

©1988 Stephen Savitzky. Some Rights Reserved<sup>1</sup>

If anyone is going to get into space, it will be people who like building complex, hairy systems for the sheer joy of it, and who aren't afraid to take some risks and *use* the stuff while they're building it. In other words...

C F C  
When you're building complex systems there are two ways to proceed;  
F C G7  
Take the safe and sane and cautious road, or go flat out for speed  
C F C  
If we leave it to the bureaucrats we'll never get to space;  
F C G7 C  
But turn some crazy hackers loose and see who wins the race.

C F  
Let the laser launch you skyward with a hypersonic yell  
C F G7  
And you're blasting into Heaven on a billion watts of Hell  
C F  
Let committees squawk of safety, let the politicians lie;  
G G6 C G C  
We're bound for Hackers' Heaven in the sky.

Ten-G cargo launchers never were designed to lift a man,  
But when you're in a hurry you'll grab any ride you can.  
Use a waterbed for padding, throw some algae in for air;  
It may not look like a spaceship, but just ask me if I care.

And when we reach high orbit, we'll hack around the clock  
With shuttle tanks and baling wire and melted lunar rock.  
It would take too long to balance, so to spin it we'll not try:  
Besides who wants to walk when we've already dared to fly?

So pack up all your memories, your programs and displays  
Leave the losers down on Earth to go their meek and cautious ways  
Let the politicians tell them to stay safely in their beds  
We'll be hacking out our dreams here in the sky above their heads.

*Coda:*

C G C  
...In the sky  
G G6 C G C  
We're bound for Hacker's Heaven in the sky.

---

<sup>1</sup>This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 4.0 License.  
HyperSpace Express from Steve Savitzky's songbook