

# The Real Life

John Mellencamp

Suzanne divorced her husband  
She got the keys and the car and the home  
But her friends were really his friends  
No one stops by to see her much any more  
So one night, she goes back down to  
The old haunts  
That once upon a time were her own  
She didn't know nobody out there no  
More  
And the whole experience just made her  
Feel so old  
She says...

I want to live the real life  
I want to live my life close to the bone  
Just because I'm middle-aged that  
Don't mean  
I want to sit around my house and watch TV  
I want the real life  
I want to live the real life

Jackson Jackson was a good kid  
He had four years of college  
And a bachelor's degree  
Started workin, when he was 21  
Got fed up and quit  
When he was forty three  
He said, "My whole life  
I've done, what I supposed to do  
Now I'd like to maybe do something  
For myself  
And just as soon, I figure out what  
That is  
You can bet your life  
I'm gonna give it hell"  
He says...

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I want to live my life close to the bone  
Just because I'm middle-aged that  
Don't mean  
I want to sit around my house and watch TV  
I want the real life  
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I guess, it don't matter, how old you are  
Or how old one lives to be  
I guess, it boils down to what we did  
With our lives  
And how we deal with our own  
Destinies  
But something happens  
When you reach a certain age  
Particularly to those ones, that are  
Young at heart  
It's a lonely proposition when you realize  
That there's less days in front of the horse

Than riding in the back of this cart  
I say...

I want to live the real life  
I want to life my life close to the bone  
Just because I'm middle-aged that  
Don't mean, I want to sit around my house and watch TV  
I want the real life  
I want to live the real life.