



Mutts

*Road Rally from Hell
August 30, 2014
Portland, Oregon*

ROAD RALLY 2014

"Gone to the Dogs"

*Listen, my puppies, and you shall hear
Of a journey you've come to know and revere
Your family's strapped you to the car's top
And driven cross country with nary a stop*

*But finally they've pulled by the side of the road
To look for a bush and lighten their load
They've taken you down from roof to the ground
To mark all the trees and sniff all around*

*Whoa! Now they've returned to the car with relief
Their pit stop complete yet tragically brief
The auto speeds off with hardly a care
Forgetting completely you're not even there*

*Now what will you do, Oh Man's Best Friend?
Ripped from your pack, this tear you must mend
No time for howling, no time to lick crotch
Time is now ticking like fleas on a watch*

*They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks
But you will show them just how to get kicks
With nose to the ground and tail in the air
Back to your dog house, you'll figure out where*

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Git along, little doggies
Your journey must start
Take Interstate south
Where it does split apart

Look out for a sign
To a path made of Steel
And a capitol place
Where you steer your wheel

Now, look to the river
To starboard you'll veer
And fly over water
Be brave, have no fear

When safely you've landed
On the other side
Several blocks you'll go
Before turning your ride

A street called half dozen
With one way to run
Stay clockwise on station
Go round till you're done

The passenger window
Is where you should glance
It's time to get running
And start up this dance

Keep an **eye** on the time
To receive your treat
Steer through the clear iris
And you won't be beat

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Steer your car toward the sunset
 Right on a famous way
 They say neon lights are bright
 Even though it is day

Stay true to this path, do not stray
 Back to the other side
 A different bridge than before
 But no less a fun ride

This path will split with a new name
 It only goes one way
 A dog's sense of direction
 Will keep from going stray

Follow tracks to a criss-cross
 Be careful where you stand
 Make a turn that's liberal
 On a street mighty Grand

A head there is a merger
 But pay to it no mind
 Although the name is different
 You won't get in a bind

Press on for a street to turn
 It only goes one way
 No time for bed nor **cott**
 To circle 'round today

It's a dog eat dog world
 So beware, ye mutt
 At the mother of all hydrants
 Don't let them sniff your butt

Green is a common color
 So do not draw a blank
 Look above and beyond trees
 Or else your search will tank

The time to park is now
 Scratch belly and shake a leg
 Get your treat no matter how
 Even if you have to beg **MUTTS**



Mush! Oh, mighty dog team
To the west you are bound
Stop chasing your tail
Put your nose to the ground

Now pick up your own scent
Retrace from where you came
One hundred minus one
A King by another name

Back down the boulevard
For nearly seven miles
Resolve will be tested
In these Rally trials

Keep a sharp eye open
An exit heading west
A Washington city
Is the path of your quest

Time to cross the river
The last bridge for a while
They don't *sell* any *wood* here
The view will make you smile

Reaching the other side
There's but one way to go
Run a couple more miles
And just stay with the flow

Soon you'll Curry favor
To get to the next clue
The way to turn is clear
To get the next doggy chew

Park the car where you can
Time to go for a walk
Up, up! Look to the sky
This is where you will stalk

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Gather your group and count all the noses
Get back in the car for a ride
Your next stop will be a big bed of roses
With plenty of places to hide

Exit by way of Whitaker Street
Or else you'll be in a bind
Use your senses to locate this path
It's not really hard to find

Now travel away from equator
Your face catching the cool breeze
But pay no attention to squirrels
Or distracted by scratching fleas

If you begin to feel Moody
You know you're on the right road
Run with it for all that it's worth
One more clue to lighten your load

Follow this path as far as you can
And then follow it some more
Your path will change direction and name
Away from the river's shore

This hunt may appear quite confusing
Alas, this cannot be helped
Your turn's arrived, you are the 4th
Of the litter your mama has whelped

Now make a turn on a street with a name
Like the family that's movin' on up
To the deluxe apartment in the sky
You'll show them you're more than a pup

A dozen or so is the number of blocks
Make sure to stay on the trail
Avoid the roundabout, right you must go
Don't let the path become stale

Soon you'll approach a street that smells fishy
Up the hill is the way to go
Follow to end then take a dog leg right
It's all just a part of the flow

Run up that hill as far as you can go
Then there'll be but one way to turn
Stay in the park and avoid neighbor's lawns
Head toward places where you can learn

Hounds like the scent of convicts who've escape
But your nose is in for a change
Sniff out the flowers and dog doo doo too
Their odors are well within range



The park is a nice place, there's much there to do
But no time for chasing the ball
It's time to move on, so gather your crew
And don't let this fox hunt stall

A dog can get thirsty from running around
And playing all day in the sun
But where will you go, to where are you bound?
To where are you going to run?

