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## Excerpt from *Vinegar And Spit* Rules Of The House

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If you're coming, bring  
your own fork and knife –

to tell the truth, I want a visitor  
like an abscessed tooth.

You were ugly when you were born  
and age hasn't fixed you. Kindly

leave the brats at your place  
with that baboon you married,

and when you walk through my door,  
don't talk: you're a fish-faced bore.

Should you wish to sleep,  
you will find the floor

as snug as a tomb, for  
the spare room is a swill of paper.

My own system suits me,

it wants no adjustment.

Please never forget  
how I was the one

who polished your bottom  
and persuaded that bum,

your father, to pay for your education,  
although I've regretted it since.

Finally, don't get too comfy,  
for you know how I think

that guests, like fish,  
after three days, stink.

Find out more at <http://www.ivybannister.com/>