

# Ma's Tasty Stew

I don't know what time it is  
or the shape of the moon.  
'Cuz me and my pin'd pupils,  
we're locked up in a room,

and it's littered with some  
dirty rigs and a lover or two,  
bubblin' up some stew  
in a spoon.

Some'a that MM mm MM mm  
MM mm in a spoon.

Now, my

cellular telephone  
is lightin' up the room.  
S'awful queer that Ma is callin' me,  
but't seems she's got some news.

Pa's been on the spoon ag'in.  
He's in the ICU.  
Looks like he'll be goin'  
kinda soon.

"Hold on," I says. "I'll be there  
real soon."

'N' when I get there, I'm all

hey Pa!

What's that you been  
sayin'  
t'me?

Oh! I'm so

sorry.

I've been busy not  
listening.

'N'

bucklin' down, 'n'  
shootin' straight,  
growin' up, 'n'  
stayin' the same.

I'm just  
tryin',  
I'm tryin'  
t'be  
who I think  
ya think  
I  
think  
of me.

Now, some decades ago, he fed me  
Gerber's on a spoon.

'N'now he's tellin' me 'bout how  
someday I'm gonna do it too.

'N' he says,

"Best I  
done at  
changin's  
like the  
shape  
of the  
moon."

Hey, Ma! What say you

cook us up some'a that  
tasty stew?

Some'a that MM mm MM mm  
MM mm in a spoon.



## Matt Gottesman

Grammar is Matt Gottesman's first love. He is the host of "Speakeasy," an internet radio show on KPCRadio.com that gives an online voice to the San Fernando Valley's poets. Almost all of his published work has been for the Roundup, Los Angeles Pierce College's student-run newspaper, and can be found on [theroundupnews.com](http://theroundupnews.com). He also manages a sober living in Santa Monica, has a consuming obsession with motor vehicles, plays the drums, and loves dogs. A lot. Since you're already holding your smartphone, the "Speakeasy" Facebook page, [facebook.com/speakeasykpc](https://facebook.com/speakeasykpc), is pretty schwank. And it's on Twitter, too, @SpeakeasyKPC. "Words are inherently meaningless. They're a closed circuit: where weight is of mass and gravity, speed is of time and distance, words are of words. A dictionary will, at least in its existing, agree. Where words have the upper hand, however, is in their portrayal and reception: five pounds is five pounds, but the fact that a given potato is measurably huge will not give rise to as many religions as, say, The Bible." -Matt