

Celestial Songbook II

MORE SONGS 'N STORIES 'N LYRICALS

**Creations for Music or Reading,
including Ballads, Modern Country,
Folk, Blues, New Age Spiritual, Comedy**

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Interested in songwriting collaboration?**

39 SONGS 'n STORIES 'n LYRICALS by Jim Cleveland INCLUDING:

Angel Baby -- In remembrance and love of a daughter lost.

As Time Goes -- Contemplative verse on the horror of terrorism and the challenge of forgiveness.

Closer On -- Chronicling the journey to Light and the rapturous feelings therein.

Ever Fair -- A song of listening to the moment, the instant, the lovestream, to live in grace.

Feet of Clay -- An anthem to the suffering masses and a call for global and personal spiritual salvations.

First Five Minutes -- Recounting those glorious moments when we reach Heavenly shores, an upbeat spiritual celebration.

God Speaks for Free -- Such a life, of freedom and strife, of promise and darkness at midnight. But God's judgment in the end will bring us to the spiritual light of redemption and saving grace

Hope I Never -- A personal reminder to stay young in the spirit and share the love.

Inner State of Blue -- A truckdriver ballad, moderate tempo longings of a trucker for his lady back home while traversing the "Interstate" and "inner state" of blues.

Learning Love Today -- Spiritual ballad about our struggle for enlightenments, with humility, optimism, and affirmative faith.

Life's Okay -- A humorous but thought-provoking imaginary dialogue with God, in which the human gets surprising reassurances that everything's going by plan. Maybe we worry too much.

Light and Life -- A testament in faith to tomorrow, when an era of Light and Life will wash the world in a lovestream.

Lives and Lines -- Soulful spiritual ballad about the various illogical lines that forever divide people, and how we can break through them with the power of love.

Love Around Here Today -- Majestic spiritual ballad about great changes underway and coming, and how we can make the choice to surround ourselves with love everywhere, everyday.

Love is All -- A celebration of the ultimate oneness of loveliness.

Love is You -- Romantic tribute to a special woman, who is always loving.

Love Sees You Through -- Love is indeed all we need, and it sees us through many a trial and situation. A happy and affirming spiritual ballad.

Lovestreams -- a short verse that celebrates love channeling.

Loving Grace by Me -- A plea to the Universal Father for a gift of grace to help us in our days of challenge.

Momentary Gloom -- Melancholy questions about life in the material world, and the light of spirit that can lift us to higher purpose.

Pathways of Light -- Tribute to the Heavenly Father who forever guides us to the light.

Patience to Paradise -- A gentle urging to apply patience with faith in the eternal spiritual quest.

Peace I Need, The -- Wistful, slow-tempo yearning for the elusive feeling of spiritual peace.

Places of the Heart -- A spiritual anthem urging us to center our lives within our hearts, to grow ourselves through service.

Rainy Road to You -- Breakaway upbeat guitar song, with a hitchhiking picker braving the rains and a busted pocketbook to get home to the One.

Shine a Smile -- A spiritual ballad urging us to give smiles freely each day, and find the ways of spiritual service.

Sins Repeating -- A mournful verse of the cycle of sin.

Soul Rising -- A celebration of the soul's journey, from personally within onward and upward to grand destiny.

Spirit Came -- A change of perspective, coming from spiritual growth, and how it brightens the path.

Spirit Days -- Tribute to the light of the spirit within us, and an urging to live in that love light every day.

Stronger Lights (Ode to Father) -- A joyous sound of upbeat rhyme that offers love to the Heavenly Father.

This Time Between -- Wondering aloud about how we were an idea finally turned to dust, and whether our lives have meanings rooted in love and caring in the "everything" time between.

Those Who Say -- A short verse that looks at human differences and indifferences.

To Be Perfectly Fair -- A provocative epic poem of spiritual ironies and insights.

Train Coming, A -- An uptempo anthem to our ongoing spiritual awakening, using the allegory of a train crossing the landscape. Happy and affirmative. Grab hold!

Up to Green -- A fantasy story-poem about one who dares to reach up into the green mountains for a mysterious spiritual force, a beautiful and forbidden fawn with long red hair and the deepest of eyes.

Very First Event of Modern Life, The -- Romantic ballad about a would-be lover who asks her to forget all that went before and start anew with him -- here, tonight.

Wash This Ground -- A passionate plea to turn from violence and war to redeeming love and grace.

When Spirit Is Free -- Celebrating the potential brilliance of lovelight that can come from the unhibited search for God and Grace.

ANGEL BABY

I saw you come into the world
in mama's sweat and blood
You looked out in eyes of wonder
to things not understood.
On verge of tears, or even fears
Warmth now torn asunder
and cast upon the human scene
as if in some great blunder.

And in that brightening surging moment,
we looked in wonder too
washed in life's great splendor
These moment's eyes immersed in you
Any suffering we must take
or death to make you live
We gladly make this promise now
with all the love that we can give.

Chorus:

*And I knew, forever, you'd be an angel baby
I'd always see you just the way you looked tonight
in the innocence of newborn glory
for our hearts to hold together
Angel baby may we keep you pure and light
Angel baby precious love child, ever bright.*

I saw you come from schoolhouse doors
all bright and washed in growing
and smiled at all the joys you did
seeds of brightness sowing
A woman then, in soon surprise
sharing mind and choosings
and our pride matured in a relationship
of friendship, laughter, musings.

*And I knew, forever, you'd be my angel baby
I'd always see you just the way you looked that night
in the innocence of newborn glory
for our hearts to hold together
Angel baby may we keep you pure and light
Angel baby precious love child, ever bright.*

I saw them take you from the scene
washed in blood and glare
sudden shock of horror chance
ended her right there.
Now, visions are all that's left
that well up and fill with longings
But angels come and kiss me gently
and tell me of fond homecomings.
And I see and hear her in passing clouds
as days and I grow old
And I love those moments that waft on by
memories that soothe my soul.

