

SCOTT NEWTON

THE WORDS

LYRICS OF THE MUSIC - 1977 TO 2014



The Words

Lyrics of the Music
1977 to 2014

By
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APEX Media Solutions, Inc.
USA

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To my family, my friends, and all
those with whom I have shared music.

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Preface

If I think back to my earliest memory of recorded music, I'd have to say it was *King of the Road*; Roger Miller's hit from 1965. Strange that it wasn't something from the Beatles. Nevertheless, I've always been aware that I was very drawn to music for some inexplicable reason.

Growing up in Southern California during the 1960s my first exposure to guitar was at our church in the city of Orange. One time a group of three or four young men sang and played guitars in the church's Youth Room prior to the main service. I was immediately captivated by this ultimately cool instrument. Having apparently convinced my parents that ultimate coolness was my calling, they soon acquired ukuleles for my brother and me by redeeming Blue Chip Stamps; an instrument that was not quite as cool but good enough for starters. Equipped with Mel Bay's *Fun with the Ukulele* as my guide, I was on my way. Not long after, I moved up to my first nylon string classical guitar and started picking out folk songs, including many tracks found on my brother's Peter, Paul and Mary albums. Six months of guitar lessons at Wynn's Music gave me a working knowledge of the basics before leaving California for Naperville, Illinois in February of 1973.

The first year in Illinois was rough. I had no friends, I had a strange California accent that was subject to ridicule by some of the kids at school, and I found the winter weather of the Midwest to be particularly unpleasant.

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The one saving grace that Illinois presented was the youth group at our new church. Music and singing was a big part of this group and as someone who played guitar, it was a good fit as it provided me with a musical outlet as well as a much needed social setting. Playing at church services was my first experience of performing in front of people. This was a fortunate environment for being introduced to performing as a church audience tends not to be a very tough room as far as hecklers go - at least that's how it was at our church.

By freshman year of high school, I met the kindred spirits of Mark Baier and Steve Wellman who would remain as longtime friends. Mark was a guitar player, and while Steve didn't play, he did write lyrics, and as an aspiring artist, he provided a great deal of creative input. While other kids were learning songs by Bad Company, BTO and Kiss, we began writing our own songs - producing such classics as *The Wino Blues* and *Elf Chant*. Later, we did our best to integrate the influences of The Rolling Stones, The Beatles, Jimi Hendrix, Pink Floyd, and The Who.

It was during this time that we started dabbling with recording. For the most part, we were limited to recording onto cassette tape with two microphones. However, Steve Wellman discovered that his older brother's cassette deck could be used for sound-on-sound overdubbing. This was a process where you could record on one tape deck, then send the line out from that deck to the line in of another tape deck and mix that signal with the input from the live microphones. This process created a lot of noise, but we had finally progressed to multi-track recording. I believe the only song of mine that remains which used this technique was the song *Tomorrow*.

In 1977, Mark and I had the opportunity to play at a school Cabaret event - our first live performance. With Mike Wright on electric piano and Steve Hanson on drums, we were to do a couple of our original "Jazz" songs as sanctioned by the program's music director. These two songs were entitled *Running* and *Twenty Times Before* which we strung together as a two song medley. And while the first started harmlessly enough, the second ended as more of a heavy Blues Rock thing with Mark playing a scorching solo. Needless to say, our "Jazz" songs ended up being a bit too loud for the music director. He was not pleased and I believe that we were subsequently banned from future events. Later on, Mark and I formed the Test Pilot band with singer Jeff Pezzati (Naked Raygun) and Steve Hanson. Covering music from Led Zeppelin, the Rolling Stones, Cheap Trick, and other current material, we played mostly for free at parties.

I learned a great deal about music from those influential years with Mark and Steve. Mark was a very natural guitar player and was quite accomplished even at that age, and Steve introduced me to an entirely new world of music that I may not have otherwise been exposed to.

During the final years of high school I spent many hours in my room writing and recording songs onto cassette tape. It was during this time I attempted the writing of a "Rock Opera" which I entitled *Eddie O'Neale*. The motivation for this project probably had something to do with my exposure to the Rock Operas of *Tommy* and *Quadrophenia* by The Who.

In 1979, Mark had left for school in Iowa, Steve had moved to Texas, and I left Naperville to attend college in Southern Michigan. My pursuit of an education was quickly sidelined by the call of being in a

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band. Initially working with Stan Erhart and Steve Brandwein, I was involved in the formation of the Eddie O'Neale band; the name taken from my "Rock Opera." Initially, we began working on a few of the songs from the *Eddie O'Neale* collection and it was very gratifying to hear them develop.

A variety of people were involved during the startup of the band, but eventually, we ended up with Steve Brandwein on Thunder Bass, Greg Errandi and Steve Haraburda on electric guitars, Stan on keyboards and woodwinds, Rick Kress on drums, and me on acoustic guitar and vocals. We rehearsed in the house that Stan lived in - a place aptly named "The Squalor."

An interesting note about Rick Kress; his father was Carl Kress. Carl was a fairly famous jazz guitarist in his day. In addition to this, he produced the 1946 original version of *The Christmas Song* by The King Cole Trio - not to be confused with the 1952 version that we hear every year during the holidays.

Eddie O'Neale played around the South Bend, Indiana area - often performing for Notre Dame students at clubs like Fat Wally's. We also made occasional appearances in the Chicago circuit including Point East and Night Gallery. We did get some airplay on a couple of college radio stations that appeared to be intrigued with the original material that was an eclectic blend of contemporary and progressive rock.

In December of 1980, we recorded about ten songs from our live set for use as a promotional tape. This session which took place at The Connection in Berrien Springs, Michigan lasted all night and turned

out to be our only recording session, although we did videotape one of our shows at Fat Wally's in 1981. The master tapes from this session were re-mastered in 1999.

We were completely impoverished during those years, but it was a highly entertaining and bizarre time. I don't know that I'd like to relive those days, but I'm glad I got to go through them.

After what we jokingly referred to as our World Tour (actually a very brief tour through Wisconsin and Minnesota which was actually quite miserable), Eddie O'Neale disbanded. After giving the band effort everything we had for what seemed like a long time, I think we'd all just had enough. Several of us returned to Chicago to regroup from the poverty and the thousands of pots of coffee we had endured during the previous two years. But the urge to get out there again soon returned.

By 1982, we decided to give it another try in the Chicago area. With ex-band mates, Steve Haraburda, Steve Brandwein, and Stan Erhart, we formed Lost Luggage with a new member, Dennis Manning on drums. Greg Errandi also took part as our sound engineer. Lost Luggage was very different from Eddie O'Neale. Instead of the originals and progressive stuff, we now focused on current dance music. It proved to be a more successful formula which was better suited for the club scene.

However, by late 1984, the combination of the late hours, personnel changes, full time jobs, and school led to the disbanding of the group. While playing in the clubs had its upside and could be a really great

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time, I think looking to it for the musical outlet I was trying to find was clearly becoming an effort in vain. So that was it for the days of the bands - at least for a while.

In the aftermath of the previous eight years of playing in bands, I had come to know very well that my musical path did not lie in the bar scene. At that time, home recording equipment was just becoming affordable. So I setup a semi-mobile home studio with a four-track TASCAM SyncCassette deck and began recording some original material - allowing me to explore a completely different style of music in which a dance beat was not an absolute requirement. I was enthused about getting back to some of the folk and acoustic influences from the early days.

While I recorded a number of songs during this period, I included eight of the more refined ones on my first official "release" entitled *Remnants*. These sessions often featured members from Lost Luggage. During this time, I started a video production company - spending my days producing industrial video programs for corporate clients. But after hours I also did a lot of recording, particularly with friends Mark Baier and Don Howel (Full Tilt). On many Friday nights, we'd get together with the sole purpose of writing and recording an entire song in one evening and came up with some pretty cool stuff. In all, I was really enjoying the process of producing music without any critical or commercial constraints and hassles.

After upgrading to a Fostex eight-track reel to reel deck, two other albums followed in the next five years - *Welcome to the DMZ* and *Chapter Four*. *Chapter Four* was written during a very turbulent time

for me, and with the turbulent times came a lot of writing - my way of sorting things out. Anyway, it was a highly prolific writing period for me. But in going through that project, I guess I had worked through my backlog of musical inspiration and following the completion of *Chapter Four*, it seemed as though my passion for creating music was just about all used up.

I didn't perform live again until an appearance at an "End of the 80s" New Years Eve event which featured a performance with old friends and past band mates from Eddie O'Neale and Lost Luggage as well as a set with long time friend Mark Baier. It was great fun. This performance was followed by a brief period when I worked on the formation of a band to perform some of my catalog of original material, but the chemistry in players was not there and the project was shelved.

During the period of 1991 to 1996, I wrote sporadically - mostly acoustic music - but didn't have the motivation to refine and produce anything. A lot of time was being spent working on my video production company that was now expanding to include audio, multimedia, print, and employees. I did keep somewhat involved with recording as my business had a recording studio - and we were doing quite a bit of production for jingles and commercial soundtrack work.

The musical cobwebs got a good shaking, however, in 1996. I attended a Chicago appearance of The Who performing *Quadrophenia* which is one of my favorite works of music. After all these years, The Who was awesome and inspiring. This event served

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as a catalyst for me to begin recording again. Using both my eight-track home studio and the studio at work, I began the process of recording the backlog of songs that had been written over the past few years. This collection entitled *Finding You* was completed in 1999.

In 2001, I performed live again for the first time in over ten years at a performance in Schaumburg, Illinois with my friend Mike Segreti, resurrecting some of the old tunes - many from the Lost Luggage days.

By this time, I had become equipped with two computer-based ProTools systems for recording - one which I had at work and the other at home. This technology was so refreshing as it allowed for high quality digital recording with up to 24 tracks. Starting in 2001, I began writing and recording the songs that would end up documenting my life as I passed through my 40s. This would finally be completed and compiled in 2013 for the album entitled *The Days Are Moving On*.

As for playing in bands, back in 2002, I was asked to play at an outdoor summer party. That had always been a great time for me, reminiscent of the early days when Mark and I would play with Test Pilot for free at large out-of-control kegger parties. So, I called Steve Haraburda, my friend John DeMarco (drums) and his brother Sam DeMarco (bass) to work up some songs.

The party was a lot of fun and it gave both me and Steve the itch to get playing again. By 2005, we had completed the groundwork of a festival friendly 70s cover band which we called Project 7X. Sam DeMarco joined us on bass, but it took some time to find a drummer.

Then one day, talking to my neighbor about our dilemma, he said, "I've got the perfect drummer for your project. I used to play with him in my first band in high school." This is how we met Vern Hammersmith.

By 2006, Project 7X was ready to perform and we would go on to play from time to time in clubs, fundraisers and community events. One time in 2008, we opened up for Savoy Brown - I suppose that, to date, this has been our closest brush to fame.

I have really enjoyed playing with the guys in Project 7X as they are all really good people, we all get along well, and they are all definitely professional level players.

Once Project 7X started to gain some momentum, I felt that we should do some recording for a demo. We then produced *Project 7X Volume One*, featuring eleven cover songs. Wanting to release these legitimately meant that we had to acquire mechanical licenses. This resulted in quite a bit of work and caused me to conclude that future recording should be limited, for the most part, to original material.

One interesting story I have about this project is how I obtained Bruce Springsteen's social security number. One of the songs we did was *Because the Night*, which was recorded by Patti Smith, but was written by Springsteen. Efforts to obtain a mechanical license to record and release the song eventually led me to the office of Springsteen's attorney. In response to my request, a license agreement was sent. And since we would be paying Bruce Springsteen a \$45 fee, the document supplied his social security number for tax reasons. I

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have no idea why they didn't supply some other form of tax ID number, but that's what I got - all the information needed for someone to apply for their very own Bruce Springsteen American Express card.

Another part of this story came about as I went to the post office with the package addressed to Bruce Springsteen. I had to send it certified, and I found it very entertaining when the clerk saw the name and asked me with a wide-eyed look, "Is this THE Bruce Springsteen?"

My one regret from the *Project 7X Volume One* CD is that we used sampled drums instead of recording live drums. But this would be corrected for our next project.

With the completion of our first CD, we wanted to begin work on the next one, ideally composed of original music. I was faced with the conceptual problem of how does a 70s cover band do original music. So, I came up with the concept of The Taglines. The story goes like this. The Taglines were supposed to be a band out of Minnesota in the mid-70s. They began producing their first album but in the process, two of the key members died. As a result, the music was never released but it found its way to the public through bootlegs. Our CD would be the faithful recreation of those lost Taglines songs.

The Taglines story was a hit with the other guys in the band. So in 2008, I wrote seven of the tracks for the CD, while Steve wrote the eighth. We really worked hard at the production and I spent countless hours mixing. We even had it professionally mastered and packaged. But it was worth it in the end as we were all very proud of the results.

And thanks to the distribution channel of CDBaby, *The Taglines* by Project 7X is available all over the internet.

We're now working on a follow up to this project, which we are referring to by its working title, *Taglines 2*. Greg Errandi has started playing with us as well and the added guitar and vocals is a huge plus. I had written the material and completed the demos between 2010 and 2011, and at the time of this writing, we are refining these songs in preparation for recording. Hopefully, this can be completed by early 2015. As for the lyrical content of *Taglines 2*, it turns out these songs serve as a snapshot of my life as I crossed the threshold of turning fifty.

It's strange to look back now at all of this material that covers nearly 40 years. Since I was around the age of sixteen, I have been driven by the need to express myself and document my observations in song and lyric. In fact, this has been my life's great passion, a pursuit that has brought me the most joy, entertainment, and satisfaction.

As I look at it now, so much of this material reads like the diary of my life; not always completely autobiographical, but rather stories and images that mirrored what I was experiencing.

I suppose someone who reads the text of my songs may perceive me to be a rather maudlin character. Trust me - over the years there have been many occurrences of someone telling me that my music is depressing. I think those who know me would vouch for the fact that I am not a depressing person and that I'm rather positive and upbeat. I suppose it comes down to this; my music was never really meant to fully encapsulate my world view. Instead, I think my music is an

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examination of that place that exists deep inside all of us - a place where dreams, memories, longing, and sorrow reside. For some reason, I have always used music to bring this place to the surface and give it some room to breathe. I think that maybe for me, this is a healthy and necessary outlet as opposed to leaving these issues buried underneath repression.

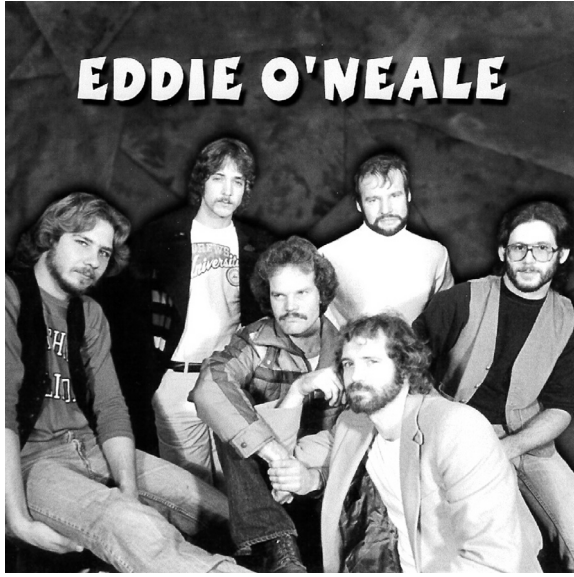
So here is the collection of my writings from the earliest endeavors to my most current work.

You will find a section at the end entitled The Inspiration. This text provides a brief description or my recollection about the origin of most of the songs. I have always found it interesting to hear the artist's motivation behind a certain work, and have included it for this reason.

Also accompanying this work is a DVD that contains MP3 audio files of all songs in my recording catalog. The lyrics in the remaining text will only apply to my original compositions, while the song files on the DVD will include everything I've produced, complete with my instrumentals, as well as songs written by others. A complete listing of this material is included in the final section of this book entitled The Complete Collection.

Like anyone else, I'm not sure how long the road will be on this journey of life and how much time I will have to continue creating music. But I do know that as long as I'm here, songs will be forming in my head and I will be inspired to document them in recorded sound. And hopefully, there will be many more songs and another volume of lyrics in twenty years. We'll see how that goes.

Eddie O'Neale (1978)



Eddie O'Neale was among my first serious song writing efforts; started sometime around 1977 and finished for the most part in 1978. My ambitious goal was to compose a rock opera, undoubtedly inspired by The Who's *Tommy* and *Quadrophenia*.

The main character Eddie is introduced in the first song as one of those two-dimensional popular kids in school who appear to have everything going for them. But despite the adoration of those around him, Eddie begins to feel the pangs of self doubt - questioning whether his popularity is of any actual value - suspecting it to be merely a veil that is inhibiting him from finding the reason for his existence. As he is driven to reject his reality, and ultimately sees the cost of his journey, he comes to learn the meaning of genuine loss.

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To be honest, I don't think this insight into the story of Eddie was my original perception at the time, but rather the late teen version of me sorting through my place in the world and trying to figure out a direction for my life.

These songs would later be refined in 1980 by the band in Michigan which we named Eddie O' Neale after the character from this collection.

The Neighbor Boy

Look at the neighbor boy Eddie O'Neale
He's got it all
Life for him's a ball
He's the guy of every of girl's dream
Drives a new car
Sure to go far

And he's in church singing every Sunday
His life's a game that he loves to play
It's seems to Eddie there isn't a hard way
It's all too strange that there is nothing bad to say

Look at the neighbor boy Eddie O'Neale
His girl's the best
He's envied by the rest
And he's a friend to everyone he knows
Nothing going wrong
Can it last for long?

And he's in church singing every Sunday
His life's a game that he loves to play
It's seems to Eddie there isn't a hard way
It's all too strange that there is nothing bad to say

Deep inside I'm crying
Can't you tell I'm dying?
Why can't you believe me?
Why can't I belong?

Look at the neighbor boy Eddie O'Neale
He's got it all
Life for him's a ball
Now they think that he's made out so well
But is it real?
For Eddie O'Neale

Breakaway

Goodbye my little girl I'm leaving you
But it ain't no choice of mine
Can't you see what I'm going through?
Looking for a life I'll never find

Trust me babe and let me go
Let me know you're still my friend
I loved you that's all you need to know
It's going to work out in the end

Don't you know I've sat and wondered
all about the looks I always get?
Don't you know I'm sick and tired of
falling short of goals I never set?

