

## **John Mellencamp**

# **"Let Them Run Your Lives"**

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Hello girls and boys  
As you sit in your carpeted bedrooms  
With your stereos on and on

Playin' with those hundred dollar toys  
Built to occupy your minds  
So you don't notice your future's are gone

And as you race on through the streets tonight  
Lookin' for some lonely lover to hold you tight  
You think that the world is alright

Well, you're out of touch, you're out of time  
You're gonna crack, you're fragile regulated minds  
As you're headin' on to no kind of conclusion

Go on, let 'em run your lives  
Watch 'em as they cut your throat  
With their parental carving knife

Go on, let 'em run your lives  
Are you too young to see  
Or just too old to fight?

They've taken the energy away from you  
They haven't taught you enough to deal  
With the ordeal you must be goin' through

Yeah, but look at this now

They've left you the schools  
They've left you the government but they're all fallin'  
down  
Don't forget to make the past due payments

And in this world of uncertainties, you can be certain  
that  
You must kiss the ass of the authorities  
And kiss you will if you want to survive

You don't have to look too hard to see  
That there just ain't no free rides

Hell it takes a real man to survive

Go on, let 'em run your lives  
Watch 'em as they cut your throat  
With their parental carving knife

Go on, let 'em run your lives  
Are you too young to see  
Or just too old to fight?

Well, Jay Dee is locked in his soul, some kinda hotel  
Well, he's burnin' inside  
He shakes shakes shakes, all through the night

And little Ruda Juda is passed out on the floor  
She's just so damn stupid, won't somebody  
Take away her gun and show her the door  
Show her the door, show her that door's open

And me I'm so misunderstood, but I'm still alive  
And my eyes are open wide to the fact  
That the world just will lie and it'll kick you right in the  
face

Go on, let 'em run your lives  
Watch 'em as they cut your throat  
With their parental carving knife

Go on, let 'em run your lives  
Are you too young to see  
Or just too old to fight?

Hey, are you too young to see  
Or just too old to fight?  
Do we have to fight the rest of our lives?

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