She is still with me.

And I know, forever, you'll be an angel baby
I'll always see you just the way you looked that night
in the innocence of newborn glory
for our hearts to hold together
Angel baby may we keep you pure and light
Angel baby precious love child, ever bright.

AS TIME GOES

(Tribute to the Oklahoma City bombing victims)

When the hatred struck, why were they there
to pay with their lives, such great despair?
And as our lives unfold, we ask why we're here.
Will we find true grace above the fear?
Will we learn to allow God's peace ... everywhere?

Tragedies strike our time and space
To this troubled world more sad disgrace.
Can we learn to not judge each other in wrath
for bygone horrors now buried in past
Make love that rises above it ... every place.

What corridors of the mind could lead to all this
where children are murdered, all honor amiss
from blindness, resentment of things thought unfair
running in fear turned to hate-filled stare
To strike out in cowering madness,... soul set adrift.

What corridors of my mind will lead me to know
that in faith all who died are already bestowed
to heavenly homes while we suffer our loss
look at the doers, hope to figure the costs.
Maybe peace should come because ... our Father knows.
and in Heaven will settle the score ... as time goes.

Will we forgive them their madness or does it matter?
The Father brings justice without our bother.
But we have them here now on mortal soil.
To decide upon their fates is our toil.
And wonder if forgiveness might take us farther.

(CHORUS)

Everywhere, every place
souls float adrift as time goes.
Bring horrors to bear and sudden despair
in compassion we care, as time goes.
Angels en masse are up to the task
They bring us to grace when our time goes.
Bury the dead. Their spirits rise instead
There we will rise when our time goes.

CLOSER ON

Closer you will be
To Paradise and free,
To feel the joyous love
Through eternal history
Take these steps in daily life
Reach up to love above the strife
In time you'll perfect your daily quest
To feel the goodness that God bequests

Closer on and ever be,
Ascending pilgrim, strong and free
Sing the song of joyful praise
To love eternal your voices raise
The age is here when dark will fall
Lights the way for one and all
Lift us up in Jesus light
He shone for God to set us right.

Here we stand at break of dawn
To feel the radiance, hear Angels' songs
Our tears of joy will flow the streets
Embrace the strangers that we meet.
Where each is weak, embraced we're strong
To feel the love the whole day long.
The meek shall rise. The true get blessed
And Christ's great mercy shine on the rest

Bring the lost into the light
Expunge the darkness. Give us sight.
For love is best when joyous shared
With each and all in all that's said.

EVER FAIR

Listen to the moment
It has its own special way to meet the air
that flows around us ever gently without a care.
Your face is all around me
Ever fair

Listen to the instant
sunshine streaming down upon your face and hair
that blows around you ever gently in the air
Your beauty fills my eyes.
You're ever fair

Listen to the lovestream
In the silence, feel it vibrant. It's to share.
Flow it gently all around you because you care
Our love is all around us
Ever fair.

CHORUS

*Ever fair
Let the smile from inner brightness
fill this place
Let our laughter show the way
to win the race.
Want to be here now forever
May this minute be always there
May the climates of our lives be
ever fair.*

FEET OF CLAY

There are people making money out of other people's grief
The dealer finds his prey in darkened doorways bereft
I've seen the women sell their bodies for a price
I've seen the thieves clean out the warehouses of rice
that was meant for all the refugees on the trails
Bone-wracked bodies stumbling away from earthly hells
wrought by men who want the wealth that will not last.
They will die in the hell they make. That die is cast.

There are people taking millions and living lavishly
While children suffer hunger and hope is dying by degree
There are CEOs and henchmen living high at Hilton Head
While the weak without a dollar fall down on Skid Row dead.
There are people who despise the unschooled poor
Though they have the power to open many doors
There are people who blame our troubles on the weak
All the while they're putting more upon the streets.

There are people sending other people's children off to war
And in the end, it's not for certain what all the death is for.
There are people making money from all the strife
that kills the truth and beauty and goodness in our lives.
There are people who are strong in all their weaknesses of force
On feet of clay, they blunder backwards in self-righteousness hate so coarse
But one day they'll awake to see what they have learned
in a final judgement of spirit values, bereft in lives of scorn
of all the glory that God gave us every day
while we struggled for home on mortal feet of clay.

CHORUS

Will the world ever change?
Only if we make it.
Will the evil finally reign
Or will we forsake it?
Will peace on earth come our way?
It's ours. We can take it
by giving love every moment of the day
Giving love brings the peace. No other way
to get to Heaven on these earthly feet of clay.

FIRST FIVE MINUTES

First five minutes on the other side
Wonder where I've just arrived
There's joy and dancing and kissing and hugging
Looks like I really might be in Heaven.

First five minutes on the other side
My grin's a'bursting. Nothing to hide.
Here's parents and grandparents and friends by the dozens
and time now to greet each and every one of 'em.

First five minutes on the other side
Glad my faith didn't ever subside
When it looked like the darkness might finally win
I always turned to God again.

First five minutes on the other side
Now I know that my faith never lied
And Father led me truly to find this time
of joyful splendor and perfect rhyme.

First five minutes on the other side
Most amazing time that could ever abide
We'll never forget on eternity's ride
That first five minutes on the other side.

FREEDOM ON A TRAIN

I have scaled majestic mountains, flowed like grass on sweeping plains
I have swam the briny ocean, never returned at all the same.
I found people where I found them, wishing peace to be their gain
and I left them like I found them. Pretty much they seemed the same.
Found that changes always happen while some people never can
and their same eternal lessons are what comes around again.

