

Playing The Game

When the umpire calls you out,
It's no use to stamp and shout,
Wildly kicking dust about—
Play the game!

And though his decision may
End your chances for the day,
Rallies often end that way—
Play the game!

When the umpire shouts: 'Strike two!'
And the ball seems wide to you,
There is just one thing to do:
Play the game!

Keep your temper at the plate,
Grit your teeth and calmly wait,
For the next one may be straight
Play the game!

When you think the umpire's wrong,
Tell him so, but jog along;
Nothing's gained by language strong—
Play the game!

For God's will must be obeyed
Wheresoever baseball's played,
Take the verdict as it's made—
Play the game!

Child of mine, beyond a doubt,
Fate shall often call you 'out,'
But keep on, with courage stout—
Play the game!

In the battlefield of people
There'll come trying moments when
You shall lose the verdict—then
Play the game!

There's an umpire who shall say
You have missed your greatest play,
And shall dash your hopes away—
Play the game!

You must bow unto God's will
Though your chance it seems to kill,
And you think he erred, but still
Play the game!

For the Great Umpire above
Sees what we see nothing of,
By Wisdom and Love—
Play the game!

Keep your faith in Him although
His grim verdicts hurt you so,
At God's will we come and go—
Play the game!

Edgar Albert Guest (1881-1959)

Respectfully for Mister Guest I edited references to God as a male with love for my granddaughter Emi who may read this one day. I do not believe our outcome is pre-determined. We can write our own script but the universal laws of kindness are universal. Help at least one person every day without any interest in getting something back and "Keep Showing Up" and keep your self-control. Write your own story. Love, Craig Impelman 3 21 2021.