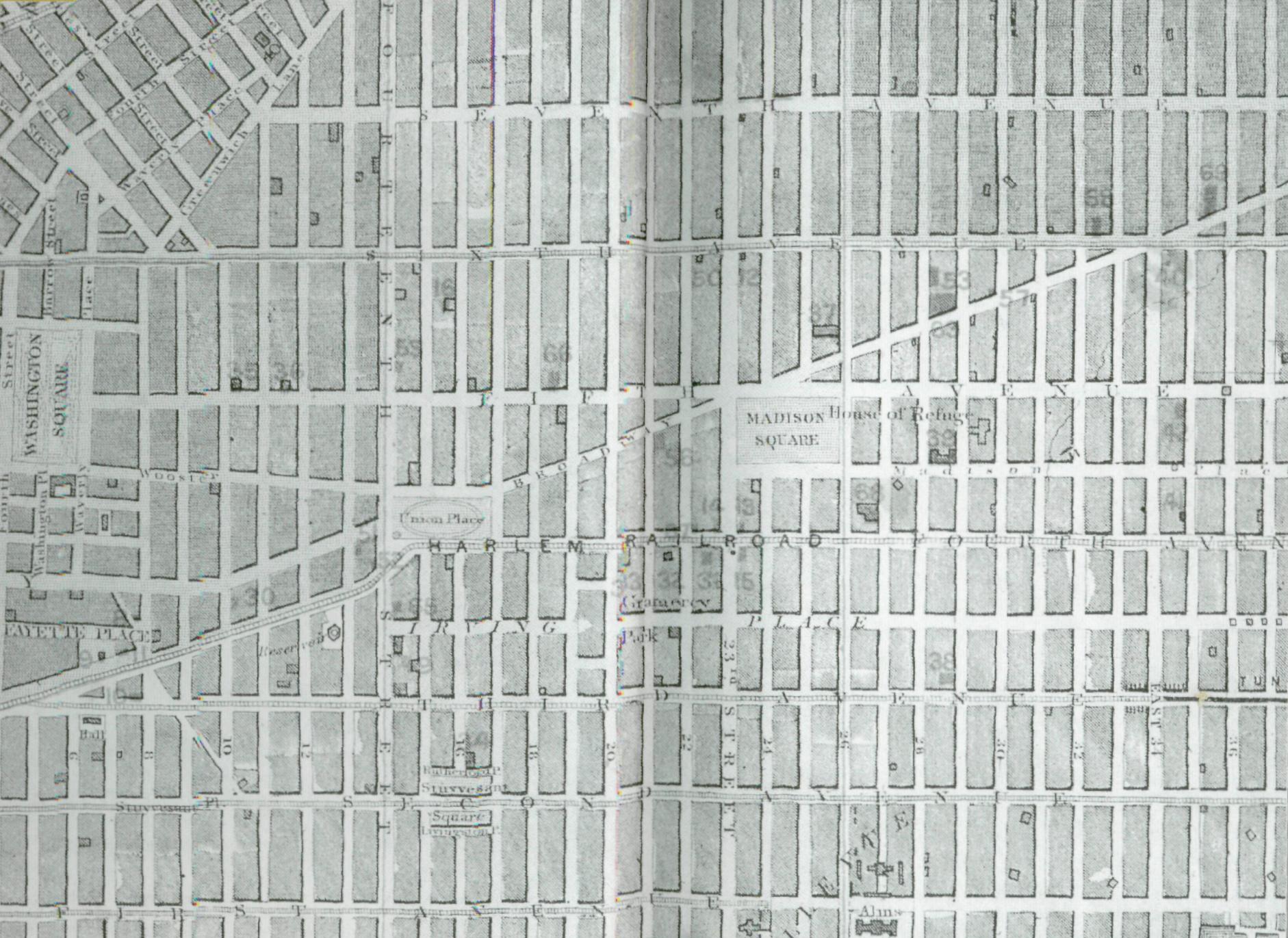


# RULES *for* MY UNBORN SON



Walker Lamond



This Book Belongs to \_\_\_\_\_

*Let's get some things straight before I get old and uncool.*

# RULES *for* MY UNBORN SON



WALKER LAMOND



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*for* ARTHUR





## INTRODUCTION



**B**oys need rules. No Spitting. No Swimming. No Fighting. We don't always like them, but for the most part, they are necessary. Rules keep us safe, eliminate uncertainty, and encourage harmonious social interaction. Yield to Pedestrians. Black Tie Required. They are the simplest and most effective way to pass down tried and true institutional knowledge from one generation to the next. In short, rules are GOOD!

But somewhere along the way, rules got a bad name. People wanted freedom. Authority was questioned, rules were broken, dress codes banished! Rules were seen as antiquated obstacles to individualism and progress. Barbers were ignored, ties packed away. And the game of life suddenly got a bit sloppier, more uncertain, and even a bit less fun.



My father rarely wore socks, a sartorial quirk made permissible by the fact he was often the best-dressed gentleman in the room. This perhaps best exemplifies his approach to life. A vigorous dancer, a dedicated sportsman, and the tireless life of any party, he understood that a man of strong character, who took pride in his appearance and behavior, was given the most liberty to have fun. And so he had rules. Many of them came from his father, and presumably his father before that. They governed everything from his dress to his business dealings to a day at the ballpark and were based on the notion that there are certain things a Good Man does and certain things he does not do. My father was a Good Man. And he was the kind of father I aspired to be. He passed away shortly after my twenty-second birthday.

This small book began simply as a way to preserve the lessons my father had taught me and perhaps, add my spin on what makes a Good Man. I hoped to have a son of my own one day, so I thought it best to write it all down before the mayhem of actual fatherhood made me too soft or too sanctimonious, and most importantly, before my own childhood was too distant in the rearview mirror. It would be a father-to-be's promise to his unborn son: "To get some things straight before I get old and uncool."

Of course, the list needed a bit of updating. My dad could fold a mean pocket square, but he didn't have much to offer on Internet etiquette. As the list grew, however, what struck me was how many of my father's rules stood up unchanged—even for a

recovering hipster living in New York. *Rules for My Unborn Son* became a set of instructions for being a good man and a good father, not just a list of commandments for any future progeny.

