the river met the tide

Losing all hope
Turned back by the surf
I know that I love you

For what it's worth
I lost all reason
Please tell the truth
Should I return to
The valley of our youth.

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Waiting In Line (Lyrics)

You thirst for adventure
I like peace and quiet
You thrive on excitement
I prefer tranquillity
You're trying all the young
And handsome men that come along
But one day you'll realise
That I'm where you belong

You crave your freedom
Use men as you please
You suffer from boredom
I feel only jealousy
You're trying all the young men
Each one a waste of time
But I'll wait for ever
At the back of the line

Chorus

If I have to stand in line
You'll find I'm the patient kind
I can wait till you get round to me
You push men aside
Like left over dinner
Everyone's in front of me
But I'm going to be the winner

You won't settle down
I won't beg or please
You don't want marriage
How my heart bleeds
You've tried all the rest
It's time you tried me
It's my turn to stand
At the head of the line

Chorus

If I have to stand in line
You'll find I'm the patient kind
I can wait till you get round to me
You push men aside
Like left over dinner
Everyone's in front of me
But I'm gonna be the winner

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Weekend Family Man (Lyrics)

I pick you up on Friday night
Maybe late but never tight
Though I can't afford to treat you
I didn't get work today
I signed my name with a flourish
Trying not to look ashamed
Losing everything I had
when the divorce papers came
I'll be your Dad at the weekend
With that thought in mind
The sunshine comes on Friday
For two days you're mine

I had the chance to keep you
Right here by my side
But me and your mother argued
About the booze I buy
With my head in a bottle
I couldn't see the problem
Didn't know we weren't happy
Till she said we're through
I thought life was a party
And now I'm missing you
But the sunshine comes on Friday
When I see you again

Chorus

I'll pick you up right after school
help you with your homework too
or fly a kite till it's dark
then stroll around the park
we can laugh till the ground shakes
then throw rocks into the lake
the sunshine comes on Friday
I'm a weekend family man

It breaks my heart to leave you
I know you can't stay
Can't wait to see you again

My torture lasts five days
Don't be mad at me darling
If I happen to forget
When your birthday or Xmas comes
I haven't got work yet
I'll call for you on Friday
The day my torture ends
The sunshine comes tomorrow
When I can smile again

Chorus

I'll pick you up right after school
help you with your homework too
or fly a kite till it's dark
then stroll around the park
we can laugh till the ground shakes
then throw rocks into the lake
the sunshine comes on Friday
I'm a weekend family man.

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