A train will come at midnight. You don't know from whence it came
Gather souls in all their sadness and erase the mark of Cain
One day a train will come upon you and wait darkly in the rain
You will find a window and you'll leave behind your pain.
Your train will surge past midnight, charging headlong fast and free
as you watch the constant passing of the fated family tree

We live here in the mountains, and on bare or fruited plains
as we carry on the nature of the evolving human train
In a garden made by God for our growth by our own degree
in the precious hands of Mother as we brighten by Divine Decree
As spirits made in flesh form I know our souls will ever be
if we seek the light of Father then this splendor we will see

CHORUS

*Turn the nights into days
The midnight train is coming
It will take you to the morning
in the brightness you will see
that the sunlight comes from Heaven
given now to you and me
And when we tune the silence
God will speak to us for free*

HOPE I NEVER

As years go by, we're prone to sigh
Know we'll never be serene
As years go by, while we just try
to survive this changing scene

As time rolls on, we look forlorn
at what we could have been
while the world's misplaced its saving grace
We wish for that grace again.

The ages go, generations turn
Each one a part of the plan
that quickens life and seeds it here
and there across each land.

As time grows short, we hope to leave
some comforts and wisdom dear
our children can heed and know is true
to help them conquer fears.

And know that life can be so grand
if they will make it so.
Because they shared God's gift of love
and made the spirit grow.

In these ending days, we feel the craze
of wars and suffering blight
But we do see and we do feel
the coming of the light

When the orgastic doom has played its tune
and left its shameful mark
We'll know to embrace the peaceful grace
that conquers all the dark.

(Chorus)

*I hope I never grow too old to see the new ways
That the children can apply to carry on.*

*Hope I never grow too old to bless the new day
That I would leave in loving hands to pay my loan
Hope I never am too old to be a child at play
And let our spirits sing together Heaven's song
Hope I never grow too old to feel the spirit ray
That shines upon us when we talk to God alone.
One day, He'll bring us ever gently to our home*

INNER STATE OF BLUE

(1)

It is a job like many others. It is a day like yesterday
It's these places that aren't home to me, yet own me in every way.
It is a road that finds no ending. It is a line that threads the night
White and streaming, never-bending, like some endless, useless fight.
Altogether it's the Interstate of Blue
that I wish I could be turnin' home to you.

My life is on the road away from everyone I love
Ridin' high upon the night while pale moon shines above.
The concrete groan never sounds so sad as when I'm missing you.
And that is always happening on this interstate of blue
And I'm feelin' hard the missin' in my inner state of blue.

(2)

I pulled into Johnny's Road King and had a steaming cup of brew
got the hamburger on the special, settled in with this picture of you.
In this dark cab of a lonely runner, on a pillow of palest blue
Go to sleep on this rumbling roadside by this Interstate of Blue.
When this run has turned back homeward I will turn again to you,
With all my passion that is rolling from my inner state of blue.

CHORUS

*He's truck drivin' flyin' down that Interstate of rockin', rollin' wheels.
He's got the touch that spins that rig with the mirrors in his mind and his feel.
He's a high ridin' highway hound, bound for runnin' glory
But the one he left in Abilene is the rest of his life's story.
So he's headin' home to see his Betty Sue
in the night upon this Interstate of Blue.*

LEARNING LOVE TODAY

Several years ago,
My life came rushing up to meet me going wrong
Several years ago,
I found a way to turn my ears to spirit's song
And in the years since then
I've found the peace of mind that knowing Jesus brings
And now I look ahead
To share this goodness with a heart that wants to sing
And hope to share that love for love's the grandest thing
Several years ago, I didn't know a thing.

Several weeks ago,
I passed a beggar who was suffering on the street
Just several weeks ago,
I failed to call a friend who had really gotten beat
And just a few days ago,
I got so mad I failed to open up my heart
And got hurt again.
When you judge someone, it takes you all apart.
A few weeks ago, I was still trying to find the ring
Just a few days ago, I still hadn't found a thing.

Several days ago,
I hugged the friends that I loved most in all the world
Just a few hours ago,
I took some groceries down to the center for orphan girls
And I fed the birds,
And watched them fly up in the sky on soaring wings
Several seconds ago,
Said I'd try to make each moment from now on bring
the smile of peace to those who suffer and ease the sting
Right this minute, I learned that sharing love's the thing.

CHORUS

*The only way to get love is to give it
The only way to give love is to do it.
The only way to live love is each minute
The only way to find love is to share it.
The only time to enjoy love is always
The only way to share love is every way*

SONGS2/jimcleveland@ameritech.net

*The only way to make love is night or day
With love there's always a way.
Hope I'll learn a thing or two about it today.*

LIGHT AND LIFE

Light and life is where the world will one day be
In light we'll see the way that life should be
Then we'll open to let the light burst clear and free
When we learn to love each branch of the family tree.

Light and life is coming to our children's children
Light and life will bless the future's countless millions
For I know the Father's love will never die
It will shine within our souls from up on high
And bring forth a glorious, brightening, sunny day
And the darkness will all vanish in its way.

Generations will have risen and many fallen
Before this light and life can touch the future's children
For time and space worlds are glorious reflecting prisms
That will one day shine the love back up to Heaven.
And all the time that it will take to learn to love
Is by the plan God made for each of us to serve.

(CHORUS)

*Light and life
Every light will shine
Light and life
God's eternal love sublime
Light and life
A distant future chimes
Light and life
I can hear it in these silent bells inside*

LIFE'S OKAY

(1)

I laid the other night in a restless sleep
Gone to bed humbled, having fumbled,
feeling like a creep.
Then I dreamed God came down and told me:
Don't weep.
You're still my kid. I'll take care of you.
Go to sleep.