My father and I are not the first men to attempt to define and defend the qualities that make up the modern gentleman. In the book I acknowledge the influences of some very fine men who have offered wise and practical advice through the ages either through their words (Benjamin Franklin, Buckminster Fuller, Mark Twain) or their example (Fred Astaire, Jack Kennedy, David Bowie). Some of the advice the reader may have heard before. And I should hope so, as many of the rules are distillations of some universal lessons in ethics and etiquette. I have made efforts to cull the classics from the outmoded. After all, all that is old is good. However, what I hope makes *Rules for My Unborn Son* unique is the inclusion of lessons drawn from my own experiences—the good, the bad, and the ugly. The rules included herein may evoke from the reader a hearty endorsement or a spirited objection. Or perhaps inspire a sentimental journey back into the reader's own childhood. And maybe, for a particular kind of discerning young parent, *Rules for My Unborn Son* will be just what it says it is—a good old-fashioned book of rules for you and your family. I hope it proves useful.

—Walker Lamond  
Washington, D.C.



When in doubt,  
wear a tie.



Ride in the front car  
of a roller coaster.



See movies on  
the big screen.



Men with facial hair have  
something to hide.





Be a vigorous dancer.



*However, you're under no obligation  
to join a conga line.*



Be a strong swimmer,  
especially in the ocean.



Avoid gossip.



Don't waste time with  
a fancy watch.



Talent is learned.  
Learn to sing.



Stand up for the little guy.  
He'll remember you.



*Be careful what you set your heart upon,  
for it will surely be yours.*

—JAMES A. BALDWIN

Avoid affectations, lest  
they become habits.



Buy seasonal fruit from  
your local stand or bodega.



Don't attempt a dialect other than your own,  
unless it's in the script.



Men should not wear sandals.  
Ever.





On stage is no time to be shy.



*Speak up.*

# Start a band.



A T-shirt is neither  
a philosophy nor an  
advertisement. It's a shirt.  
Wear it plain.



Know her dress size.  
Don't ask.



On occasion, pick up the tab.



Don't poke fun at  
contemporary art.  
Put it in context.



Don't spit on the sidewalk.



The key to good  
photography is not  
timing. It's editing.



Don't be shy in the locker room.  
They are all thinking the same thing.



Be a good listener.  
Don't just wait your turn to talk.



A vandal is the lowest form of scoundrel.



Yes Ma'am. No Sir.

No exceptions.





Spend time with your mother.



*She's cooler than you think.*

*Choose your corner, pick away at it carefully, intensely, and to the best of your ability, and that way you might change the world.*

—CHARLES EAMES

Know your furniture.  
But never buy it all at once.



On a road trip, offer to buy  
the first tank of gas.



Short pants are for little boys. Decide  
for yourself when you are a man.



Always meet your date at the door.



Make a rock and roll  
pilgrimage.



Make a hipster's day.  
Donate old clothes  
to charity.



Close the door,  
turn it up,  
dork out.



Audition for a play.  
Read for the lead.



Never pack more than  
you can carry yourself.



Live in  
New York.





Offer to carry a woman's bags.



Especially your mother's.

Take the stairs.



Root for the home team,  
even when they stink.



Have a reliable hangout.



Nothing good ever happens after 3 A.M.  
I promise.



Sit in the front of the classroom.



Finish what you start,  
especially books.



There is rarely a time to raise your voice.  
At the ball game is one.



Never eat the same  
meal twice in a row.



Don't show off.  
Impress.



Make sure your clothes fit properly.



*A human being should be able to change  
a diaper, plan an invasion, butcher a  
hog, conn a ship, design a building,  
write a sonnet, balance accounts, build a  
wall, set a bone, comfort the dying, take  
orders, give orders, cooperate, act alone,  
solve equations, analyze a new problem,  
pitch manure, program a computer,  
cook a tasty meal, fight efficiently, die  
gallantly. Specialization is for insects.*

—ROBERT ANSON HEINLEIN

At funerals, a dark suit is fine.  
You shouldn't own a black one.



Don't loiter where there  
is a dispute that does not  
concern you.



# Don't be a mooch.



When speaking with a journalist,  
choose your words carefully.





*Think about your answers,  
then call them back.*



Push-ups and sit-ups  
are all you'll ever need to  
build muscle.



Never criticize a  
book, play, or film  
unless you have read or  
seen it yourself. Art is  
full of surprises.



Support friends in the arts.  
Especially if they stink.



Learn to sail.



The most expensive  
restaurant is never  
the best.



Remember, the girl you're with is somebody's sister. And he's perfectly capable of kicking your ass.



Be a good passer, but don't forget to shoot.



*Every time I see an adult on a  
bicycle, I no longer despair for the  
future of the human race.*

—H. G. WELLS

Wear **red** a sport coat  
when traveling by plane.  
It has **yellow** easily accessible  
**purple** pockets.



Spend as **much** time as you can on the water.  
In a **pinch**, even a creek will do.



# Keep your word.



Never side against your brother in a fight.



Memorize the Bill of Rights  
and your favorite poem.



Respect fire.



Philanthropy is not measured in dollars and cents.



Never go out of your way to be on TV.



On a city sidewalk, walk  
briskly and don't impede  
pedestrian traffic.



Never hog a microphone.





Don't spend too much money on a haircut.



*They don't last.*

Take the train.



Run for student government at least once.



Let the axe do the work.



Feel free to crash a  
tailgate party.



You don't get to choose  
your own nickname.



Enough allready.  
Learn the rules of cricket.



If you're going to reinvent yourself,  
be original.



Bodysurf.



Be subtle.  
She sees you.



Give credit.  
Take the blame.



Don't underestimate your fertility.



Write down your dreams.



*When things go wrong—don't go with them.*

—ELVIS PRESLEY



Keep your guard up.



Unless you have served  
in the armed forces,  
no fatigues.



The best thing you can give your  
neighbors is a well-kept lawn.



Keep a schedule.



Experience the serenity  
of traveling alone.



The one true measure of  
a successful adventure is  
returning home safely.



Call your mom.



Your best chance of being a rock  
star is learning the bass.



When excusing yourself from the table,  
you need not give a reason.



If you have the right of way, take it.



If the maître d' mistakes you  
for someone famous, there's  
no rush to correct him.



Sympathy is a crutch.  
Never fake a limp.



Take your own pictures  
at family events.



Don't let the pictures  
become the event.



When it comes to  
opening presents, no one  
likes a good guesser.



Don't gloat. A  
good friend will  
do it for you.



*On matters of style, swim with the current.  
On matters of principle, stand like a rock.*

—THOMAS JEFFERSON

Don't tip the owner.  
A handshake will do.



Don't stare directly  
into a dog's eyes.



You can't cram for  
a dental exam.



Don't rush.  
No coffee until you're sixteen.



Never under any circumstances  
ask a woman if she is pregnant.





