



Hey La Hey (2009)

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So Am I

Lately you've been actin' awfully angry
You said it feels like your life's passin'
you by
I'm not asking you to save me
You say you're hurtin' baby so am I

The walls we need to climb seem
rather daunting
The fields we need to cross stretch on
for miles
The words you spoke last night were
so haunting
You say you're frightened well baby
So am I

But you never wanna listen
It seems like you wanna go it alone
I don't know what you're missin', and
I hate to admit
But it feels we're sinkin' like a stone

All alone I've been fighting this battle
It seems to me that you don't wanna try
I can hear your death drum begin to
rattle
You say you're tired baby so am I

I'll scream your name until you finally
hear me
I'll scream your name 'neath the
sheltering sky
I wish in this moment your were near
me
You say you're lonely baby so am I

And I'm hollowed and I'm haggard
And I'm in desperate need of a shower
Into these rooms I always stagger
I play my silly role but my act keeps
getting weaker my the hour

Now I hear that you're headed back to
Austin
Now I don't even need to ask why
You can reach me at my sister's house in
Boston
You say you're runnin' baby so am I

Darlin' will you keep a candle burning
cuz this love I refuse to let it die
I can feel you sweet soul softly yearning
You say you're lonely baby so am I
You say you're runnin' baby so am I
If you say you'll hold on baby so will I

Michael McDonald

Hard To Break

Breathe deep my love
Take it nice and slow
Take me to the water
and the bedrock below
Higher than we once were
with nowhere to go
Everything seems so beautiful right now

Darling you should know
That I shall never leave you
even when it's time to go
Sink your teeth into me
and we will watch it grow
Harboring the things we'll never keep
Born of a thousand nights without sleep
It creeps up on you without a sound
and we just keep on fallin' down
I can't believe I fell for it again
I wish that we could leave this place
cuz all these nights are such a waste
Now there's so much more at stake
cuz some habits are so hard to break

Be free my love
Won't you let me be
We can't go on forever
my love can't you see?
Spiraling down, hangin' tight to thee
I have burned my final bridge tonight
I'll destroy this village just to make it right

I ain't proud of things I've done
I ain't proud of what I've become
but I'm getting a little stronger still
I can't say that I'll ever be free
I can't say what this has done to me
but I know I'll fight it all the way
Some habits are so hard to break
Some habits are so hard to break

I Wanna Know Why

I wanna know why, why love never ever seems to last
Somebody tell me why, why love never ever seems to last

Thought I could hold up the sky
and let you walk out of the rain
Tonight it's no surprise
I let you down baby just the same
But there you stood as beautiful as I've ever seen
Babe I ain't no good
I never seem to give
what you seem to need

I wanna know why, why love never ever seems to last
Somebody tell me why, why love never ever seems to last

Lord I hate to say goodbye
Maybe I got a fear of abandonment
Would you look me in the eye
and tell me where, where our love went?
So if you start to cry, you should know you're not the only
one
It feels like you're gonna die
But know a new love someday will come

I wanna know why, why love never ever seems to last
Somebody tell me why, why love never ever seems to last

Over on Sunset and Vine, before my eyes I watched you
disappear
I know we've both been trying, but I think it's time to hit
the highway dear

I wanna know why...

The Great American Novel

second column

4pm she's got a corkscrew in her hands and a bottle
between her legs
She light's a candle, lights some incense, lights a cigarette
and she turns to me and says
"Hey baby will you help me? I think tomorrow I'm
gonna start writing all this down"
But I know come tomorrow she won't be anywhere to be
found

She said "I coulda been anything I wanted, my friends
all say I could have evn been a model" ...yeah
Then she says "Someday" and then she says "Someway
I'll write The Great American Novel"

Mark Twain, Hemingway, Salinger, Roth and Bellow,
Sometimes she'll even recite Bright Eyes
Or Leonard Cohen, or Jonathan Franzen
or Dave Eggers even long after the sunrise
She'll play Rufus, M. Ward, Wilco, Ryan Adams,
and other names I can't recall
She's got books strewn all across her apartment floor
and man I know she's headed for a fall

