

# Taking Your Life In Your Hands

[John Cale](#)

The children are all leaving school today  
Mama said, "Don't worry, I'll be back one day"  
The blue men in uniform smiled and waved goodbye  
She was hiding those tears in her eyes  
Roll up the history books, burn the chairs  
Set fire to anything, set fire to the air  
They're [unverified] to begin and running at the end  
'Cause Mama said, "You take your life in your hands"  
Taking your life, your life in your hands  
But don't take your life in your hands like I did  
I don't feel so bad, and always look forward with hope  
Forward and hope that the children will always be there  
Cancel the day, cancel the night  
Cancel the day, cancel the night  
'Cause who could be watching when she steals and runs away  
Full of hysterical laughter, and say "Mama, Mama, I've left school today  
I hope, I get to see you in that funny school far away  
But those gentlemen in blue, and those in gray  
Say, I'll never, never see mama again"  
'Cause she took those lives in her hands  
Yes, she took all those lives in her hands  
Yes, she took all those lives in her hands  
But let me wonder, what was there left in those hands?

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