

life decisions at sixteen

I want to be left alone
I want to be anonymous
I'm tired of standing out.

I don't want to be in the spotlight anymore
I don't want to be recognized
I don't want to be seen.

I don't want to be seen
 as a "brain" or a "genius" or a "head" anymore
I don't want all the pressure to be
 "the smartest" anymore.

I don't want all the expectations anymore
I don't want all the responsibility anymore
I don't want to be a leader anymore
I want to drop out and be left alone.

I'm tired of everyone else's plans and expectations for me
I want to be free
I decide that the only way to be free is to
 reject what everyone else wants me to be
 walk away from everything
and start over.

I will show my contempt for the system
 by rejecting
 everything it offers me
I will have no support
 other than myself
I will have to struggle to survive.

I will do whatever it takes
 to show my friends
 that I'm cool.

I will do whatever it takes
 to show my dad that I am
 a real man.

I don't expect to live past forty
and see no reason why I'd want to.