

Three Important Safety Lessons Found in Fortune Cookies

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♩=180

C Dm F C

Now, some say that mu-sic is bet-ter than speech For ma-king a

G7 C Dm F

las-ting im - pres-sion. So I have three ver-ses to sing to you; each Con-

C G7 C F C F

-cludes with a sum-ma-ry les-son. But I need your help, and your role in this

C D7 D7 G7 G7 F C

song Is no-ting each les-son as it comes a - long And sin-ging it back to me,

F C G7 G7 C C

word af-ter word, Ex - act-ly as you have just heard. Let's do one for
Let's prac-tice a-

G7 Am G7 C C

prac-tice. Now, one verse might end "SAVE WA - TER THIS SUM-MER, AND
- no - ther; it's ea - sy, I hope: "WHEN LEA-VING THE TOI - LET, WASH

G7 C C G7 C F

BATHE WITH A FRIEND." [EVERYONE:"SAVE WA - TER THIS SUM-MER, AND
BOTH HANDS WITH SOAP." [EVERYONE:"WHEN LEA-VING THE TOI - LET, WASH

G7 C F C

BATHE WITH A FRIEND." [either]That's won - der - ful, peo - ple! So
BOTH HANDS WITH... [or]That's hor - ri - ble, peo - ple! You

F D7 D7 G7 C

loud and so clear. You all can be on my re - cor-ding next year. I
need-n't be shy; Just pick up each les-son as it am - bles by. SOAP"]

F F C C G7 G7 G7 C

think that is all of the prac-tice we need, So let the three ver-ses pro - ceed.

C C F F C

On Mon-day the first I was run-ning quite late, When a ten o'-clock

C C G7 C C F C

mee-ting con - tin-ued to one. I said to A-man-da, "I'm hun-gry. Let's eat." She

C C G7 C C

said, "I've no time; I'll just shoot and then run." I said "Shoot?"; she said

C F F C C

"Sure!" and she o - pened her purse To re - veal a sy - ringe filled with

C G7 C C F

some-thing dark brown. She said, "It's half speed and half beef broth, of

F C C G7 C F

course, For when I am bu-sy and hun-gry and down. I've e - nough here for

F C C G7 Am C

two. I could save half for you." I said, "Thank you, but no," and joined Ja-nis and

G7 G7 G7 C F C

Fred. We ate in calm peace some-thing Nor-thern Chi-nese Down the block at the

Continued overleaf

Man-da-rin Gar-den in - stead. The meal be-ing fi-nished, my hun-ger di-

- mi-nished, I o-pened the coo-kie that al-ways ap-pears And found this en-

- dorse-ment of hy-giene en - force-ment: "SHARE NOOD-LES, NOT NEED-LES, AND

LIVE NINE-TY YEARS." [EVERYONE:"SHARE NOOD-LES, NOT NEED-LES, AND

LIVE NINE-TY YEARS."] Each of these three les-sons, baked in a dough

shell, If fol-lowed, can help us live long and stay well.

Now, some say that music is better than speech
 For making a lasting impression.
 So I have three verses to sing to you; each
 Concludes with a summary lesson.
 But I need your help, and your role in this song
 Is noting each lesson as it comes along
 And singing it back to me, word after word,
 Exactly as you have just heard.
 Let's do one for practice. Now, one verse might end
 "SAVE WATER THIS SUMMER, AND BATHE WITH A FRIEND."
 [Assembled multitudes repeat the lesson]

- [either] That's wonderful, people! So loud and so clear.
 You all can appear on my record next year.
 [or] That's horrible, people! You needn't be shy;
 Just pick up each lesson as it ambles by.

Let's practice another; it's easy, I hope:
 "WHEN LEAVING THE TOILET, WASH BOTH HANDS WITH SOAP."
 [Assembled multitudes repeat the lesson]
 I think that is all of the practice we need,
 So let the three verses proceed.

On Monday the first I was running quite late
 When a ten o'clock meeting continued to one.
 I said to Amanda, "I'm hungry. Let's eat."
 She said, "I've no time; I'll just shoot and then run."
 I said "Shoot?"; she said "Sure!" and she opened her purse
 To reveal a syringe filled with something dark brown.
 She said, "It's half speed and half beef broth, of course,
 For when I am busy and hungry and down.
 I've enough here for two. I could save half for you."
 I said, "Thank you, but no," and joined Janis and Fred.
 We ate in calm peace something Northern Chinese
 Down the block at the Mandarin Garden instead.
 The meal being finished, my hunger diminished,
 I opened the cookie that always appears
 And found this endorsement of hygiene enforcement:
 "SHARE NOODLES, NOT NEEDLES, AND LIVE NINETY YEARS."
 [Assembled multitudes repeat the lesson]

On Friday the fifth, I was leaving my desk
 When the phone called me back and a voice said, "It's hot.
 Let's go for some beers." I had no need to ask
 Who it was, so I answered, "Sure, Thomas, why not?"
 We sat with two friends for an hour and a half.
 I was on my third beer; Tom had just finished five
 When he burped twice and said, "We've been here long enough.
 Let's go up to The Beef Barn for steaks now. I'll drive."
 Then Jeffrey said, "Pal, look at Fred. Look at Al.
 They've had less beer than you, and they're sloshed to the gills.
 Wouldn't someplace else do, in the next block or two?
 Maybe someplace Chinese, very simple, no frills."
 The chicken that night was a gourmet delight,
 The skin crisp and seasoned, so tender inside.
 The cookies came next, and mine carried this text:
 "SHARE GINGER, NOT DANGER. WHEN FRIENDS DRINK, DON'T RIDE."
 "SHARE NOODLES, NOT NEEDLES, AND LIVE NINETY YEARS."
 [Assembled multitudes repeat each lesson in turn]

On Tuesday the ninth, I was walking from work,
 When I ran into Ellen, just back from Peru,
 Or so ran the rumours, without her friend Mark.
 I thought I'd confirm this: "How are you? What's new?"
 "I'm lonely, I'm bored, and I'm not yet employed,
 My shoes are too tight and I'm thirsty," she said.
 "And hungry?" I asked. "Not for food," she replied,
 "But if you meet my terms you can take me to bed:
 You cannot wear less than the full safety dress,"
 Which left most of me naked; of course, I agreed.
 We ended the hour by sharing a shower,
 Then went down to the Mandarin Garden to feed.
 They'll serve you fresh fish any way that you wish —
 We had ours with garlic and scallions and soy.
 My cookie supported the way that we'd sported:
 "SHARE SALMON, NOT SEMEN, AND LONG LIFE ENJOY."
 "SHARE GINGER, NOT DANGER. WHEN FRIENDS DRINK, DON'T RIDE."
 "SHARE NOODLES, NOT NEEDLES, AND LIVE NINETY YEARS."
 [Assembled multitudes repeat each lesson in turn]

Each of these three lessons, baked in a dough shell,
 If followed, can help us live long and stay well.