Now's the time to break away
And show their eyes the light of day
Now's the time to break away
And show their world
The other way
The light of day
Now's the time to breakaway
To breakaway

Babe I'm sorry if I made you cry
But I can't live in the past
Too many wasted years are slipping by
I need a life that's going to last

Don't you know I've had enough of
people making up my mind for me?
Now's the time to tell them where to go
it's finally my turn to get free

Now's the time to break away
And show their eyes the light of day
Now's the time to break away
And show their world
The other way
The light of day
Now's the time to breakaway
To breakaway

The Only Way

Well it used to be so different
Wasn't always so bad
I'm giving you all the credit
For driving me mad
Found out that I love you
But I hate you just the same
Cause you're the one that put this dissolution in my brain
I found out that you're the one to blame

Well I met you on a back road
In the old man's car
I don't remember nothing
But I know you took me far
Guess I'm never going to know
Just how you made me change
I only know that when I'm with you everything is strange
You're still the one to make me change

You're the thing that keeps me living
Yeah I need you everyday
With the power that you're giving
I found out that you're the only way

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Well I've overdone a good thing
Yeah I'm hooked on you for good
They warned me of addiction
But I never thought I would
I know I'm stuck forever
There's nothing I can say
Now I know that you're the only way
So much pain but you're the only
Found out that you're the only way

I Can Hear Here Singing

Something strange is coming over me
Like I've never known before
Such a life it shouldn't be
Thought I opened up the door

Now I know you took it all
Everything I had
But I dream a little more
And it's really not so bad

In the night you come to me
Like the midnight rain
In the visions teasing me
Calling out my name

Will the years take you away?
Will I ever find you gone?
Cause I can't hold out anymore
Do you have to lead me on?

And I can hear her singing
In the midnight rain
Soothe me like a wind song
Soothing all my pain

Go ahead and say what you're going to say
That I don't have the right to live in yesterday
Oh you know that's what she always said
Memories are only in your head

And I can hear her singing
In the midnight rain
Soothe me like a wind song
Soothing all my pain

And I don't believe you
Telling me that life is just a game
We're only players
Living day to day without a name

Something strange is flowing over me
Like I've never known before
Such a life it shouldn't be
Thought I opened up the door

Now I have to live for you
Everywhere I go
But I guess my life's in vain
Because you'll never know
I guess you'll never know

This Isn't The End

Sometimes I'm so afraid
I don't know how the world can hold on anymore
Wise men shake with fear
They say their hands are tied
It's never been this bad before

And the captives cry
The starving children left to die
You can't tell me know
This isn't the end

I lay awake in the dead of night
Praying to the Lord that soon I'll see the light
Where's it going to lead?
Will I live to see the day?
I need you now to come show the way

In everything I see
Seems that something's going to have to give away
You hear the rumors on the ten o'clock news
They're getting louder every day

And the captives cry
The starving children left to die
You can't tell me now
This isn't the end

I lay awake in the dead of night
Praying to the Lord that soon I'll see the light
Where's it going to lead?
Will I live to see the day?
I need you know to come show the way

Don't deny your fear
Take the time to hear
The end is near

Don't deny your fear
Take the time to hear
The end is near

Trapping in a dying land
Souls that hate the world but just can't turn away
You living in fear well midnight's almost here
Blinded children led astray

And the captives cry
The starving children left to die
You can't tell me now
This isn't the end

Tomorrow

Hey there you've gone and pushed me out again
Now I'm living day to day without a friend
My world always looking down on me
They aren't the people that they used to be

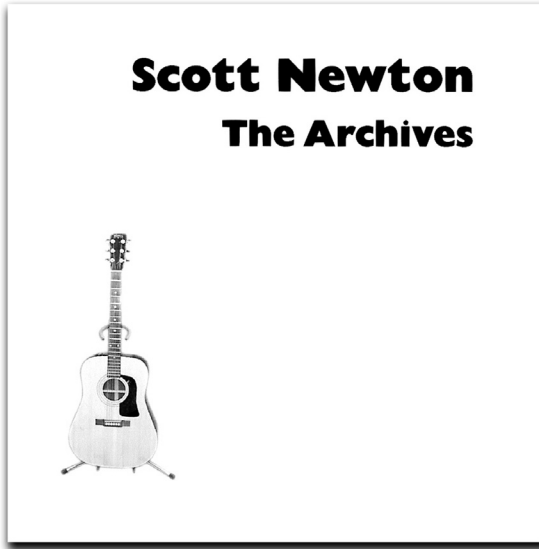
Hey girl why'd you leave me standing all alone
Don't you know you're all the love I've ever known?
I know I'll never hold you close again
This heart of mine you broke will never mend

It's so hard for me to say it
Hurts me deep inside to say it
I think its time I realized it
Tomorrow is the only thing I have
Tomorrow is the only thing I have

I know I'm always reaching out to you
I know that you don't care but what else can I do
Someday you'll need a friend to take your hand
Maybe then you'll finally understand

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The Archives (1977 to 1997)



During the period of 1977 to 1997, I did quite a lot of recording. This not only included my original material, but covers and songs written by a few friends. Wishing to neatly preserve this material, in 1999, I compiled it into a four CD set entitled *The Archives*.

Many of my original songs on *The Archives* were rough demos of material that didn't make it onto my other CDs, and the following lyrics are from my compositions found on that collection.

**The Archives - Volume 1
(1977 to 1981)**

Now That You're Gone

I never thought that I would see the day
That away from me you would turn away
Forgetting everything we ever had
The times we loved the happy and the sad

I never knew that I could feel such pain
And it hurts me more knowing I'm to blame
I'd give anything to hold you once again
Or even just to know you as a friend
But now you're gone

Now that you're gone how can I go on?
Knowing I lost the best thing I ever had
But even though you're far away
I think of you every day
And I know I'll always hope you'll think of me

I guess I'll always wonder what to do
Every time I realize I still love you
This heart of mine you broke will never mend
Oh girl I'll love you 'till the end
But still you're gone

Now that you're gone how can I go on?
Knowing I lost the best thing I'll ever have
But even though you're far away
I think of you every day
And I know I'll always hope you'll think of me

I pray one day that you'll come back to me

I'm Falling in Love With You

I know I could never find the words
To make you understand my crazy ways
The endless days I wait
But it's never really clear
Can you take the love I've got for you?
You made me new

With your smile I can make it through the day
Thinking of your eyes can fill me time
But you're not mine
So I wish I could hold you in my arms
Tell you everything I wish you'd see
How it could be

All along I knew that we were going to go different ways
But I'd gladly take the pain if you'd belong to me just one day
Cause I'm falling in love with you
Cause I'm falling in love with you

But why turn away
And leave a song unsung
Don't leave me here
With a melody undone

I know you've been hurt so many times
I had to watch you end up all alone
I've never known what to say
But I need to know you're there
Give me just one chance to make you see
The real me

All along I knew that we were going to go different ways
But I'd gladly take the pain if you'd belong to me just one day
Cause I'm falling in love with you
Cause I'm falling in love with you

Lost Inside of Me

Who am I to question you?
Who am I to say?
Who am I to ask you why?
When you've seen me turn away
But I'm lost inside of me

At times I think I'm losing
I just can't seem to find that open door
I lost my band I lost the only friends I had
Even you're not here anymore

It seems that I have almost gone and touched my dreams
But I know that I have only been deceived
I stripped my soul to godless drunken fools
Never once was I received
But I'm lost inside of me

So who am I to say a word
You're the happiness I never thought could be
So who am I to question you
When I'm lost inside of me

Why Aren't You Here With Me Tonight

Waking up in Champaign with my lady
A dying January left the morning all in white
I reached for you and there you were just sleeping like a child
Oh why aren't you here with me tonight

Much too soon I found the dream was ending
I couldn't find a smile as the train pulled out of sight
And I spent the rest of that day bleeding deep inside
Oh why aren't you here with me tonight

Every time I thought that life was going to smile on me
I closed me eyes and it just knocked me down
But little girl I swear to you it won't take you away
I couldn't live with losing what I've found

Empty days with no one really near me
A fading troubadour who left his soul beneath the lights
But you still listen faithfully that's all I'll ever need
Oh how I'm needing you tonight

So now as I sit here tired and lonely
I'm holding you and finding out this crazy world is right
Anyway I've got to say you've got what's mine to give
And oh how I long for you tonight

Every time I thought that life was going to smile on me
I closed me eyes and it just knocked me down
But little girl I swear to you it won't take you away
I couldn't live with losing what I've found

**The Archives - Volume 3
(1980 to 1986)**

The Cold October Rain

A cold October day
The summer's far away
And I hear the rain
But deep inside of me
Where only you can see
The days of August still remain

Now everywhere I go
I'm living because I know
I'm not on my own
Remembering your eyes
Above this hell I rise
Well there's something here that I will never know

Trapped in a world where I don't want to be
You'd almost think that time could show me how
I've struggled alone for so many years
You'd think that I could laugh at it by now

But I'm so alone
Most of me is three hundred miles away
And I'm so alone
And God only knows how badly I need you today

I hear the falling rain
As night descends again
And somehow nothing's right
A vision in my mind
You're with me all the time
But it's going to be cold tonight

Hey Little Girl

Hey little girl why are those tears falling down
Are you sad today?
Does it seem that there are clouds all around?

Hey little girl please give a smile to me now
Cause the light that shines from your eyes
Can chase the darkest clouds away

Hey little girl why are you feeling alone
Don't you know that I'm here?
Deep inside a love I've never known

Please little girl
Don't forget that I am here to stay
Cause I get my life from you
And you're all the life a man could ever need

Sometimes the night gets cold
But soon the sun will shine on you my love
Please don't ever doubt that very soon it's going to come

Hey little girl
Why are those tears falling down?
Are you sad today?
Does it seem that there are clouds all around?

Hey little girl
Please give a smile to me now
Cause the light that shines from your eyes
Can chase the darkest clouds away

Never Let Me Go

I don't sing many love songs anymore
It seems that all the love I gave's been thrown away
Childhood dreams that never came true
Promises of endless love that somehow couldn't stay

I haven't really known you very long
But lately when I smile it comes from deep inside
You see right through and touch the things I am
All the fear I've ever known
You ease the pain I've tried so hard to hide

Well in your eyes I see
Shelter from all life's brutality
Life can change I know
Hold me close and never let me go

I guess you know that I am so afraid
But then I guess that no one really wants to be alone
Feelings that I never thought could be
Are filling all the emptiness and touching me
In ways I've never known

So there you are with sorrow just like me
Yours is the face I never thought that I would see
Stay with me and let me keep you warm
Let me share the second chance at life you gave to me

Cause in your eyes I see
Shelter from all life's brutality
Life can change I know
So hold me close and never let me go

Mellow Guy

Some folks seem to live their lives never slowing down
Same old way every day running all over town
But as for me I'm as slow as can be
There ain't no ulcers ailing me
Cause I know I'm a mellow guy

People always say to me I live my whole life wrong
Fifteen hours of sleep each night and TV all day long
Well I've got goals that beat the best
Mine just happen to be rest
Well I know I'm a mellow guy

Don't you get me wrong a job would be OK
It's just taking a long long time for an easy one to come my way

But until then I won't have a care
I'll pass the time in the easy chair
Cause I know I'm a mellow guy

People always say to me I live my whole life wrong
Fifteen hours of sleep each night and TV all day long
Well I've got goals that beat the best
Mine just happen to be rest
Well I know I'm a mellow guy

Well I know I'm a mellow guy

Find Me Here

Find me here
Walking through the shadows of a time that never was
Find me here
Lost within confusion of a fear that had no cause

Find me here
Passion running wild
Lose or win you know it's all the same

Leave me here
Like a useless pawn
In this cruel and heartless game

Do Dreams Come True

I don't think I've ever seen it rain like it's raining today
I don't think I've ever seen it rain like it's raining today
You can always say that it won't last for long
Why is it then that I never find it gone?
How many times can I admit that I was wrong?
Oh can anybody tell me
Do dreams come true?

I don't think I'll ever find a love like the love I found with you
Now it seems that all I have are shattered empty memories of you
You can always say that they won't last for long
Why is it then that I never find them gone?
How many times can I admit that I was wrong?
Oh can anybody tell me
Do dreams come true?

I don't think I've ever seen it rain like it's raining today
Tell me have you ever seen it rain like it's raining today
You can always say that it won't last for long
Why is it then that I never find it gone?

How many times can I admit that I was wrong?
Oh can anybody tell me
Do dreams come true?

Treat Me Like a Stranger

You know it's kind of sad
But every time I turn around
I find out that everyone's gone
You know it's hard to say
I never saw it day to day
But someone now I just don't belong

And old friends treat me like a stranger
They seek the past with unfamiliar eyes
Their jumbled mixed up lives have led them far from mine
My sorrow becomes their disguise

I guess I've spent a life
Trying to live in yesterday
And holding tight to things that weren't mine
But when I run ahead
And dreams are inches out of reach
I fall at some uncrossable line

And old friends treat me like a stranger
They seek the past with unfamiliar eyes
Their jumbled mixed up lives have led them far from mine
My sorrow becomes their disguise

Through these aging eyes I see the world as a child
A subtle paradox of joy and pain
It hurts letting go when it's fading so slow
But I know I'll find the answer in the rain
I know I'll find the answer again

The Words

And old friends treat me like a stranger
They seek the past with unfamiliar eyes
Their jumbled mixed up lives have led them far from mine
My sorrow becomes their disguise

It Happens Every Time

I've got to try and keep my head
I just can't start feeling close to you
Cause every time I start to care
I'm thrown out like an old unwanted shoe
Well it happens every time
It happens every time

Maybe this time will be different
And you'll stick around
I hope you stay
You're the best thing that I've ever found
Don't leave me losing
I need you more than you know

You'll tell me I'm the only one
And you'll swear to never leave my side
But soon I'll find you gone
And I'll be sitting sad and lonely with no place to hide
Yeah it happens every time
It happens every time
Every time

The Archives Volume 4 (1984 to 1997)

I've Seen Your Face Before

You come to me in the pouring rain
You speak to me in the dark of night
Never here but never far away
Just a glance beyond my sight

Show your face in the shadows of day
Touch my sleeve when I'm alone
Taking those who have run out of time
Just to make your presence known

Cheating you and fleeing from you
Every step just leads me to you
The battles won won't matter anymore
Try to see what has to be
Still I know you're waiting for me
But I can say I've seen your face before

Don't You Know

You say that you don't understand me
Well I sure as hell can't see through you
Somehow the blindness doesn't matter anymore
The promises we made they still are true

It's funny how the world keeps on turning
How did it come to lead us here?
Now here I am and there you are without a word
Looking for the answers through your fear

The Words

But don't you know you still have me
When no one else is there to understand
To take your hand
So put away your rainy day
Cause you won't ever really be alone
On your own
Don't you know my heart's with you?
Deep inside you know I need you too

I know the days have left us far apart now
And common ground it's crumbling all the time
But there were days that we almost had it all
And those memories are yours as well as mine

So are there any words to say it better
Is there any need for words at all?
We'll walk away and we'll go our different ways
But if you ever need me you just call

But don't you know you still have me
When no one else is there to understand
To take your hand
So put away your rainy day
Cause you won't ever really be alone
On your own
Don't you know my heart's with you
Deep inside you know I need you too

I Don't Care

On and on the days go by
Much too slow to wonder why
The visions come like midnight rain
The light of day can not contain

But then I turn my eyes to you
A friend to tell my sorrow to

Cause in this haze I think you care
But then I see there's no one there

And oh there's so much inside that never finds a way
The shallow words that cut so deep
You never can repay

So please don't waste your time on me
Cause I don't care
Seen by only blinded eyes
A frozen glare
Show a little decency for life's futility
Cause I don't care

Songs of love and words of pain
And all the fears the days contain
So dim the light and close the door
I'm not the man you're looking for

But oh there's so much inside that never finds a way
The shallow words that cut so deep
You never can repay

So please don't waste your time on me
Cause I don't care
Seen by only blinded eyes
A frozen glare
Show a little decency for life's futility
Cause I don't care

Every Now and Then

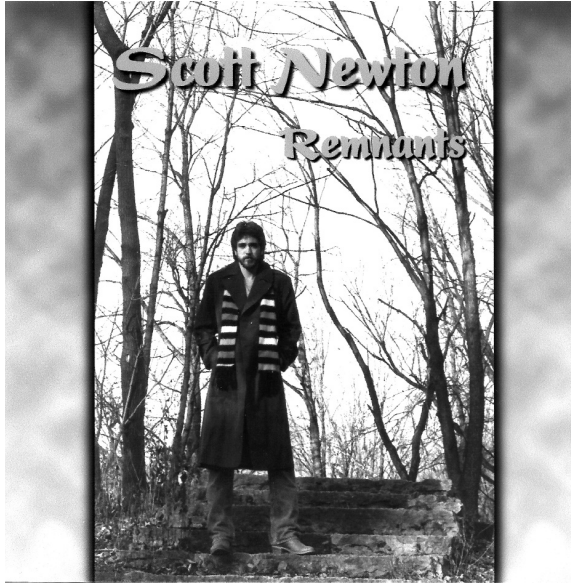
Sitting here alone tonight
My thoughts come round to you
And all the words I wish that I could say
So much here has changed for me
But still it's all the same
Guess that we've all got our dues to pay

Every now and then I dream of you
Back to all those days we struggled through
Unpaid debts and deep regrets
If you were here again
But I still miss you every now and then

Who's to say what's right or wrong
Or what is black and white
Sometimes love just cannot find a way
Oh so many battles lost
But many more were won
Is it just the truth that we betray?

Every now and then I dream of you
Scenes of real love coming into view
Somehow now I doubt it's ever really going to end
Cause I still miss you every now and then

Remnants (1985)



The years of playing in the clubs had left me with a strong desire to produce music that traded a dance beat for subtlety and introspection. However, turning away from the club scene led to a separation from both the dream of making music the focus of my life, as well as the people and places that it represented. It was as though I had entered into a self-imposed exile from what had once been extremely important. The musical passion was still strong, but the pursuit of that passion had ended - leaving me with the remnants of a time that I was moving past. This is the imagery from that time.