CHORUS

*I reckon things is gonna be okay.
Sure I know there's always a better way
We ain't takin' it most times but, you know ... Hey!
We'll get to Heaven if we just give love away.
I have it on higher authority that it'll be okay.
'Cause the Father 's here to help us live our days
and just asks that we have faith that life's okay.*

(2)

Well, how can you say that, I thought to God in my bed
How can you possibly figure that life is gettin' ahead?
Well, God might say, we'll take a look
We'll see the truth, not what's in some book
To get it on record, the truth is often forsook
Why, in Nixon's book, he says he's not a crook.

No disrespect, dear God, but let's look at our sorry history, I said.

Yes, He replied. Look at what you've overcome, plus you're not dead.
We killed the Indians, you know, and the Buffalos, really dumb.

Well, they're up here with Me now, said God
Smokin' their peace pipes all over kingdom come.

Well, I countered, look at what the Germans did to the Jews

Good thing you can just kill the bodies, God said, or you'd be bad news
The Promised Land turned out to be Heaven; they really didn't lose.

But, I protested, some churches just preach fear and hell for money
Well, just don't go. I'll come to your house if you call Me, Sonny
And why are you looking funny?
Just pray. I don't need your money.

Well, I said, you don't say the things I thought God would say.

He said, that's okay, Son. Mine's the better way.
And my evolution is proceeding. Things are gonna be okay.

(3)

Well, dearest Father, you've cheered me up, but I must confess
that for a long time up to now I thought things was a mess.

That's okay, dear boy, give your mind a rest

It's mighty small, after all. Give faith the test

You've been too critical of what I've made, this life bequest

I never meant to make it perfect. You do the rest.

But, Father, I'm just one. And I'll be soon be gone

And I can't vouch for who will carry on.

That's okay, Son, don't take the world upon your head

My evolving plan'll teach you wonders. Just live instead.

And know that learnin', growin', doin' are all gettin' ahead

That when you're living it, that's what I wanted said.

So rejoice with the joy of passing days.

Life, my dear child, is goin' okay.

LIVES AND LINES

There is a line in the cities
that leads to soup and bread.
There are lines of soldiers here and there
that lead us to fear and dread.

There is a line of poverty
that reaches from mother to child
There is a line that divides us
into colors and class and pride.

There is a line that cuts our land
when false judgements everywhere ring
There is a cutting line that opens our blood
to spill on each changing scene.

There is a line that some call straight
that sits in narrow judgment.
There is a line that's drawn by greed
for power and wealth gone hell-bent.

CHORUS

*There are lives on the line in our times
Every day we face the talkers and the mimes.
Reaching out, pulling in, wondering why
All these lines just make it difficult to try.*

*Let's all get together in one big bed.
Forgot the past and all that stuff we said.
Draw the line right here against fear and dread
Don't make judgments. Let our lights shine instead.*

LOVE AROUND HERE TODAY

Time is like the sand that pours within the shining glass.
And when it settles still we know it was never meant to last.
It never stops except for us, when dust to dust we go.
To rise up from the winds of time and take our spirit glow.

There is a wind.

Changing everything you see each passing day.
Spirit-blissful lovers in breezes play.
And they greet you every minute that you say,
Love is all I want around me here today.

The wind is coming.

Too much terror, too much suffering in our lands
Breathe it in and blow it free like shifting sands
As we turn our thoughts to God's much higher plan
Love is what we'll nurture, close at hand.

There is a wind of change.

And it's helping many people learn to see
beyond with spirit eyes that open by degree
All the truth that we can't know by family tree
And must receive from holy spirit pure and free.

We are the spirit wind.

Free-flung bits of sand of time and space.
That reflect the light that God shines on this place.
And reflect that light in our own special ways.
That love is all I want around me here today.

LOVE IS ALL

Love is all we need to know
to find that special inner glow,
and if you share in kindness true
then love will shine right back to you.

Love is all we need to feel
to make each day so glowing real.
Your smiling face is what you give
each day to make the spirit live.

Love is all we need to be
and love will make us all so free
to find our special way to share
and flow our lovestreams everywhere.

Love is where the fear is not,
where caring passion burns so hot,
and faith speaks true that we are growing
as sparks of light that God is flowing.

LOVE IS YOU

to Suzanne

Love is knowing you
Love is touching you
Your breath feels sweet upon me
like morning dew
Love is coming home to you.

Love leads home to peace
Love gives joy complete
Your warm kiss on my lips
a sensual feast.
Love is giving everything release.

Love is caring for you.
Love is sharing with you.
Your love gives strength to me
the whole day through.
Love is a single word for me and you.

LOVE SEES YOU THROUGH

Some are blessed while some just hope to be
A call for luck or fortunate destiny
Can we stand to wait and hope to see
If time and fate can ever set us free?

No, we must run our special race
Move ahead, not stand in place
Inner light will give us faith
Help us find our own true grace.

Some lose their way, struggle with their pain
Call it bad luck or just insane
Pelted hard with cold and darkened rain
Riding a lonely down-bound train

I yearn to tell them each to search inside
Love one another. Fear will subside
With loving spirit as our guide
On the wings of angels we can ride

Some find peace, some will lose their chance
Called suddenly to do that deathly dance
In our lives and in every circumstance
The love we give will make our light enhance

When our days are done, we will pass on the fight
Our spirits will return again to flight
Our children carry on to make things right
In a world that still will need the holy light

CHORUS

*There's a star right where you are
Know it's true. Know it's you
Make it shine. Love sublime
Will fulfill a special purpose just for you
Take that star that shines with love. Make it you.
No distance is too far. Love sees you through.*

BRIDGE:

From a distance I can see it

It glows brighter every day
The star I am to find
And make it my own way
If I find the light inside me
It will guide my destiny
Beyond this restless journey
Across this great dark sea
To reach the star and be the star that's free
To share the love the spirit gives
To you and me

LOVESTREAMS

Love streams, healing waters of love
flow upon the bedrock of our souls,
glistening, rushing, swirling, brightening
we drink all that we can hold.