Make time for your mom on your birthday.



*It's her special day, too.*

*Courage is not the lack of fear,  
it is acting in spite of it.*

—MARK TWAIN

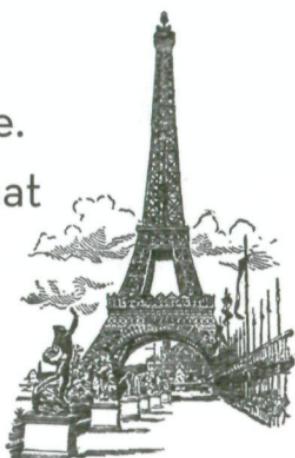
Don't date the bartender.



Learn to pronounce French  
words correctly.



Invest in great luggage.  
The world will know that  
you've arrived.



Be a regular at your  
local flea market.



Let napping dads lie.





Don't be so eager to leave the kid's table.



If you choose to wear a tie, commit.  
Button your top button.



Offer your date the seat with  
the best view of the restaurant.



Never be the last one in the pool.



Keep a garden.





Surprise your dad at the office.



*Trust me, whatever I'm doing is not  
as important as you.*

*The American, by nature, is optimistic.  
He is experimental, an inventor  
and a builder who builds best when  
called upon to build greatly.*

—JOHN F. KENNEDY

Get back in touch with old friends.

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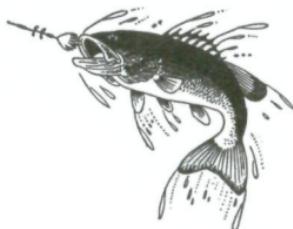
Never turn down an invitation  
to speak in public.

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Eat more fish.

---



Do your own bicycle repairs.

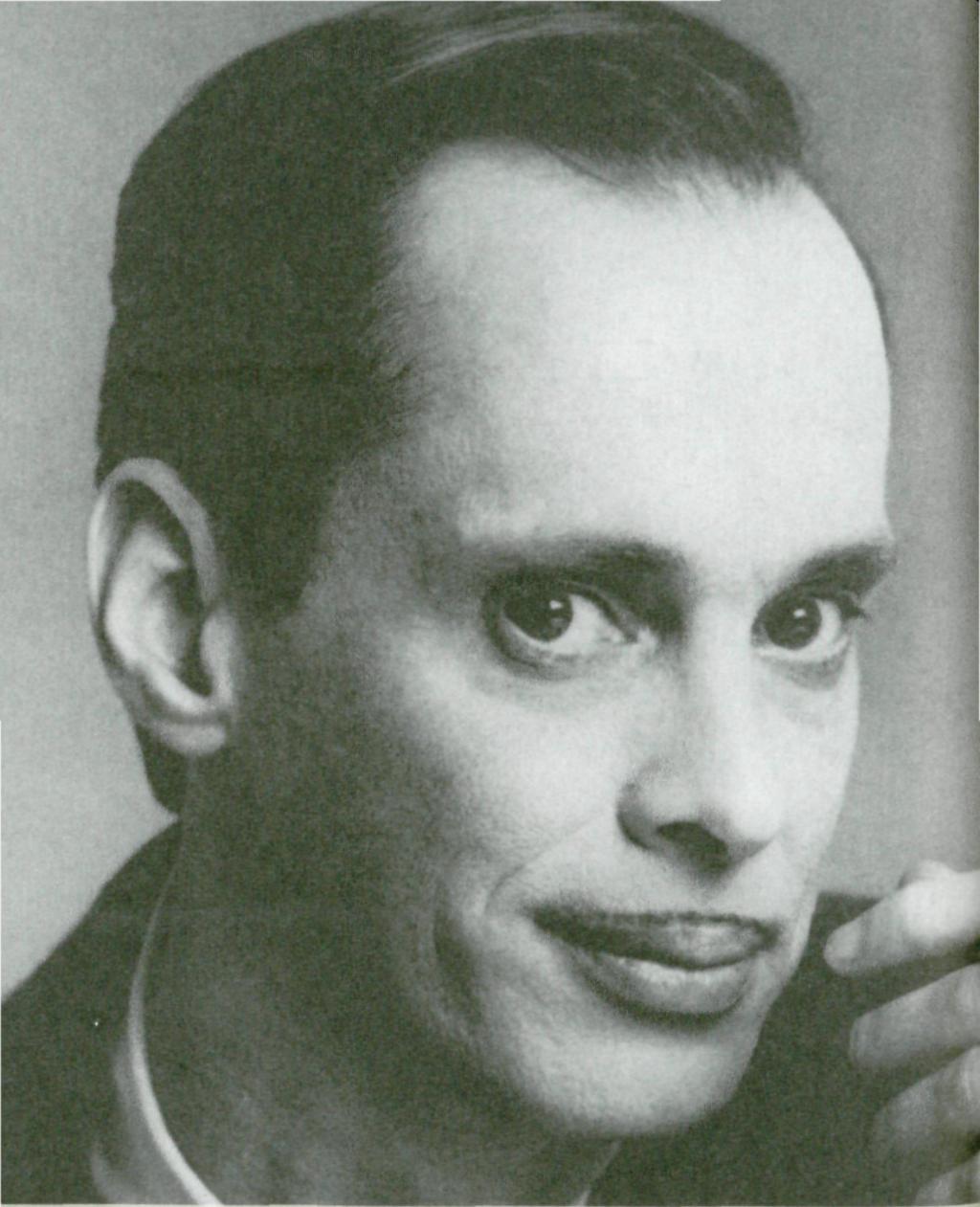


Order dessert.



Don't shout out requests  
at rock shows.





Have a signature look.



# Be a good wingman.



When selling tickets,  
take face value.



# Don't stare. People-watch.



Protect your privacy,  
especially when you're famous.





Keep your eye on the ball and follow through.

In sports and in life.



Address anyone who carries a  
firearm professionally  
as sir or ma'am.



Explore the branches of your  
family tree. You never know what  
you might find.



Sleep with the  
window open.



If you drop change, pick it up.  
Even the pennies.



Don't pose with booze.





Make your own costume.



*Hide not your talents. They for use were  
made. What's a sundial in the shade?*

—BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

You aren't done raking until you've  
played in the leaf pile.



Never respond to a  
critic in writing.



Know the difference  
between arts and crafts.



Fish don't  
have eyelids.  
Cast into the  
shade.





Never swing at the first pitch.

No man bats a thousand.

Don't settle for a store bought cake.  
Bake!



Surround yourself with smart people.



Don't be a snob.



