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# HIT ME BACK

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**Release Date | 2012**

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## HIT ME BACK

I hit the bottle pretty hard last night  
I've been wound up a little too tight  
I hit the bottle so hard, in fact  
That this morning it hit, it hit me back

Woke up this morning with my head on the floor  
You see, my ego was bruised,  
and my keys in the door  
I was 40 minutes late, and still fighting a war  
Time couldn't go much slower

And I can't quite remember just what I had done  
Whatever it was, I'll tell myself I had fun  
The day's gonna be long and its only begun  
And I couldn't feel much lower,  
no I couldn't feel much lower  
I couldn't feel much lower

I hit the bottle pretty hard last night  
I've been wound up a little too tight  
I hit the bottle so hard, in fact  
That this morning it hit, it hit me back

I was trying to remember what it was  
that she said  
When I was trying so hard to get into her bed  
She said it with a laugh and patted my head  
And told me I should be going

And I can't quite remember just how I got home  
All I know is that man, I hate being alone  
Maybe it's time I start to atone  
For these seeds I have been sowing,  
seeds I have been sowing

I hit the bottle pretty hard last night  
I've been wound up a little too tight  
I hit the bottle so hard, in fact  
That this morning it hit, it hit me back

I hit the bottle pretty hard last night  
I've been wound up a little too tight  
I hit the bottle so hard, in fact  
That this morning it hit, it hit me back

My head is pounding  
Like a mission bell  
I dream of heaven, here in hell

What's in a prayer, and what's in a song  
Is it something that makes us all feel we belong  
Is it comfort for the soul  
when something is wrong  
When you're going through nasty weather

Maybe tonight I'll start all over again  
Find some comfort in a lover, or maybe a friend  
This kind of streak is liable to end  
Tomorrow's gonna seem much better

I hit the bottle pretty hard last night  
I've been wound up a little too tight  
I hit the bottle so hard, in fact  
That this morning it hit, it hit me back

I hit the bottle pretty hard last night  
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## LET IT GO (INCANTATION)

Somewhere in middle America, I was at the end of my rope  
Everything I'd worked for, was going up in smoke  
Been too long running, too long from right  
Everything changed, on that October night.... here we go

I'm gonna let it roll, let it roll, let it roll out of control  
I'm gonna let it go, let it go, let it go, let it go

Harbor lights reflected, on the waters of my soul  
You took all these pieces and somehow made it whole  
You took my regret and emptiness and somehow made me proud  
Been lost for so long, Hallelujah, now I'm found... here we go

I'm gonna let it roll, let it roll, let it roll out of control  
I'm gonna let it go, let it go, let it go, let it go

And I raise white flag into the nighttime sky... here we go  
I'm gonna let it go, let it go, let it go, let it go

Scarred like a sunset, meek as a lamb  
Love can be the answer that you don't understand  
My faith was under fire, I was drawing my last breath  
Then you mended my heart... here we go

Shame is a language, I've always understood  
Fear is a doorway, that's made of rotted wood  
Temptations linger, like the barnacles of time  
Salvations singing in this carnival of mine... here we go

I'm gonna let it roll, let it roll, let it roll out of control  
I'm gonna let it go, let it go, let it go, let it go

And I raise white flag into the nighttime sky... here we go  
I'm gonna let it go, let it go, let it go, let it go

I'm gonna let it roll, let it roll, let it roll  
I'm gonna let it go, let it go, let it go, let it go

**PRETTIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD**

She's got a boy's name,  
but she looks like a woman  
She sounds like the rain,  
I can always hear her coming  
She's no ordinary dame,  
at least not where I'm from

Maybe she is an heiress to a royal family  
Maybe she's from Paris, or off the coast of Italy  
Because nothing about this,  
is familiar to me at all

Her scent seems to linger,  
when she's passing by  
One of these days,  
she's gonna look me in the eye, oh my

She's the prettiest girl in the world  
If I had a chance I would  
She's the prettiest girl in the world  
At least in my neighborhood

She's got a cross around her neck,  
A feather hangs from her hair  
She's got a supermodel's gate,  
And a silent era stare  
She's a true original,  
Ain't no one could compare to her

My heart seems to race, when I see her face,  
I wanna take her by the hand and say,  
"Let's get out of this place tonight"

She's the prettiest girl in the world  
If I had a chance I would  
She's the prettiest girl in the world  
At least in my neighborhood

Down on the corner we watch and wait  
For her to come struttin'  
through Saint Martin's Gate  
And you can hear her singin'  
La la la la la la

There's a cafe down the block,  
Where she likes to read her books  
Yeah she's pretty smart,  
At least from the way she looks  
Her raven hair it lingers,  
like some kind of legend  
I bet she was born on the Southside of heaven  
My insides are out and my legs get weak  
When she gets too close  
the only thing I can think is  
Hot Damn...

