

*Can you put your*  
**PHONE AWAY?**  
a reminder poem



I thought I told you yesterday  
To please  
Go put your phone away.

How many times must I resay?  
To please ...  
Go put your phone away.

You do not need  
Your phone at work.  
That's right.  
You don't.  
Don't be a jerk.  
With your phone you work halfway.  
It's time to work and not to play.

"But ... I need my phone," you whine.  
Your teary eyes begin to shine.  
"It's just for work!"  
"I'll keep it hid!"  
But what you say is  
Not what you did.  
You'll have to trust us  
When we say  
That humans *can* survive a day  
Without a phone  
Clutched in their hand  
Like drug-addicted contraband.

You might need that phone in Iraq.  
Or if you had a heart attack,  
A friend could Google "CPR"  
And drive real fast to an E.R.

If you're driving in the hood,  
Cell phones can be really good.  
Keep in touch with Mom and Dad.  
Learn to make a shrimp salad.  
Sing a song and dance a dance.  
Text stuff of significance.

But you do not need your phone today.  
Not even on a holiday.  
You cannot concentrate on work.  
Without it, you won't go berserk.

Facebook "friends"  
Will all survive,  
Won't wonder  
If you're still alive.  
Those precious shoes  
You saw online  
Will still be there at 5:09.  
Your loverboy will be OK  
If you don't text without delay.  
And if he's not,  
Then what's the deal?  
You really want to date that heel?

But ...  
*If* you put your phone away,  
Life gets great without delay!  
And unicorns come out to play,  
And bring you gifts on your birthday  
(like fancy cakes upon a tray!)  
And management  
Will shout, "Hurray!"  
( ... *and* you'll go on being paid)  
The day you put your phone away.