

# Icarus Survived The Fall

Ralph McTell

Icarus survived the fall  
He didn't really die  
He lived to offer this advice  
For all of those who try  
Flying up to reach the sun  
When warned they'd come to grief  
You live for stolen moments  
And all time is a thief

Time will steal your youth away  
And dreams that fire your soul  
It was not pride or vanity  
That robbed me of my goal  
I blame inferior materials  
When things grew hot  
Instead of saying how I blew it  
Look how near I got!

Is your cup half-empty  
Or is your glass half full?  
Is that guy a fool to try  
Or is he really cool?  
Nobody made nothing  
Who never made mistakes  
I'm grateful for this opportunity  
To put things straight

Remembering only my fall  
Denies the swallow dives  
And forward rolls with twists I made  
Out of that clear blue sky  
My near perfect entry  
Into the Aegean sea  
Gained nine point nines from every judge  
Except East Germany

It is in the perception  
As to failure and success  
Extracting something beautiful  
Out of hopelessness  
It all depends on attitude  
Interpreting the facts (but)  
Next time I fly with feathered wings  
I won't use wood and wax

Is your cup half-empty  
Or is your glass half full?  
You can call it either way  
There isn't any rule  
But nobody made nothing  
Who never made mistakes  
And I'm grateful for this opportunity  
To put things straight