She's the prettiest girl in the world  
If I had a chance I would  
She's the prettiest girl in the world  
Hot Damn...

She's the prettiest girl in the world  
Maybe someday I would  
She's the prettiest girl in the world  
At least in my neighborhood

## DREAMS ABOUT TRAINS

I have these dreams about trains  
At least a couple times a week  
I wake startled and breathless  
I can't form the words to speak  
It takes me a second to recover  
I need to take a look around  
Each one is different from the other  
I wake to hear not a sound

I have these dreams about trains  
I have these dreams about trains  
I have these dreams about trains

Some are east bound steam trains for the coast  
Some are bearing down on me  
Some come through the fallen snow  
Some are carrying a casket  
Some have people inside  
Some lay pennies in its path  
Some come from the mountainside

I have these dreams about trains  
I have these dreams about trains  
I have these dreams about trains

Last call, all aboard, come along now all ye ghosts  
And the conductors before me  
Are in the bar giving a toast, we have miles to go before we sleep  
And there are bridges we need to cross  
The woods are lovely, dark and deep

I have these dreams about trains  
Some are to reunite lovers  
When I see a black plume of smoke  
I know they're safe, in the arms of one another  
Some will salute as it's passing by  
I can feel their engines are running hot  
I have these dreams about trains  
I don't think they're ever gonna stop

I have these dreams about trains  
I have these dreams about trains  
I have these dreams about trains

## I KNOW A PLACE

I know a place, down in Texas  
It's up near Fort Worth, called The Thorny Crown  
I was there, in the late Nineties  
When I was rovin' town to town  
I'm not sure if it's still there  
I kinda doubt it would be  
I woke up that morning, with blood on my pillow  
Sometimes you need the chains to get free

I know a place, in Mississippi  
Called Hal and Mal's I think its Tupelo  
Or was it Jackson, or maybe Biloxi, or Tunica  
Hell, I don't know  
All I remember, is the feelin'  
That I wouldn't make it out of there alive  
Because sometimes, you need the darkness  
In order to ever see the light

So many miles I have traveled  
So many a dim lit bar  
Because when things, start to unravel  
You're gonna find out who you are

I know a place, on the upper west side  
In New York City, The Dublin' House its name  
I met a girl there, on 9-11  
Her name was Jill, or Judy, or Jane  
She was younger, she was wilder than me

She thought she was smarter than everyone  
Over a pint, she said around midnight  
"Sometimes you gotta lose, to know  
when you've won"

I don't know why, they call it Stanley's  
It's in Chicago, and Donnie is the man  
When I was stugglin' and I had no money Donnie  
Kruse lended me his hand  
Ten years later, I'm still working  
Providing for my daughter and wife  
Because sometimes, you need the darkness  
In order to ever see the light

So many miles I have traveled  
So many a dim lit bar  
Because when things, start to unravel  
You're gonna find out who your friends really are

So many miles I have traveled  
So many a dim lit bar  
Because when things, start to unravel  
You're gonna find out who you are

Yeah sometimes, you feed the darkness  
Yeah sometimes, you heed the darkness  
Yeah sometimes, you need the darkness  
In order to ever see the light

**EVER AFTER**

Moving through the room  
I was looking back to see just where you are  
Six weeks by your bedside, praying for a miracle  
Or shooting star  
Every night I see your face  
Every morning there's not a trace

Cruel is the daylight  
That doesn't let you see what you know is true  
I can hear your voice  
And see your smile that I would always see,  
when I saw you  
It's so lonely in this place  
I feel I've fallen from grace

I don't know how to grieve  
I just can't believe that you're gone  
I can't even breathe  
There's only memories left to linger on  
Left to linger on

The further we went on,  
I knew something was wrong  
I felt it in my gut  
I thought Pandora was joking  
When she said some doors that open  
won't ever shut  
Like a lion in a cage,  
My hands are fists of rage

I don't know how to grieve  
I just can't believe  
That you're gone  
I can't even breathe  
There's only memories left to linger on

There's a war I gotta fight  
For my faith down here tonight  
I'm not that strong  
I can't even breathe  
There's only memories left to linger on  
Left to linger on

Ashes will scatter,  
Love was all that mattered  
When you were here with me...  
You ain't coming home

I don't know if it's true,  
I heard you got somebody new  
Watching over you  
They say you moved uptown  
And the place that you have now  
Has got a lovely view  
I wish you were still here  
It's not the same without you dear

