Michael McDermott - Orphans

Tell Tale Heart

Hey there mama, don’t you worry your head
Let’s make the most of our time, in this world we live
I got a hunger in my soul, i got a fuse that’s lit
Let’s go out tonight and see what we can get

We’re sitting at the light
A long way from right
So sad, so scared, so scarred
These are the secrets of a tell tale heart

I feel a little like, Mr Dorian Gray
There are things that i feel, that I’ll never say
Man, It feels like it’s all just slipping away
Misdeeds come with a pretty price to pay

Babe, before we go
I think you should know
My bite’s worse than my bark
These are the secrets of a tell tale heart

It’s like the weight of the world is upon us now
We haven’t even come that far
Can we put it back together, somehow
In the backseat of this car?

Got one in the chamber
I got one in my hand
I’m feelin’ just a little like Bobby Sands
There’s a part of me you’ll never understand
I’m runnin’ out of moves, and I’m runnin’ out of plans

Come on Babe, tonight we’ll slay
Those monsters in the dark
Holdin’ the secrets of this tell tale heart
These are the secrets of a tell tale heart
The Last Thing I Ever Do

Our brokenness was on display
I never wanted it this way
What's that line in that Shakespeare play
That parting is such sweet sorrow?
There's no great story, I wish it were
There's no great scene, it's all a blur
I can't even say for sure
Of where I'll be tomorrow

Once more into the breach
I will return
There I'll be born anew
I will break these chains around me tonight
If it's the last thing I ever do

Katie pulled up a stood
Let out a sigh
She said "What is it with this guy?
It seems no matter how hard I try
His heart just isn't in it."
She said "These men, are all the same
They play with love like a parlor game and
I'm the moth drawn to the flame, and
It's gone within a minute."

She said, "So long I've lived here half alive
Bound together with sticks and glue
I will break these chains around me tonight
If it's the last thing I ever do."

I've been pushed and overrun
Been mocked, mistreated and overcome
I'll make right, all I've done wrong
I'll sing to you my love in song

I will rise into the nighttime sky
Take you in my arms so true
I will break these chains around me tonight
If it's the last thing I ever do

Sometimes I wish upon a star
Thinking about where you are
You left me with, a little scar
That I carry everywhere
Ne’er Do Well

If I were Michaelangelo
I would hide my work in shame
I bet even Miss Browning
Would help me count the ways

If I were a sailor
I sailed the stormy seas
If I were your jailer
I would give you all my keys

As I stand outside this wishing well
Searching for a dime
Some might say I’m a ne'er do well
But at least you still are mine

I recall the feeling
Of firing my father’s gun
I dreamt we were two outlaws
Livin' life out on the run

If I were a cowboy
I rode the open plain
I'd sit beside the campfire light and write
Your name in purple sage

If there is a heaven
Do you think they'd let us in
Do you think there's true forgiveness
Will they wash away my sin

If I were still a drunkard
I would share with you my wine
If i were still in shadows
I'd stand to watch you shine

As I check into another cheap hotel
Man, they all look and smell the same
Sometimes I just say Ne'er Do Well
When they ask me for my name

I stand outside the gates of hell
Waiting to pass on through
Some might say I'm a ne'er do well
But at least I still got you
Yeah, at least I still got you
Meadowlark

Burned out from the road
I'm too tired to talk about it
I wanna go home
I'm feelin' kind of sick about it
All the things I wrote
My judgement still seems so clouded
You just seem to float
I'm beside you and I'm drowning

It's a long way from home
Its gettin' further all the time
I feel so alone
In these lonely rooms of wrong and rhyme
My hands they are slipping
Down this ever thinning line
Waiting for the dawn
I do my best to keep holdin' on

The further that you go
Between the borderlines of faith and fear
The less you seem to know
The more things seem crystal clear
The more that you get
The less you feel you really have
The more you regret
The more you feel under attack

It's a long way from home
Further than I've ever been
I feel so alone
In this god forsaken state I'm in
The tether is ripping
I'm falling behind
So far gone
I'll do my best to keep holdin' on

Every once in a while
I'll tell myself I'll be ok
You're just a few miles
And a world away

Every now and then
I can finally get all the voices
To silence in my head
It's a symphony of lousy choices
And the stupid things I've said
It's a minefield of darkened forces and
Unfamiliar beds
That sets me off on uncharted courses

It's a long way from home
Further than I've ever been  
I feel so alone  
Right back in this town again  
The scales they are tipping  
I'm losing my mind  
Waiting for your call  
I'll do my best to keep holdin' on  
I'll do my best to keep holdin' on

**Sometimes When It Rains in Memphis**

Overton Square  
I saw you there  
In that parking lot  
With dreams in your hair  
You said you wanted to get out  
Go anywhere  
Anywhere they didn't know you

Nights on McClean  
Seemed like a dream  
Drivin' around  
More drunk than we seemed  
Feelin' so lost  
Abandoned In-between  
So many things I wanted to show you