Can Anybody Hear Me

Every time I reach for you my hands are burned
Every time I run to you I fall
You can always tell me that you really need a friend
But you just want a servant you can call

I'm just a man
Do you think you'll ever see that I'm doing the best I can?
Is anybody hearing me?

First you make me think that you're my only friend
Then I feel I'm talking to a wall
Won't you tell me what it is you're wanting me to say
Tell me if you're listening at all

I'm just a man
Do you think you'll ever see that I'm doing the best I can?
Is anybody hearing me?

Can anybody hear me?
Can anybody hear me?
Don't deny the blame belongs to you
Can anybody hear me?
Is anybody hearing me?
Don't deny the dirt you drag me through

I run for years but never find my way
But you just glance and find the door
You might just think my life's a vain display
But how can I believe you anymore

Every time I reach for you my hands are burned
Every time I run to you I fall
Won't you tell me what it is you're wanting me to say?
Tell me if you're listening at all

I'm just a man
Do you think you'll ever see that I'm doing the best I can?
Is anybody hearing me?

Can anybody hear me?
Can anybody hear me?
Don't deny the blame belongs to you
Can anybody hear me?
Is anybody hearing me?
Don't deny the dirt you drag me through

Remnants

Everyday the sun still finds the morning
I'm still here believing worn-out lies
Even though a song can still remind me
I don't think I'll ever know just why

Stare and tell me every mountain crumbles
But you don't know that real love never dies
Even though I'll swear to no remission now
I don't think I'll ever know just why

Once you were here - once you were here
But there are only remnants now
Once you were here - so very near
Can't we find a way somehow
Once you were here - once you were here
But there are only remnants now

Days of blind ambition just behind me
Everything I am I must deny
Even though I'm always going to need you
I don't think I'll ever know just why

The Words

Warm nights - bright lights
How was I to have known?
Fading - trading
Sinking just like a stone

Maybe it's unfair for me to blame you
Maybe it's a crime to justify
Even though I was the one to leave you
I don't think I'll ever know just why

Once you were here - once you were here
But there are only remnants now
Once you were here - so very near
Can't we find a way somehow
Once you were here - once you were here
But there are only remnants now

The Reason

Spend your nights just trying to find a reason
Cause your days are only there to earn you gold
You say you meet immortal expectation
But the righteousness you boast has left you cold

You traveled far from land that once was sacred
Believing every step was justified
But sometimes in the early morning hours
You find your dreams have stripped you of your pride

Every time I see your eyes
I feel the cost of my demise
And oh, can I end it time?
You forget the fear again
Of battles that you always win
But oh, can I ever win mine?
Is there time

Searching everywhere to find an answer
When the question that impels was never known
So standing on the edge of light and darkness
This nether land is yours to walk alone

As Love Goes By

What's the fear that keeps you running?
Well maybe you don't even know
Faded image of the nighttime
Memories you bring from long ago

Everyday I fight my battles
All my courage spent on getting through
Then you say you need a hero
A perfect man to fight for you

But you wonder why
You watch love die
Plead and cry
As love goes by

Can you tell me what is love for?
Can you tell me why I'm holding on?
Endless hours - vicious fighting
Living hell - you swear that nothing's wrong

Maybe I'm a foolish dreamer
But I thought that love would satisfy
Now I don't know where I'm going
As I'm watching love go by

But you wonder why
You watch love die
Plead and cry
As love goes by

Cold and Gray

Cold and gray
The snowy winter morning comes again
Like so many times before
With a tear
She wakes to find the joy was just a dream
That she can't feel anymore

Busy morning hours
Serving food to strangers
But they hardly even notice that she's there
But a reminiscent smile
Can make believe she's still Homecoming Queen
Eyes of envy everywhere

Remember a time of the white lace and rhyme
Oh to find it now's to live in yesterday
Remember a day of a princess in May
When the sky was bright and clouds were far away
But now it's cold and gray

Evening comes
Darkness makes her think about the laughter
And the friends she used to know
Twenty-eight years old
High school friends have long since moved away
Most were married long ago

Still the late-late show
Reminds her of the day the guy she loved
Left to fight a worthless war
So in her empty bed
She cries into a faded panda bear
Wondering who her tears are for

Remember a time of the white lace and rhyme
Oh to find it now's to live in yesterday

Remember a day of a princess in May
When the sky was bright and clouds were far away
But now it's cold and gray

I'm Still Looking for You

Endless nights I spend alone
All that I can do is dream of you
Sometimes you feel so close
I can't help but think you feel me too

I look for you in crowded bars
Pay an hour's wages at the door
Try to drown the emptiness
Try to tell myself there must be more

I thought I'd found you girl
So many times before
But blind illusion ends in shattered pieces on the floor
Don't know just how
I'm going to take it anymore
But I'm still looking for you

I walk the streets to look for you
Frightened by the odds I can't deny
I'm still going to wait for you
I just hope that some day you go by

I thought I'd found you girl
So many times before
But blind illusion ends in shattered pieces on the floor
Don't know just how
I'm going to take it anymore
But I'm still looking for you

The Prison of Long Ago

You tell me I'm a fool
Because I'm holding on to a dream that died
The vision fades and every smile is gone
Oh the summer's far away
Can't you leave me with my pride?
My face is looking older
The nights are getting colder

And you might say I'm a lucky man
But I don't know - I don't know
Are riches lost like riches gained when none can be found?
Is a man ever free from the prison of long ago?

You in your ivory tower walls
Oh you're blinded from the fear that I know you hide
You'd swear to me the past has never been
But you're living there still
With your lies denied
My face is looking older
The nights are getting colder

And you might say I'm a lucky man
But I don't know - I don't know
Are riches lost like riches gained when none can be found?
Is a man ever free from the prison of long ago?

Now you might say I'm justified
And I can't say you're wrong
Can blatant lies ever satisfy?
When the truth just can't belong

And you might say I'm a lucky man
But I don't know - I don't know
Are riches lost like riches gained when none can be found?
Is a man ever free from the prison of long ago?

Welcome to the DMZ (1987)



After the *Remnants* project I was anxious to explore other musical avenues and production techniques. Equipped with some new 8 track gear, this effort resulted in the *DMZ* project. Conceptually, this collection is about the process of growing up - moving past the innocence of the early days and entering the potentially dangerous realm of adulthood where the results of your actions are what eventually define your existence.

In the original artwork, the following words were offered as a preface.

The Words

Once there was a time
A time of distant vision
Hopes and dreams of better days
The genesis of errant ways

But then across a void unseen
A quest beyond a mortal's reach
Glance behind as bridges burn
A path that offers no return

Slowly fear and passion fade
Through purging flames a strength remains
Knowing where you now must be
Welcome to the DMZ

Give Me Yesterday

People say that you are doing well
But where I stand I could never tell
All I hear is vanity
Just another forgery
I say...give me yesterday

Just a fool with nothing much to say
You point and laugh at any other way
Tell me what my thoughts should be
Join up with your travesty
I say...give me yesterday

Give me yesterday
No one told me what to say
Give me yesterday
Better times are thrown away
Give me yesterday
Give me yesterday

Where'd you get the right for judging me
I only put down what I see
Maybe it's not time to dance
Or get inside some woman's pants
I say...give me yesterday

So go ahead enjoy your pedestal
Tomorrow you'll be called a dated fool
Turn around and find it gone
Your fads can never last for long
I say...give me yesterday

Give me yesterday
No one told me what to say
Give me yesterday
Better times are thrown away
Give me yesterday - Give me yesterday

Deny the Blame

Day becomes the nightmare
Dreams become the day
Every move is scrutinized
With rules that I just can't obey
I say good-bye to innocence
And curse the cold winter rain
You turn my hope to sorrow
When all my toil ends in vain

How can you punish anyone
When you don't even know their name?
When will this madness ever end?
How long can you deny the blame?

Sit among your riches
Within your mansion so fine
Pity all the paupers
But just can't spare them a dime
You're calling them unworthy
Of the aid from a self-made man
You let them die like criminals
The pardon in your hand

How can you sentence anyone
When you don't even know their name?
When will this madness ever end?
How long can you deny the blame?

Send the world your terror
Ignoring their right to live
How can you deny them
The peace that you want them to give
So cling to your values
Follow your God above
Close enough for hatred
But not close enough for love

How can you hate another man
When you don't even know his name?
When will this madness ever end?
How long can you deny the blame?

Day becomes the nightmare
Dreams become the day

If You Were Here

Days gone by
Visions of a younger time
Childhood dreams I lost along the way

Memories of you
They somehow seem so vital now
How I wish that you were here today

Cause when I'm all alone
And no one's here to take my hand
I know I could be strong
If you were here

I can still recall
Final words - a kiss good-bye
How we swore we'd keep in touch somehow

But here I am today
I seldom even hear your name
God I wish that you could hear me now

Cause when I'm all alone
And no one's here to take my hand
I know I could be strong
If you were here

The Only Game in Town

Find yourself in shadows
Find yourself in fear
Find yourself outnumbered
And pray that shelter's near
Listen to the thunder
And watch the rain fall down
But still you play
The only game in town

Listen to your anger
Turning into rage
See your shroud of values
Growing thin with age
Leagues of hungry jackals
Knock you to the ground
But still you play
The only game in town

Beg for isolation
They give you center stage
Wanting only freedom
They lead you to a cage
Plead your case for going
When you don't have to stay
You swear to leave
But just can't turn away

Find yourself surrounded
Find yourself alone
Reaching for the surface
But sinking like a stone
Knowing there's an answer
If you'd just turn around
But still you play
The only game in town
Still you play the only game in town

Letters From A Friend

How are you is life okay?
Thought I'd drop a line today
And let you know that I was doing fine
Well nothing ever changes here
Just minutes fading into years
Life it's getting harder to define
All this time and you're still on my mind

At times I think of yesterday
A note that said you couldn't stay
A promise that I'd always have a friend
But those were words from long ago
It's funny how they fade so slow
But still I write you every now and then
Leaving out the words I'd like to send

And when you get my letters
Can't you see that I'm still holding on?
Don't they let you know I love you still?
Someday I hope you read the love between the lines
But somehow I doubt you ever will
To you they're only letters from a friend

When you called me several months ago
And talked about a guy you know
You said that you still need my point of view
Well you don't sound lonely anymore
It seems like what you've waited for
But just don't take for granted what you've found
Love can take so long to come around

And I got your card at Christmas time
I drank a toast to auld lang syne
And all the dreams you say are coming true

The Words

But dreams are sometimes hard to find
And I'm still reaching out for mine
Waiting's all I ever seem to do
Wondering if they came and went with you

And when you get my letters
Can't you see that I'm still holding on?
Don't they let you know I love you still?
Someday I hope you read the love between the lines
But somehow I doubt you ever will
To you they're only letters from a friend

Well I guess that's all I've got to say
I wish that I could find a way
To write the words that made you understand
So promise that you'll write to me
I wonder if you'll ever see
I'm living just to hear from you again
Waiting for the letters from a friend

And when you get my letters
Can't you see that I'm still holding on?
Don't they let you know I love you still?
Someday I hope you read the love between the lines
But somehow I doubt you ever will
To you they're only letters from a friend

Underground

Morning's born a fiery blaze
The flames consume the sky
Safe within the bliss of age
You dare to wonder why
Love and laughter pass the time
Between unknowing stares
Unaware that one day you might see a prison there

Slowly shadows fade away
You wonder where they've gone
Step outside the walls of fear
And swear that you belong
Every rumor was untrue
And promises were lies
How could you have been so blind
To miss it in their eyes

Underground - I know they're lying
Underground - Just look I'm flying
Underground - There ain't no walls around - Underground

Down a road of endless days
With nowhere else to go
Every time you try to love
You feel your hatred grow
Foolish pride - ambition dies
To leave an empty shell
Every moment spent on finding
Someway out of hell

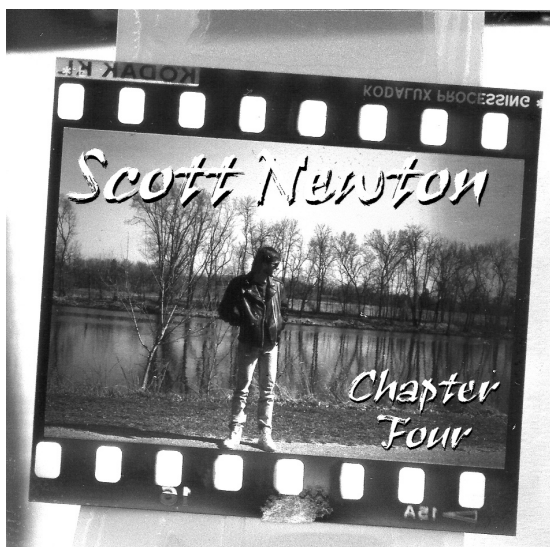
Underground - There's no denying
Underground - These tears I'm crying
Underground - There's no one else around - Underground

The Words

Morning dies a fiery blaze
A lifetime on the wing
Driven old by fear and pain
That didn't change a thing
Stand alone as shadows grow
And day begins again
Safe within the vision of the day it all began

Underground - I know they're lying
Underground - But look I'm flying
Underground - There's no one else around - Underground

Chapter Four (1990)



The music of *Chapter Four* was inspired mainly by the end of a relationship - a time which was the most difficult that I had known up to that point. I had survived the demise of relationships before, but none came close to this one. It is this experience and the events of this time that I wrote about in the *Chapter Four* collection.

As for the title - *Chapter Four* - my life at this point could be segmented into four distinct chapters. First, there was my childhood in California. Second, there were the early years in Illinois. Third, there was the time of my high school years. And the fourth chapter was my young adult life - and this was the chapter that I saw ending - both the relationship and the events that served as its backdrop.

The Walls of Isolation

Sorry but I really need to leave here alone
Guess it really wasn't meant to be
Girl I can't deny that you're the best I've ever found
But there's a part of me you'll never see

I know I said you'd be the only one
And deep inside that love will never die
But somewhere life just led us different ways
And you couldn't take the road I had to try

Here inside the walls of isolation
Fearfully devoid of expectation
Not a hope in sight for liberation
Here inside the walls of isolation

Listen to me friend of mine
I'm cutting the ties
There's just no common ground here anymore
You take from me until there's nothing left to give
And all my words of sorrow you ignore

I wish I knew if you were really hearing me
Or do my words just bring you down
Well either way I guess there's not much more to say
Cause isolation's all around

Welcome to the walls of isolation
No more looks of cruel intolerance
Choking on emotional starvation
Here inside the walls of isolation
Welcome to the walls of isolation
Fearfully devoid of expectation
Not a hope in sight for liberation
Welcome to the walls of isolation

Here inside the walls of isolation
No more looks of cruel intoleration
Choking on emotional starvation
Welcome to the walls of isolation

A Weekend Without You

Waking up on Saturday morning
A chill coming through the door
I open my eyes thinking you'll be there
But I keep forgetting you're not here anymore

I stumble downstairs for some coffee
I used to find a cup poured for me
I'd take mine with cream and your sleepy smile
Now I take it with a memory

Call me sentimental - a fool for hanging on
I know that broken hearts are nothing new
I was never crazy 'bout this empty room
But it seems so vacant now
On a weekend without you

I spend a couple hours with the paper
Then I'm paging through some old magazine
I think I'll watch a film - turn the cable on
But there's nothing on that I haven't seen

How about a drive down Main Street?
There used to be a lot down there to do
The stores and cafes - but I'll just go by
Cause every place reminds me of you

The Words

Call me sentimental - a fool for hanging on
I know that broken hearts are nothing new
I was never crazy 'bout this empty room
But it seems so vacant now
On a weekend without you

Well here it is on Saturday evening
My keyboard and a bottle of wine
I'll pour me a glass and I'll make a toast
To you and a happier time

Call me sentimental - a fool for hanging on
Broken hearts are really nothing new
I was never crazy 'bout this empty room
But it seems so vacant now
On a weekend without you

Just Let Me Love You

Solitary majesty
There behind your dignity
A touch away but distant like the sky
Beauty from a fantasy
Cast a glance of charity
Just turn around and let me catch your eye
You've never given me a sign
Could you take a hand like mine?
Girl I've got the love you're looking for

Just let me love you - Just let me love you
Won't you let me be the only one that you're ever going to need?
Just let me love you - Just let me love you
Won't you let me show you just how real love can be?

