

Subterranean Homesick Blues

Bob Dylan

A

Johnny s in the basement mixin up the medicine,
I m on the pavement, thinkin bout the government
The man in a trenchcoat badge (??) got laid off,
Says he s got a bad cough, wants to get it paid off

A

D

Look out kid, theres something you did,

D

A

God knows when, but you re doin it again.
You better duck down the alleyway, lookin for a new friend.

E

The man in the coonskin cap in a pigpen

A

Wants 11 dollar bills, you only got 10.

Maggie calls fleetfoot (??) face full o black soot,
Talking at the heat, put (??) plants in the bed, but (??)
The phones tapped anyway, Maggie says the man he say,
They must bust in early May, orders from the DA.
Look out kid, don t matter what ch ya did,
Walk on your tiptoes, don t tie no bows
Better stay away from those ho carry round a fire hose.
Keep a clean nose, n wash of plain clothes,
You don t need a weather man to know which way the wind blows.

Uhh..Get sick, get well, hang around the inkwell,
Hang bail, hot tail, if anything its gonna sell,
Try hard, get bought, get back, write braille,
Get jail, jump bail, join the army if ya fail.
Look out kid, your gonna get hit, by
Losers, cheaters, six time users, hangin round the theaters,
Girl by the whirlpool s lookin for a new fool,
Don t follow leaders or watch the parkin meters.

Ohh..Get born, keep warm, short pants, romance,
Learn to dance, get dressed, get blessed, try to be a success,
Please her, please him, buy er gifts, don t steal, don t lift
Twenty years o schoolin and they put ya on the day shift,
Look out kid, they keep it all hid,
Better jump down a manhole, light yourself a candle,
Don t wear sandals, and try to force a scandal,
Don t want to be a bum, you d better chew gum,
The pump don t work cuz the vandals took the handle.

This is a fairly difficult song to get to sound right.
The chords are simple, though (blues progression in A).

I strum the chords, alternating the bass line throughout
(play **A** with an an **A** and **E** bass, **D** with a **D** and **A** bass,
E with an **E** and **B** bass)