

## PAY-BACK TIME

O Lord, let me be a burden on my children  
For long they've been a burden upon me.  
May they fetch and carry, clean and scrub  
And do so cheerfully.

Let them take it in turns at putting me up  
Nice sunny rooms at the top of the stairs  
With a walk-in bath and lift installed  
At great expense.....Theirs.

Insurance against the body-blows of time  
Isn't that what having children's all about?  
To bring them up knowing that they owe you  
And can't contract out?

What is money for but to spend on their schooling?  
Designer clothes, mindless hobbies, usual stuff.  
Then as soon as they're earning, off they go  
Well, enough's enough.

It's been a blessing watching them develop  
The parental pride we felt as each one grew.  
But Lord, let me be a burden on my children  
And on my children's children too.

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