

# VERSE AND WORSE: A RESPONSE TO PHILIP LARKIN

*Posted on December 1, 2021 by Mark Stocker*



They tuck you up, your Mum and Dad  
So you sleep sweet the whole night through  
Their values really are quite trad  
They only want the best for you!

And they were much loved in their turn  
By grandparents in duffel coats  
Who, though they seemed a little stern,  
Were kindly souls, this poet notes.

Man hands on happiness to man  
And with it comes both health and wealth  
Make the most of life – you can!  
And you'll have happy kids yourself!

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The [\*featured image\*](#) shows, "Mother Tucking Children into Bed," by Norman Rockwell; painted in 1921.