She said "Maybe I'll write about a seagull and a sailor
or about how far it is to finally reach the bottom" yeah
And then she says "Someday", then she says "Someway
I'll write the Great Ameican novel"

She said "Maybe I'll write about the loneliness of a lone
assassin
Maybe I'll write about the Antabellum South
Maybe it'll be about the Have Nots and Havins
Or maybe about a circus boy born without a mouth"
She mumbles and stumbles and speaks with her hands
and covers her mouth when she talks
She said last night she thought about ending it all
She put down her empty glass and into the kitchen she
walks

Do you think she to get a knife... or a gun?
My guess is she went to get another bottle... yeah...

Maybe sommeday, maybe someway she'll write the
Great American Novel

Room 411

In May she was down in Louisiana
In some border town named Bethany
Looking everywhere for my sweet Hannah
Wondering where my baby could be

Then I heard she crossed over into Texas
That she had a run in with the Dallas PD
If you see her send her a message
I'm coming for my baby to see

Maybe she's moved backt over to London
Maybe she's moved down to Italy
I wonder if it's me from which she's runnin'
Worried about my baby and me

Thinking about her singing to the radio
Thinking of her singing harmony
Worried that her heart might be sinking low
I'm wondering if she's thinkin' of me

I got a lead that she was spotted in Nashville
at 5th Avenue and Taylor Street
She was standing with a man all dressed in black
What's the story with my baby and he

Two nights ago at midnight I left Chicago
And drove overnight to Tennessee
But there ain't a place in this world I wouldn't go
To save the love between my baby and me

But she checked out of room 411
The chambermaid still gave me the key
But I know there's a place in heaven
In heaven for my baby and me

The Year It All Went Wrong

I lost grand in Memphis
I bought a gun in Reno
I sold my train ticket outside Milan
I missed a plane in Dublin
I hopped a boat in Frisco
I miss my pretty girl
Whose memory lingers on
I scarred a scarlet sunset
Painted a fallen rainbow
Took a wrong turn in Tulsa
Wound up in Madison

I dont know if I'll make it to heaven
I can't tell between the sunset and dawn
From May to December I'll always remember
The year it all went wrong

I hurt some friends in New York
I lost my girl from England
I wondered where I might be
Come a year from now
Would I be breathing
Or maybe still be deceiving...
I running out of time
To turn this ship around

I dont know if I'll make it to heaven
I'm not sure what street it's on
Maybe I'll awaken from this dream where I'm forsaken
In the year it all went wrong

I'm searching and seekeng
Though my boat seems to be leaking
and maybe someday I'll find the shore
Where peace flows like river
and the good lord will deliver
On a journey inward toward a heavenly door

I smoked my dreams in Hollywood
Built them back up in Philly
Had friend die in St. Louis
Who was looking to score

Got towed in St. Paul
Got got snowed in, in Denver
Got picked up in Detroit
Got blown off in Baltimore

I dont know if I'll make it to heaven
I dont know if I'm that strong or if I belong
The trouble seems to wilt me but I'm feeling so damned guilty
In the year it all went wrong

Hey La Hey

I ache on the staircase where her secrets seem to roam
It makes me wanna sing her simple songs on her telephone
My toes they tap too quickly when she is standing so close
In her heart I know that she is searching for her mother's ghost

She's been dealt quite a hand, a hand that weaker soul would fold
She's a beacon, she's a brat, and a braisen beauty to behold
There's turbulence inside her now she's facing quite a storm
But in the winter of her heart I swear I'll keep her safe and warm
Beacauce I'm falling in love I think I'm falling in love

I feast at all her tables and I'll sleep upon her floor
and I'll guard against the doubt that dances right outside her door
Beyond my reach she lingers and there she will remain
Every morning in this empty room I'm whispering her name
Because I'm falling in love hey la hey
I think I'm falling in love hey la hey

My mind and my heart they rarely ever will agree
I've been blind for so long, but now I finally see
Because I'm falling in love hey la hey
I think I'm falling in love hey la hey

