

# My Name is Cocaine

My name is Cocaine -- call me coke for short.  
I entered this country without a passport.  
Ever since then, I've made lots of scum rich.  
Some have been murdered and found in a ditch.  
I'm more valued than diamond, more treasured than gold.  
Use me just once and you too will be sold.  
I'll make a schoolboy forget his books.  
I'll make a beauty queen forget her looks.  
I'll take a renowned speaker and make him a bore.  
I'll take your mother and make her a whore.  
I'll make a teacher forget how to teach.  
I'll make a preacher not want to preach.  
I'll take all your rent money and you will be evicted.  
I'll murder your babies, or they'll be addicted.  
I'll make you rob, and steal, and kill.  
When you're under my power you will have no will.  
Remember, my friend, my name is 'Big C'.  
If you try me one time, you may never be free.  
I've destroyed many actors, politicians, and heroes.  
I've decreased bank accounts from millions to zero.  
I'll make shootings and stabbings a common affair.  
Once I take charge, you won't have a prayer.  
Now that you know me, what will you do?  
You'll have to decide -- it's all up to you.  
Listen to me, and please listen well,  
When you ride with Cocaine, you're headed for HELL.

Larry Jackson

**The inspiration for this poem came from a father struggling with his daughter's addiction. The poem was taken from Dear Abby's Column in the Tennessean Newspaper, May 1999.**

**For more information on Crack / Cocaine, or other substances contact the TAADAS Statewide Clearinghouse at 615.780.5901 or the Tennessee REDLINE 1.800.889.9789. The Clearinghouse is located at 1800 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37203. The Clearinghouse is funded by the TN. Dept. of Health.**