

Be a Could-Be

All of us have pondered – to varying degrees and instances – what life holds for us and what we might achieve. It's a natural part of the process of living.



Milton Berle (1908 – 2002) was an Emmy-winning American comedian and actor. As the manic host of NBC's *Texaco Star Theater* (1948 – 1955), he became in 1948 the first major star of U.S. television. As such, he was known as Uncle Miltie and Mr. Television to millions during TV's golden age.

One of his favorite, and often-used, poems, printed in *Milton Berle's Private Joke File*, published by Crown Trade Paperbacks, was this:

*I'd rather be a Could-Be
If I cannot be an Are;
Because a Could-Be is a May-Be
Who might be reaching for a star.
I'd rather be a Has-Been
Than a Might-Have-Been by far,
For a Might-Have-Been has never been
But a Has was once an Are!*

Now ponder that truth for a while.

– Beecher Hunter