

**The Wonderful PI World** Music: Lou Adler/Herb Alpert Lyrics: Williams/Glover

I've been a postdoc for the past 3 years  
I've published papers and drank a few beers  
I've learned how to run a gel or two  
And I know that Coomassie is blue  
I've cloned some stem cells in a Petri dish  
To be a PI is my greatest wish  
What a wonderful world that would be

But they don't teach you how to be a prof  
A real job seems a long way off  
Guess I'll send out a 100 CVs  
And say a prayer down on my knees  
Don't know if I got what it takes  
Just thinkin' 'bout it gives me the shakes  
What an uncertain world this can be

*Hey whaddya know, I've got some invites  
It's time to hit the road  
My Powerpoint's loaded and I've got a good  
story  
So why oh why are my feet gettin cold?*

My first interview was all lined up  
I showed up dozy with my coffee cup  
The Chair was talking, I said hardly a peep  
Because I soon was fast asleep  
My job talk saved me I have to say  
I got an offer the very next day  
What a wonderful world this can be

Don't know much about biology  
Don't know much enzymology  
They've got me teaching Intro Biochem  
Keepin' just one day ahead of them  
To give out As is a great temptation  
So I'll get a great evaluation  
What a wonderful prof I will be.

*How did I get on all these committees  
Does it ever end?  
Departmental meetings go on forever  
They'll keep on talking if there's an ear  
to bend.*

Got a grant on my very third try  
But my lab is empty, I wonder why  
Need some students who can start in the  
Fall  
But Trimble and Houry they get them all  
I got so panicked but I really fought it  
Tenure's great if you already got it  
What a stressful job this can be

Finally things are startin to click  
I got a postdoc, a student and tech  
We've even published a paper or two  
Just shows what great ideas will do  
I owe it all to my dedication  
And frequent use of some medication  
What a wonderful job this can be.

*You may be thinking why do we do it  
But this much is true  
When ideas are perkin' and experiments  
are workin'  
I can't think of anything I'd rather do*

If you want the freedom to learn and  
discover  
And travel the world from one end to  
the other  
I've got advice if you're willing to hear  
Takes some risks and have no fear  
The road is long with a lot of frustration  
But you'll look back with the realization  
What a wonderful world this can be  
**What a wonderful world this can be**