And in this light of living waters
we reach to friends to hold,
in love embrace, in quickening grace
in faith that the race will be won
and we'll be one as the Father foretold.

LOVING GRACE ON ME

I know there is a place up in the Heavens
peaceful goodness in a land for you and me
but I need you now, Father.
I need your loving grace by me
Upon this wasteland of the innocent and the guilty and the free
Now, Gracious Father
In this hour, in this minute that won't agree
May I have your loving grace by me?

There is no place on earth like the Heavens
and peace and goodness are very difficult to see
that's why I need you, Father
I need your loving grace by me.
within these dark forests of the suffering family tree
Now, Heavenly Father
In this hour, in this minute that won't agree
I really need your saving grace by me.

One day our dust will blow upon the plain
and in Heaven it will just be memories.
but I will still need you, Father
to shine your loving grace on me.
On the sparkling shores of knowing, feeling, being with goodness
In splendid seconds that smile in full degree
I will always need your loving grace by me.

(CHORUS)

*Now is the time to live
Now is the time to give
to make our Heavenly destiny
Now is the hour
Now is the minute
to find the Loving Grace of Spirit Free
in the Holy Mother's bosom
with the Father's gentle hand
and to shine it back in service
that's the key
to feel the light of loving grace we need.*

MOMENTARY GLOOM

by Jim Cleveland

Why am I so anxious to find eternity?
Don't even know how to spend a rainy afternoon.
Why am I always so restless
thinking life should be in better tune?
Why do I discount each living moment
dreaming of a better one that could come soon?
I don't know how to make the most of living
In these lost times of momentary gloom.

Why do I look for people's failings?
I wish I could just forget the trials I've lost.
Why do I always doubt their inner motives
Knowing fears have made their holocaust?
Why do I dread some imagined horror
that might fall upon us and seal our final doom?
When I know the spirit inside each man and woman
is from a loving Father who guides our every move
We're just children here in momentary gloom.

Why do I think life shouldn't be a struggle?
Why do I think it should be perfect and just?
When so many leaders have gone to evil thieving
hidden by the titles they hold in trust?
Can we change it here and now or will our children?
Generations fall and others rise too soon.
And the times we really try to love each other
are so brief they're lost in momentary gloom.

CHORUS

*Many moments rest between you and the Father
Make the most of every minute life is bringing
And in each instance that we share the loving spirit
is like the joyful noise of many angels singing.
Let the light of the Father fill this room.
Let it lift us from this momentary gloom.*

PATHWAYS OF LIGHT

(Chorus)

*Worship and prayer and forgiveness and love
They keep us in touch with the Spirit above.
They grow in our hearts as we give them each day
In quiet times with Father, Who smiles back our way.
It flows back to wash us in insightful delight
The Father will guide us on pathways of light.*

Worship is the smile of love I give to God each day.
Thanks again for the all in all. More thanks than I could say.
Prayer is how I share that love with each child upon this ground.
That they would have a holy carpet upon which to fly around.
Forgiveness is constant, a sacred act that makes our spirits free
And sends them soaring up to light that brightens by degree.
Love is how I wrap it up, embracing God each day.
In knowing, loving stillness time. I smile and waft in sway.

Worship brings joy when love flows back from where you sent it from.
Prayer is blessed because you asked God's love on everyone.
Forgiveness sets our hearts so free, none asking for a sum.
And love enfolds the day up right in peace when evening comes.
To worship the Father is to bask in the light of goodness, truth and beauty.
To pray for those in suffering strife is opportunity more than duty.
To forgive the sins of the weak and hurt is service to which you're suited
When you live in love each passing day until your learning here is concluded.

PATIENCE TO PARADISE

Paradise comes finally to those who would wait
In patience and faith that God won't forsake
Will spread love within you each footstep you take
And reward you for faith every effort you make.

For patience is more than resistance to bear
It allows for the time our Creator put there
And makes sure our vessel can handle each share
And then that we give it around us with care.

Paradise must wait for that love deep inside
To shine forth in knowledge that hasn't been tried
To live God within us with Christ by our side
No harm can now touch us in our Paradise stride.

The Paradise you're seeking is part of your head
Not in the brain, but deeper instead
Not in the body which stubbornly likes
Too many things that can mess up your life
It's there in the soul, no physical mass
Rich in the spirit which God made to last.

THE PEACE I NEED

(1)

When I was young my eyes were wide
and filled with dangerous wonder
My parents warned to always watch
for darkness, lightning, thunder
To always turn my face to sun
to Godly peaceful grandeur
And find that peace amid the strife
when all seems torn asunder
It's hard to do for real each day
while materially we blunder.
Who will rescue me?
From this mournful sea?
Set my spirit free?
Help me come to be?
All I can ever be?

(2)

I grew older, a little colder
Searching for the golden thread
Saw my friends all fall to hurting
In this crazy world instead
My mother's words fell hollow
Like this empty hole inside
She passed away. Beside her grave
Embittered tears I cried.
That fell among the raindrops one by one
Who will rescue me?
From this mournful sea?
Set my spirit free?
Help me come to be?
All I can ever be?

(3)

Now I'm older and I've come to accept
That life's not always fair
But we must do the best we can
To shine love everywhere
For the world is what we make it

As we live it day by day
In things we do and things we show
That urge a better way
Feel the raindrops from above that quench our thirst
Who will rescue me?
The One who made me be.
That spirit inside of me.
Keep it pure and free
With love that opens me.
And gives the peace I need

(BRIDGE)

Know that Truth
Know that Beauty
Know that Goodness
Are only real if we live them day by day
When you give, you receive
Just as you share them
So reach out and show the world a loving way

PLACES OF THE HEART

VERSES 1-3

There are places in the world where it's never safe to play.
Where it's hot or cold or violent and the innocent can pay.
There are places in the world where the wild seeds still are sown
People busily kill each other for hatred that's been shown.

