

State of Jefferson
(A. Hinkle)

White lines on the interstate at the age of seventeen
Under a winter sky the shade of grenadine
Well I never would have made it to the California line
Without an old freightliner driver and a cigarette that night

Maybe living free means that you're just wasting time
But you're never too old to get undone
My shoes shine on the dusty road to the State of Jefferson

Got my granddad's daddy's fiddle in the backseat with my bags
They say he quit the church to play them devil's rags
But he died of influenza back in 1921
And those old Dakota Indians took his sugar beets and run

Maybe living free means that you're just wasting time
But you're never too old to get undone
I'm getting high on the dusty road to the State of Jefferson

Heading down to meet a man I didn't love, that's true
In an old Oaktown apartment with a view
Well I never knew his name cause he used a pseudonym
And those Bay Bridge lights just kept me up wonderin where the cars fell in

Maybe living free means that you're just wasting time
But you're never too far from where you're from
I'm on fire on the dusty road to the State of Jefferson

Living is Easy
(A. Hinkle)

It was years ago when we sat there listening to your radio
holding hands and watching the river flow
hey
I was heading down, wanderin round a jewel I thought I'd found
and just as he was leaving town you came around

Living, living is easy with you on my mind
I can't touch you, but I can feel you
And if you' come home I could take you home
Take you home tonight

He's a one man band, holds a hammer in his hand
rollin in on a gypsy caravan
hey
Now we eat, sleep, and love on railway time
We got too much sugar for a nickel or a dime
Sweet muscadine

Living, living is easy with you on my mind
I can't touch you, but I can feel you
And if you'd come back I could take you home
Take you home tonight

Asheville Junction, Swannanoa Tunnel
It's all caved in, baby, it's all caved in
You can take this hammer and throw it in the river
It rings right on, baby it rings right on

Tractored over and sold down the river
It's all done gone, baby it's all done gone
You can take this engine and drive it in the river
It rolls right on, baby it rolls right on

Goin' Down
(A. Hinkle)

I'm going down
hey, hey boys I'm goin down
Way down deep under the ground
The sweetest sound, yes I do believe I've found
Under the ground
Hey, hey boys I'm goin down

I've been around
Way too long, I've been around
Round and round this mean old town
I'm heading out
Sweet transcontinental route
I've been around
Way too long, I've been around

That man I found
Don't you know that man I found
Gives me sugar and honey by the pound
Took me downtown
bought me a white wedding gown
That man I found

Gives me sugar and honey by the pound

I'll sing and shout
Good lord knows, I'll sing and shout
Won't be afraid to bend and bow
Cause I'm glorybound
I'm gonna wear the robe and crown
I'll sing and shout
Good lord knows I'm glorybound

What do you think of her now?

(W. Nelson/S. Claude)

I thought she was an angel I can still hear you say
Sweet things like her you just don't find every day
But now someone else has took her and she's broken every vow
What do you think of her now?

What do you think of her now that she's lied to you
Would you take her back again like you'd like to do
After all she'd done would you still love her anyhow
What do you think of her now?

You used to walk around and brag about the treasure you'd found
Are you bragging now that she is letting you down
He took her just you did and you're wondering how
What do you think of her now?

You said you'd always love her far better than the rest
Since she's left you brokenhearted, only second best
Now you know just how it feels when her love she won't allow
What do you think of her now?

Ravens and Crows

(A. Hinkle)

When I went to show my color
I carried a heavy load
And when I cried to my mother
She said it's all just ravens and crows
Baby, it's all just ravens and crows

When I saw that ringing hammer
Well it did not shine like gold
Whether it's coal, rock or steel it doesn't matter
It's all just ravens and crows

Hey, hey it's all just ravens and crows

Now the sands from the storms are uniting
At the angle of repose
Them boys put down their guns and quit fighting
Cause it's all just ravens and crows
Brother it's all just ravens and crows

It's a red, red wine in the pulpit
Corn whiskey when I'm low
Well it's just water when I'm hard up lord
And it's all just ravens and crows
Darlin' it's all just ravens and crows

Thunder
(G. Stiglets)

Listen up here boys it's gonna be hell to find a savior
When I've used up all the favors
That I had with my lord
Voices comin here will take me under
I know prayin used to help but Lord, God I'm starting to wonder
Who listens to distress in such a place as this
So good to see your face and realize
There's beauty while I'm here
And darkness seems to swallow me in it's gloom
I know something's gotta give soon
No light to see from a campfire or a warm room
Every night it's either cloudy or it's a new moon