*I not only use all the brains that I have,  
but all that I can borrow.*

—WOODROW WILSON

When fishing, practice catch  
and release.



If the teacher forgets to assign homework,  
keep quiet.





Take her picture.



Don't ride your  
bike on the  
sidewalk.



Stand up to bullies.  
You'll only have to do it once.



If you've made your point,  
stop talking.



Watch your language at the ballgame.



Sit for a portrait.





*Always keep a recent photograph  
of yourself on file in case of emergencies  
or unexpected notoriety.*

Get your pumpkins from  
a pumpkin patch.



Own a wool  
flannel suit.



Have a pen pal.



Admit when you are wrong.  
Mean it.



If you spot a teacher outside of school,  
leave him be.





Don't sabotage the family portrait.



*Smile please.*

*Courtesy is as much a mark of a  
gentleman as courage.*

—TEDDY ROOSEVELT

Don't  
personalize your  
license plates.



If you offer to  
help, don't quit until the  
job is done.



When it's time to sing in church, SING!  
It's a great time to practice.



Wear freshly laundered pajamas.





If it looks like rain, carry an umbrella.  
She'll thank you.



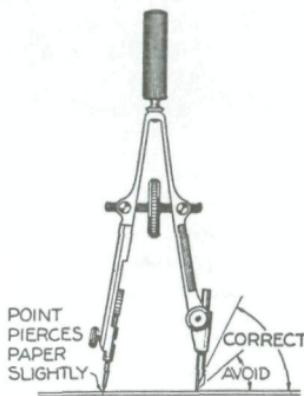
*Cary Grant has no need for Gore-Tex.*



*The young man knows the rules, but the old  
man knows the exceptions.*

—OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES, SR.

# Be precise.



Identify your most  
commonly used word or phrase  
and eliminate it.



Stay Busy. There is always  
something that could use a  
fresh coat of paint.



If you attend a late-night after-party,  
have an exit strategy.



On Sunday morning,  
a gentleman gets dressed.





*Remember, it's the first day of the week,  
not the last.*

There is never an excuse  
for stealing someone's cab.



When you're older,  
coach.



Look people in the eye when you thank them, especially waiters.



Choose a window seat and enjoy the view.



Twice a year, write down your goals.



No gang is complete  
without one cool girl.



Hang artwork  
at eye level.



There is no need to tell anyone you  
are leaving the bar.



*Always do sober what you said you'd do  
drunk. That will teach you  
to keep your mouth shut.*

—ERNEST HEMINGWAY

Keep a well-stocked bar.



Read before bed  
every night.



Never post a picture online  
you wouldn't feel comfortable  
showing your mother, your boss,  
and the dean of admissions.





You will have a love life one day.



*Be discreet.*

Don't throw sand or, when  
you're older, mud.



Don't panic.



When singing karaoke,  
choose a song in your range.



Thank the bus driver.



Go down fighting.



*If you're playing a poker game and  
you look around the table and can't tell  
who the sucker is, it's you.*

—PAUL NEWMAN

Keep your passport current.

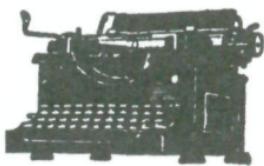


Become an expert in something.



Write letters.  
On paper.





Be careful what you put in  
writing. You can't take it back.



There is exactly one  
place where it is  
acceptable to wear gym  
clothes.





*Mr. Bowie prefers trousers  
to tracksuits.*

Never ask about another  
person's grades or salary.

---

To execute a proper tackle, lower  
your shoulder, not your head,  
and remember to wrap up.



Cite your sources,  
even online.



## Whistle.



Never push someone off a dock.  
The view is better when you're not  
afraid of who is behind you.



Offer to take a stranger's picture.



*Work quickly.*



Help a buddy move.



Don't boast about projects in progress.  
Celebrate their completion.



Until you are a doctor, never  
answer your phone at the table.



If you make a mistake,  
forgive yourself and move on.



Be a good diver.





*Grace is an underappreciated  
quality in men.*

When you are a houseguest, be  
sure to wake up before your hosts.



After lighting a firecracker,  
stand back.



In a canoe, do your share of the work.



Go barefoot. It toughens the feet.



Make yourself useful on a boat. If you  
can't tie knots, fetch the beers.



Spend a summer waiting tables.



Always keep a good joke handy.



Take your sunglasses off indoors. This includes elevators and planes.



Don't salt your food until  
you've tasted it.

---

Never turn  
down a girl's  
invitation to  
dance.

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*Be true to your school.*

—BRIAN WILSON

# Play hooky.



Never skip practice.



Avoid air-conditioning,  
especially at the beach.

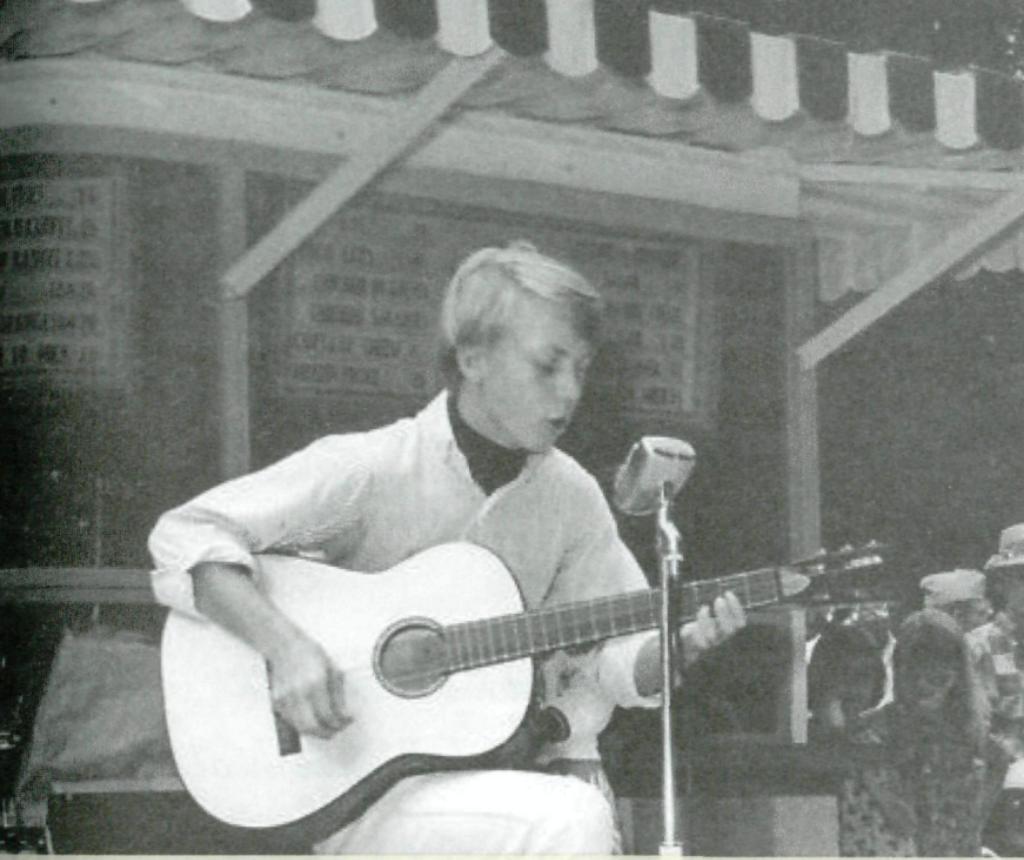


Order the local specialty.