Don't you see me standing here?
Wishing I could make it clear
And tell you all the things I want to say

But you don't even bat an eye
Staring down as you go by
Tell me lies but just don't walk away
You've never given me a sign
Could you take a hand like mine?
Girl I've got the love you're looking for

Just let me love you - Just let me love you
Won't you let me be the only one that you're every going to need?
Just let me love you - Just let me love you
Won't you let me show you just how real love can be?
Here with me

What Could I Say

You turned around to me
And told me it was meant to be
And all of your love was mine for free
So lost in apathy
A touch was needed desperately
Cast out with broken love's debris

So afraid of love complete
The passion ran so bittersweet
I almost thought the past could be diffused
But still the morning came around
With me still laying on the ground
The voices inside were not refused

What could I say
When there's nothing here to send your way?
And how could you ask me to pretend?
What could I say
When you said your love was thrown away?
Somehow I just knew it had to end

The Words

I couldn't give you guarantees
There's so much here that no one sees
Suffocated by unspoken rules
But when I showed my heart to you
You only said it's nothing new
And holding on is just a game for fools

What could I say
When there's nothing here to send your way?
And how could you ask me to pretend?
What could I say
When you said your love was thrown away?
Somehow I just knew it had to end

The Words I Couldn't Say

I wish that I could somehow find a way
To travel back in time to a younger day
Back to better times for me and you
To summer days when dreams were coming true
Holding you tight on a warm moonlit night
The world will never feel that safe again

All those winter nights
I held you 'till the dawn
Praying that I'd never find you gone
Looking in your eyes
I found a shelter from the rain
But now they're only showing me your pain
No one was wrong but those days are gone
And I just couldn't find the strength for holding on

But I'll always hold you tightly in my dreams
And never let those days fade away
And a part of me will always be alone
A space I'll never fill - grieving still
For the words I couldn't say

There are so many things
I doubt I'll ever see
And who can really know what's meant to be
Frozen by the fear of what we might become
But now I fear how much I'll pay for what I've done
But I won't forget the empty regret
When I wonder if we could have found a way

But I'll always hold you tightly in my dreams
And never let those days fade away
And a part of me will always be alone
A space I'll never fill - grieving still
For the words I couldn't say

The Shadows

There you go again
Walking on the edge of falling
Just this side of ending on the ground
Just one step away
But distances - they're all you're seeing
No-man's land - it's all you've ever found

Walking through the night
Haunted by your share of demons
Any weakness they'd all love to know
They call you friend today
But don't forget to watch your shoulder
Looking for the dagger they may throw

So don't walk near the shadows on that side of town
Don't say yes to anyone if lying brings you down
Don't walk near the shadows on that side of town
Don't believe in anyone cause danger's all around

The Words

Look into my eyes
And tell me if you really trust me
Tell me if you think I'm trusting you
Should I believe you're blind?
Should I believe you've never seen it?
Telling me my words are so untrue

Sit back for a while
And look at all the paranoia
Look at all the pain that people breed
Holding your hand
Don't you know it's just a well planned image?
They'll let go when they get what they need

So don't walk near the shadows on that side of town
Don't say yes to anyone if lying brings you down
Don't walk near the shadows on that side of town
Don't believe in anyone cause danger's all around

Is It Ever Going To End

Sometimes you're here
But then you walk away
Sent away by blind denial
Then you're a dream
Only real in vision
Just the memory of your smile

Well here I am and there you are
And in between are only shadows
Tell me what to do to feel alive again
And tell me now - is it ever going to end

All through the day
In the deepest night
Haunted by things that couldn't be

So much inside
That time won't take away
Where ever I run you're still with me

And I wish I knew
How to let you go
Why do those days keep holding on?
And so here we are
Too far apart for reasons
But I'll never think of you as gone

Well here I am and there you are
And in between are only shadows
Tell me what to do to feel alive again
And tell me now - is it ever going to end

Telling You Goodbye

So long ago
The days of you and me
A vision so real
For eyes too young to see
The innocence I'll never know again
A place in time I never thought would end

But time comes and goes
The morning fades into the day
Left in the dream
As I watched you walk away
But I knew the fire for you would always burn
Cause I always thought that one day you'd return

But the flame died today
Like I feared one day it might
The news of wedding bells
And you all dressed in white

The Words

Now I've seen that image in a fantasy
But I always saw you standing there with me

Now I know that you'll never hear this song
And I guess I finally know you're really gone
All those dreams - well today I watched them die
Cause I know it's time for telling you good-bye

There were so many times
That I looked up to the sky
And I whispered your name
But I never knew just why
All the lonely days the memories got me through
All those nights I spent by the phone thinking of you
Oh God somehow I wish you knew
Now there's nothing for me to do

There's nothing left to say
And there's nothing left to find
But I wish I had the chance
Just to hold you one more time
Now I hear your empty days are finally done
But I fear that mine have only just begun

Now I know that you'll never hear this song
And I guess I finally know you're really gone
All those dreams - well today I watched them die
Cause I know it's time for telling you good-bye

It's Just a Moment

Look at me standing here
Watching the world around me
So many answers that I just can't find
Looking for friendly faces
The love I once could count on
All of the moments that I left behind

Driven by fear unfounded
Cursed pride unspoken
When will the shadows ever fade away?
Reaching for satisfaction
No one understanding
All of the words I know I just can't say

But I've seen the world turn
And time goes by somehow
The darkness won't last for long
You'd think I'd know by now

Each memory
All you see
Well it's just a moment
And they always seem to fade away
Some into day
Some to gray
But it's just a moment
Tomorrow it's just yesterday

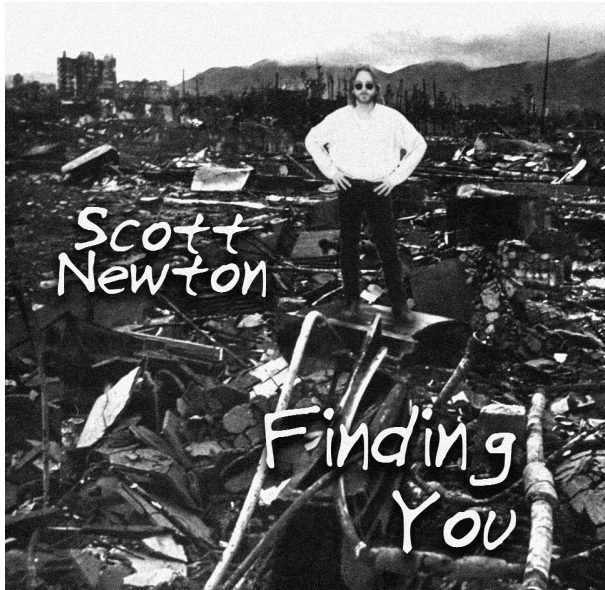
So here with the dark around me
Smiles are just a memory
Tired of the battle that I just can't win
Then I'll turn around to face it
And see it's finally over
Only an image that had never been

The Words

But I've seen the world turn
And time goes by somehow
The darkness won't last for long
You'd think I'd know by now

Each memory
All you see
Well it's just a moment
And they always seem to fade away
Some into day
Some to gray
But it's just a moment
Tomorrow it's just yesterday

Finding You (1999)



I spent a great deal of time single and alone in my early thirties. During this period, many of the songs that came to me dealt with reflecting on my relationships of the past as well as contemplating the prospect of finding one that would last.

The songs from *Finding You* came very slowly - almost eight years elapsed before they were completed.

In the original CD artwork, I wrote the following text that sought to explain the connective theme.

The Words

A great deal of creative effort has been dedicated to the subject of love. From the lofty heights of Shakespeare, to the concupiscent depths of the Starland Vocal Band, the topic has proven itself as a timeless focus of the human experience.

I have to wonder - is there a shred of truth in the prospect that there is one soul mate for whom we are to be connected? Is this an image that can face reality's light of day, or is it merely the shadow of fantasy? Countless evenings spent staring up into the night sky can only complicate the issue. Is it merely the games of a lonely heart that allow us to sense a person we cannot see, a voice we cannot hear, while the images of their face and the echoes of their voice are burned into our souls as if they had become one with our most secret thoughts? And despite our most earnest prayers to touch what we suspect is real, they are answered with only silence; while we know full well the petition was heard.

This collection deals mainly with the pursuit of discerning between reality and fantasy - and coming to grips with the conclusion.

I See Her Face

It's funny how this life can be
Playing tricks on me
I don't know what's real
But every time I close my eyes
Oh I can't deny
What I think I feel

And I see a face I've never seen
The woman from my deepest dream
The end to all this damn despair
Well is she really there

I've been searching for so long
For a love so strong
That I just can't find
Is this just a dream I see
Just a fantasy
I should leave behind

Is she just an image in my mind?
Can my vision be so blind?
I fear that waiting may be wrong
But I'm still holding on

Cause I see her face
It sets me free
And every time I close my eyes
I see her next to me
And I see her face
In all that I feel
Am I just a fool to think that
 maybe there's a chance that she is real?

The Words

Now I wonder if I'll ever know
Can I ever let it go?
Holding on for one more day
There's got to be a way

Cause I see her face
It sets me free
And every time I close my eyes
I see her next to me
And I see her face
In all that I feel
Am I just a fool to think that
 maybe there's a chance that she is real?

Finding You

I still hear your voice in the rain
Sometimes the wind still calls your name
I still lay awake at night
And pray the dream comes true
This faded dream of somehow finding you

I feel your smile within the rising sun
It makes me wish the lonely days were done
But I only find another day
To fearfully pursue
This faded dream of somehow finding you

I try so hard to let it go
But you're always on my mind
Oh girl I need to find you soon
Cause I fear that I am running out of time
For finding you

So I watch another day come and go
Without the love I fear I'll never know
But holding tightly to a dream
Is all that I can do
This faded dream of somehow finding you

I try so hard to let it go
But you're always on my mind
Oh girl I need to find you soon
Cause I fear that I am running out of time
For finding you

Borrowed Time

Lord I've got a woman
She's oh so pure and fine
Her eyes they fill my longing
But I can't make up my mind

She says she wants a family
And I say I don't know
Cause some day I'll be leaving
And I'll have to let her go

Tonight I'm holding on so tight
Fearful of the morning light
Waiting for some hope in sight
But all that I can see is that I'm

Living on borrowed time
I'm living on borrowed time
My life's no longer mine
Cause I'm living on borrowed time

I try to pay the taxman
But there's nothing left to give

The Words

And every dollar's spoken for
Paying debt's the only reason that I live
So I have another camel
Pour another glass of wine
This uphill road I'm traveling on
Well it only seems to lead to my decline

Tonight I'm holding on so tight
Fearful of the morning light
Waiting for some hope in sight
But all that I can see is that I'm

Living on borrowed time
I'm living on borrowed time
My life's no longer mine
Cause I'm living on borrowed time

You struggle with the burdens
Yeah you carry them alone
They love to watch you lose your way
When the blame is all your own

Tonight I'm holding on so tight
Fearful of the morning light
Waiting for some hope in sight
But all that I can see is that I'm

Living on borrowed time
I'm living on borrowed time
Just waiting to cross the line
Cause I'm living on borrowed time

I Can't Find Love

I've got answers to all the questions
Even though I know the answers may be wrong
I've looked for sunshine when it's raining
Even though I know it's hours 'till the dawn
I can find a cause for living
When I'm barely holding on
I can face the lonely nights
But I can't find love

I can wear a smile on the outside
When the emptiness inside is cold and grey
I can say 'well there's tomorrow'
When I fear it's going to be like yesterday
I can say I've got my freedom
When I've had to learn it's got a price to pay
I can wait for one more day
But I can't find love

I can't find love
Oh I've waited here so long
But still it never comes my way
I can't find love
Oh there's so much I could give
If only it would come and stay
But I can't find love

Well I've seen my share of good times
But I'm haunted by the empty days I've known
I can find someone to hold me
But I've had to spend the hardest nights alone
Well the hope still keeps me going
When it's sinking like a stone
Now I watch the days go by
But I can't find love

The Words

I can't find love
Oh I've waited here so long
But still it never comes my way
I can't find love
Oh there's so much I could give
If only it would come and stay
But I can't find love

One More Yesterday

Can you recall those younger days
And all the reckless hell we raised
And all the times that we were running blind
Nothing slowed us down for long
We laughed all night and drank 'till dawn
Talking 'bout the dreams we knew we'd find

Do you recall those times my friend
We thought the fun would never end
Living life so young and worry free
There you were so proud and tall
It seemed to me you had it all
A future that I wished was there for me

But there was always one more day
Life was just a game to play
And time was something you could just ignore

Now you're taking all the dreams you had
And watching them go by
Don't you see you're washing them away?
Just stay numb and pass the time
Until tomorrow comes
But all you'll get is one more yesterday

I still recall the time by friend
I saw the parties had to end
Trading in those days for something more
With a drink still in your hand
You try for all the laughs you can
But no one is laughing anymore

And now you sit alone at night
Staring off into the light
Of reruns on a financed TV screen
Empty yet another glass
And try to drown the emptiness
Until the day just fades into a dream

And there was always one more day
Life was just a game to play
But time is something you just can't ignore

Now you're taking all the dreams you had
And watching them go by
Don't you see you're washing them away?
Just stay numb and pass the time
Until tomorrow comes
But all you'll get is one more yesterday

Too Far Apart

Here I am - a lonely man
Reaching out to life the best that I can
Holding you - afraid that it's wrong
But you're casting light on darkness that I've lived with so long

I dream about the first time we met
But there's so much that came before that I can't forget
So there you are - the hope that I see
But I fear the life I'm looking for can no longer be

Well I don't believe in fairy tales
I've seen true love and I know it fails
How I wish that I could give my heart
But we're just too far apart

When I look in your eyes
The pain that I see makes me wish that we'd met years ago
When our souls were free
But girl we've been alone too long
The walls that divide us now
I fear they're too strong

Well I don't believe in fairy tales
I've seen true love and I know it fails
How I wish that I could give my heart
But we're just too far apart

So I have to walk away
And leave you behind
Searching for a dream I doubt
That I'll ever find
But hold me close and whisper my name
Let me keep this memory of how close I came

Now I don't believe in fairy tales
I've seen true love and I know it fails
How I wish that I could give my heart
But we're just too far apart

My Julie Marie

I jumped awake at four AM
Awoken from a dream
Images of holding you
As real as they could seem
Pacing 'cross the kitchen
I tried to clear my mind
Clouded with the memories
Of you and younger times
Those simple days of summer
Those days of you and me
Well I'm still thinking 'bout you
My Julie Marie

I don't know what I was thinking
But I felt I had to call
I tried some old phone numbers
But I had no luck at all
And I called information
From New York to LA
Wondering if I'd find you
And what on earth I'd say
I finally found you in Aspen
Would you still remember me
And are you still the same
My Julie Marie

The Words

You answered on the second ring
I said surprise it's me
You paused for just one moment
For times that used to be
You asked how I was doing
And how I tracked you down
You said it's been a long time
And talked about the life that you had found
You told me of the good times
But you spoke reluctantly
It was good to hear your voice
My Julie Marie

We spoke of times so long ago that now are like a dream
The unseen road from then to now
And all the life in between
But now you sound so different
Kind of sad and alone
It seems the girl that I once knew
Got lost along the road that you have known

Then you said that you were glad that I had called you
Said to look you up if I was out your way
But girl that could never happen
The past is where you've got to stay
And as the conversation ended
I knew I'd never hear your voice again
The hardest part of living life
Is finding out that things will always end
Then and there I let you go
I guess I'm finally free
But a place inside will miss you
My Julie Marie
And I know I won't forget you
My Julie Marie

A Ray of Light

I've seen a bit of life
In the years that I've been around
It's strange to see how empty it can be
And the path that I have led
Has left me standing here
Wondering if there'll be someone for me

The road I'm traveling on
At times it seems to lead
Further from the vision I pursue
But I wake up everyday
Praying for a sign
That a faded dream of love can still come true

Well tonight I looked into your eyes
Beneath a moonlit sky
And felt the empty days just fade away
After all these years of searching
To finally touch a dream
That the endless nights will soon be yesterdays
Well tonight I thought I saw a ray of light

I can see it when you smile
The years that came before
Have left a hint of sadness in your eyes
So I ask you from my heart
To somehow let me in
And together chase the shadows from our lives

Well tonight I looked into your eyes
Beneath a moonlit sky
And felt the empty days just fade away
After all these years of searching
To finally touch a dream
That the endless nights will soon be yesterdays
Well tonight I thought I saw a ray of light

The Days of You and Me

I'm sitting here alone tonight
It's just these walls and me
But the echoes of the past are ringing clear
So I pull out that dusty box
Of words and memories
To find your faded photograph
To see the girl that I still wish was here

Hell I know it's been so long
It's almost like a dream
But we had a love that few will ever find
So even now I grieve for things
That time just washed away
Cause my heart and soul are still with you
Locked inside the days we left behind

So tonight I'll toast your photograph until it's just a blur
But I'll still feel the memory of the way that we once were
And I know it's time to let you go but I still clearly see
The love I knew in the days of you and me

Well I still feel you holding me
On a starlit autumn night
And I still see your tender loving eyes
But the times we had just haunt me now
Like a poison in my soul
Cause I let real love slip away
And now I fear that real love never dies

So tonight I'll toast your photograph until it's just a blur
But I'll still feel the memory of the way that we once were
And I know it's time to let you go but I still clearly see
The love I knew in the days of you and me

It's All The Same

Two AM - it's far away
People praying for the day
Fear and anger all around
No one's really saying why
I don't see cause enough to die
But that won't stop the death from falling down

Well I just turn the volume down
And say ain't that a shame
The blame's not mine and friend I'm not divine
To me it's all the same

Tell me that the money's gone
The end will come before too long
Where am I supposed to run?
Trash and smoke destroy the land
But power's got the winning hand
Don't you see there's nothing to be done?

Well I just turn the volume down
And say ain't that a shame
The blame's not mine and friend I'm not divine
To me it's all the same

Look at all the poverty
And all the futile waste I see
If only there was something I could do
But I'm just trying to stay alive
Barely able to survive
Clinging to the things I know are true

Well I just turn the volume down
And say ain't that a shame
The blame's not mine and friend I'm not divine
To me it's all the same

I've Got You

I sit here thinking about this crazy world
At times it makes no sense at all
Life can be cold when the winds of change are blowing
All of the fear - you don't know where it's going

Well I admit at times it gets me down
It leaves me empty now and then
Oh, but when I'm tired and just about to give in
You come around and show me it's worth living

Well I've got you to show me there's a reason
You're always there with a smile to help me through
And anytime it seems the world is winning
I know that I will get by cause I've got you

I know that there have been times we weren't so close
And we don't always see eye to eye
But when things are bad and the nights are getting too long
You're still the one that I can always count on

Well I've got you to show me there's a reason
You're always there with a smile to help me through
And anytime it seems the world is winning
I know that I will get by cause I've got you

I guess that what I'm really trying to say
Is just how much you mean to me
Always a friend - the one I always turn to
I just don't know where I'd be without you

And I've got you to show me there's a reason
You're always there with a smile to help me through
And anytime it seems the world is winning
I know that I will get by cause I've got you

The Days Are Moving On (2000 to 2010)



One of the most profound events of my life took place at thirty-eight when my father died. At the end of his illness, aware that his time was running out, he commented to me about how fast his life had gone by. These words have always stuck with me.

From this experience, I became keenly aware of my own mortality. Up to this point, the end of my life seemed like an event of the distant future. But having had death strike so close changed all of that.

I worked on these songs for quite a few years. I was sidetracked, however, during this period as I had begun working with Project 7X; completing two CDs. Nevertheless, these songs finally made their way off of the backburner and I completed the production in 2013.

The Words

Looking back now, this work documents the transition of my life as I moved through my forties. And as this time came to pass, I think I started to feel that I had finally arrived at the point of genuine adulthood. It's strange that this realization would come simultaneously with an awareness that the road behind me was getting pretty long while the road ahead was growing short. Maybe this dual epiphany is a crossroads that we all must pass as we trade youth for the wisdom of age.