There are places in the world where the people fear and dread.
There are people like you and me who can shine love to them instead.
There are ways to be of service in each daily passing scene.
We have hearts and hands and feet that walk to bring forth love serene.

There are places in the world where we can all make a difference.
There are people we can help to find the love above appearance.
The light inside can be a guide to a higher inner ground
When this cruel world has done its worst it's true we're heaven bound.

CHORUS

*There are places in our hearts where we can go
There are places in our hearts that we can grow
There are places from our heart that we can sow
with the Father's love and light from inner glow*

*Find the ones who have the dark holes filled with pain
From the hurts of life that always surely came
Find the ones where you can smile and lend a hand
Reach from your heart and add to your love again.*

RAINY ROAD TO YOU

(1)

There was a trucker from Escondido
He picked me up on Highway 9
Took me all the way to Tucson
I played some songs and we sang fine.

That bridge near town was kinda dry
Went to sleep with slashing sounds
from the trucks that rolled the highway
slinging raindrops all around.

CHORUS

*It's rainin'
It's comin' down in sheets and buckets too
Water's a'runnin'
Frogs are chokin', chunks are floatin'. Texas dew.
It's rainin'
On this lonely runnin' roadside rendezvous
It's rainin' all over my road to you.*

(2)

Thought I'd make a dollar pickin'
Found a job at the Lonesome Pine
Made fifty dollars, caught the bus
I'll make it all the way this time.

Ain't it great the power of music
to make a dollar and win a brew
Pay for the hound that breaks this water
down this rainy road to you.

Repeat Chorus

SHINE A SMILE

(1)

I walked out upon the fearsome streets
where victims gather freely with the cheats.
A woman jerked a scowling child along
Sufferin' life without knowing beauty's song.

I see them and I want to feel their pain,
help them to stand on their feet again
But there is misery beyond all we'll see.
To help them all is simply not to be.

(2)

Sirens cry out loud to mark the death
of peace on earth in days of fear and dread
The lines are long for day jobs or the dole
Tired feet on frozen ground in wintry cold

In faith, we know when goodness fills our hearts
We find the strength to carry on and play our parts
With all who come our way, we'll make a start
Just shine our star right where we are and not lose heart

CHORUS

*You can shine, yes, you can
You can shine in every moment that you live
with each kind and gentle smile that you give
You can shine, you can
In each moment, be a friend to one in need
Ask God's gentle spirit hand to intercede
Let your light reflect upon this troubled land
In all the ones that you can show the Father's hand.
Give a shining smile to everyone you can.*

SINS REPEATING

Isn't it a shame that we always question
motives, intangibles, ulterior directions
when a person has an idea, a purpose and a plan
we always worry that we should've ran
and hid from the fearful idea of them
misdirecting, tearing limb from limb
the plan that Father made for us and them
and beating us out of our hard-earned dollars
a fool again in mortal quicksand wallowed.

Isn't it a pity that we haven't been able to trust
because of all the worst of us life is caked with rust
We fear the ones who make life sham
in evil circumstance on the lam
from cliched values rejected and tossed asunder
repeating hungrily how their ancestors blundered
and now our dreams have all been plundered.
We grow to cynics to escape the reality
of how we can't rise above the banality.

A shame ... a pity
done by our own hand
holding the past
sins repeating

SOUL RISING
by Jim Cleveland

My soul seems sometimes like the mountains
high and mighty but very distant from where I stand
soaring high and cold and far above my reach down here
end of a journey that is taken by every man.

My soul rings loud from spirit clouds while earthbound people toil
to find the passage that will open them to light
washed in goodness, grace and giving in our every day
I walk the barefoot path in tears of joyful night

My soul called softly to me and the Master's hand
reached out just like a shephard and showed the way
up into the clouds of misty, soothing, spirit land
through to sunshine clear and brightening o'er the day

Soul rise,
Rise and lift us up in gentle breath of life.
Rise higher,
Soar me o'er this land of trouble, trial and strife
Rise onward,
Up to open Heaven's gate to fields of dreams
Soar higher,
Embrace our loved ones who left before us in loving streams
Souls expanding,
Into the heart of Father's plan for you and me
My soul is moving now,
To find the wings of graceful splendor that sets me free.

SPIRIT CAME

CHORUS

*Light and life and love and levity
is all I want my life to ever be.
Light my life with love and mystery
Shows the way to joy and ecstasy
I turned my life to saving grace.
The only way to win the race
And the spirit came to live inside of me.*

(1)

I once saw the world as a great big hill,
a place to forge ahead and find some thrills.
I once saw the people here as not too much
whom I would ever want to love or even touch.

Then I opened up my heart for a better view,
saw all the things we thought that were never true.
Now I can see each child of God in holy light
Like me they struggle with all those fears inside.

(2)

People would like to turn to good, like me,
let it be a part of daily serendipity.
And if I smile at them and give them half a chance
I can help them rise above poor circumstance.

Life is dark. Some have little chance to shine.
Bells without a sound or place to chime.
We'll make a better world, of peace and cheer
We can help each other reach this new frontier.

SPIRIT DAYS

by Jim Cleveland

Spirit lives with you each moment, every second of the day.
From within, a gentle voice says there is a better way.
Spirit lives inside to tell us right from wrong and say
that we will never be alone, celestial breezes play.

Spirit gives you inner peace, a smile to share with all
in daily rounds, with love around, fond moments to recall
And spirit shows a light that glows to mesmerize our souls,
inspire us bright, laugh in delight. Our name is on their roll.

Spirit is your dearest friend, within from birth to grave,
to never complain, never to rain upon our life's parade.
And when you die, Spirit will rise and take you home to God
Who'll make you one, with this spirit become. Your higher self is made.