I don't know how to grieve  
I just can't believe  
That you're gone  
I can't even breathe  
There's only memories left to linger on  
There's a war I gotta fight  
For my soul down here tonight  
I'm not that strong  
I can't even breathe  
There are only memories left to linger on  
Left to linger on  
You ain't coming home

## SCARS FROM ANOTHER LIFE

Hallelujah...the choir they all sang  
As I walked by St. Mary's in a misty rain  
'Twas so long ago, I think it was yesterday  
I was so down, I had completely lost my way  
When I hit Broadway I began to realize  
That all they are, are scars from another life

Percy drank his coffee then said to me  
I've been thinking about where the river meets the sea  
I've been pickin' poison fruit from a troubled tree  
Because sometimes it seems your past won't let you be  
You can kill it with a gun if you do it right  
Or run that far from the scars from another life  
Singin' Hey La Hey La Hey La Hey  
Scars from another life

I'd been blessed with love but threw it away  
Now I wait for it to return everyday  
And say "You're forgiven boy...you deserve another chance"  
You'll wrap [throw] your arms around me and to Sinatra we will dance  
"One more for the road" in a holy light  
Won't you sway with me babe...with the scars from another life

Singin' Hey La Hey La Hey La Hey  
Scars from another life  
Singin' Hey La Hey La Hey La Hey  
Scars from another life  
Don't run away, they're scars from another life  
Don't be afraid, they're scars from another life  
Won't you sway with me babe...

I smoke these haunted memories every night  
While I think about the scars from another life

## IS THERE A KISS LEFT ON YOUR LIPS

Is there a kiss left on your lips  
One that beckons me to bow  
That leaves me dancing on a rainbow  
Or some heavenly cloud  
That shakes my walls to wonder  
And makes me feel so proud  
Is there a kiss left on your lips  
One that beckons me to bow

Is there a kiss left on your lips  
One that I could taste  
That I could put deep in my pocket  
So it wouldn't go to waste  
Or I could put it in a locket  
With a picture of your face  
Is there a kiss left on your lips  
One that I could taste

Is there a kiss left on your lips  
One that I could save  
That would go on forever  
At least maybe for days  
With purity and passion  
It'll help me change my ways  
Is there a kiss left on your lips  
One that I could save

Is there a kiss left on your lips  
Even though I made you sad  
When the nights playing tricks  
With what we could have had  
Lord what were we thinking  
To get us actin' like that  
Is there a kiss left on your lips  
Even though I made you sad  
Is there a kiss left on your lips  
Babe I hate to have to ask

**SHE'S GONNA KILL ME**

Comin' home at the break of dawn  
Baby, three nights in a row  
She still keeps all the house lights on  
As I walkin' on my tip toes  
Shouldn't have driven...but I couldn't  
have stayed  
I knew the trouble I was in  
'Twas a hand I shouldn't have played  
I knew there was no way to win

I swear she's gonna kill me  
If I don't kill me first  
I swear she's gonna kill me  
If I don't kill me first

The night is young, like I used to be  
But I'm still actin' like it  
Running around so wild and free  
But in these scenes I don't fit  
Closing time is a frequent line...  
When I'm howling at the moon  
I tell myself that I'm just fine  
But I runnin' right into ruin

I swear she's gonna kill me  
If I don't kill me first  
I swear she's gonna kill me  
If I don't kill me first

She swore that she would thrill me  
But left me dying here of thirst  
I swear she's gonna kill me  
If I don't kill me first

High wire walker, smooth drunk talker  
I just don't know when to quit  
I'm tired of these lies and all these alibies  
And of all the grief...all the grief that I get

I better go or maybe one for the road  
The damage is already done  
She doesn't know that I love her so  
But I still like to have my fun  
Bars are closed, but Nino knows  
A place that will let us in  
Stay for a while...tell some jokes with style  
Talk a little treason and sin

I swear she's gonna kill me  
If I don't kill me first  
I swear she's gonna kill me  
If I don't kill me first  
She swore that she would thrill me  
But left me dying here of thirst  
I swear she's gonna kill me  
If I don't kill me first

## A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL

I made a deal with the devil  
The night before last  
It was down in the hollow  
The river was rolling fast  
The timberwolves were howling  
His hand felt so cold  
I made a deal with the devil for my soul

In a tavern in Wyoming  
Is where I first saw Slim  
With his jailhouse tattoo and his gold tooth grin  
Ten miles outside of Cheyenne  
Is where I dug his hole  
I made a deal with the devil for my soul

I saw a ring of fire down in the hollow  
I saw cabin and a lantern over there  
I saw the ghost of my father  
By the gravestone of my mother  
With fire in his hair