Begin by returning the way you came
Back down to the city below
Don't miss the **Vista** out driver's window
That is the way you must go

Take this direction for just a short while
One long block, if you please
Soon there will be a conservative turn
You'll miss it if you sneeze

The road that you're on will make your *sides burn*
It's quite a busy street
Over the freeway and into the town
It's time to earn your treat

Look to your left a building for reading
Underneath you can park
Find your way in and do not delay
Then rejoice with a bark

A rose is a rose and a color too
No need to climb the stairs
Remember your breed when searching for text
Among this place's wares

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A pooch can get thirsty from snooping around
And playing all day in the sun
But where will you go, to where are you bound?
To where are you going to run?

Look for a bridge named for singer of Doors
And fly across the river
Exit to Water and park right away
It's time to stand and deliver

A hair of the dog is just what you need
To lap up a drink (or two)
All canines are welcome, no matter your breed
A good dog will lap a brew

While quenching your thirst, it's time you must
howl
To other dogs in the house
Sing it completely or suffer a foul
You're a mutt and not a mouse

When you've finished go up to your server
And give the name of your breed
He'll give you a treat and party dog too
As reward for your good deed

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Your drink has been drunk
Your song has been sung
Get back in your car
The bell has been rung

A street named Water
The journey heads north
But soon it will turn
But still you go forth

With nose toward sunrise
Proceed this stark way
Near forty more blocks
And don't be a stray

A liberal turn
You must do the math
What's 13 X 3?
Now turn on this path

Beware of this road
There's more than one name
Continue along
It's all just the same

Go round golden Joan
And over freeway
Through tricky crossroads
This course you must stay

The street you are on
Has more than one name
Pay no attention
It's all just the same

Toward sunset you'll turn
When road block is met
On a cheesy street
A treat for good pet

Your path changes names
Just look at the sign
Named for a president
So don't start to whine

A park and a school
Will have the same name
You've come to the place
Now get in the game

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Now that you've had some fun getting wet
It's time to hit the road
Figure out the next leg on your own
To travel the heavy load

Southbound you'll run, adventure's ahead
Soon you'll leave city streets
Onward you go on 84 east
The way to get your treats

Thirteen short miles you'll travel along
Look for a couple parks
Named after explorers and yokes too
The dog that sees it barks

Head towards these parks, no time to stop
Unless you have to pee
The road you travel has many names
As you soon shall see

Follow this path to a house with a view
No need to see the point
You'll know you've arrived when you get there
It's a real classy joint

Be careful when you're sniffing around
Upon this lovely crown
And make sure that you get the right treat
For a smile and not a frown

Once you've fetched the clue that you seek
Put tail between you legs
Ahead down the road and don't look back
A good dog never begs

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Now is the time to lift up your leg
This hydrant is mighty grand
Breathe in the air and take in the view
Of your trek across this land

Down the mountain and up the river
Stay on the road you are on
Eight miles you'll go or just a bit more
Get going and you'll be gone

Water, water everywhere
It is high and it is low
This time don't look toward the river
The other way's quite a show

Take yourselves to a crowded place
Parking may be a chore
Get ready to hike the mountain high
And hear the mighty roar

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Retreat can only mean DFL
To fight you must move on
Stay on this road a little ways more
The direction of the dawn

Enter the interstate, if you dare
And continue on your way
Exit to the locks that have no keys
To find where your clue will lay

As you Cascade off the interstate
The direction must stay true
Under a bridge and through the town
To sniff out this final clue

You're destined for a park near the shore
But Tripoli's not the one
No military will be found 'round here
Just things for having fun

Enter and be discrete, if you will
And seek out another hound
Seaman's his name but this dog don't swim
Find him and clue is found

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