The Days Are Moving On

They had my first birthday back in '61
Beneath a California sun
The world was safe and there was nothing wrong
But the days moved on

Then I flew to Chicago back in '72
And there was nothing I could do
When I found the childhood times were gone
Cause the days moved on

Time goes by the faces change
And I'm still standing here
Waiting for tomorrow when the past is ringing clear
Now I'd like to think the best in me is somewhere down the road
But the road ahead is not so very long
And the days are moving on

Well I met a girl back in '81
She stole my heart Lord we had some fun
But a flame that bright couldn't burn for long
And the days moved on

Then I had a dream back in '93
To be much more than I should hope to be
But the vision ended like another song
And the days moved on

No more living in yesterday
Another place another time
No more watching the setting sun
Fearing that the light is mine

Then I lost my Dad back in '98
I prayed for time but it couldn't wait
I held on tight with a grip so strong
But the days moved on

The Words

So I'm standing here with my memories
The hopes and grief that no one sees
But you know the past just can't belong
Cause the days moved on

Time goes by the faces change
And I'm still standing here
Waiting for tomorrow when the past is ringing clear
Now I'd like to think the best in me is somewhere down the road
But the road ahead is not so very long
And the days are moving on

A Fair Deal

You go downtown to see the girl
The girl that's always there
You turn to her when you are down
And need someone to care

But when you think you've found a love
She'll go and break your heart
Then you're back where you began
Your dreams all torn apart

But wouldn't you call that a fair deal
There wasn't a doubt in my mind
All the days lost to moving on
No they'll never be left behind

You go downtown to see the man
He tells you what it means
He can get you what you need
A poison bag of dreams

But you won't know you sold your soul
For something so unreal

But then you call from deep inside
And hear how lost you feel

Why does the good have to go bad
Teasing my dreams driving me mad
Why does the right have to go wrong
Why is there an end to every song

So with the joy you get the pain
And nothing's going to last
But there's an image in your heart
That's locked inside the past

But wouldn't you call that a fair deal
There wasn't a doubt in my mind
All the days lost to moving on
No they'll never be left behind

Let It Go

Justify the words that lay there burning
Find a way to somehow make it through
Reaching out to touch the satisfaction
Don't you see it's waiting there for you?

Don't believe the doubt and fear that's calling
Listen to the voices in the wind
This is all the life that you've been given
Let it go and watch it all begin

Let it go
Make it so
Let it go
Make it so
Let it go

It Doesn't Matter Anymore

I've seen enough of the shadows
And remnants fade away
The reason just eluded me
And the image couldn't stay
Well the walls just kind of crumbled
When I finally said goodbye

And I'm free now
The sorrow's gone
I know there's something better
Free now
The road was long
But I know it doesn't matter anymore

I guess nobody heard me
We were just too far apart
I thought I saw a ray of light
But I could not give my heart
I guess I'll never find you
Cause I'm out of borrowed time

But I'm free now
The sorrow's gone
I know there's something better
Free now
The road was long
But I know it doesn't matter anymore

A Low Rez World

You look around and all you see
Is a brutal fucked up world
That just shouldn't have to be
Too many struggles too much pain
Taunted by the sorrow
That the days of life contain

You look for answers that aren't there
You long to turn away
Pretending you don't care
But in your dreams you fear it's real
But where's the sense denying
All the promise that you feel

When you're lost without direction
And you cannot make connection
And you only find rejection
On the path you have to choose
When you love without reflection
And your faith is no protection
Well you're looking for perfection
In a Low Rez World - A Low Rez World

Just keep holding on
Life is what you make it
Just keep standing strong
There's still time to change it

You find confusion's always near
Well that's OK cause life
Is seldom ever clear
Just find a way to make it through
And soon the end will have to show itself to you

The Words

When you're lost without direction
And you cannot make connection
And you only find rejection
On the path you have to choose
When you love without reflection
And your faith is no protection
Well you're looking for perfection
In a Low Rez World - A Low Rez World

Here I Am

I think about those younger days
And all that's come before
I always thought I'd find my way
And get to something more
But here I am

You can walk a thousand miles
And still be where you are
You can dream a thousand dreams
And only get so far
Away from home

I think about the road ahead
And just how far I've come
Will I have the time to do
The things I haven't done
But here I am

You can run ten thousand miles
And still be where you are
Fight it till your dying day
And never get too far
Away from home

You can search your whole life through
And still be who you are

Every step just leads you back
You'll never travel far
Away from home

You can run ten thousand miles
And still be where you are
You can dream ten thousand dreams
And never get too far
Away from home
And here I am

The Other Side

I know that it's been years now
But it feels like yesterday
You were here beside me
Then I watched you slip away
The hardest part's been living with
The love that never died
But I know that I'll be seeing you again
On the other side

I wake up every morning
And I stumble through my day
But all those precious times we had
Well they're never far away
And every wish that you were here
Can only be denied
But I know that I'll be seeing you again
On the other side

Beyond the reach of all my understanding
Out there past the walls that have no end
I know that one day we will be together
I know that I will touch your face again

The Words

I know that time is fleeting
And the end will lead somewhere
But I'll fear that door a little less
Cause I know I'll find you there
Until that day I'll carry
All the memories as my guide
Cause I know that I'll be seeing you again
On the other side

Here and Now

Find me here with a memory ringing clear - all I can hear
Looking back at the shadows that I used to hold so near
Time reveals the folly of the unrequited dreams
And night is never the danger that it seems

Trading you for a wisdom purged in flame - can you remain
Touching all of the places where I cannot place the blame
Shouldering the burden doesn't matter anymore
Cause I'm walking through that one last open door

Life is only here and now - it's never going to change
Funny how I always really knew
Demons nipping at your heels - but they can never win
Now that the days are growing few
And you see - it's here and now

See the day as it slow slips away - go as it may
All the empty illusions down and dying where they lay
Leading me to a destiny that I can not deny
Finding truth and never asking why

Life is only here and now - it's never going to change
Funny how I always really knew
Demons nipping at your heels - but they can never win
Now that the days are growing few
And you see - it's here and now

White Trash Girl

Well she don't wear Victoria's Secret
She wears Wal-Mart underwear
She smokes Marlboro menthol
Got one stuck behind her ear
She likes the sound of Mollie Hatchet
While she's pounding down a beer

She drives an old camaro
Got a tattoo on her thigh
She talks just like a trucker Lord
With a wild look in her eye
She don't take no crap from no one
And you'd better not ask why

Cause she's my white trash girl
Yeah she's my white trash girl
Well she ain't too fine
But she's my dirty little white trash girl

Well she's into professional wrestling
She's a fan of NASCAR too
Got a thing for shots of tequila
But there's nothing I can do

Cause she's my white trash girl
Yeah she's my white trash girl
Well she ain't too fine
But she's my dirty little white trash girl

She's appeared on Jerry Springer
With her entire family
Got a temper when she's drinking
And it comes so naturally
But she's the trailer queen of lovin'
And that's all that I can see

The Words

Cause she's my white trash girl
Yeah she's my white trash girl
Well she ain't too fine
But she's my dirty little white trash girl

Brothers, Here Today

So much lost that sad September day
The wasted lives and innocence
So quickly swept away
At the hands of madness
Too dark to understand
As the shadows spread in terror
To stain the Promised Land

Then I'm walking through the streets
With grief and fear
Reasons for this painful tragedy are nowhere near
But in every stranger's face I see
A sorrow that we share
And I start to see it shining through
I see it everywhere

We're not strangers anymore
No we're brothers here today
Bonded by the freedom
And the flag that we both wave
There might be differences between us
But I don't see them anymore
All that I can see is that we're
Brothers, here today

Yesterday there wasn't much to say
I could walk right by you without a glance your way
But we're somehow now united
In a cause that's all our own
And despite the fear and uncertainty
We do not stand alone

We're not strangers anymore
No we're brothers here today
Bonded by the freedom
And the flag that we both wave
There might be differences between us
But I don't see them anymore
All that I can see is that we're
Brothers, here today

There might be a thing or two
That we forgot along the way
But in the face of night
We're going to stand as one
Till we see the light of day

We're not strangers anymore
No we're brothers here today
Bonded by the freedom
And the flag that we both wave
There might be differences between us
But I don't see them anymore
All that I can see is that we're
Brothers, here today

Someday

(For Nick)

You'll see a world where pain is far too real
And desperation isn't hard to feel
But I dream about a day that's going to come
A dream of better days for everyone

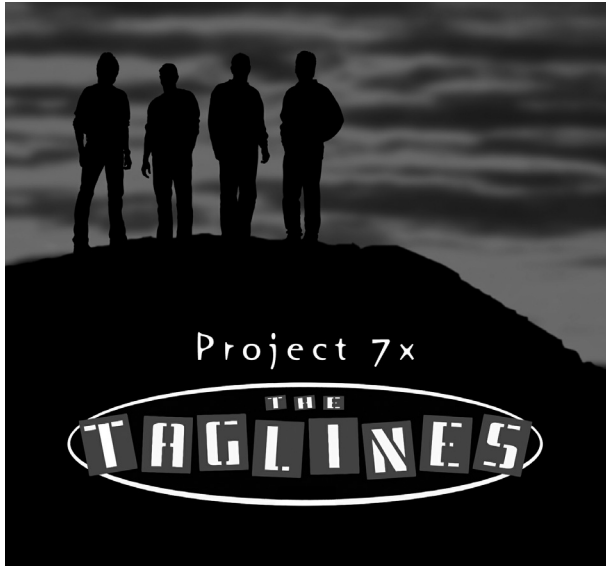
And I know we're going to make it there someday
Well it might not be tomorrow but I know we're on our way
And I know we're going to make it there someday
Someday

You'll find a life where hope is so unsure
At times you'll doubt your spirit can endure
But you've got to wait it out for one more day
Cause the promises are going to find a way

I know this dream has spanned the generations
But I swear we're getting closer all the time
Just wait a little more
I know we'll find the door
And all the fear and doubt will be no more

And I know we're going to make it there someday
Well it might not be tomorrow but I know we're on our way
And I know we're going to make it there someday
Someday

The Taglines (2011)



This material was written for the second CD release of Project 7X. Of all my material, this is probably the most non-biographical in nature, and lyrically, this was a very tricky collection of songs to write. The reason for this stems from the overall concept.

The concept of the album was that these were the long lost songs of a 70s band whose fledgling career was cut short due to the untimely death of two key members. So, in an effort to keep it real in the face of the intentional ruse, I wanted the songs, as well as the whole project, to contain clues that the band was not real.

The Words

For this reason, I came up with the idea of having all of the first letters of all the sequential song titles spell out a message. In the end, this hidden message revealed THE BAND IS NOT REAL YOU FOUND IT OUT. So I proceeded to come up with eight song titles that constrained to this criterion - definitely a tough way of writing songs. Typically, I come up with a song's title after the song is complete. Doing this in reverse forced me to write lyrics that matched the title.

So this was the first time that I had overlooked personal expression and observations; focusing solely on the creation of catchy pop oriented lyrics.

Time Holds Every Bitter Answer

Step up to the table
And just take a look around
There's nothing here that's guaranteed
You might get lucky
Then again you might just fail
But in the end you might get what you need
Well there just ain't no other way to find what's going to be
So wait around and you are going to see - that

Time holds every bitter answer
And every answer you are going to find
Time holds every bitter answer
And every answer's waiting there in time

You wonder if it's really fate
You wonder if it's real
Could there be a future set in stone
Is it just an accident
And are you in control
And are the choices up to you alone
Well there just ain't no other way to know what has to be
You give it time and you are going to see - that

Time holds every bitter answer
And every answer you are going to find
Time holds every bitter answer
And every answer's waiting there in time

That's just the way it goes
You gotta understand
You hold on tight and in the end
You find that it just slipped on through your hand

Well there just ain't no other way to find what's going to be
So wait around and you are going to see - that

The Words

Time holds every bitter answer
Just give it time and you are going to see
Yeah time holds every bitter answer
Just wait it out for how it's going to be

Nothing On The Road

Well I'm driving south of Fargo
Out on Highway 29
Speeding through the darkness
To erase you from my mind
Now there's nothing where I came from
Is there something else to find?

Well I'm running
But you're still so close behind
And I'm watching for a sign
But there's nothing on the road

I make my way to Tulsa
And I still see your eyes
I can feel your lips upon me
But I still hear your lies
Well how can so much beauty
Only be a thin disguise

Well I'm running
But you're still so close behind
And I'm searching for a sign
But there's nothing on the road

Well I hit the shore at Galveston
And the road came to an end
But all the pain was waiting there
Like an unforgiven friend
So I'll choke down all the broken dreams
And I'll hit the road again

Cause I'm running
And you're still so close behind
And I'll be watching for a sign

Yeah I'm running
But you're still so close behind
And I'm praying for a sign
But there's nothing on the road

Erase A Love

Well girl this heart's been kicked around a time or two
But there were days that I knew loving before you

It's true sometimes I see her there
Dancing through my dreams
But I'm not going to lie to you
There's more here than it seems, tell me

How do you erase a love?
Is that what you're asking
How do you erase a love?
That was everlasting

I just can't quite deny the memory
Please don't go ahead and ask me now
How do you erase a love?

I know you think that I've been holding on too long
The images of days before are way too strong

It's not like I don't love you girl
It's not like I don't care
Can't you understand the past
Is somehow always there?
Tell me

The Words

How do you erase a love?
Is that what you're asking
How do you erase a love?
That was everlasting

I just can't quite deny the memory
Please don't go ahead and ask me now
How do you erase a love?

It's true sometimes I wonder if she ever thinks of me
But you're the one that's with me now
I wish that you could see, tell me

How do you erase a love?
Is that what you're asking
How do you erase a love?
That was everlasting

I just can't quite deny the memory
Please don't go ahead and ask me now
How do you erase a love?
How do you erase a love?

You Only Understand

Clinging tight to your possessions
And your life that's oh so grand
But the misty haze of plenty that you think will never end
Will blind you to it slipping through your hand

Well you only understand when it's raining
And you only understand in the bitter light of day
And you'll wonder if there might be an answer
As you watch it slip away

Way too proud for all the things that you've been given
You somehow start to think you earned it all
As you proudly point out everyone that's so much less than you
Well don't you be surprised when Karma comes to call

Well you only understand when it's raining
And you only understand in the bitter light of day
And you'll wonder if there might be an answer
As you watch it slip away

So go ahead and watch the world slowly turning
So damn sure you know what's going to be
But the battles and the changes that can take it all away
They're the one's your pride will never let you see

Well you only understand when it's raining
And you only understand in the bitter light of day
And you'll wonder if there might be an answer

Well you only understand when it's raining
And you only understand in the bitter light of day
And you'll wonder if there might be a reason
As you watch it slip away

For One Unending Night

Oh what I wouldn't give
For one unending night
No one in the world
Only you and me

Such a beauty I can see her standing next to me
Just within my reach but far away as she can be
The kind of girl that lights the world with sunshine everywhere
I don't think I've ever seen another to compare
I'm just another guy
Wishing that you'll somehow see me

Oh what I wouldn't give
For one unending night
No one in the world
Only you and me
And if I had the chance
For one unending night
All the love I have for you
Would set us free

I wonder if you know that you're my only fantasy
Can I ever show you just how real it could be
But I fear that all I'll ever be is just some kind of friend
And If that's all I'll ever be I'm happy to pretend
Cause, I'm just another guy
Hoping that one day you'll see me

I'm just another guy
Wishing that you'll somehow see me

Oh what I wouldn't give
For one unending night
No one in the world
Only you and me

And if I had the chance
For one unending night
All the love I have for you
Would set us free
Set us free

Do I Think

Little girl you're standing there
I can't believe my eyes
All the light surrounding you
Like some kind of sunrise

I've been waiting all my life
Waiting just to find you
Now I'm just an empty man
Touch me if you dare to

Do I think that you should hold me?
Do I think that you control me?
Yeah I think that something has begun
Do I think that I could love you?
Do I think that I want you?
Yeah I think that you're the only one

Little girl don't tease me now
Tell me what you feel
Everywhere I'm seeing you
Tell me if it's real

Am I just a fool to dream?
Can you ever love me?
Let me know what's in your heart
Can it ever be?

The Words

Do I think that you should hold me?
Do I think that you control me?
Yeah I think that something has begun
Do I think that I could love you?
Do I think that I want you?
Yeah I think that you're the only one

Yeah I think that we are going to somehow find a way
Yeah I think you are going to stay

Do I think that you should hold me
Do I think that you control me
Yeah I think that something has begun
Do I think that I could love you
Do I think that I want you
Yeah I think that you're the only one

One Unspoken Thing

I remember her on the very first day of school
Yeah she looked so lovely
How I wished that she would notice me
And take some pity
But when she was near I'd run for cover
But I couldn't think of any another

Everyday I'd watch her walk on by
And I'd say nothing
Even when I caught her sweetest smile
Ah like she was hoping
I knew that I could win her over
If I had the chance to tell her

That one unspoken thing
One unspoken thing
Just one unspoken thing
And I'm paying for all my days

Well I'd dream about the life that we would have
How I'd make her happy
One day I knew that she'd be mine
And she would love me
But way too fast those days were over
I never got the chance to tell her

That one unspoken thing
One unspoken thing
Just one unspoken thing
And I'm paying for all my days

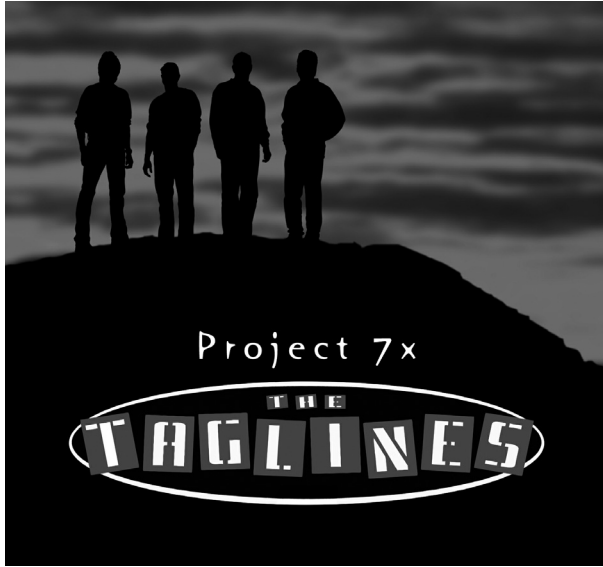
In all the time that's come and gone
She never fades away
And what I'd give for one more chance
At one more yesterday
One more yesterday - Ah what I would say

Way too fast those days were over
I wish that I had somehow told her

That one unspoken thing
One unspoken thing
Just one unspoken thing
And I'm paying for all my days

The Words

Taglines 2 (2014)



As I approached turning fifty, I had this grand idea of driving around the perimeter of the United States to commemorate this milestone. And during this trip, I would write songs about what I witnessed and how it pertained to my view of the world at the age of fifty. Unfortunately, I was unable to make this complete road trip a reality. However, I was able to accomplish the west coast portion of it, driving the 1,000 miles from San Diego, California up to Portland, Oregon in June of 2010 over the span of a week. I must admit that even this abbreviated alternative was one of the highlights of my life and proved to be an experience of spiritual proportions.

