

# My Favorite Spring

Tom Paxton

I used to play baseball  
I used to love to play  
The people all said  
I'd be a winner someday  
We played on the sandlots  
And the gravel schoolyards  
I once had a try-out  
With the Saint Louie Cards  
The Cardinals said  
Young'un, we sure like your arm  
We believe you can make it  
We'll send you down to the farm  
You need a little seasonin'  
Play a little double-A  
We'll give you a chance to show  
How much you want to play  
That was my favourite spring  
I could do anything  
Full six feet tall and lean  
I was just seventeen  
My fastball was nothin' but smoke  
My curve-ball snapped and broke  
My change-up made 'em look bad  
They couldn't hit a thing I had  
I was pitchin' down in Tampa  
I was doin' really well  
I was in the rotation  
I was givin' 'em Hell  
I threw a two-hitter  
Ought to heard people shout  
The very next mornin'  
Korean war broke out  
On the spur of the moment  
I didn't have any plans  
I went and joined the Air Force  
I wound up in Japan  
I pitched for the squadron  
We toured all the camps  
We didn't have any problem  
We were all Far East Champs  
That was my favourite spring  
I could do anything  
Full six feet tall and lean  
I was just seventeen  
My fastball was nothin' but smoke  
My curve-ball snapped and broke  
My change-up made 'em look bad  
They couldn't hit a thing I had  
I was throwin' a no-hitter  
The day McArthur got fired  
They were goin' down like ten-pins  
I really had 'em wired  
Bottom of the seventh  
Throwin' easy as can be  
Somethin' snapped in my shoulder  
That was all she wrote for me  
Well, I finished up my service

And I moved back down here  
I married a fine lady  
And I found a new career  
We had us a young son  
And we watched Jimmy grow  
And the first time he asked  
I taught him everything I know  
And this is my favourite spring  
He can do anything  
Full six feet tall and lean  
He's just seventeen  
His fastball gives 'em the shakes  
His curve-ball snaps and brakes  
His change-up makes 'em look bad  
People say he takes after his dad