Sometimes when it rains in Memphis  
I can still hear you call  
Sometimes when it rains in Memphis  
We didn't know how far we'd fall

Desperate days over in Cooper Young  
Runnin' like outlaws  
We didn't know what from  
Maybe it was that we were just too dumb  
To know these were the best days of our lives

Sometimes when it rains in Memphis  
I can still hear you call  
Sometimes when it rains in Memphis  
We didn't know how far we'd fall

Nights cuddled close in that hideaway bar  
Right here, above my left eye...  
I still go that scar  
When you threw that vodka lemonade mason jar  
We laughed as the blood poured down

Madness on Madison  
In a rented white sedan  
Molly's La Casita, you were holding my hand  
There were things about each other
I guess, we'd never understand
Still, sometimes, I can't help but miss you

Sometimes when it rains in Memphis
I can still hear you call
Sometimes when it rains in Memphis
We didn't know how far we'd fall

_Givin' Up The Ghost_

Once we were like warriors
Once we were like kings
Once we were so young and pure
Flew on dirty wings
Fields of your surrender
Seem like a dream to me now
What you said, I still remember
While you were burning down the house

We're givin' up the ghost
I believe that it's time
I've been trying so long
Trying so hard
But still can't get it right
We got so close
But we couldn't read the signs
Of what mattered most
And what we couldn't leave behind
We're givin' up the ghost

After all that we have been through
After all was said and done
Remember that the hunter
Is the hunted one
Seven years of hunger
Seven years under the gun
These days all I do is wonder
Who we've become

We're givin' up the ghost
I believe that it's time
It's waiting out there
It's ours to find
We got so close
We couldn't read the sign
We're givin' up the ghost
The bells are ringing tonight
We're givin' up the ghost

Scarlet are the curtains
That hang inside your room
I know that you've been hurtin'
I've been hurtin' too
There's a shadow of a gunman
Standing next to your bed
There's a killer on the loose
He's runnin' free in your head
Be careful what you wish for
Be careful what you seek
Sometimes the strongest
Appear as the weak
Sometimes betrayal, is the form of a kiss
Fear is a jail, when you're feelin' like this
There's a time to retreat, a time to advance
So give me one last chance

We're givin' up the ghost
I believe that its time
Let's tear down those walls
That we couldn't climb
We got so close
We couldn't read the sign
Of what matters most
and what we couldn't leave behind
We're givin' up the ghost

Black Tree, Blue Sky

It felt as if i had somebody
Tuggin' at my coat
I was penniless and desperate
On a sinking boat
I turned to my oppressor
To find me, standing there
I sought my confessor
It seemed she didn't care
I looked at her and she at me
We both looked away
There was something on our minds
I guess, we couldn't seem to say
She smiled and drank her coffee
In my oversized shirt
Something deep inside, I guess
She couldn't hide the hurt

I kissed her on the forehead
As I put on my coat
The first thing that I saw outside
Black Tree, Blue Sky

I've been so out of my mind
That I woke up in different States
Somehow checked into cheap motels
With negotiated rates
Sometimes there was blood,
Broken glass, Broken mirrors
Left behind strangers’ clothes
Are the strangest souvenirs
The night can be so hopeful
The night can be so free
In the morning, all you want to do is die
Black Tree, Blue Sky

I passed by a church I use to pray at
When I was young
All the faith that I once had
Has completely come undone
In-between the raindrops
Is where I find a home
Guided by the darkness
That looms when I’m alone

I have blown through fortunes
That were not quite fit a king
I ain't got much to show
Sometimes, I feel it sting
I have opened up my heart
Only to be hurt
I've beckoned the Universe
For the silence to be heard

She must have slipped it in my pocket
As I put on my coat
All that was written on it was "Goodbye...
Black Tree, Blue Sky."

The Wrong Side of Town

Hey there baby
I must be crazy coming here
It seems lately
I ain't thinking very clear
I was hoping
That maybe you’d change your mind
I ain't joking
For tonight I think it’s ours to find

Come on baby
Will you ride with me downtown
Let's get crazy
Drink our troubles down
You always save me
Every time I start to drown
I'll be waiting
Tonight on the wrong side of town

Hey there babe
I must be crazy asking you
It seems lately
It’s all I really wanna do
I was hoping
Yeah, that maybe you’d agree
The doors wide open
If you wanna take a ride with me

Come on baby
Will you ride with me downtown
Let’s get crazy
Drink our troubles down
You always save me
Every time I start to drown
I’ll be waiting
Tonight on the wrong side of town

Feelin’ foolish
The way I always seem to
All I know is
I just wanna be with you
It was my fault
For doing all the things that I did
It was your fault
For loving me through all of it

Let’s confront it
Let’s stare into the great abyss
No more running
In desperate, lonely nights like this
If you ain’t coming
I can’t say I blame you none
I’ve been wondering
Who it is we really have become

