

# That's What Friends Are For

My Father said to me, he said, so, don't you ever worry about growing old?

He said, don't you ever worry about growing old?

And I said, well Father what really worries me is whether I'll ever get the chance to, I mean I sometimes wonder if they're going to let us...

But if I do, if I do grow old, then it's going to be just fine; it's going to be just fine, because I've got so many friends.

I've got so many friends.

I've got one to love me,  
One to make love to me,  
I've got one to lend me clothes, I've got one to take me dancing:  
I've got four to keep me warm at night,  
I've got seven to pick me up when I'm down,  
I've got seven to pick me up anyway,  
I've got –

He said, but don't you ever get scared?

I said well when I get scared then I just call up one of my friends.

He said, won't you be lonely?

I said, when I get lonely, I just call up my friends.

He said, but who's going to cook the dinner –

I said I'll cook the dinner – I'll invite some friends round; you can bring the wine.

He said, who's going to take you to the hospital?

I said, well, I'll just call up one of my friends –

He said: you don't have a wife, you won't have any children, you don't even drive a car –

And I said, it's going to be alright.  
It's going to be alright,

Because I've got so many friends...

And I called up my first friend and he said I'll be right over and I opened the door and he held out his hand and he took me in his arms and he held me tight and he held on to me, he held me together, he held me down, he laid me down and he made love to me all...night...long.

Then I called up my second friend and he said, hello? and I said, I'm sorry, I really don't know why I'm calling you, it's three o'clock in the morning, and he said, it's OK I was up anyway, I said yes but I don't know why I'm calling you, and he said; it's OK, I can't sleep either. I don't know anyone who can these days.

And then I called up my third friend, well he's not a friend really I just met him down the pub, it's the same every weekend, I say don't do this to yourself, don't do it, but you know, what can you do, there you are, three o'clock in the morning and you're walking home together – of course we couldn't find a taxi, three o'clock, there she is, walking down the middle of the bloody road, singing her head off, and I said, what is she like?

She's like a child; she's like a sister; she's like a mother to me that one; she's my best girl friend.

And I called up my fourth friend but he wasn't there so I called up my fifth friend and I said I'm so sad; he said it would be better to be angry; and I said I'm so sad; he said it would be better to be angry; I said, but I'm so sad. He said, you might feel better if you practised getting angry.

I called up my sixth friend and he said look I have no more good advice to give you but I can give you this if you think it will make you feel better, and he gave me a big bottle of red wine and on the label he had written I Know Just How You Feel, and that's just what you need sometimes, someone who knows just exactly what it feels like...

So I called up my seventh friend

And my seventh friends lent me his books he lent me his records, he cooked me dinner, he drove me home and he put me to bed, he listened to my story, he heard me out, he talked me out of it, he disagreed with me; He knew what he was saying; He knew what he was talking about; He made five practical suggestions about how I might improve my

situation.

My eighth friend checks me for bruises; he calls me back to make sure I'm alright and he lets me cry for as long as I want to; and when we're walking down the street he never lets go of my hand, not ever.

And my ninth friend said do you know, I haven't had this much fun in *three years*...

And my tenth friend said Darling, I think I'm going to like you with white hair...

And my Father said, but who's going to come to your funeral?

...and I said

...well I said

...Father,

...That's What Friends Are For.