Don't boo.  
Even the ref is somebody's son.





Enter a talent show.



*Be like a duck. Remain calm on the surface  
and paddle like hell underneath.*

—MICHAEL CAINE

Drive across the country.  
Don't rush.



Limit your time in California.



Never ask to be taken  
out of a ball game.



If you aren't a starter,  
stay close to the coach  
and be ready to play.



There's nothing wrong with musical theater. Everything in moderation.





*Chicks dig Gershwin.*

Don't have a girlfriend in college.



A man's luggage doesn't roll.



Learn to drive a stick shift.



Jump in with your clothes on.



Smile at pretty girls.





*A wise man knows his way  
around a kitchen.*



Have a signature dish,  
even if it's your only one.



Be quick with a  
“Good morning.”



Have a favorite song.  
It doesn't have to be cool.



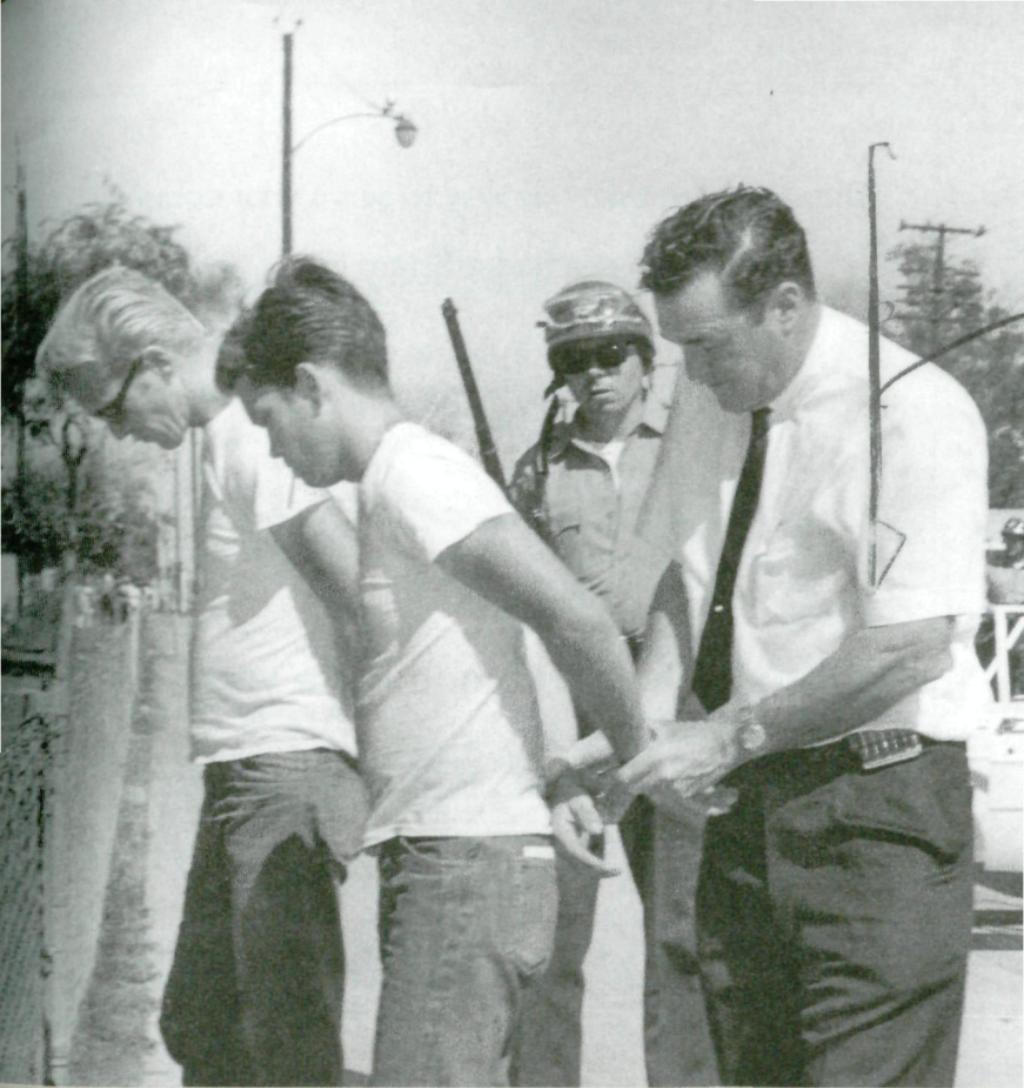


Be careful not to ogle girls  
at the beach. That's what  
sunglasses are for.



If you ignore history,  
it will ignore you.

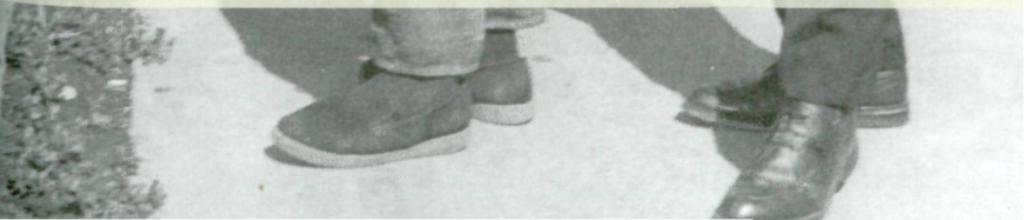




If you get yourself arrested, call me.



*You get one free pass.*



There is more than one way to serve your country.

Drive a fuel-efficient car.



Don't be afraid to nominate yourself.

Be up to the task.



Make curfew.

Sneak out later to meet her.



