

# Lessons In What Not To Become

Jello Biafra

When I was a kid my daddy got mad  
And slammed me against the wall  
Sometimes I got shook  
Sometimes I got hit  
For losin' my temper at all  
Didn't dare say, Look at you, man  
Blowin' your stack like that  
I hadn't been taught the word hypocrite yet  
But I already knew what it meant

This is a lesson in what not to become  
Lessons in what not to be come  
Sometimes that means me  
Can't please everyone  
Tryin' to live by a code I can stick to  
I'm a fuck up just like you  
But it's better than not trying at all.

Early on I knew  
To learn from the mistakes  
Of people I most admire  
Crazy-ass times  
Wish I was that wild  
But the drugs snuffed out the fire  
All that talent fried and blackened  
Senile at 25  
I'll never be as dope as you  
But at least I'm still alive

Another lesson in what not to become  
Lessons in what not to become  
For some mouths that's me  
Can't please everyone  
Tryin' to live by a code I can stick to  
Sometimes it's as easy as  
Not lettin' things happen to you

Yeh, your mom and I  
Had such a great time when we were your age  
Makin' love, gettin' high  
Wild in the streets almost every day  
But now that you're that age  
Just Say NoR  
But take your Ritalin  
If you still turn out wrong  
It's all your music's fault

Breaks my heart to see  
When someone born to lead  
Gets so paranoid they're crazy  
Agree with all I say  
Or you're the enemy & there ain't no in between  
Drown like Captain Ahab  
Trying to slay that Great White Whale  
So tied up in their own rules  
People jump ship and they fail

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Another lesson in what not to become  
Another Lesson  
Lessons in what not to become  
For some mouths that's me  
Can't please everyone  
Tryin' to live  
By a code I can stick to  
I ain't 100% pure  
To the point of being miserable