

# The Brass Ring

John Mellencamp

The saddest girl in the whole wide world  
I met her on the Quarter  
With no regards for vagrancy, no respect for civil order  
How young are you, I asked her  
How old are you, young lady?  
I'm much older than you think, 'cause I have seven babies

Where are those who keep these kids  
While you're out on the party?  
I leave them where they are safe  
At the church of 12th and Harding  
The people there they know me well  
They ask me very few questions  
And if a child should pass before they wake, they'll pray them into heaven

No love and no lover  
A murder of crows did sing  
We soon will discover  
The coffin will wear our brass ring

So where's the father of these kids?  
Does he, does he help you ever?  
I have no idea where he is  
He don't show his face, he knows better  
Can I help you go tonight?  
It would be my pleasure  
And make sure that you arrive all right  
Now we could leave together

She said, no, I don't need your company

And I don't want your pity  
You'd be wise just to go away  
And leave me here where I'm sitting  
Is there nothing I can do for you?  
Now it's time to scatter  
Why do you think there's something wrong with me  
There's nothing really the matter?

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A murder of crows did sing  
We soon will discover  
A coffin will wear our brass ring

I find myself where life could go  
I find myself each morning  
All the duties of this world  
Fell on my shoulders without warning  
I make no plans, nor do I care  
For the future called tomorrow  
This world I've seen here's never fair  
So just leave me here with my sorrows

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Wear our brass ring