

Give Me Some Time

words & music by
John Dandrea © 1991

I mentioned before, that there are some songs that are really too personal, too difficult to write about. This is another one of those. There were two songs written almost back to back, this one and “Enough Time” and both were about similar subjects.

In the song “Give Me Some Time”, I had just returned from visiting Steve at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, following one of the numerous surgeries to try to repair the injuries to his back that was the result of a horrible accident during the Gulf War.

Titanium screws, plates, fused vertebrae, morphine and other pain killers that would eventually be one more of the obstacles that he would have to overcome on the road to recovering some semblance of a normal life – and this was only one more of a long series of major surgeries he would undergo; some to repair damage done by previous surgeries by less-than-qualified doctors. More than a decade would pass before my friend would ever know at least some degree of a normal lifestyle again. I won’t mention any more detail here; it would not be appropriate.

It was hard seeing him like that – and I think the song “Give Me Some Time” was an exchange between us, with no words consciously spelled out but I wrote what I knew he was feeling. There was more than one double-meaning contained in those lyrics.

*“within the sands of time you’re never alone”
(desert sands, like Iraq and the Gulf War)*

“you don’t know what you’ve got till it’s taken away”

Life wasn’t always good, nor kind, nor pleasant. The songs reflect the same – there are all sorts of ups and downs and questions asked, with no answer forthcoming. But we just keep on going – and hope for a brighter day tomorrow. That’s what faith is all about – trusting in what you can’t see.

~ John