Full Moon Goodbye

I know this heart, better than you
I know its scars, and what it’s been through
I know it’s hard, these things that we do
I’m sorry for those dreams, that never came true

There’s something I feel that, nobody knows
How the loneliness echo’s like a murder of crows
We stood face to face, we looked eye to eye
In the pale light of mercy with you
In a full moon goodbye

Forgiveness is hard, regrets are so cheap
There's a war in your heart, and demon filled sleep
Your heart was a stone, I wasn't meant to keep
Your love is a prayer, that I will never repeat

I'll carve your initials on the gates of my heart
So no one would enter, no one dare to start
I'd give my life for you babe, I don't even know why
I let go of your hand, my love, in a full moon goodbye

Funny is not the word, it's not funny at all
I feel so absurd, still here, climbing up the walls
There's white noise, and detours, and songs I can't sing
I'm not even sure, what the hell, is wrong with me

I will confess, I was a mess
The night I spilled wine, and blood on your dress
It hurts more than I, than I could have guessed
I want you to know, that I wish you the best

There's something I feel that, nobody knows
How the loneliness echoes like a murder of crows
Did fate play a hand, or did we just collide
In the pale light of mercy, with you and a full moon goodbye

I know this heart, better than you

Richmond

That house had been in my family
Over 100 years
My father always made sure
We spent our summers there
When my brother said he'd sold it
I shed me some tears
Now I'm goin' back to Richmond

I'm goin' back to Richmond
I wonder if she's there
I remember summer nights out on
The James River Pier
My brother always came through
In buying us beer
Now I'm goin' back to Richmond

I got voices in my head telling me, I'm insane
"Why the hell not?" is now my favorite refrain

My grandfather worked down in the Chesterfield mines
My father moved up north in 1949
"Give me Liberty of Death" he'd say
When he drank moonshine
I'm goin' back to Richmond

I'm goin' back to Richmond
I'll leave later this week
Gonna buy Colonial Downs
and start a new winning streak
I'll sit there by myself and hear
Reveille on repeat
Now I'm goin' back to Richmond

Funny when you try to make sense of the past
Funny how you see the things, you thought would last

Maybe I'll rent a room this weekend
Down in Shockoe Slip
Maybe I'll lie low and bum around town a bit
Maybe I'll go and watch her working
See who she is hangin' with
I'm goin' back to Richmond

The person that you were and the one you became
Someday come face to face, down on memory lane

If she's really happy then I'll be on my way
Come Monday, pick up the money
Waiting down at the bank
Maybe I'll leave a little note beneath her wiper blade
That reads, "I hope all is forgiven, remember slow dancing to Nightswimming
I'll ne
ever forget you or Richmond."

Los Angeles, A Lifetime Ago

Hey Little Santa Monica
You're looking good,
Baby How've you been?
I can't remember when I saw you last
Was it the night, I took it on the chin
I was bruised and bedeviled
Up in Beachwood Canyon that day
I had my foot on the pedal
Yet I couldn't seem to drive away....no way
I don't know what I was thinking
It's hard to say now, I know
That was Los Angeles, A lifetime ago

Polly stumbled into Bordners
She'd been up for 36 hours straight
She said "You know, this time tomorrow
I'll be married to a guy, from a fly over State."
Bella always came to see me
At least every couple of days
I remember that night down on Melrose
When she smiled and said "I think it's better this way, so long babe."
Some dreams don't die easy
Some dreams don't ever seem to grow
That was Los Angeles, a lifetime ago

I was high, up on Highland
Trying to make it back to the 101
The pirates over on Mansfield
Had so much fun, until it all came undone

Some angels just ride easy
Some angels fall so hard
If by chance, you don't believe me
Take a walk down Hollywood Boulevard
Tony Ciao Ciao moved downtown
Cassidy and Me in Silver Lake
We got so tired of hanging around
Just waiting on our big break, which never came
A part of me still lives there
Where the Santa Ana winds still blow
That was Los Angeles, a lifetime ago
Midnight at Formosa
Hey Johnny Mercer is on the radio
That was Los Angeles, a lifetime ago

What If Today Were My Last

What if today were my last
Would I be happy with the way that I lived
Would I be proud I stood up to the wicked
Or be sad with what I didn't give
Would I take what I learned out of loving
Repair all the prayers of the past
You never really know what's coming
What if today were my last

What if today I did laugh
My spirit did dance like a child
What if I found you a fallen rainbow
Gave it to you with a ribbon and smiled
Was I generous enough with my heart
Did I wear my pride like a mask
What if today I were to meet my maker
What if today, were my last

Once we were like warriors
Those days soon came to pass
Once we were like sunshine
What if today, were my last
What if today were my last
Would I be happy with the way that I lived
Would my friends all raise a glass
My trespasses, they would forgive
Would there be such tears and laughter
Boy, it all goes by so fast
Today, I'm gonna make me some changes
What if today, were my last