**ANALOGY: Vicious cycles in families, life, traditions**

**“Merry Go 'Round”** by Kacey Musgraves

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If you ain't got two kids by 21,

You're probably gonna die alone

At least that's what tradition told you

And it don't matter if you don't believe,

Come Sunday morning you best be there

In the front row, like you're s'posed to

Same hurt in every heart

Same trailer, different park

Mamas hooked on Mary Kay

Brothers hooked on Mary Jane

And Daddies hooked on Mary two doors down

*Mary Mary quite contrary,*

*We get bored so we get married*

*And just like dust we settle in this town*

*On this broken merry go 'round and 'round and 'round we go,*

*Where it stops nobody knows,*

*And it ain't slowin' down, this merry go 'round*

We think the first time's good enough,  
So we hold on to high school love,  
Say we won't end up like our parents

Tiny little boxes in a row,  
Ain't what you want it's what you know,  
Just happy in the shoes you're wearin'

Same checks we're always cashin'  
To buy a little more distraction

Cause Mamas hooked on Mary Kay  
Brothers hooked on Mary Jane  
Daddies hooked on Mary two doors down

*Mary Mary quite contrary  
We get bored so we get married  
And just like dust we settle in this town  
On this broken merry go 'round and 'round and 'round we go  
Where we stop nobody knows  
And it ain't slowin' down, this merry go 'round*

*Mary Mary quite contrary  
We're so bored until we're buried  
And just like dust we settle in this town  
On this broken merry go 'round  
Merry go 'round*

Jack and Jill went up the hill,  
Jack burned out on booze and pills,  
And Mary had a little lamb,  
Mary just don't give a damn no more

* we become our parents who became their parents who….
* unquestioning acceptance of tradition (“The Lottery”)
* of course, like the ROLLER COASTER analogy, this one has many flaws, many differences between X&Y
* other cyclical things: depression, addiction, bad relationships, …