In the end, there was only one song directly written about this trip; *The Green Hills Roll By*. However, during this period of time, I had

The Words

been writing songs that dealt with what was going on in my life as I was turning fifty. I ended up producing these songs and earmarked them for the next Project 7X CD - *Taglines 2*.

As with the previous *Taglines* project, the concept of the 70s Minnesota band would be perpetuated with this next collection of songs. The idea being that we were able to obtain the remaining demos that the band had intended to record.

At the present time, Project 7X is working on this material in preparation to record. In all, having this material completed gives me a sense that my life's passion of music, up to this point, is now neatly wrapped up and documented - providing me the opportunity for discovering, with a clean slate, the new music that the future will bring.

You Don't Want Me

Once upon a time you loved me
Once upon a time you held my soul
And girl I held your heart in mine
But every day I see you changing
Step by step I watch you walk away
I fear that you'll be gone in time

I touch you
I hold you
I love you
But you don't want me
Touch me
And hold me
Just tell me
Why you don't want me

Maybe I'm a bit too easy
Is there something that I didn't say
Well honey have I let you down?
All I know is something's missing
Maybe all these years have been too long
Too long having me around - but

I touch you
I hold you
I love you
And you don't want me
Touch me
And hold me
Just tell me
Why you don't want me - now

Empty Lies

Elusive like a rainbow
I can see but never reach
All this time
And I'm still waiting
For just one lesson time won't teach

All the fragile days are endless
All the nights are just as long
All the years that I've been chasing
Could my vision be so wrong?

Every time I think I've found you
All I find is your disguise
Like a dream you can't remember
All that's left are empty lies

I want you like no other
All you do is close the door
You taunt me like a lover
Who doesn't want me anymore

Every time I think I've found you
All I find is your disguise
Like a dream you can't remember
All that's left are empty lies

It's so damn cold
I have to wonder
Will you ever shine your light on me?

Every time I think I've found you
All I find is your disguise
Like a dream you can't remember
All that's left are empty lies
...empty lies ...empty lies

Something Here Is Real

There you are I see you shining
Through the dark of night
How I want you standing next to me
Suddenly the world is finally getting clear for me
Wondering just how lucky
That a lonely man should be, I'm asking

Won't you stop and see me?
Please don't turn and walk away
Girl I've got a feeling
A broken heart is somehow gonna heal
Won't you let me love you?
Won't you try and let me in?
Girl I see the distance
But I swear that something here is real

I've got to think that
You've got offers coming all the time
A girl so fine it's really no surprise
But all I really know is that you're not like all the rest
I knew it from the moment
That I looked into your eyes, honey

Won't you stop and see me?
Please don't turn and walk away
Girl I've got a feeling
My broken heart is somehow gonna heal
Won't you let me love you?
Won't you try and let me in?
Girl I see the distance
But I swear that something here is real

Well I may be tired and broken down
With scars all through my soul
But I've got love for one more try
To never let you go

The Words

Won't you let me love you?
Won't you try and let me in?
Girl I see the distance
But I swear that something here is real

No More

All the years of living in your shadow
Never far away
But still you're always there
Haunting me
Just why I can't remember
When I close my eyes
I feel you everywhere
What kind of sin would make you set your sights on me?

All the pain
And all the life you've wasted
All the dreams
You crushed along the way
What I'd give
To somehow finally shake you
And find a day
When you won't follow me no more - no more

I've seen you turn the truest love to isolation
I've seen you twist a simple truth into a lie
All you touch
Can only end up shattered
After all this time
I have to wonder why
What kind of sin would make you set your sights on me?

All the pain
And all the life you've wasted
All the hopes
You crushed along the way

What I'd give
To somehow finally lose you
And see a day
When you won't follow me no more

And every time I reach for something that is better
This ancient curse just rises up and slaps me down
And everyone who ever really loved me
Just watch 'em fade away
Cause you are still around

All the pain
And all the life you've wasted
All the dreams
You crushed along the way
What I'd give
To somehow finally shake you
And see a day
When you won't follow me no more - no more

The Green Hills Roll By

The middle of June, California
A long empty highway and me
Out on the road north of Redding
With a spirit that's finally free

A crystal blue sky here above me
Making my way through the pines
Starting to hear my soul once again
Like the echo of younger times

As the green hills roll by
The bright sunshine
I start to recall the life that was mine
And all of the clouds
From so many storms

The Words

That once were so near
They're starting to clear
As the green hills roll by

I think about those who I care for
And all those who just couldn't stay
I think of the road that I've traveled
What I've lost along the way

But now that I'm here in this vision
The rest of my life still at hand
Through all of the blessings
And all of the pain
I guess I finally understand

As the green hills roll by
The bright sunshine
I start to recall the life that was mine
And all of the clouds
From so many storms
That once were so near
They're starting to clear
As the green hills roll by

The Ways of Destiny

Everyday the road ahead just leads you on and on
Just how long you'll never know until your time is gone
All the scars and all the fear
You carry them inside
But out here in the light of day
There's just no place to hide

You got this moment
And it's slipping through your hand
The ways of destiny
You'll never understand

You're never gonna see it coming to your door
But in the end it doesn't really matter anymore
And all the life you think is guaranteed for you
All the dreams you'll never see
Is all that you can do

You got this moment
And it's slipping through your hand
The ways of destiny
You'll never understand

It's only here and now
It only slips away
You hold on tightly
But it's never gonna stay

I guess that there's no reason
And I don't pretend to know
All you've got is borrowed time
With nowhere else to go

You got your time here
But it's slipping through your hand
The days are numbered but
You'll never understand

It's only here and now
It only slips away
You hold on tightly
But it's never gonna stay

You got your life here
But it's slipping through your hand
The days are numbered but
You'll never understand

One Last Song For You

We were so long ago
Like a thousand lives gone by
But I still remember you
And a love I can't deny

I'm living my life alone here
It's all that I can do
In one final gift of love, here's
One last song for you

In all these years I've always known
That girl you were the one
The memory of your loving eyes
That I never could outrun

I'm living my life alone here
It's what I have to do
In one final act of love, here's
One last song for you

Think it's time to end the story
Guess it's time for moving on

I'll get through my time alone here
There's nothing else to do
So now I'll just say goodbye, with
One last song for you

One Shot At Living

I see you there
With all your isolation
Watch the walls getting stronger everyday
Driven through the fear
Of pain and desolation
Hear the demons call there's just no other way

Well it's just a false illusion
All you see is dark confusion
Turn away into the light
Don't listen anymore

You got one shot at living
You better start forgiving
All the anger's going to tear you down

All I see
Is all the good inside you
Somehow part of you got lost along the way
Now you see the world
Like some unending nightmare
All the hope you had got lost with yesterday

There's only one solution
A total revolution
Turn away into the light
Don't listen anymore

You got one shot at living
You better start forgiving
All the anger's going to tear you down

The Words

Life has got you crawling
Might be tomorrow calling
You never know what's gonna come around

Just hold on a little longer
The pain will make you stronger
You've gotta give yourself just one more day

You got one shot at living
You better start forgiving
All the anger's going to tear you down

Life has got you crawling
Might be tomorrow calling
You never know what's gonna come around

Getting Here to You

Long ago I learned of love
How elusive it can be
In all this time I came to fear
It wasn't meant for me
In all my years of searching
I just ended up alone
Watching all my dreams just fade
To life here on my own

But when I looked into your eyes
It's like I'd always known
That I was going to find you
And I'd finally make it home
Losing me inside your love
Is all I want to do
Cause girl it's been a long, long time
Getting here to you

The gentle way about you
How you ease my tired soul
You saved a lonely, broken man
And finally made me whole
Lying here beside you
With my last defenses down
I'm praying now with all my heart
You'll always be around

But when I looked into your eyes
It's like I'd always known
That I was going to find you
And I'd finally make it home
Losing me inside your love
Is all I want to do
Cause girl it's been a long, long time
Getting here to you

I have lived enough of life
To understand what's real
I am just a simple man
But I know what I feel
So now I'm going to promise you
A love that's never going to die
For you and I
And I'll never say goodbye

But when I look into your eyes
It's like I've always known
That I was going to find you
And I'd finally make it home
Losing me inside your love
Is all I want to do
Cause girl it's been a long, long time
Getting here to you

Don't Look Too Close

Walking down my day to day
Just trying to make it through
Stuck inside a life I didn't choose
Nothing close to passion
In my vision anymore
Living like there's nothing left to lose

Then I see your eyes
Your perfect smile
They're reaching out to me
And there in all your beauty
Well it's where I want to be

But just don't look too close
You won't like what you see
All you'll find are shadows
Of a man I used to be

So please don't look too close
You won't like what you find
All the ghosts of broken dreams
From all those younger times
...younger times

I always thought I'd find a face
A face that looked like yours
I swore that when I did we'd find a way
But now you're here in front of me
There's not much left to give
Choking on the words I long to say

And I see your eyes
Your perfect smile

They're reaching out to me
And there in all your beauty
Well that's where I want to be

But just don't look too close
You won't like what you see
All you'll find are remnants
Of a life that used to be

So please don't look too close
You won't like what you find
Just the dusty demons
Of a life I left behind

Girl it won't be easy
With all these walls around me
But I'll give it all I've got
To break them down for you

Well just don't look too close
You won't like what you see
All you'll find are shadows
Of a man I used to be

So please don't look too close
You won't like what you find
Only dusty demons
Of a life I left - a life I left behind

The Words

The Photos



Guitar players from the music group at the Downers Grove church, (from left) Barry Schneidewin, me, Terry Fisher, Dave Ross, and Joe Rodriguez - 1976.



Troubled youths without direction,
(from left) me, Mark Baier, and
Steve Wellman - 1976.

Band to present 'Cabaret' in NCHS gym on Friday

Bob Sirott, disc jockey on radio station WLS, will be the special guest star of "Cabaret", Naperville Central High school's annual stage band show. This year's show will be presented Friday (April Fool's Day) in the NCHS auxiliary gym, with

performances at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

The popular disc jockey will serve as the master of ceremonies of the show, which features the stage band and other acts. The entire production is under the direction of David

Boyd, band director, and student directors Cathy Gusich and Helen Poorman.

Featured acts will include Bob Whitt, magician; Holly Smith, singer; Sally Houston, dancer; Christy Grubb, twirler; The Joyce Lang Dancers; and the combo of Mark Baier, Mike Wright, Steve Hanson, and Scott Newton. The group's own version of the "Muppets" will make a special appearance, and Scott Webb and Tim Carlmark are planning to play "April Fool" tricks.

The audience will be seated at tables, and may order soft drinks, popcorn and pretzels during the performance. Costumed waitresses will serve them.

Tickets are available daily in the commons area of Central High school during the lunch hour and from 2:15 to 3:15 p.m. Tickets may also be purchased at the door 30 minutes before each performance.



Stage band 'combo', left to right: Steve Hanson, Mike Wright, Scott Newton, and Mark Baier (front).

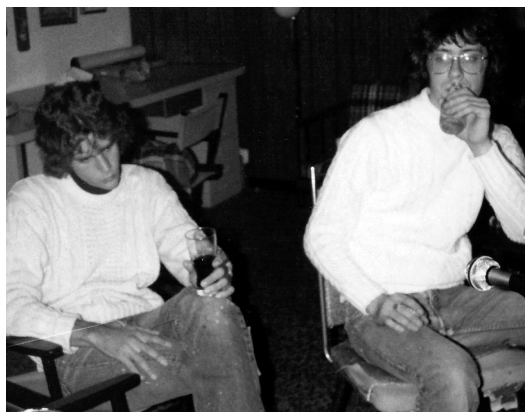
Newspaper clipping promoting our first performance - a Cabaret Show at Naperville Central High School - 1977.



Sally Houston, who will be featured in a dance routine.

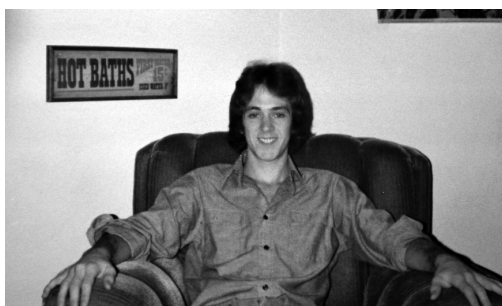


New Years Eve 1978 performance with Mark Baier and Mike Wright.



Recording with Steve Wellman (left) and Mark Baier during the holidays - 1979.

My room at the Naperville house where I did much of my early recording.



The Words



The Eddie O'Neale band performing at Pointe East in Chicago - 1980.



Before an Eddie O'Neale show at Fat Wally's near Notre Dame. (from left) Steve Brandwein, Greg Errandi, and Steve Haraburda.

Stan Erhart at the Squalor, where the band rehearsed in Berrien Springs, Michigan.





Rick Kress on drums at Fat Wallys during an Eddie O'Neale show.



Setting up for the all night recording session of Eddie O'Neale at the Connection - (from left) Stan Erhart, Greg Errandi, and Steve Brandwein.



Lost Luggage promotional photo - 1982 (from left) Steve Brandwein, Dennis Manning, Steve Haraburda, me, and Stan Erhart.

The Words



Me at Lost Luggage performance in 1982 at the Isn't It Lounge in Lisle, Illinois.



Steve Haraburda at the controls of the mobile recording equipment during the recording of *Remnants*.

Me at the board during one of our Friday Night recording sessions. We also referred to these as the Uumellmahaye Sessions.



The Photos



Steve Wellman, back in town from Texas, joins in on a Friday Night recording session - 1987

Mark Baier at the same Friday Night session, playing bass.



Me just after the completion of the *Chapter Four* collection.

The Words



End of the 80s performance, with (from left) Steve Brandwein, Steve Haraburda, Greg Errandi, and Lee Rodriguez on sax - Darien, Illinois



2001 performance in Shaumburg, Illinois - the first performance in more than ten years.

Barrington Hills Outdoor party in 2002 with (left) Steve Haraburda, Sam DeMarco, and John DeMarco (drums) that inspired the formation of Project 7X.





Project 7X promotional photo - 2006 with new drummer Vern Hammersmith (left).



First Project 7X show at Shark City, Glendale Heights, Illinois in 2006.

Project 7X performance at Democratic Party Rally in the summer of 2008 on a brutally hot day - Willowbrook, Illinois.



The Words



Vern Hammersmith recording drums for the *Taglines* CD - 2010. We recorded the drums in a locker room behind the studio for the natural echo of the space.



Project 7X CD release show for *The Taglines* - 2011 at Q-Sports in Darien, Illinois.

The Inspiration

Perhaps it is my penchant for songwriting, but I have always found it interesting to hear the recount of a song's inspiration from the composer. For this reason, I have included the following section that documents, in sequential order by work, my recollections of the origins and circumstances behind my material.

Eddie O'Neale

The Neighbor Boy

There's not much more to say about Eddie O'Neale that wasn't covered in the Preface. However, I did not mention earlier that *The Neighbor Boy* was originally written as a stand alone song. Only after its completion, did I come up with the lofty goal of expanding the story into a rock opera.

Break Away

The Only Way

I Can Hear Her Singing

No comments.

This Isn't The End

This song was started with the other songs but was left unfinished until a couple of years later while playing with the Eddie O'Neale band in Michigan. The reference to "the captives cry" had to do with the Iranian Hostage Crisis that was on everyone's mind at the time. I recall how many feared this could lead to war. The registration for the

The Words

draft had been reinstated and I had gone to the post office in Naperville, Illinois to sign up with Selective Services.

Tomorrow

No comments.

The Archives

Now That You're Gone

This was a very early song writing effort. CB had been yanked out of my life and I was trying to come to grips with the depth of that pain. This was the first song about her and many others would follow through the years.

I'm Falling In Love With You

This song was written about SI. She had been a close friend for quite a few years and I was interested in it becoming something more.

Lost Inside Of Me

When the relationship with MC began, we had that first summer of crazy love. But then, as had been planned before we met, she went away to college. I was left to endure the isolated winter working a dead-end job. I was also still in a sort of mourning about the ending of the band days and it seemed at this point that my world had imploded.

Why Aren't You Here With Me Tonight

After MC spent the holidays back at home, she needed to return to school at the end of January. In order to extract the most possible

time out of our reunion, it was decided that I would drive her back. Halfway through the six hour drive the snow was coming down and blowing so hard that we had to stop in Champaign, Illinois for the night. We found this dive of a hotel that we could afford, got a bottle of wine and played 1,000 point gin rummy. By morning the storm had passed. Fearing my car could not make the remainder of the trip, she boarded a train. The memory of me standing there as her train left is still so clear in my mind. This song came to me on my three hour drive home.

The Cold October Rain

This song was written about MC in the fall of 1981 after she had left for school. I remember picking out this song on the piano one evening while outside the freezing rain pummeled the house.

Hey Little Girl

This song was written for MC while she was away at school. Like me, she too was having a hard time being away from our new relationship. These words were my attempt at reassuring her that I was going to be around when she returned.

Never Let Me Go

The first version of this song was a bit different, and was written for MC during our first summer together. I remember playing this for her on guitar one evening at her house. I never recorded the original version and unfortunately, it's now forgotten. A few years later, I put these words to a new musical arrangement that I thought was much better.