CHORUS

*From the hand of the Father, there comes the man
And the woman too, they make their mortal stand
In the heart of Mother Spirit, they make a life
If they'll raise this child in love, there'll be no strife.
From our hands, from our hearts
From our lives not made of clay
From the Heaven bright to our tiny sparks
There'll be light upon our way.
And with all our hands and all our hearts
We carry on life's mystery.
And build each day with peaceful ways
And shine for all to see.*

STRONGER LIGHTS
(Ode to Father)

(CHORUS) [long hold on I-i-i-i]

I-i-i-i really love you.

I love you from deep in my soul.

I really love you.

My love grows as seasons unfold.

I really love you.

Your spark in my heart lights the way.

I really love you.

And our lights grow stronger each day.

(1)

I know, God, you've heard it o'er ages before.

How we love you and pledge you our faith

how we sure want your helping to make it each day

Thinking life is a God-fearing race.

Then you see all the new starts fall victim

to habits of malice and pride

because we don't live the love that we promised you

It must come from deeper inside.

But Father

I really love you.

I love you from deep in my soul.

I really love you.

I'll love you o'er seasons untold.

I really love you.

Your spark in my heart lights the way.

I really love you.

And our lights grow stronger each day.

(2)

Well they say, Father, sometimes you get angry

and smite all the sinners in wrath

But when I go inside and ask you

your love leads me back on the path

that sees you, my Father, as pure love

No anger has ever God cast.

I know you'll love us the same if we fear you,
but that is not what you have asked.

That's why
I really love you.
I love you from deep in my soul.
I really love you.
I'll love you as seasons unfold.
I really love you.
Your spark in my heart lights the way.
I really love you.
While our lights they grow stronger each day.

(3)

When we fall down with our feet made of clay
regressing to doubting and fear
We can come to you, Father, right here deep inside
You brighten our vision to clear
that we're all just children of the One Holy One
who shares as a Father so near
and if we will only make quiet time with you(pause-spoken)
and listen(pause)
all of our doubts disappear.

And that's why ...
I really love you.
I love you from deep in my soul.
I really love you.
and love grows when given so bold.
I really love you.
Your spark in my heart lights the way.
I really love you.
And our lights grow much stronger each day.

THIS TIME BETWEEN

(1)

They say in the end we are only ashes
dust to dust, blown to wind
They say in the end we didn't matter
except for the love that we could send.

They say in the end we are only memories
fading, fading, blown to wind
They say our children's children's children
will carry on as next of kin

(CHORUS)

*But if the end leaves only nothing
dust and ashes, loved ones' sighs
And if before us we were nothing
but an idea in the sky,
Then our lives here must mean something
Each and every passing scene
And there must be some love to find
In this time we have between.*

(2)

They say the way is always a question.
Who said what? And what's it mean?
They say our lives are always trouble
Love is never evergreen.

They say in the end we're light as ashes
Dust to dust, up in the wind
They say through all the race and crashes
History rolls right on again.

THOSE WHO SAY

There are those who say the world's insane,
and this is their bane.
There are those who say Grace will come again
good unrestrained.
And there are many without the foggiest notion,
Life's mysterious
Like the ocean.
They're just after a good time
From any potion
and forever that refrain.

TO BE PERFECTLY FAIR
by Jim Cleveland

Is life fair? And if it's not,
then who's to blame
Is life unjust? Who made it so?
They're both the same.
Isn't your life just what you make it?
Isn't that so?
Be as fair as you can, and you'll grow
In the heart of love and grace
Each place you go.

What might God say
If you asked why this life's not fair?
The Father might say,
Well, just look at you humans
Who are living there.
Sometimes you can be unfair.
And the things you think and do
lead to despair.

You would receive love
without giving it.

You fight for rights
without according them.

You know for certain
what you haven't discovered.

You judge others
without knowing them.

You define what God is
without learning.

You say God doesn't talk to you,
when you never talk to Him.

You say your path is better
though you've walked no other.

You say life here is cursed
with potential all before you.

You say life is chaotic
amid the genius of evolution.

You seek heaven for your faith
while your actions speak little of it.

You separate by differences
God's children of the very same pattern.

You agonize over those differences
in your splendid uniqueness.

You debate God's very existence
in the face of miracles.

You sometimes call God a taskmaster
Though you are given free will

You sometimes call God a punisher
though all evidence of God is love.

You quickly choose sides to compete
though the best goals are accomplished together.

You divide to conquer
what God would bring together.

You say God leads your armies,
While God sends only angels

You have credited God for great victories
during which you have killed his children

You have blamed God's disfavor for your losses
to cover your own failures.

You sometimes call the world insane
though it is truly what you make of it

You have said that death brings peace
even from the miracle of life

You fail to honor the life God gave you
because you want something better.

You yearn for eternity
while wasting life's precious moments.

You often retreat into fear,
though love cannot exist in its presence.

You call yourselves born in sin
even beholding the miracle of the innocent child

You suffer yourself to guilt and penance
though God gives spiritual joy.

You shrink from service to others
even as God asks it in many ways.

And you call yourself unworthy because of this list
Though forgiveness is yours for the asking
Let yourself go, by spirit be kissed
God loves you without heavy tasking.

And so nonetheless, in spite of all this
We yearn to be "saved" and we are.
And the lessons we will learn
When the mansion worlds come
Will take these contradictions apart
In a loving resurrection of the heart.

To be perfectly fair
and not a human in error
will challenge us daily to be
all the Father would ask
as He smiles on our tasks
and helps us each day to be 'We'
in love sent by kindnesses between
in search of sweet goodness serene
Being perfectly fair is a dream.

