

THE CRIBBAGE SONG
(WHAT'S IN THE CARDS)

11-4-15
(#80)

1. All your life just waiting for that 29 hand.
All your life bluffing, holding nothing, while being outmanned.
A life without living, a poor gameplan not well planned,
just following and swallowing *the wrong jack's* countermand.

REFRAIN: Fifteen – two, and what are you going to do ?
 Counting off your life by the numbers
 — of hearts untrue.
 Pairs of lives flushed away,
 double-run-ning *from* but never *to*,
 still trying in vain to figure out *
 what's in the cards for you !

2. What's hidden in the numbers, what secrets do they hold ?
While life went shuffling on by, you still were never told.
Half-time dealer, half-time pone, while full time growing old.
Just following *the wrong jack's* lead in a game where you can't fold.

[REPEAT REFRAIN]

BRIDGE: Your best cards in her crib
 and yours: *nineteen* chiseled in stone.
 Guess it's time to switch to solitaire
 and go it alone.
 A defeating blow as the dealer,
 a retreating "go" as the pone,
 but not by fate or your playmate —
 you did it all on your own.

[INSTRUMENTAL]

3. Another useless hand, another run of sour luck.
Wishing you could pass, but the rules don't let you pass the buck.
Gave away your best cards to avoid running amok.
Just following *the wrong jack's* lead, can't ever get unstuck.

[REPEAT REFRAIN]

4. Can you switch polarity at the start of a new game ?
Starter card, still a canard, house rules remain the same.
Self-defeating goal, the dead hole, joker's not to blame,
still following, still searching for, the *Jill* who never came. †

[REPEAT REFRAIN]

[END]

Written: October 24 to November 4, 2015 [N, G, M]

* Alternate with: "Always trying to figure out"; and
on final refrain: "never having figured out"

† Severe ritardando and downturn of the voice (and music) here

• 20 references to cribbage game terminology