Mellow Guy

When I graduated school in 1983, the economy was still reeling from the recession of the previous year. As a result, I simply could not find a job in video production despite my best efforts. Gradually, I began to feel that the search was going to be hopeless and I was spending an inordinate amount of time sleeping and watching TV. This song was somewhat of a tongue-in-cheek account of those days.

Find Me Here

This wasn't really about anything concrete despite the desperate context of the lyrics - it was more of an experiment with overdubbing vocals.

Do Dreams Come True

While this song is the next in the sequence, it was written several years later during the few months in 1985 that MC and I had broken up. It was on Christmas Eve that I wrote and produced this complete song in one night; a mournful recount of the demise of our relationship.

Treat Me Like A Stranger

After the end of the Eddie O'Neale band, most of the members came back to Chicago. In this time, they formed another band called Kala Azar while I was living in DeKalb, Illinois - trying my hand at going to school out there. When I came back on weekends and holidays, I began to feel that this group of friends was moving on and that I no longer belonged in their circle.

It Happens Every Time

While not about anyone in particular, this song is an examination of the emerging fear that I was not going to be lucky in love.

I've Seen Your Face Before

When I first started working for Arrow Gear, I came to know John Lemming, who was their senior engineer. John was an entertaining older guy with whom I had spent quite a few hours listening to as he related his life stories.

One day, John wasn't in the office and I soon learned that he had died of a heart attack while shoveling snow at his house the day before. At this point, death had not really made its presence known to me, but with John, it now had. I wrote this song, personifying death as a relentless stalker that we will all one day have to encounter.

Don't You Know

This song was written during the *Chapter Four* project but was not included in the final tracks. In this one, I deal with my feelings for MC that remained despite our breakup.

I Don't Care

Shortly after the breakup with MC, I had a short relationship with YE. I found her to be extremely uncaring and unsympathetic at a time when I was in serious need of compassion. Because of this, I suppose, I sent her away without much regret. This song never progressed beyond the demo and was not included in the *Chapter Four* project.

Every Now and Then

This was another song that went unused for the *Chapter Four* project, dealing with the residual feelings for MC.

Remnants

Can Anybody Hear Me

Many of the personal relationships I'd had seemed to eventually transition to being non-genuine and one sided. This song deals with the frustration of watching this happen.

Remnants

The title track for the collection, this song looks at my life in the context of realizing that the days of playing in bands had ended and my dream of pursuing music as my profession was most likely over.

The Reason

This song seeks to reconcile the events of the previous few years, my understanding of religion's role in my life, and my place in the world that was still very unclear.

As Love Goes By

This was written in DeKalb during a visit to see MC. We'd had a blowout fight over something I have no memory of. She had left the apartment for a couple of hours and I wrote this song in her absence. I do recall that the words and music for this one came incredibly fast.

Cold and Gray

This was inspired somewhat by my friend SI. Our relationship had ended several years before, but we were still close. While it seemed that many of us in our social group were moving on into life, she was not. This inspired me to write this story song about a girl who lost love in her earlier years, never fully recovered, and remained trapped in the memories of the past.

I'm Still Looking For You

This was not really about my experiences at the time, but rather the collective people I knew who were in search of finding someone.

About this time, Steve Brandwein and a vocalist he knew, Don Cook, had the opportunity to present a demo to some record industry connection. Anxious to jump at this potential break, we produced a version of this song with Don doing the lead vocal. Not long after, the word came back that the song had been rejected, apparently for the reason that it sounded dated. I would later reference this experience in the song *Give Me Yesterday*.

The Prison of Long Ago

I suppose I've always been a romantic - being defined as someone who recalls the past with warm feelings, sees the future with hope and expectation, while the present, being temporary, is seen as fairly grim. This song deals with the danger of remembering the past too fondly.

Welcome To The DMZ

Give Me Yesterday

Written in the mid 1980s, this was during a time that some pretty dreadful music was being released on Top-40 radio - with the obligate subject matter of dancing and sex. Also, this song expressed my frustration with the earlier rejection of our demo of *I'm Still Looking for You*. Seemingly, the music that I was producing, with its roots in progressive or folk rock from the previous decade did not have a place among the sequenced synths, drum machines and parachute pants. In response, this was my stab at that pop music of the time which seemed devoid of genuine soul.

The Words

Deny The Blame

This song explored a rather new topic for me at the time; social commentary. As I became more aware of the world, I came to see not only the injustice that people perpetuate on each other, but also the ugliness that is so often inherent in the human experience.

If You Were Here

Another song about CB - suspecting that life could have been so much better if we'd found a way to stay together.

The Only Game In Town

One day, from the office next to mine, I heard one of the managers use the phrase "the only game in town." I thought this was a great name for a song and started constructing lyrics around the title; a technique I had never used and would not use again until the *Taglines* project.

Letters From A Friend

Around this time, my contact with CB was becoming less frequent, but we did exchange letters every now and then. The context of our relationship was now that of friends. But still, the arrival of one of her letters conjured hope in me for our future, and my letters to her were written with a desire to have her understand my true, yet unspoken feelings for how much I desperately wanted her back.

Underground

As the DMZ songs were about the process of growing up, this song, with its large scale production, was an attempt at wrapping up the connective theme for the collection.

Chapter Four

The Walls of Isolation

Chapter Four was primarily about me sorting through the aftermath of my breakup with MC. The experience was terribly gut-wrenching. I lost a lot of weight and withdrew from my friends, spending as much time as possible cloistered in my work. This isolation was the only way I knew of getting through these days.

A Weekend Without You

I came to learn that the problem with having a relationship end is that you are left with a gaping void in your routine. This was particularly apparent during the weekends which presented so many elements that were reminiscent of MC.

Just Let Me Love You

This song originally began as an idea written for the *Eddie O'Neale* material. Since it never really came together it was shelved until this project. The inspiration for the song's resurrection was an attractive woman who lived in my apartment complex. Each morning, I would see her walk by on the way out to her car. Yet, despite my desire to strike up a conversation, I remained silent, only to have her walk by. Of course, the mornings when she would walk by eventually ended.

What Could I Say

This one was about an attempt at a relationship with YE after the breakup with MC. When I eventually had to break it off, she felt used and discarded, for which I was very sorry, but I knew that it was a

The Words

relationship I could not endure. I had begun the song *I Don't Care* about this failed relationship, but refined the story in this one.

The Words I Couldn't Say

This song recalls the summer of crazy love with MC from the retrospective of our breakup. I was starting to fear that my inability to say the words, "Will you marry me," was going to be a major regret for the rest of my life.

The Shadows

As I look back at my self-imposed isolation of the time, I believe I was becoming very pessimistic about the real nature of people, learning that very few possessed the ability for empathy.

Is It Ever Going To End

One thing I have now learned from life is that everything ends. However, in the days after the breakup with MC, it seemed that the feelings of loss were never going to recede. One morning, unable to sleep, I sat in the kitchen at 4:00 AM and wrote this song.

Telling You Goodbye

Despite the fact that MC and I had parted ways, I still had very strong and unresolved feelings for CB. Perhaps this was the root cause that I turned away from MC. One day, through a network of friends, I'd heard that CB had been married. Since things with MC had gone so terribly wrong, for a time, I had once again clung to the hope that CB and I were destined to be together at last. But now hearing that she was truly gone was devastating. I wrote this in an effort to achieve closure with CB, but my feelings were to remain and several more songs about her would emerge in the years that followed.

It's Just A Moment

Finally, I started to move past the pain associated with the breakup of MC and the news of CB. As the cliché goes, what doesn't kill you makes you stronger. As I emerged from this difficult time, this song was written about perseverance and my newly acquired knowledge that given enough time, things will in fact end and a broken heart can indeed heal.

Finding You

I See Her Face

As was mentioned earlier, I spent much of my thirties single and alone. Having the relationship with MC end and learning that CB had been married, I found myself in a very new, unfamiliar situation. During this time, I began to wonder about the whole issue of finding one's soul mate. Was this just romantic nonsense, or was there some possible reality to it. The elusive "her" is the one referred to in this song.

Finding You

Another song about contemplating the reality of a soul mate.

Borrowed Time

I did have a brief relationship just prior to this period of time with SB. While there were many aspects of the relationship that were positive, I somehow knew deep down that I would not be able to go the distance. But at the same time, I wanted to avoid the pain of it ending. I saw this relationship as being on borrowed time, and as I wrote about this experience, I began to identify other aspects of my life that were also poised for an unavoidable and unpleasant outcome.

I Can't Find Love

Not much is needed to explain this one.

One More Yesterday

This one was inspired by a friend of mine. He was having a hard time finding his way in life and was wasting his considerable talents while drowning his pain with alcohol.

Too Far Apart

A longtime friend of mine set me up with her co-worker; PC. We got together a few times and I was very drawn to her. However, as I began to learn more about her life, she had been recently divorced, had a ten year old son, and an ex-husband who still seemed very much in the picture. Despite my feelings for PC, I felt like an interloper intruding on her family. Before long, I reached the conclusion that I would have to turn away from this relationship, and did so in a rather matter of fact way. But this really knocked the wind out of me because so much about her was exactly what I was searching for.

My Julie Marie

Julie and I had dated for a couple of years in high school and I was pretty crazy about her. When she was eighteen, her family moved to Minneapolis. Once again, having someone I loved removed from my life hit me hard. We did keep in touch and within a couple of years she and her family came back to town for a wedding. It was an intense reunion for me, so I made plans for a trip up north to see her. I remember having a great time being with her as well as her family which I had always been very fond of. It was as if we just picked up where we'd left off for those three days. But when I left and came back

home, it soon became clear to me that we wouldn't survive the distance.

One night, over ten years later, I had this very real and intense dream about Julie. I remember waking from this dream as if she had just been there. All I could think about was that I was compelled to find her again. Of course, all the old phone numbers were no longer valid, but I conducted a serious search for her. This was before the days of the internet, so it required a bit of creative sleuthing. I remembered that her relatives lived in a town about two hours south, as this was where the wedding had taken place. Some calls to information led me to her family there. They were nice enough, and trusting enough to give me her mother's number who now lived on the west coast. Her mother, in turn, gave me Julie's number. When I called, we spoke for more than an hour. She asked me to come and visit her, but after our call I realized that we had truly grown apart and that she was going to have to exist only in the past. In the end, I suppose the real purpose of my dream was to achieve closure.

A Ray of Light

During my time of being alone and contemplating the possibility of finding a relationship that would last, I set my sights on ET. I had known her through some common friends and I had recently learned that she had left a long time relationship. Seeing her at a party, I asked her out. We got together a number of times, and while taking it very slow, the prospect looked promising and I began to get the feeling that she might be the one. I remember one evening, she was over at my condo and we fell asleep together on the couch while watching TV. The intimacy of this struck me as I had not been in this situation for

The Words

quite some time. It was probably a week later that she was over again and we walked down to a small lake in the neighborhood. There, holding each other under a moonlit sky, we both opened up about some pretty personal things. I felt that we had entered a new level of our relationship and I was elated. But it was never the same after that night. She began to make excuses for not being able to get together, and after several unreturned phone calls, I stopped calling.

I did see her years later at a party. She had since married and had a child. When she saw me, she walked up to me and hugged me. It was a strange hug in that it lasted a bit longer than I would have anticipated. I always wondered if in some way, she had regretted turning away from what I had offered.

The Days of You and Me

At this point in my life, having tried to intentionally move past the memories of CB, who had been married, I was finally finding the feelings for her fading, or if not fading, being put away for storage. Then one day, my father gave me an old cassette tape that he had found among his things. On this tape was a recording of CB singing and playing piano at our church from a time, many years earlier when we had been together. Listening to the tape that night at my place, I found the memories flooding back with a very painful intensity. I must have listened to that tape twenty times. As I did so, I dug out the box that contained each letter she had ever written me, as well as a few photos. Between listening to the music and reading the letters, I got blind drunk, as if there was nothing else in the world to temper the aching pain that had returned. After that night, I never listened to the tape again, nor have I ever read her letters.

It's All The Same

This song diverts from the overall theme of the collection. On the first night of Desert Storm, I, like millions of others were glued to the TV watching CNN. The commentary by Bernard Shaw as the night sky of Baghdad was flashing with anti-aircraft fire was equally compelling and upsetting. But as horrible as this imagery was, I found myself strangely removed from it, almost as if it wasn't real. Later, I began to think about all the other bad things happening in the world as reported on the TV, and I guess I felt shame for my apathy. This was a turning point for me, and I would never look at the world that carelessly again.

I've Got You

Given some time after the breakup with MC, we eventually reached out to each other again, not to rekindle our relationship, but to once again embrace the supporting friendship that both of us had relied on for so long. The history with us was very complicated, there was a lot of pain, but in the end we still needed each other. I wrote this song for her as a birthday present - finishing the production of the music quite a few years later.

The Days Are Moving On

The Days Are Moving On

As I began navigating through my forties, this song came to me as I looked back at some of the major events of my life. My father's death in 1998 really shook things up for me and I began to look at the time that came before in a new light - marveling at how much time had already gone by.

A Fair Deal

This song was actually started when I was sixteen; one of my early attempts at songwriting that was left uncompleted. However, there were always aspects of this song that I liked, so I suppose it was kept on the backburner. During this project, I remember the song coming to mind and I found the lyrics that I had reached an impasse with all those years ago. In looking at them again, I found it rather easy now to fix the rough spots. So nearly thirty years after it was started, the song was finally completed.

Let It Go

When CM stepped away from the security of her long time corporate job, she did so with a mix of fear and expectation for better things. At the time, I found a quote and framed it for her. It read, "We must be willing to give up what we are for what we can become." I wrote this song for her, in essence, as words of encouragement for the next chapter of her life.

It Doesn't Matter Anymore

This song had a strange origin. The music was originally produced as a commercial jingle for FS; a farming collaborative. Once it was completed, I decided that I liked the music so I wrote new lyrics and recorded new vocals. You may notice that the key lyrics include references to the titles of many of my previous songs.

A Low Rez World

This was also written, in part, as a message to CM. Sometimes we find that despite our best efforts to achieve our goals, there's something about life's imperfection that has a nasty propensity for standing in our way.

Here I Am

It was in my forties that I started to experience waves of the realization that my life was probably not going to be turning out like I had hoped. I suppose most people go through this. Unfortunately, I also suspect that this realization transitions into acceptance as time goes on.

The Other Side

After my father died, I felt the need to express my thoughts in a song. However, for a long time nothing came. Then one day shortly after the end of 2004, this song emerged. It was that year that Dan Fogelberg died. When that happened, I listened to quite a bit of his music, including his last album which contained a song entitled, *Icarus Ascending*. If you listen to that song, you'll hear that I mirrored much of his open tuning chords, particularly in the introduction. This was intentional as a nod to an artist whose work I truly admired.

On the morning my father died, I went to my parent's house around 10:00 AM. I will never forget that it was an absolutely beautiful fall morning without a cloud in the sky. When I arrived, my sisters and mother were in the living room, and as I believe they had all done earlier, I went back to see my father one last time; back in the family room where his hospital bed was located. Despite the fact that we knew his death was imminent and we were all prepared, it was so very strange to see him this way and the world seemed very small and cold. Just before I left his side, I touched his face and said, "I'll see you again."

Here And Now

When my father died, as it is whenever death strikes those close to us, it reaffirmed my awareness to the fact that life is indeed very short. And to avoid wasting that time living in the past or anticipating the future, it is essential to live in the here and now, as the past is gone and the future may never come. This was a significant change in the outlook I had maintained for much of my life up to this point.

White Trash Girl

I have not written many funny songs over the years, but this was one that broke the tradition. This started out with a basic blues arrangement; quite simple. But when I played it to Mark Baier one day, he suggested a more aggressive approach, which is how I altered the arrangement. I've been meaning to put together a music video for this song using clips of Joy Turner (Jaime Pressly) from the show *My Name is Earl*. Hopefully, I'll get to this someday.

Brothers, Here Today

Obviously, this was about my observations surrounding the terrorist attacks on 9/11. I completed this on the one year anniversary of the event. On the ten year anniversary, I produced a video using still photos to this song. This video is still on YouTube.

Someday

This addresses my hope for the future, largely from a Christian perspective. When this song was completed, I realized that I wanted to dedicate it to my nephew Nick who was just a small child at the time. As I write this now, I realize that I have never told anyone of this dedication. Perhaps now, Nick can read the words and hear the

song that I hope will provide him some valuable insights as he makes his way through the world.

The Taglines

Time Holds Every Bitter Answer

As was mentioned earlier, this is a very non-autobiographical collection due to the fact that it was supposedly written by an imaginary band from the 1970s. However, it is tempered somewhat by my experiences. Nevertheless, this one is about the uncertainty of life. The intention with this song was to include some irony due to the fact that the author, the imaginary Andrew Mills, was supposed to have died not long after it was written.

Nothing On The Road

This is a pretty straight forward song about hitting the road in an effort to find distance from a bad relationship. I really liked the line "how can so much beauty only be a thin disguise." In an attempt to make it sync with the overall story of the Taglines, highway 29 really goes past Northfield, Minnesota where the Taglines were supposed to be from.

Erase A Love

It has always amazed me how relationships of the past can be a point of contention in relationships of the present. When people experience love, is that love supposed to completely vanish as if it never existed. I don't think so.

You Only Understand

This song was somewhat inspired by a real person; the owner's son of a company I have worked for. The son was financially well off and rather proud of his position, despite the fact that he had done nothing to earn his bounty. I always liked the line, "Don't be surprised when Karma comes to call." In the end, when the father died, the son was fired. Without true marketable skills, I'm guessing that his life will be very difficult in the future and that he will one day realize that what he had was only a short term gift; thus, you only understand when it's raining.

For One Unending Night

This one is just a catchy pop song about love.

Do I Think

This was earmarked to be the heavy song. It was greatly inspired by Deep Purple's *Highway Star*, and actually, the final musical arrangement has many elements from that 70s classic.

One Unspoken Thing

This song relates an experience we all probably have shared - seeing a cute person in school; we have a crush but never muster the courage to approach them. Then, before a move is made, the opportunity has passed.