Kansas came and went,  
like some nomadic dream  
It was out on the borderline  
I heard someone scream

There are hellhounds on my trail  
There are witches in the knoll  
I made a deal with the devil for my soul

Jesus O' Jesus  
Lord what have I done  
I have lived a life of sin  
And it can't be undone  
Maybe someday soon like Judas  
I'll be hanging from a rope  
I made a deal with the devil for my soul

There's blood in the moonlight  
There's whiskey in my jar  
No matter how far you run  
He always knows where you are  
He's around every corner  
He's at the end of every road  
I made a deal with the devil for my soul  
Someday soon, I will have to pay I know  
I made a deal with the devil for my soul

## THE SILENT WILL SOON BE SINGING

From the mansions to the slums  
 Pick your pen, your sword, your gun  
 as your defender  
 Through the years not much has changed  
 What is Caesars, you still gotta render  
 Deception and deceit are still rulers of the street  
 If you haven't noticed  
 And if there's a God above, who wants us  
 to love  
 I wish He'd show us

Yeah, I've been around the block  
 I see that freedom's got a shotgun  
 named Violence  
 From the mountaintop I see Dr. Martin  
 Luther King  
 Sitting in silence  
 He asks "what's gone so wrong?"  
 While I sing a simple song  
 and I wonder  
 What happened to those wings and  
 all the things  
 That kept us from going under

This world has all gone mad  
 It's funny and its sad  
 But I can hear the freedom bells a ringin'  
 Jesus wept and said, "Rise again ye dead  
 For the silent will soon be singin'"

The Mercy home on 3rd  
 Nobody ever spoke a word about the sadness  
 Michael's sister had been slain  
 They thought it was a Latin King  
 in all its madness  
 Down the desperate corridors  
 He walks into those darkened doors  
 Where was he going?  
 Not a shoulder he could weep  
 For all these nights he couldn't sleep,  
 for there was no one

The elderly all stare like statues in a chair  
 Late in the morning

I don't see them talk at all,  
 Sometimes they stare into a wall  
 Until its disturbing  
 Their eyes so far away  
 While they relive a distant day  
 when they were something  
 And it breaks my heart in two  
 It seems there's little I can do,  
 So I do nothing

This world has all gone mad  
 It's funny and it's sad  
 There's no telling what it will be bringing  
 I can only hope and pray  
 That there will come a day  
 When the silent will soon be singing

Oppression hides in fear  
 Anger is always near, in times like these are  
 Like the times of Ancient Rome  
 Like the battle for the throne after J. Caesar  
 Tis nobler in the mind, not to suffer all the time  
 Is that the lesson?  
 By land or by sea  
 To be or not to be, is that the question?

The bible says this too shall pass  
 The curse of the starving class  
 Lives through the ages  
 From the mountains to the caves  
 Among the poor, the knaves,  
 the prophets and the sages  
 The willful and the weak  
 Will not find the strength to speak  
 of those forgotten  
 We all reap what we sow  
 Maybe silence isn't golden, it's rotten

The world has all gone mad  
 It's funny and its sad...  
 But I can hear the freedom bells a ringin'  
 Jesus wept and said,  
 "Rise again ye dead  
 For the silent will soon be singin'"

## WHERE THE RIVER MEETS THE SEA

Where the river meets the sea  
Where my Lord comforts me  
The demons let us be  
Where the river meets the sea

Where the river meets the land  
Where the weak begin to stand  
The lost will understand  
Where the river meets the land

Where the sea meets the sky  
Where the wounded will fly  
Where the prayers come down from on high  
Know I'll be standing by

Where the river meets the sea  
Where it sounds like a symphony  
Where the blind will finally see  
Where the river meets the sea

Where the river is at its end  
And it carries you like a friend  
The broken will begin to mend  
They shall rise again

Where the river meets the sea  
Where my Lord comforts me  
I know someday we'll be  
Where the river meets the sea

Where love will set us free  
Where the river meets the sea

## **ITALY**

In Italy, I learned to stand  
In Italy, I became a man  
In Italy, where passion lives  
In Italy, where dreaming gives

In Italy, the bells will ring  
In Italy, your heart will sing  
From Como Lake, To Ancient Rome  
This Americano found a home

We once fought,  
Now there is peace  
Married mi esposa,  
In the East  
So many friends,  
I have met  
So many things,  
I won't forget

In Italy, the bells will ring  
In Italy, your heart will sing  
From Como Lake, To Sicily  
This Americano is finally free

In Italy, the bells will ring  
In Italy, your heart will sing  
From Como Lake, To Ancient Rome  
This Americano found a home