

CRABBY OLD MAN ? ? ?

What do you see nurses? What do you see?

What are you thinking when you're looking at me?

A crabby old man not very wise,
Uncertain of habit with faraway eyes?

Who dribbles his food and makes no reply
When you say in a loud voice "I do wish
you'd try!"

Who seems not to notice the things that
you do.

And forever is losing a sock or a shoe?

Who, resisting or not, lets you do as you
will,
With bathing and feeding the long day to
fill?

Is that what you're thinking? Is that what
you see?

Then open your eyes, nurse you're not
looking at me.

I'll tell you who I am as I sit here so still,
As I do at your bidding as I eat at your
will.

I'm a small child of ten with a father and
mother,
Brothers and sisters who love one
another.

A young boy of sixteen with wings on his
feet

Dreaming that soon now a lover he'll
meet..

A groom soon at twenty my heart gives a
leap.

Remembering, the vows that I promised
to keep.

At twenty-five, now I have young of my
own.

Who need me to guide and a secure
happy home.

A man of thirty My young now grown
fast,

Bound to each other with ties that should
last.

At forty, my young sons have grown and
are gone,

But my woman's beside me to see I don't
mourn.

At fifty, once more, babies play 'round my
knee,

Again, we know children My loved one
and me.

Dark days are upon me my wife is now
dead.

I look at the future and shudder with
dread..

For my young are all rearing young of
their own.

And I think of the years, and the love that
I've known.

I'm now an old man and nature is cruel.
Tis jest to make old age look like a fool.
The body, it crumbles grace and vigour,
depart.

There is now a stone where I once had a
heart.

But inside this old carcass a young guy
still dwells,
And now and again my battered heart
swells.

I remember the joys I remember the pain.
And I'm loving and living.... life over again.

I think of the years, all too few too fast.
And accept the stark fact that nothing can
last.

So open your eyes, people, open and see.
Not a crabby old man: look closer ... see
ME!!