It should be noted that I know the grandmother of Tom Higgenson from the Plain White T's, as she lives in my neighborhood. She's a very friendly person and we often speak during my morning walks. After I produced a demo of this song, I thought, "Why not get a copy to the Plain White T's through my grandmother connection?"

Figuring I had nothing to lose, I made a copy of the song on CD and passed it along. Unfortunately, I never heard anything further about this offering, and it wasn't included on their subsequent CD. However, I believe it to be a good song and I'll bet that they could have had a huge hit with it, maybe even bigger than their Grammy Award winning song, *Hey There Delilah*. Then again, maybe someday Tom will pull out that CD and give it a shot.

Taglines 2

You Don't Want Me

As mentioned before, this collection was written as a snapshot of my life as I passed the threshold of turning fifty. In this song, I examine the dynamic that I've seen far too often. Instead of a relationship growing stronger with age, it becomes soiled with disinterest, short tempers, and lukewarm contempt.

Empty Lies

As I wrote earlier in *Here I Am*, facing the autumn of my most productive years has brought an awareness of how life didn't turn out as I had hoped. I have worked as hard as possible at achieving some modest level of success in life, yet it has eluded me. This is really about looking forward at promising prospects, only to find that they are empty lies.

Something Here Is Real

Several years ago, there was a young woman who worked at the office of one of my clients. I must admit that she was stunning, if not a bit young for me. When I first saw her, we exchanged glances that lingered just a bit longer than a casual encounter would dictate. And

The Words

while she was off limits for any number of reasons, and I had no intention of it becoming anything, I loosely used this experience as the inspiration for this song.

No More

Similar to the subject of *Empty Lies*, having had success at any number of ventures in my life elude me, I have often wondered why. And while I don't truly believe that some unseen curse can impact your life, fueled by frustration, I have sometimes blamed a curse for its ongoing impeding influence on my life. This song personifies that notion of a curse and how it has haunted me.

The Green Hills Roll By

I wrote earlier about my road trip up the west coast on the year of my fiftieth birthday. While the drive from San Diego up to San Francisco was very enjoyable, the trip north of Redding up to Portland was truly memorable. I remember many points on the road driving through southern Oregon that literally took my breath away. The beauty of the rolling hills, the pine forests, the empty highway, and the cloudless blue sky was indescribable. Moreover, the fact that I was away from work, away from my life, and no one in the world knew where I was at that moment in time made this seem like heaven on earth to me.

Of course, this image stuck with me, and a few weeks later, driving back from a trip to the Northwoods, I heard a song on NPR's *Prairie Home Companion*. It was in three-four time and the instrumentation was reminiscent of the music I had witnessed at Ricky Skaggs's studio in Nashville when I had the opportunity to attend an Andy Leftwich recording session. This all came together as the perfect inspiration for the music. The lyrics came quickly, and this

stands as one of my favorite songs as it captures an image from one of the most memorable times of my life.

The Ways of Destiny

I think of this song as similar in context to *Time Holds Every Bitter Answer* from the first *Taglines* project. It addresses some of those existential questions that we all eventually deal with.

One Last Song For You

For some reason, even after all this time, the memories of CB are never far from my mind. It has been years since we last spoke, but I can now observe some of the events of her life safely behind the anonymity of Facebook. In a way, this method for learning of her life has been a blessing for me. I can see that she has beautiful children, a successful husband, and an active life full of friends and music.

As I think back to her earlier days when we were together, her home life was so awful, which was a crime for someone so kind and beautiful. In the end, I'm glad that she finally had the chance to be happy. It's now been more than thirty years since I wrote the first song for her; *Now That You're Gone*. It was finally time to write the last one.

One Shot At Living

This was written for CM as she went through a very difficult time in her life. The loss and despair that had come to her in these later years made her bitter, full of pain and anger. In these words, I attempt to provide a perspective about persevering amidst the negativity, and clinging to the reality that you only get one chance at this life and you need to make the most of it.

Getting Here To You

Often, while watching movies, I'll hear a line that inspires a song idea. One time, I was watching the Tom Hanks/Meg Ryan film *Joe Versus the Volcano*. At the end, while they're floating on the trunk Tom Hanks says, "[It's] been a long time coming here to meet you - a long time, on a crooked road." I thought that would be a good concept for a song and soon after I started working on some ideas.

About this time, my friend John DeMarco was going to get married. Briefly, I thought of asking if they'd like me to do this song at their ceremony, but the event ended up arriving before I finished the song. However, I think this would be very appropriate for a wedding song and maybe someday it will be used for this purpose.

Don't Look Too Close

Similar to the inspiration of *Something Here Is Real*, this one came about as a result of my exchanged glances with the young woman who worked for one of my clients. When encountering something like this, I suppose it's human nature to, if just for one moment, think to yourself about it actually being something that's viable. When this occurred to me, the phrase that rang clearly through my mind was, "Don't look too close you won't like what you see." In so many ways, I now feel old and broken down. And while I still possess the passion and spirit of my younger days, my path is now littered with all kinds of debris from the process of living; debris that I suspect few would want to share.

In the end, coming to this realization is what I think surviving into your fifties is all about. At my core, I still feel like I did in my twenties. But my physical abilities are declining, there's now so much baggage, and the life I thought I'd one day find will have to remain beyond my reach. I guess I can live with this, but I will continue to try to make the most of the time I have left.

But then again, you never know what the future holds.

The Words

The Complete Collection

The following is a listing of all songs (well, the vast majority) that I have recorded and produced from the period of 1977 to 2014. These songs are organized according to the collection that they originally appeared on. In addition, these songs are compiled in corresponding folders on the DVD that accompanies this book. I am also planning on having this same collection of songs, organized in the same way, available on my website at www.ScottNewton.net.

As I have compiled these songs, they have brought back quite a few memories. For this reason, I have added extra comments in this list about the origins of a few of the songs. Also, for any songs not written by me, the writer is noted.

Eddie O'Neale - 1980

The original songs by the Eddie O'Neale band were captured during a recording session at The Connection in Berrien Springs, Michigan in December of 1980. The remaining tracks, Squalinbrane and the cover material, came from the audio track of a video that was shot at Fat Wally's in South Bend, Indiana in April of 1981. As for The Only Way, since we never recorded this song, I produced an acoustic version around 1987 and included it on this collection when it was mastered in 1999.

01) You Only Cry Again Inside - Erhart, Newton

02) The Neighbor Boy

03) Break Away

04) The Only Way

05) I Can Hear Her Singing

06) This Isn't The End

07) Eddie O'Neale Radio Interview - Part One

This is an interview of the band at the University of Chicago Radio Station.

08) Aqua Lung - Anderson

09) Comfortably Numb - Gilmour, Waters

10) Eddie O'Neale Radio Interview - Part Two

11) Squalinbrane - Brandwein, Erhart, Errandi, Haraburda

12) Cross Eyed Mary - Anderson

13) Eddie O'Neale Radio Interview - Part Three

14) All Good People - Anderson, Squire

Archives Vol. 1 1977 - 1981

- 01) The Neighbor Boy
- 02) Break Away
- 03) I Can Hear Her Singing
- 04) The Only Way
- 05) Now That You're Gone
- 06) To The Rain
- 07) Tomorrow
- 08) I'm Falling In Love With You
- 09) Lost Inside of Me
- 10) Music By Insects (Her Majesty) - Lennon, McCartney
- 11) Why Aren't You Here With Me Tonight

Archives Vol. 2 1978 - 1980

Many of the songs on this CD were recorded during the 1979 holidays when Mark Baier and Steve Wellman were back in town. We wanted to record many of our original songs written during high school, as well as a few new ones.

- 01) No Expectations - Richards, Jagger
- 02) Fade Away - Baier
- 03) Land of SAB - Baier, Newton, Wellman
- 04) Wino Blues - Baier, Newton, Wellman
- 05) Satisfy Me - Baier
- 06) Fernando's - Baier, Newton, Wellman
- 07) Elf Chant - Baier, Newton, Wellman
- 08) Running/20 Times Before - Baier, Newton, Wellman
- 09) 1 - 4 - 5 Babble - Baier, Newton, Wellman
- 10) Life Is A Chemical - Baier, Newton, Wellman
- 11) Sun God Boogie - Baier, Newton, Wellman
- 12) Cocaine Run - Baier, Newton, Wellman
- 13) The Needle and The Damage Done - Young
- 14) The Drifter - Baier
- 15) Oven Blues - Baier, Newton, Wellman
- 16) Stop Breaking Down - Richards, Jagger
- 17) It's Beautiful - Baier
- 18) Little Wing - Hendrix
- 19) Sad and Lonely
- 20) Just Let Me Love You
- 21) I'm Gone

Archives Vol. 3 1980 - 1986

- 01) Treat Me Like A Stranger
- 02) It Happens Every Time
- 03) The Cold October Rain
- 04) Find Me Here
- 05) Smoke the Ganja - Erhart, Newton
- 06) When You Go To Maui

This song was written as a contest entry to win a trip to Maui with Steve Dahl and Gerry Meyer when they were on WLUP in Chicago. Obviously, I didn't win.

- 07) Mellow Guy
- 08) Hey Little Girl
- 09) Never Let Me Go
- 10) Do Dreams Come True
- 11) Moonshine - Baier, Newton, Wellman
- 12) Where Did You Go - Baier, Newton

Many of the remaining songs on Archives 3 and 4, in which Mark Baier is credited with writing, were the songs that we recorded during our Friday Night Sessions.

- 13) Maybe I Should - Baier
- 14) Darn Nice Bunch of Guys

This song was written as a music track for a multi-image slide show I produced as a school project during my last year of college. The visuals contained images of people and places relating to the Eddie O'Neale band.

- 15) Lament of Rene - Baier
- 16) Freedom To Spare - Baier
- 17) You've Been Made A Fool - Baier
- 18) Moonshine - Baier, Newton, Wellman

Archives Vol. 4 1984 - 1997

01) Bourbon and Water - Baier

02) 1993 - Baier

03) Hush - Baier

04) Tulips In May - Baier

05) Video Girl - Baier

06) Bright Lights - Reed

This was a rare instance of Don Howel doing vocals during our Friday Night Sessions.

07) A Dreamer's Dream - Morrissey

A song written and sung by my friend Kevin Morrissey.

08) Psychedelic Wombat - Baier, Newton, Wellman

09) She Made Me Cry - DeMarco

In 1988, I started recording with John DeMarco. In addition to these songs written by him, he also helped out with percussion and vocals on several tracks from Chapter Four.

10) That's The Way The Ball Bounces - DeMarco

11) I've Seen Your Face Before

12) Frantic Rhythm - DeMarco, Newton

13) Don't You Know

14) I Don't Care

15) Every Now and Then

16) The Boy Next Door - DeMarco

17) Where You Want To Be

This song was written for the opening and closing sequences of a video I produced for the American Gear Manufacturers Association. The purpose of the video was to recruit young people to work in the gear industry.

Remnants - 1985

- 01) Can Anybody Hear Me
- 02) Remnants
- 03) The Reason
- 04) Smile For Me
- 05) As Love Goes By
- 06) Cold and Gray
- 07) I'm Still Looking For You
- 08) The Prison of Long Ago

Welcome to the DMZ - 1987

- 01) Give Me Yesterday
- 02) Deny The Blame
- 03) The DMZ
- 04) If You Were Here
- 05) Au Revoir
- 06) The Only Game In Town
- 07) Letters From A Friend
- 08) Underground

Chapter Four - 1990

- 01) The Walls of Isolation
- 02) A Weekend Without You
- 03) Just Let Me Love You
- 04) Watching the Winter Come
- 05) What Could I Say
- 06) The Words I Couldn't Say
- 07) The Shadows
- 08) Is It Ever Going To End
- 09) Telling You Goodbye
- 10) It's Just A Moment

Finding You - 1999

- 01) I See Her Face
- 02) Finding You
- 03) Borrowed Time
- 04) An Image of Her
- 05) I Can't Find Love
- 06) One More Yesterday
- 07) Too Far Apart
- 08) My Julie Marie
- 09) A Ray of Light
- 10) The Days of You and Me
- 11) It's All The Same
- 12) I've Got You

It Doesn't Matter Anymore - 2001

In 2001, I played at a wedding with my friend Mike Segreti. For the performance, I produced backing tracks that we played along with. Later, I recorded the guitar and vocals to finish the production. However, It Doesn't Matter Anymore and Photographs and Memories were not part of the performance, but they had been produced at the time and I added them to this collection.

- 01) It Doesn't Matter Anymore
- 02) Devil With A Blue Dress - Long, Stevenson
- 03) Wonderful Tonight - Clapton
- 04) Now That I've Found You - Bolton, Warren
- 05) Good Lovin' - Clark/Resnick
- 06) Photographs and Memories - Croce
- 07) I Found Love (When I Found You) - Shepherd, Tate
- 08) Right There - Adams
- 09) I Saw Her Standing There - Lennon, McCartney
- 10) Have I Told You Lately - Morrison

Project 7X - Volume One - 2007

- 01) Get Ready - Robinson
- 02) What Is Life - Harrison
- 03) I Saw The Light - Rundgren
- 04) Stuck In The Middle With You - Egan, Rafferty
- 05) Can't Get Enough of Your Love - Ralphs
- 06) Sister Golden Hair - Beckley
- 07) American Girl - Petty
- 08) So Into You - Buie, Daughtry, Nix
- 09) Because The Night - Springsteen
- 10) Refugee - Campbell, Petty
- 11) You Shook Me All Night Long - Johnson, Young, Young
- 12) Blue, Red and Grey (Hidden Track) - Townsend

The Days Are Moving On - 2000 to 2010

- 01) The Days Are Moving On
- 02) A Fair Deal
- 03) Let It Go
- 04) Netherlands - Fogelberg
- 05) It Doesn't Matter Anymore
- 06) Hello In There - Prine
- 07) A Low Rez World
- 08) Here I Am
- 09) September
- 10) The Other Side
- 11) Here And Now
- 12) White Trash Girl
- 13) Love and Leaving - Beckley, Mummy
- 14) Brothers, Here Today
- 15) Someday

Project 7X Taglines - 2011

- 01) Time Holds Every Bitter Answer
- 02) Now Do I See - Haraburda
- 03) Nothing On The Road
- 04) Erase A Love
- 05) You Only Understand
- 06) For One Unending Night
- 07) Do I Think
- 08) One Unspoken Thing

Project 7X Taglines 2 - 2014

These are the demo tracks that I put together for the band's next CD project. While the lyrics and vocals were my original material, the music tracks had been purchased from a company called "My Co-Writer." The idea was that we would use these arrangements as a starting point and then alter them as we made them our own.

- 01) You Don't Want Me
- 02) Empty Lies
- 03) Something Here Is Real
- 04) No More
- 05) The Green Hills Roll By
- 06) The Ways of Destiny
- 07) One Last Song For You
- 08) One Shot At Living
- 09) Getting Here To You
- 10) Don't Look Too Close

The Words

The Very Last Words

If you've made it this far, I thank you for your tenacity.

I'm sure that everyone has a mental list of things they'd like to accomplish. Completing this volume has certainly been one of mine, and I am grateful to have had the chance to do so.

It's been very interesting to me going through this project and reliving so much of my life in the material; some of which I'd almost forgotten. As I've mentioned earlier in this text, it's now a very odd thing to look back at a time span of nearly forty years and realize how fast it went by.

I also marvel at the number of songs contained here. If my count is right, there are 174 songs with an estimated playing time of nearly 12 hours. When I think of the time it took to write, record, and produce these songs, all I can say is that while it was an awful lot of time, I enjoyed every minute.

As I look back at this material, I find myself asking a few questions.

What if I had had the opportunity to produce all of this material in a proper studio? Much of my material prior to 2000 was produced with some rather modest equipment by today's standards. I suppose I was born about twenty years too early to take full advantage of the high quality computer-based recording technology that's now available to any sixteen year old.

The Words

What if I had not abandoned my dream of making music my profession? Relatively few people have ever heard my material. Had I persevered, would this have expanded the exposure of these songs and how would they have been received? And if I had focused professionally on producing music full time, what songs would have been borne out of that extra time spent.

Obviously, there are no answers to these questions; it is what it is. And in the end, accepting that these questions must remain unanswered will have to be enough.

Again, thanks for the time you've spent with this material. My hope is that it has brought to you at least a small portion of the enjoyment that it has brought to me.

SN

SCOTT NEWTON

THE WORDS

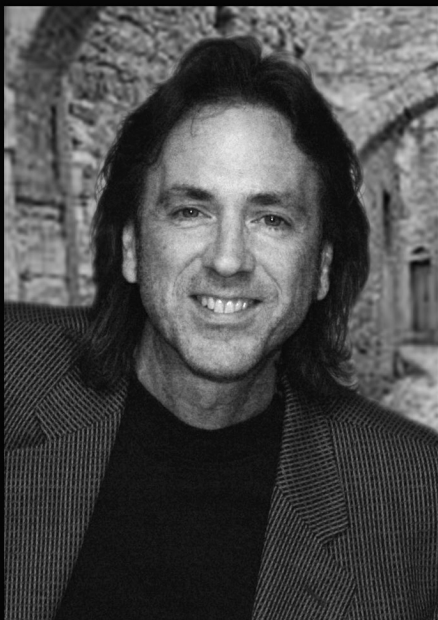
LYRICS OF THE MUSIC - 1977 TO 2014

Scott Newton is a musician, songwriter, producer, and independent recording artist living in the Chicago area.

He has been producing music since his high school years and has fronted a number of bands including Eddie O'Neale, Lost Luggage, Project 7X, and most recently, The Taglines.

Scott is President of APEX Media Solutions, working as a media producer and marketing communication consultant.

He has also co-authored *A Nation on Borrowed Time* and *A Gear Man's Journey - A Memoir*.



SCOTT NEWTON

In *The Words*, Scott Newton documents the lyrics to all of his original songs from 1977 to 2014. He also recounts the path through his musical ventures from recording in high school to his most current material for the forthcoming collection *Taglines 2* which is slated for production with Project 7X.

In addition, Newton provides a commentary about the origins and inspiration behind much of his material. And finally, an accompanying DVD contains audio tracks of his entire recorded catalog.

“I think my music is an examination of that place that exists deep inside all of us - a place where dreams, memories, longing, and sorrow reside.”

Scott Newton

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