A museum is a great place to beat a hangover.  
It's cool, quiet, and full of water fountains.



Keep your room clean.  
One day you'll have  
roommates.



Do laundry often.  
You won't need as many  
clothes.



Never leave a job without  
securing your next employment.



But when it's time to go,  
don't hesitate.



*Everything I've ever done was  
out of fear of being mediocre.*

—CHET ATKINS



When it comes to shoveling snow, the  
earlier you start, the easier the job.



Be nice to your sister. You are her cheerleader, confidante, and bodyguard.



Find yourself a  
good hideout.



Always stop at a  
lemonade stand. Tip well.





If you are tempted to wear a cowboy hat, resist.



We can't all be LBJ.

Know the proper  
time to wear a tuxedo.  
It's more often than you think.



The keys to throwing a  
good party are a working  
stereo, Christmas lights,  
and plenty of ice.



Be cool to the younger kids.  
Reputations are built over a lifetime.



Drive a vintage car before you are thirty.

Be able to wrench it yourself



Be confident on the subway.



On a night out with the boys,  
never be the first to go home.



If you're going to quote someone,  
get it right.



Know the proper time to chew gum.  
It's less often than you think.



On occasion, go to the  
movies by yourself.



Wait for your song to play  
on the jukebox.



*Here's a rule I recommend.  
Never practice two vices at once.*

—TALLULAH BANKHEAD

Find your favorite painting.



Traveling to a foreign city is an excuse to dress up, not down.



Dance with your partner, not at her.



*But don't forget to lead.*



The best thing to do in the rain  
is be quiet and listen.



Go all out on Halloween.



Ask your mother  
to dance.



Take the time to get  
a shoe-shine.



Don't get fancy  
about your beer  
or coffee.





Try a hairstyle you'll one day regret.

*I'll get over it.*

# Don't let the ice-cream truck get away.



Despite what you may hear,  
not everyone's a winner. It doesn't  
mean you shouldn't play.





Don't lose your cool.  
Especially at work.



Some rules are made to be broken.  
Jaywalking is not one of them.



Participate in a good practical joke.



When handling a frog, be gentle.



Offer your name when greeting someone. Even good friends have lousy memories.



Be able to identify all of the trees on your block.



*It is no use saying, "We are doing  
our best." You have got to succeed in  
doing what is necessary.*

—WINSTON C HURCHILL

Never sit down on a ball field.  
Take a knee.



Hustle.



If your mother is watching,  
wear a helmet.





Keep hardback copies of your favorite books. Donate the rest to a local exchange.



Treat your body well.  
You'll be glad you did  
when you are a dad.





Be beholden to no one.

Pay in cash.



Remember  
to thank  
your hosts.



If you don't know what  
a word means, ask.  
Before it's too late.



Know your neighborhood  
like the back of your  
hand. Sometimes the best  
adventures are in your own  
backyard.



There is no better remedy  
than a dip in the ocean.



Trust the  
concierge.





Marry the girl, you marry  
the whole family.



Never request a joke or impression.  
They are never as good on command.



Suck it up.



If you have to make more  
than one substitution,  
order something else.



Wisdom begins with  
an awe of nature.



*Wit ought to be a glorious treat like caviar;  
never spread it about like marmalade.*

—NOËL COWARD

Attend lots of weddings.  
Your friends will be there  
and the food is always good.

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Send postcards.

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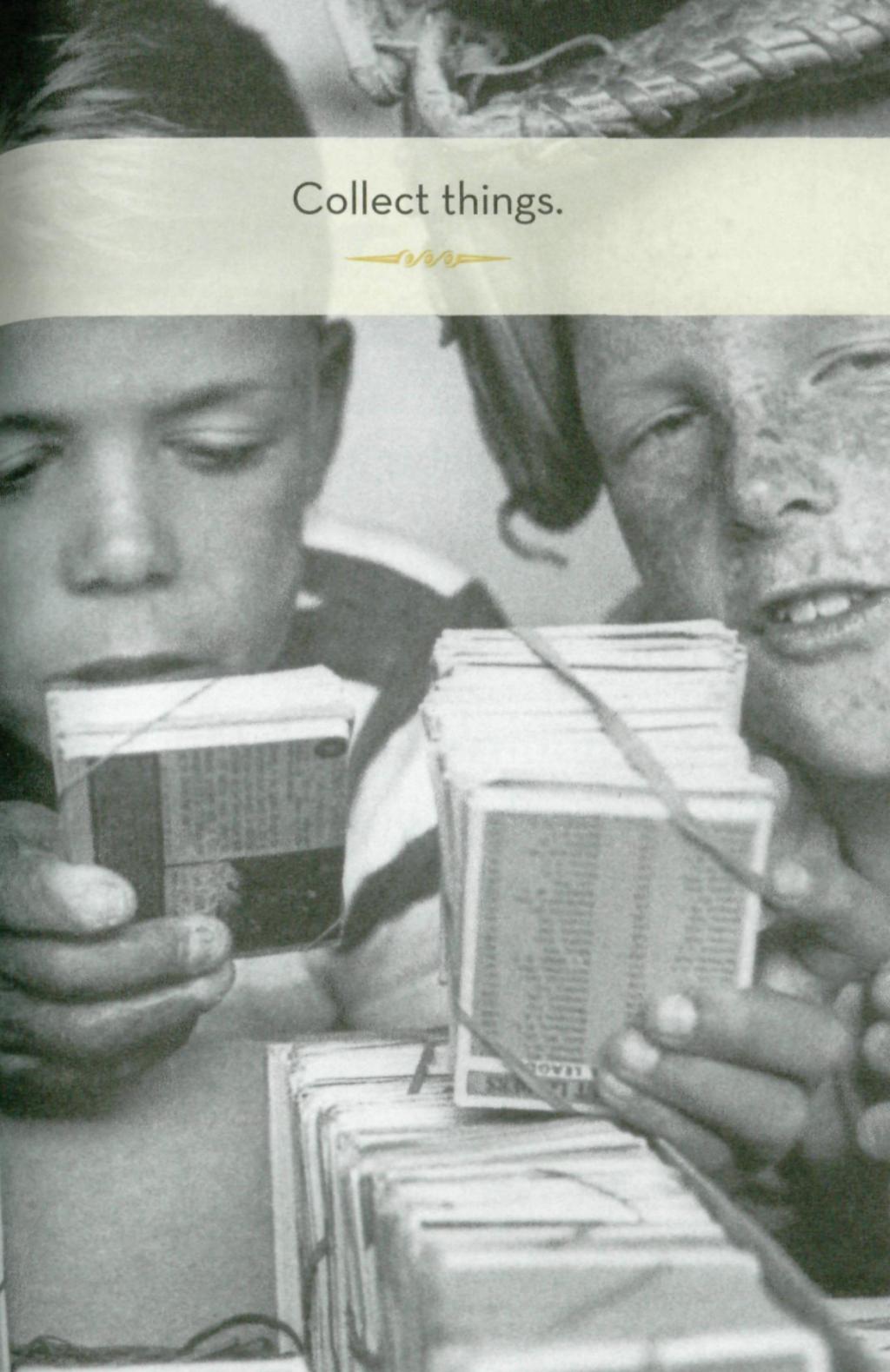


Read the good majority of a  
newspaper every day.