A TRAIN COMING

*There is a train coming
Rolling through the gardens of the mind
Rolling through the landscapes green with pines
Over mountains, cross the rivers crystal bright
Carrying all who choose the love of Godly light
There is a train coming
There is a train going 'cross this land tonight.*

The darkest coal it burns away
and flows up black as night
to the Father's sunshine sky above
and dissipates from sight
Furnace of love, it burns red hot
and rises up to shout
That train it blows its whistle loud
and calls us all about
to leap aboard in whirling hugs
and ride that spirit free
The God that lives so deep inside
is lifting you and me.

Don't matter what car you capture when
you make that leap of faith.
The caboose is fine. It seems that's where
I've been all my born days.
But the dining car is just ahead.
Let's break some bread and laugh
and watch the evolving world go by
with love and warm repaste.

The Father drives this train of love
I imagine that could be
when I'm struggling just to find a ride
to a job as hard as can be.
I'm always listening for that bell
ringing somewhere out of view
that'll bring that joyous liberty,
a world that's pure and true.
I know it's coming someday, brothers and sisters too
That train of love is coming for me and you.

UP TO GREEN

Way up in the dark green mountains
where the ferns grow upon the hill
In a cabin lived a woman
by the name of Iris McGill
Her long hair flowed red around her
in swirling fronds of bright
and wrapped her wet and naked body
when she bathed in pale moonlight.

He knew he must go to her
though he heard the legends foretell
that one who touched this forbidden woman
would sudden misfortune befall
But he knew he loved her deeply sincere
in absence of even a touch
and would never befoul this creature of light
such beauty he had never beheld.

On a midnight in May in full moon
he ventured into those dark woods
Climbed up the ridge to her doorstep
with flowers he picked as he could.
Alone she stepped out to greet him
with no words but only strong eyes
And in those deep eyes she did capture him
He was lost in the rapture of sighs.

She told him the secret of angels
that come here to visit this place
how anyone who came through the lovestream
Could find peace up here from the race.
The Father made these green cathedrals
For silence and solace and peace
and peaceful communion with spirit
to find its most fruitful release.

But he told her the legend of misfortune
that would come if one dared here to reach
And she smiled, kissed his face and told him
that humans always fear what they preach.

When you feel that you're worthy, then you can be
If you don't you'll just die by degree
So reach up into the mountains for beauty
May it always come fresh with mystery.

He said, Iris, you are a flower
but the world there is filled up with weeds
And she said, even weeds bloom with fragrance
If all would, folks wouldn't have many needs
Go back down to life as you know it
And make it mean something else again
You're not weeds, for weeds are in the wrong place
And the world is your place, my friend.
With your free wills you really can make it
better with each love smile you send.
Go live it and come visit again.

He made his way back to the common
the necessities that come every day
And all the people and things that he looked upon
He could see them in a whole new way.
As our chance to touch spirit in this life
for free wills make the world what it is
And to replenish that lovelight that inspires us
We can visit sweet Iris to be kissed
in the Father's great natural bliss.
Up in green hills of mystery and mist.

VERY FIRST EVENT OF MODERN LIFE, THE

(1)

Don't remember, baby

Don't remember how it felt some other night

Don't remember.

Some other room, some other time in candlelight

Don't remember.

Let that smoke that's in your mind drift out of sight.

Tonight's the very first event of modern life.

(2)

Don't remember, baby

Don't remember things that matter not at all.

Don't remember.

Don't remember that any others came to call.

Don't remember

Let your hair fall free upon your back tonight.

As we take this first step into modern life

(3)

We've had trials, baby

We've had troubles sometimes knocked us on the floor

Don't remember

Made us hungry all the time for something more.

Don't remember

If it's worth the pain to gain in fighting for.

Don't remember.

Tonight, the moon will rise above the strife.

This is the very first event of modern life.

(Chorus)

Will we be lovers? Will we be friends?

Will we be this way again?

Will we be lost? Will we be found?

Will we just keep hangin' around?

Sometimes we're through, then just start anew

Modern life just goes 'round and 'round.

WASH THIS GROUND

CHORUS

*A homeland isn't just a bloody ground
Wars and violence make such a hollow sound
God, bring your spirit down to bless,
help us bring love and happiness
To this troubled world of suffering all around.
Let your holy water wash this battleground.*

(1)

There are things that are certain, don't have to be found.
They are true to the spirit of loving bold
So listen and believe there's a higher ground
Jesus will bring his sheep into the fold.

There are things in this life that we are heeding
though they're shallow and their meanings never clear.
There is more to this life that we are leading
And there's a God to guide us gently ever-near.

There is more to living life than just the motions
of a sleepwalk, cakewalk kind of chance to be
There's a purpose here that shines across all the oceans
Loving service is needed everywhere you see.

(2)

There is more to man and woman when together
they can reach as one to spirit's ecstasy
There is more to this life than stormy weather
and all this learning and this growing is for free

If we'd only choose to talk through all our problems
and share the things that we now kill to make our own
and let each person have some food and some shelter
so in our wealth we wouldn't be so all alone.

Then this world could put a smile upon its mountains
and a grin across the deep, blue wondrous sea
and the sunshine, winds and rains of all the heavens
would come and wash and dry our homeland here for free.

WHEN SPIRIT IS FREE

There is a time for every season
seasons for every time
There is a rhyme for every reason
reasons behind every rhyme

There is a weakness in every power
and a power within the weak
to feel the goodness by the hour
when they touch the spirit sweet

There is a proven way to glory
and a glorious way to proof
when you read the Master's story
and his road to grace and truth.

There is a love that spans the seasons
when you take the Master's hand
Take your place among the legions
who are each a loving lamb.

Just show your love in graceful nature
write your name upon the sands
with those soulful, gentle people
who will heal this troubled land.

(CHORUS)

What will you be to God this morning?
Will you be the one He always hoped you'd be?
Will you spread the love upon these fields of mourning
find the joyful, soulful solace in full degree
in the silence of the moment
when spirit's free

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