

LEGACY

“Don’t Worry be Happy” is the theme of the land
But statistics say families are in trouble, (man/woman)
And crime in our cities is rampant throughout
So “Don’t Worry be Happy” is the answer, no doubt??

Well, I hate to stand here and itemize
But you may need persuasion, this I realize.
So remain attentive and reflective auditors
While you listen to the words of this poetic orator.

Drugs kill with the crack appeal,
Alcohol spills -- blood in the streets from drunk-driving feats.
Surrogate mothers are nightmarish woes for children
 who simply want to know.

Rape destroys what man did not create
And crime in general is sold at prime rate.
Diseases are glamorized and self-concern blinds our eyes.
Sex on the screen helps to demoralize that which
Should be private and sanctified.

So “Don’t Worry Be Happy” has a numbing effect
For inveterate problems and moral neglect.
And for some it is a subtle lure
When the sole desire is to be happy and secure.

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But take a look around, what is your goal?

For *just to be happy simply* is a cop-out role

Martin Luther King went beyond that cliché,

When he challenged all humankind to pursue a better way.

A better way is a legacy of aspiration and action

That is found in recognition of the prejudices and the fallacies.

There is a new song to be heard in the heat of the day.

Like *DON'T STOP BE AND CONTENT AND LOOK THE OTHER WAY.*

It's not looking for the COOL SOLUTION

But it's keeping on course to uproot myths and mind pollution.

It's pursuing the best that this world has for us to reap.

But not ignoring *other world* brothers and sisters who are fighting for their keep.

It's found in our concern for our sons and daughters.

By displaying a helping hand and a plan rather than angry orders.

It's teaching our generation about a viable past with its struggles and achievements,

To enable them to cope with the present and have hope for the future with dreams of
accomplishments.

But we can only sing the new song when we keep on course and have commitment;

To divorce ourselves from complacency, destruction, and resentment,

To deny the fleshy appetites of the glutton who exhibits no hope of tomorrow,

No love of another, And no concern for a sister or a brother.

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“Don’t Worry Be Happy” is at a record high
But inherent in the statement is an eternal lie.¹
Especially if you’re walking by the major world view
That says go on and do it if it feels good to you.

If “Don’t Worry Be Happy” is a promise to our future
Then there are demons to defeat and the lie must retreat.
From the pulpit to the White House they position themselves.
To perpetuate illusions with the fragrance of hell.

We must see clearly my people now!
For the future cries for us to show them how!
To accomplish and succeed in the face of hate
To be encouraged and optimistic before it’s too late.

A *gift* to our future must meet the present and predict the tomorrows
It must be grounded in love, courage, sacrifice, and reflect our own sorrows.

It must challenge our youth - our talented - our best
To pursue their dream and withstand the test.
It must give them a vocabulary of pride and competition
And I pray it will be the beginning of a great tradition!

¹ Ecclesiastes 7:4 (TEV) says, “Someone who is always thinking about happiness is a fool. A wise person thinks about death.”

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So don't stop and be content and look the other way

Utilize your right: vote, petition, educate and pray.

Esteem each other more highly than yourself and

Don't purchase failure or take a seat on the shelf.

Don't stop and be content and look the other way

Let's give hope and direction to our future today.

Expect excellence and teach responsibility

By lending a helping hand to the best of our ability.

We won't stop and be content and look the other way

Because our people need us to rise up today.

The challenge is here, (insert name) clan

Frankly speaking, the choice is in your hand.