Don't forget the  
funny pages.



A black and white photograph of two young boys looking at books. On the left, a boy with dark hair and a mustache is holding a book and looking down at it. On the right, another boy with light-colored hair is smiling and also looking at the book. They are surrounded by many other books, suggesting a library or a collection.

Collect things.





Draw what you see, not what  
you think is there.



Exercise in the morning.  
Bicycling to school or  
work is a good idea.



Socks are not necessary in the summer,  
no matter how formal the occasion.



Use the broiler.  
It's an indoor grill.



Befriend your local  
butcher.



Sign the  
guestbook.



Owning your own  
baseball mitt and golf  
clubs. All other athletic  
equipment can be shared  
or borrowed.



Offering your seat  
to a woman, no matter  
how old she is.



Get to know your  
sister's boyfriends. I'll rely  
on your opinion.



Never criticize the government of your  
own country when you are abroad.





Be patient with airplane personnel.



*It will pay off with better service.*

Play organized football.



You won't always be the  
strongest or fastest. You  
can be the toughest.



An hour with your  
grandparents is time  
well spent.



In the long run,  
loyalty trumps ambition  
every time.



Watch a lightning storm from a safe spot.  
But watch 'em.



When caught in a riptide,  
swim parallel to the beach.



Compliment your mom's cooking.



Wrap your own presents.  
Aluminum foil works in a pinch and  
you don't need tape.



Be a well-informed voter.



Don't forget your local elections.



*Take it easy. But take it.*

—WOODY GUTHRIE

# Don't litter. Ever.



Honking your  
horn won't make them  
go faster.



Drink rail  
liquor.



Minimize talking on  
the telephone.



Don't be afraid of  
pickup games. It's the  
best way to learn.



Keep iced tea in the fridge.  
It's healthy, cold, and cheap.



If you can afford it, own  
your own tuxedo.



If you absolutely have to fight,  
punch first and punch hard.





*Aim for the nose.*

No one likes a  
know-it-all.



Choose the correct  
screwdriver for the job.



When in the woods, be quiet.





Keep a copy of your letters. It will  
make it easier on your biographer.



*Never let your correspondence  
fall behind.*

—ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Eat more vegetables.  
Takes care of the ticker.



Never talk during a  
movie. Arrive early and go  
for center seats.



Respect dress codes.  
You'll have more liberty to be funny.



Learn to tie  
a bow tie.



Girls like boys who shower.



Write thank-you notes  
promptly on personalized  
correspondence cards.



In Monopoly, buy the  
orange properties.



Don't renege on bets.  
Better yet, don't gamble.



When shaking hands,  
grip firmly and look him in the eye.





Absolutely no piercings or tattoos,  
unless you are in the armed forces.



Spend time with your cousins.  
You're more alike than you think.



Wear a pocket square.  
The corner of a bed sheet  
will work in a pinch.



*If you get to thinking you are a  
person of some influence, try ordering  
somebody else's dog around.*

—WILL ROGERS

You are what you do,  
not what you say.



Don't flatten burgers on the grill.  
It squeezes out all the juices.



It is not enough to be  
proud of your ancestry.  
Live up to it.



Don't make a scene.





Learn an instrument, preferably one that can  
be played at home in the company of friends.



Never switch a seating card.



When building a campfire,  
choose deadwood from a tree,  
not off the ground.



Keep a scrapbook. But avoid collage.



Jazz is for dancing.



*Hold doors, pull out chairs,  
easy on the swears.*

—WILL SMITH

Bring your mitt to the ballpark.



Finish the  
crossword.



Don't use a chisel for  
anything other than its  
intended purpose.

