

## Divorced Dad's Laundromat

Hey, welcome to Divorced Dad's Laundromat.  
You must be new here.  
Wondering what to do with that full basket you're holding?  
Here, I've done this before so let me show you.

First you open this door  
with the window into the rest of your life,  
stuff all your pride-stained items into this small space.  
Come over to the emasculation vender on the wall  
and put in more pride.  
Down here drops this little box of fragrance-free humility.  
You're going to take that and dump the entire contents  
into the top of the machine.

Then select one of these settings:

1. *I'm not sure I can do this.*
2. *Get me the fuck out of here.* Or
3. *My God what have I done.*

Then you press this button with the question mark  
and you'll hear the water made from all the tears  
you've yet to cry pump into the tumbler.

Then you have a seat over here  
next to the outdated magazines of your past  
and read one in hopes of figuring out where it all went wrong.

Or you could text your child a message saying *I love you*  
because that's really all you have now.  
Oh, and don't expect a reply because they hate you right now  
and are already getting used to you not being there.

When the machine is done, you're going to take your wet  
and vulnerable load over to this other machine  
and make sure to distribute it loosely in the drum.  
Select your temperature and time. Low and slow is best.  
You might be tempted to put it on high  
and try and get it over with quickly,  
but that just causes more damage in the end.

Then sit down and wait again.  
*Call* your kid, this time, and ask them how they're doing.  
Remember, they have a lot of extra laundry to do now, too,  
and they need you more than they're willing to admit.

When the laundry is done,

all the pride will be washed away—  
but it'll feel lighter.

Next time you come you'll do this on your own—  
and maybe your kid will come with you.

After, you'll go out to dinner together  
and you'll keep talking.  
And at some point during the conversation  
you'll both laugh.