

Housewife's Alphabet – Peggy Seeger (1996)

A **is for** altar where we go astray
B for the **bills** that begin the next day
C for the **cuffs** and the **collars** of shirts
D is for **dishes** and **dusting** and **dirt**.

E is my **energy** draining away, and
F is for **floors** to be swept every day
G is for **girlhood** and **gawky** and **gaunt**, and
H – fed up **housewife** that's singing this song.



Wearily, it's merely a good woman's day - cooking and cleaning and tidying away.
If ever you finish, remember that when you wake up tomorrow, it all starts again!

I is for **ironing**, the kids in their teens
J is for **jerseys** and **jumper**s and **jeans**
K for the **kitchen**, for years upon end
I've lived with **leftovers** and **laundry** for friends.



M is my **mending** – there's **mile** upon **mile**
N for the **nappies** in a big stinking pile
O for the **odd jobs**, the **odd one** or two
Like **pushing** the **pram** or **unplugging** the loo.

Wearily, it's merely a good woman's day – cooking and cleaning and tidying away.
If ever you finish, remember that when you wake up tomorrow, it all starts again!

Q is for quarrelling of chicks in my nest
R is for **referee** and one minute **rest**
S for the **shopping** in snow, sleet or rain and
T for that **toilet** – it's stopped up again!



U is for **underwear**, grimy and soiled
V for those things that you peel, chop and boil
W for **woman** and **washing machine**
We both need attention – you know what I mean!

Wearily, it's merely a good woman's day – cooking and cleaning and tidying away.
If ever you finish, remember that when you wake up tomorrow, it all starts again!

We've got no union, it's 8 days a week
They're crammed into 7 – I'm out on my feet
So much to do – where should I begin?
But I got all my lifetime to finish it in!

W for **wings** – if I had them, I'd fly
X marks the spot where I sit down and cry

Y Z for “yours truly” - I've gone on too long
And so has the system and so has this song

Wearily, it's merely a good woman's day – cooking and cleaning and tidying away.
If ever you finish, remember that when you wake up tomorrow, it all starts again!

If this song was housework, you'd sing it and then
you'd go back where you started and sing it again
And again and again and again and again!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zNB8YCSTUPc>