

Avoid Anything With an Ism

by Jerry Ratch

Communism

Capitalism

Gism or Gysm, either way

Avoid anything with an Ism

Catholicism

Botulism

Socialism

Skepticism

If its got an Ism in it

Avoid it, okay?

(Advice for our newborn daughter)

Avoidalism is okay

Though

So you can sleep

With that

That won't get you pregnant

Except during your Fertile-cycle

Oh, you may notice your new

Fertile-cycle parked in the

Garage of Many Hopes

Near the Slopes of the Gods

But just

Avoid anything with an Ism

Okay?

Avoid anything with an Ism
And you'll do just fine

And then right in front of our noses
There went a whole school
Of bright blue fish
And the stingray glided by
Flapping its wings slowly
Like the Evolution of the Future
When the waitress starts yelling at us

"What?" I yelled back
Trying to sound surprised
"What do you mean there's
No Breastfeeding at Hooters?"
I had seen the sign
I just didn't think they were serious

And then on our way out of town
The attendant at the Nashville
Airport parking lot
Gave us one of those looks
Like: "Which covered wagon
Did you folks
Come in on?"

"Don't say anything," my wife said
"He probably lives in a
Trailer right down the road"

And sure enough
I read his nametag
And it said
Little- Tom
Little-Tom

Little-Tom Joad