I don't mean to wake you but I mean to tell you I am filled with worry
For these things it seems are coming for us
Hurry I'm restless
There's never been a time that I was just so young and carefree
Only distances and ignorance to bliss me
Sometimes I get so shaky I can't steady my own hand to sip the bottle
Slow my rapid age down for awhile
Well it's coming I just know it I'm afraid to show that I can't count the number
Each night it seems I'm shorter in my slumber
I can't rest my weary head for all the thunder

Go on stoke the fire gently wood so dry it burns so quickly
Sun heats the day as darkness fills the night
Worry woe and untold futures I can't pass them like I used to
Not when I was a younger man and full of fire
Youth led to love and then conviction

And just like Dad's prediction those shiny happy days have dwindled down
And now I'm trying to be of good cheer and thank the Lord for this year
So sorry that I woke you from your sleep dear
I just had to set things right and get my head clear

Ride
(G. Stiglets)

Wiser when I break and fall
Clearer than my true love's call
Faster than the whispering winds
Back on the road again
Tell me can you hear that train
Low and fast come through the plain
Mountain bound she shifts and goes
Where it's gone I'll never know
Take the first shift, I'll just ride
Down the weary mountainside

A city every now and then
Mostly just the lonesome wind
Far from where it was I came
Find me anew face and name
Too quick how the time has passed
Now we're home again at last
Pull the blankets over my head
And rest in my lover's bed
Take the first shift, I'll just ride
Cross the dreary mountainside

Are the arrangements made
Has the bar tab been paid
Let's not mince words here
Coulda used good news at first light

Skies are blue but light will fade
Seems as if you're mind is made
Come and settle up with me
But don't take it personally
These days I am barely here
A motor's hum is all I hear
Think of me when time affords
And ride on down the road some more
Take the first shift, I'll just ride
Ride across the borderline

Drifting on a Lonesome Sea
(A. Hinkle)

Baby I'm driftin, driftin on a lonesome sea
Baby I'm driftin, driftin on a lonesome sea
Sailed this wild world over
Ain't a soul as low as me

Baby I'm waiting, waiting for my ship to come in
Baby I'm waiting, waiting for my ship to come in
Wanna ride that tugboat, powered by a steam engine

Baby I'm sailin, where the sun falls in the sea
Baby I'm sailin, where the sun falls in the sea
Makes them waves a-shimmer but that sun will never shine on me

Baby I'm dreamin, dreamin of my fortune and fame
Baby I'm dreamin, dreamin of my fortune and fame
But when I'm a-wakin not a soul here knows me name

Baby I'm driftin, driftin on a lonesome sea

Better Left Unsaid
(G. Stiglets)

What was it you were gonna say to me
I might know, but I can't be sure
I've not yet looked in your eyes tonight
Bluest, blue eyes so pure
We haven't spoken for a minute or two
Uneasiness in your smile
What was it you were gonna say to me?
I might know, just wait a little while

What is it about dark lights and smoky haze
Did you bring me to hide from me dear?
Is there a woman in the night who waits for you?
Would you go to her leaving me here?
You long for another love tonight
Far from these glasses of beer
What was it you were gonna say to me?
I think I hear you loud and clear

Why go through all the think charades?
This makeup that covers the truth
Would you make me say first what the trouble is?

Your cold eyes are my only proof
The streetlights turn on as I'm leavin'
All alone I will wake in my bed
What was it you were gonna say to me
Maybe it's better left unsaid

\$40 Chain
(G. Stiglets)

Well I guess I'd like to know
Why you left me so discarded and lonesome
Feelin' blue all the time
You been running around me
Taking everything you see from hugs and kisses
To my last faded dime

Give me back my watch and my \$40 chain
Give me back my uncloudy day
I don't want to hear you talk
Take your things and walk on back to your home
I got nothing more to say

You forgot to tell me why
You turned your head and cried
And then run off with some other man
You don't have to tell me now
But I hope someday you'll find out how it feels
Tell me when you can

There some dark clouds hanging round
I see them this way bound
You'd better run home or it's gonna rain on your head
Get your new man to carry your load
But don't forget to give me back what's owed
You best remember what I said

Cannonball Blues
(Traditional)

Listen to that train comin' down the line
Tryin' to make up for all their lost time
Buffalo to Washington

I hear that whistle, I hear that fireman's call
Catch a train they call the Cannonball
Buffalo to Washington

My baby's left me, he even took my shoes
Enough to give a girl those doggone worried blues
He's gone, he's solid gone

Yonder comes that train, coming down the track
Carry me away but it ain't gonna carry me back
Honey babe, I'm leaving you

I'm goin up North, going up North this fall
If luck don't change I won't be back at all
Honey babe, my blue eyed babe

Listen to that train comin down the line
Tryin to make up for all their lost time
Buffalo to Washington