Inside the fables and the fairy tales and dreams unrealized
Her eyes are open oceans and they see right through my disguise
Capsized, I'm going under and it's much to my surprise
cuz I'm stumblin in her wonder and now I realize it's
because I'm falling in love I think I'm falling in love

I'm drenched with fear and fog and I can't see which way is up
I push away the whiskey in my jar just to drink once from her cup
I think I'm falling in love I think I'm fallling in love

Dream Come True

For the last ten years I've wandered alone
Boots worn out with a heart of stone
I've been looking all over, but looking for what well I hadn't a clue

Like rain from the sky baby you came down
Washing away the sins of this clown
On the day we met I'll confess that I'd had a few
Was down on my luck when lightning struck
You're a dream come true

Work's been slow and the money low
When you get caught in the undertow
I didn't have much faith in anything or anyone I knew
I was set adrift, still on the grift
Carrying weight I couldn't even lift
I told you babe, I've been around the block a time or two
Lying on your bed you brought me back from the dead
You're a dream come true
Come over here, hold me near
You're a dream come true

Uncertainty used to drive me mad
That's why I turned so many good things bad
In other people's eyes it's a surprise, it's a strange milieu
I know it's only been a little while
The heavens open everytime you smile
Let's get out of here, we got a little dirty work to do
Oh my love you're a light from above, you're a dream come true
Your lover and your friend, right to the end
You're a dream come true
I'll show you some things if you spread your wings
You came in one day and you blew me away
You're a dream come true

The Ballad Of Johnny Diversey

Louie and Freddy and the Duke came in
Looking for Johnny and Diamond Jim
Patty she said "I havent seen him for days"
They turned and walked out in a smokey haze
Just then Johnny came in from the back
Looking like a week long heart attack
He lit cigarette and chewed on ice
He said "Tonight I'm leaving for paradise"

Johnny Diversey was my best friend
For as long as I remember when
We parked cars out on the the Clark Street drive
We made just enough man to stay alive
We made our scores boy here and there
Just not enough to get us anywhere
If it worked once it'll probably work twice
It's the way things work down here in paradise

Diamond Jim was new to the scene
He said he just came up from Abilene
But there was something I just didn't trust
Johnny said Jimmy had a plan for us and a grand for us

The day that it went down I knew something was wrong
Johnny came in and brought Diamond Jim along
He told me that I should come with them
That they had someone to meet down at the Lions Den
I said "I think I'm gonna sit this one out"
Johnny looked pissed and threw his hands about
Something about it just didn't feel right
Things would never be the same again in paradise

Johnny said "I gotta disappear for a while "
He threw his arms around me and forced a smile
As he walked away I asked him what had he done
He looked back over his shouder and said "Run along son"
Patty and I we still remanice
About all the crazy things that Johnny D had did
Not sure what he was thinking but he rolled the dice
Things never last too long in paradise
No one ever talks about Diamond Jim
I heard he did a nickel down in Marion
That's all the story I got no advice
There's no advice given here in paradise

Carry Your Cross

I'd carry your cross for you
I'd suffer your loss for you
I'd break all the laws for you
Babe I swear I would

I'd right all your wrongs for you
I think I belong with you
I'd carry your cross for you
If I only could

I'd turn back the time for you
I'd make it unwind for you
You've been on my mind, it's true
You're the shadows in my room

I'd fight any war for you
I'd break down the door for you
I swear I could soar with you
to our house on the moon

I'd take your doubt and fear
when trouble's looming near
Cuz without you love I might just fall apart
We'll find a way I know
I swear it even though
We're readin roadmaps in the dark

I'll carry your cross for you
I swear I'll be tried and true
I'll show you things you never knew
If you dont go

A kingdom I'd create for you
I'd take all your pain for you
Forever I'd wait for you
Cuz I love you so

I'd live and I'd die for you
I'd light up the sky for you
I'd find out why for you
If you didn't know

I hear a blackbird sing timing is everything
and I cant find the door to your heart
My love for you is right here
It's almost we're
reading roadmaps in the dark

When it feels like you're going down
and it feels like your wings are bound
My love I swear I'll be
I'll be coming around