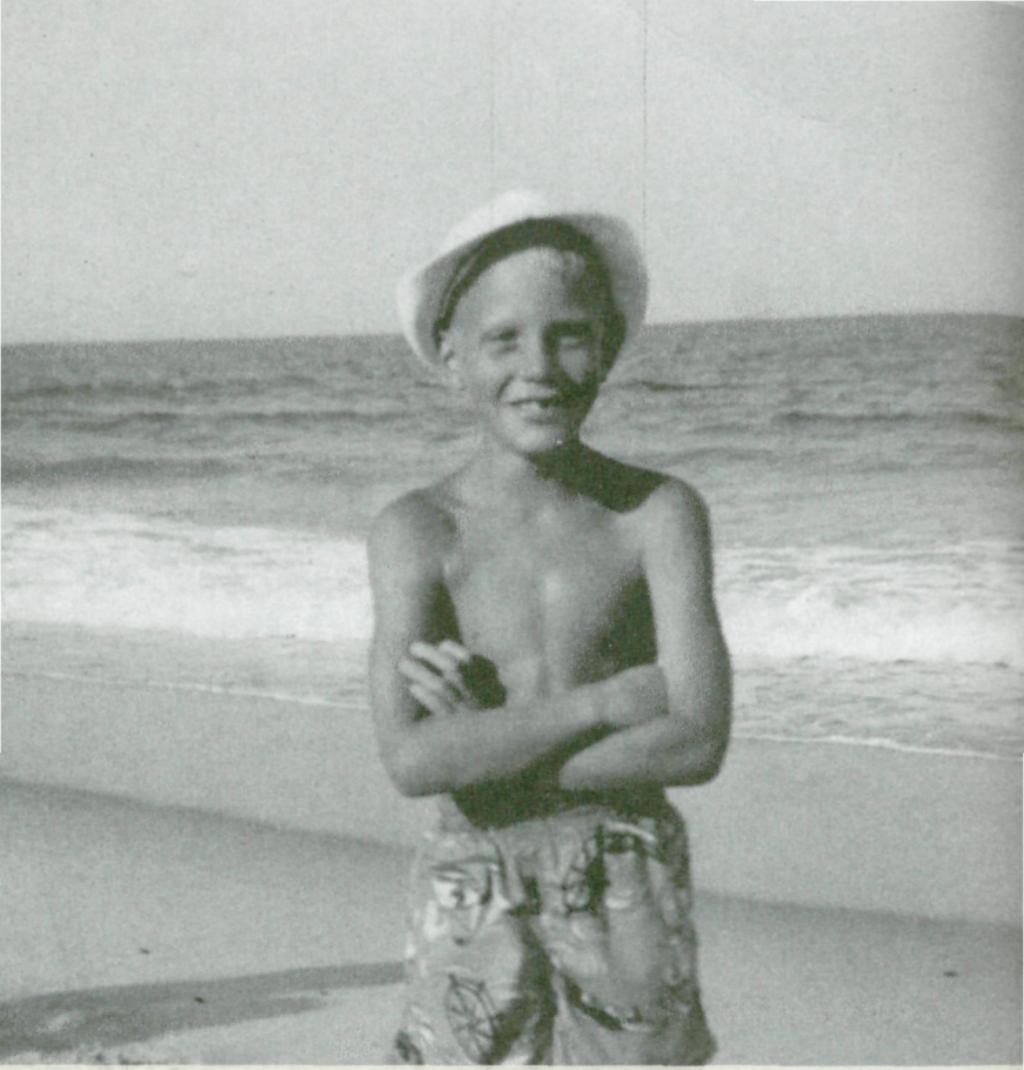


When making an acceptance  
speech, keep it short, lose the notes,  
and thank your dad.



*Don't fight forces, use them.*

—BUCKMINSTER FULLER



Don't be afraid of a little sun.



Follow instructions.  
You'll be done in half the time.



Know when to  
ignore the camera.



*For of those to whom much is  
given, much is required.*

—LUKE 12:48

Don't be afraid to ask out the  
best-looking girl in the room.



Buy Regular Gas.



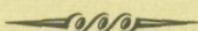
Nothing is  
more important  
than family.



You can never overdress.



# APPENDIX





## REQUIRED LISTENING FOR BOYS



- ❑ Woody Guthrie ..... "This Land Is Your Land"
- ❑ Nat King Cole..... "Straighten Up and Fly Right"
- ❑ Hank Williams..... "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry"
- ❑ Little Richard ..... "Long Tall Sally"
- ❑ The Beatles..... "Twist and Shout"
- ❑ Bob Dylan ..... "It's All Over Now, Baby Blue"
- ❑ Four Tops..... "Reach Out (I'll Be There)"
- ❑ The Who ..... "A Quick One"
- ❑ We Five ..... "You Were On My Mind"
- ❑ The Monkees ..... "Last Train to Clarksville"
- ❑ Otis Redding..... "These Arms of Mine"
- ❑ The Beach Boys..... "Good Vibrations"
- ❑ Elvis Presley ..... "Suspicious Minds"
- ❑ Jimmy Cliff ..... "Many Rivers to Cross"
- ❑ The Faces ..... "Stay With Me"
- ❑ Jonathan Richman..... "Roadrunner"
- ❑ The Rolling Stones. .... "Waiting on a Friend"

- Big Star..... "Thirteen"
- Tom Waits ..... "Grapefruit Moon"
- Joni Mitchell..... "Free Man in Paris"
- New York Dolls..... "Personality Crisis"
- Jackson Browne..... "These Days"
- Gordon Lightfoot..... "Sundown"
- David Bowie ..... "Young Americans"
- Hall & Oates..... "Rich Girl"
- Billy Joel ..... "Movin' Out"
- Cheap Trick..... "Surrender"
- Elvis Costello ..... "Peace, Love and Understanding"
- The Ramones ..... "I Wanna Be Your Boyfriend"
- R.E.M..... "Radio Free Europe"
- Joe Jackson ..... "Step Out"
- Big Country..... "In a Big Country"
- Prince..... "Let's Go Crazy"
- The Replacements..... "Waitress in the Sky"
- The Pogues..... "Fairytale of New York"
- The Smiths ..... "Girlfriend in a Coma"
- The Jayhawks..... "Nevada, California"

# ESSENTIAL READING FOR BOYS



- Rudyard Kipling . . . . . *Just So Stories*
- L. Frank Baum . . . . . *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*
- Robert Westall . . . . . *The Machine Gunners*
- Madeleine L'Engle . . . . . *A Wrinkle in Time*
- Theodore Taylor. . . . . *The Cay*
- Jack London . . . . . *Call of the Wild*
- William Golding . . . . . *Lord of the Flies*
- S. E. Hinton. . . . . *The Outsiders*
- Mary Stewart. . . . . *The Crystal Cave*
- Robert Heinlein . . . . . *Stranger in a Strange Land*
- Mark Twain . . . . . *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*
- Homer. . . . . *The Odyssey*
- Harper Lee . . . . . *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- John Knowles . . . . . *A Separate Peace*
- Erich Maria Remarque . . *All Quiet on the Western Front*
- Thor Hyerdahl . . . . . *Kon-Tiki*
- Claude Brown . . . . . *Manchild in the Promised Land*

- ❑ Charles Darwin . . . . . *The Origin of Species*
- ❑ Michael Shaara . . . . . *The Killer Angels*
- ❑ F. Scott Fitzgerald . . . . . *The Great Gatsby*
- ❑ Earnest Hemingway . . . . . *The Sun Also Rises*
- ❑ Walker Percy . . . . . *The Moviegoer*
- ❑ George Orwell . . . . . *1984*
- ❑ Ken Kesey . . . . . *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*
- ❑ Woody Guthrie . . . . . *Bound for Glory*
- ❑ James A. Michener . . . . . *Chesapeake*
- ❑ Patrick O'Brian . . . . . *Master and Commander*
- ❑ Robert Penn Warren . . . . . *All the King's Men*
- ❑ E. M. Forster . . . . . *A Passage to India*
- ❑ Fyodor Dostoevsky . . . . . *The Brothers Karamazov*
- ❑ John Cheever . . . . . *Collected Stories*
- ❑ Richard Yates . . . . . *Revolutionary Road*
- ❑ James Cain . . . . . *The Postman Always Rings Twice*
- ❑ Sebastian Junger . . . . . *The Perfect Storm*
- ❑ Michael Chabon . . . . . *The Amazing Adventures of  
Kavalier and Clay*

## NOTES



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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Walker Lamond is a writer and television producer. His work has appeared on the Discovery Channel, National Geographic Channel, the Sundance Channel, and HBO. Lamond lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife and their son, who was born shortly after completion of this book.