

# If: A Poem by Rudyard Kipling (1896)

## [If – A Poem by Rudyard Kipling](#)

Video version, as shared by parents and guardians.

If

by Rudyard Kipling

*(written in 1896, this poem by the author of The Jungle Book, was first published in 1910 as part of a book titled "Rewards and Fairies")*

*If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
But make allowance for their doubting too:  
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
Or, being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or being hated don't give way to hating,  
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;*

*If you can dream – and not make dreams your master;  
If you can think – and not make thoughts your aim,  
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster  
And treat those two impostors just the same:.  
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,  
And stoop and build'em up with worn-out tools;*

*If you can make one heap of all your winnings  
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
And lose, and start again at your beginnings,  
And never breathe a word about your loss:  
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew*

*To serve your turn long after they are gone,  
And so hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on! '*

*If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
Or walk with Kings – nor lose the common touch,  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,  
If all men count with you, but none too much:  
If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And- -which is more – you'll be a Man, my son!*

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**If – a poem by Rudyard Kipling, as read by fathers, mothers and god parents**

a film by **Arran North**

October 1, 2015

Watch an authentic reading of Rudyard Kipling's world famous poem, If.

A moving collaboration between fathers, mothers and god parents.

Filmed to coincide with the Cheltenham Literature Festival 2015, this film was planned and shot over the last weekend of September 2015. The film was created with no-budget and everyone generously volunteered their time.

Shot in the cellar bar of Café René, Gloucester, UK – Gloucester's best known secret. A collaboration between two Gloucester based creative groups: Artists Collaborate and Food for Thoughts. Created by (in order of spoken words): Magdalena Payne, Daniel Woolf, Stig Godding, Steve Bracewell, Salvador Moncholi, Angela Bracewell, Kishi de l'Allebone, Joey Gill, Kieron Bates and Chris Atine.

Arran North ([hello@arrannorth.com](mailto:hello@arrannorth.com)): Camera/Audio/Creative

Direction/Editing/Grading/Production | Tara Kaliszewski:  
Concept/Creative Direction/Asst. Editing