

## Don't Be Irreverent.

*For Sky Gilbert*

Don't be irreverent.

Don't speak in the theatre and while you're at it  
keep your mouth shut on the street.

Don't fidget. Stop pinching your sister.

March beside or behind but never walk in front.  
Know your place or I will put you in it.

Clearly your father should have given you the strap.  
One day I will give you the strap but not how you like it.

Stop centering yourself. Stop speaking.

Know when to shut the fuck up. #stfu  
Don't dare start singing.

I am now the singer. I am now the song.  
Stop centering yourself.

Don't speak unless spoken to first. Stop it  
with your stories, there are no drag queens in outer space.

A funny thing did happen on the way to the drag bar though,  
but I don't want to talk about it  
and I don't want you to talk about it either.

Someone told me that you are a rock.  
You are not a rock. You are sand.

Don't "be,"  
Instead be me.

Or want to be me.  
To be clear you will never be me,  
but in this case desire is permissible.

Why did you think you had a right to speak?  
Your love of junk jewelry and cheap

Vodka can only take you so far.

I don't care what you say your spirit animal is.  
You are not a lion. You are not even a hyena.  
You are prey and your problems are ridiculous.

Your spirit animal is the chameleon.  
Blend in or go away.

Children should be seen and not heard.

You are my child. Sit still and be quiet.  
I don't care about your past.

You are not awake. You are asleep.  
Dream yourself into glass.