1972

N.B.

John McCarthy
St. John Fisher College

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Romeo —
Juliet called
(Quit you know her last name).
Anyway, she wants you to come over tonight.
Something about a balcony(?).
(She sounds like a very nice girl, Romeo.
Why don't you bring her over here some night?)
But —
Romeo, I don't know if I approve
Of your sneaking around.
If you're ashamed —
Of your friends —
You know you shouldn't be with them.
They may cause trouble.
Surely
You would be much happier here
With them (her) sipping A few Cokes.
But if you do go
To Juliet's,
Be sure to behave yourself, and
Give our best to her parents.
Remember —
You are carrying the honor
Of the Montague name
With you.

Mom

Son —
I just saw
Your mother's note.
She doesn't seem
To trust you.

And I just
Want you to know
That I do. But —
Do be careful.
You know how Mom Worries. But —
You have a good head on your shoulders.
And you won't do anything foolish.
Have a good time.

Dad

John McCarthy

GUNGA DUM

You may talk o gin and beer, when you like to please yer ear
Or you know just what you 'ave and clean forgot it.
But when you wake at morn, you will wish you 'ad some corn
And you'll trade yer stogies off to 'im whats got it.
Now in Chicago's ruddy clime, where I used to do me time
A-servin' of 'is majesty (some cop)
Of all them mealy guys, there was one what you could buy
T'was our cell block's trusted trusty, Charlie Schwartz

'E was Dum, dum dum.
You scummy pile o street dirt Charlie Schwartz.
Hey go slippy down some cliff if you've naught to make us stiff
You scummy pile o street dirt Charlie Schwartz

O the clothes what Charli's 'ad got to smellin' pretty bad
Then the air around 'in coulda drove you blind
Then some rag you couldn't use was enough to pay for booze
If 'is homemade stock was all what you could find
But that 'omemade stock didn't pay if it set fer 'alf a day
Then one sip would make yer bloomin' eyeballs crawl
Then we'd holler and we'd cry, bring us water 'fore we die
'Tow' e caught it when 'e couldn't save us all

'E was Dum, dum dum.
You ninny 'ow me bleedin' 'urt!
Mix a bicarb up this minit, and put an aspirin in it
Can't you even mix some booze up, Charlie Schwartz?

But I shan't ferget the night that we 'ad that lovely fight
And the guards was searchin' cell blocks far an' near
Then ole 'Charlie Schwartz I spied, "I got booze in 'ere" I cried
If they catch me I'll be in fer fifty years
So before I could say no, to me "cupboard" does 'e go
And 'e swallows all that bilge what i 'ad saved
Then 'e turned a funny green, cause that stuff 'ad drilled 'im clean
Make me sick the way that beggar crawled an' raved

'E was Dum, dum dum
That rot laid Charlie up for Nigh a month
But 'e took it with a grin though it would 'ave done me in
Yet a better man than I am Charlie Schwartz