

Be Prepared

Tom Lehrer

You know: of all the songs I've ever sung, that is the one I've had the most requests not to.

I have time for one more here. this one is a little song dedicated to the boy scouts of america. we seem to have a convention here tonight. the boy scouts of america, those noble little Bastions of democracy, and the american legion of tomorrow. their motto is... I would like to state at this time that I am not now and have never been... a member of the boy scouts of america.

Motto is, as you know, be prepared! and that is the name of this song.

Be prepared! that's the boy scout's marching song,
Be prepared! as through life you march along.
Be prepared to hold your liquor pretty well,
Don't write naughty words on walls if you can't spell.

Be prepared! to hide that pack of cigarettes,
Don't make book if you cannot cover bets.
Keep those reefers hidden where you're sure
That they will not be found
And be careful not to smoke them
When the scoutmaster's around
For he only will insist that it be shared.
Be prepared!

Be prepared! that's the boy scouts' solemn creed,
Be prepared! and be clean in word and deed.
Don't solicit for your sister, that's not nice,
Unless you get a good percentage of her price.

Be prepared! and be careful not to do
Your good deeds when there's no one watching you.
If you're looking for adventure of a
New and different kind,
And you come across a girl scout who is
Similarly inclined,
Don't be nervous, don't be flustered, don't be scared.
Be prepared!