

Nocturne Diaries by Eliza Gilkyson Lyrics and Credits

Midnight Oil

(Eliza Gilkyson)

Moonrise over the mountain
The sky is midnight blue
I'm thinking 'bout the hard times
That lie ahead of you

You'll never know just what was lost
In our spiral down from grace
We'll never know the final cost
For the worthless dreams we chased

But save your sorrow for another morn
Though your heart lies on the ground
Come tomorrow maybe a new world's born
When we ride the old one down

It never will be paradise
It never will be bliss
But love will make it worth the price
Even in times like this

So save your sorrow...

Moonlight over the mountains
The midnight oil burns low
There'll never be enough time
Before your time to go

So save your sorrow....

EG - acoustic guitars, baritone electric guitar
Cisco Ryder - background vocal, loops
Mike Hardwick - electric guitar, Dobro

Eliza Jane

(Eliza Gilkyson)

I wake up in the morning
Dogs are barking, birds are singing
New day dawning
I'm so worried 'bout everything
Thank god I'm breathing
I've still got my wedding ring
But time is fleeting
I'm so worried 'bout everything

Oh eliza you try so hard you don't see nothin
Blue horizon and you're expecting rain
Lift your eyes and you just might find
You see something good, eliza
Little liza, oh eliza
Little liza jane

This world's still got half a chance
Still got half a voice that's singing
Still doin that doomsday dance
I'm so worried 'bout everything
Swing her 'round the one-way track
Like you're ringin around the rosie
Aleman left and you can't go back
Do-si-do, do-si-do-si

Eliza you try so hard...

EG - acoustic guitar
Chris Maresh - upright bass
Rich Brotherton - mandolin, banjo
Warren Hood - fiddle
Lucy Kaplansky - background vocal
Cisco Ryder - background vocal

No Tomorrow

(Eliza Gilkyson)

Turn off the harsh glare of the flat screen blue light
Turn off the hardware, get it out of my sight
Turn your face to me and hold me tonight
Like there's no tomorrow
No tomorrow

Forget the dishes, leave 'em stacked in the sink

Tonight my great wish is that I won't have to think
Just let your sweet kisses drive me over the brink
Like there's no tomorrow
No tomorrow

Tell me all you're feeling, don't hold anything back
Find the holes in the ceiling, we can slip through the cracks
And I'll hold on to you when the world fades to black
Like there's no tomorrow
No tomorrow

EG - electric guitar, keyboards
Cisco Ryder - loops, background vocal
Warren Hood - fiddle

An American Boy

(Eliza Gilkyson)

I posted pictures on my facebook site
A shooting star in a long dark night
A lonely kid beneath the basement light
With thunder in his hands

My parents wonder if I'm doin' all right
They keep the gun case locked up tight
With the key hanging there in plain sight
While I make my plans

It won't be long before I come undone
There's no tomorrow for a wayward son
What will they say then 'bout their pride and joy
Their american boy?

It's not the world they always said it would be
A shining pearl waiting there for me
A golden girl who would care for me
A future I could own

They messed my mind with every kind of med
Now voices whisper in my head
Telling me softly I'll be better off dead
But I'm not going alone

It won't be long before I come undone

I'm gonna blow my world to kingdom come
Once I was someone's only pride and joy
An american boy, american boy

It won't be long before my time has come
I won't be sorry for this thing I've done
Maybe somewhere there's everlasting joy
For an american boy, american boy

I built a bomb down in the basement light
Went to the prom on a Saturday night
I didn't blow it cause the time's not right
But it's close at hand

EG - acoustic guitars
Cisco Ryder - background vocal, drums and percussion
Chris Maresh - bass
Mike Hardwick - electric guitars

Where No Monument Stands

(Lyrics: William Stafford
Music: John Gorka)

This is the field where the battle did not happen
Where the unknown soldier did not die
This is the field where grass joins hands
Where no monument stands
And the only heroic thing
Is the sky

Birds fly here without any sound
Spreading their wings upon the open
No people killed or were killed on this ground
Hallowed by neglect
And an air so tame
People celebrate it by forgetting its name

This is the field...

EG - acoustic guitar
Cisco Ryder - drums, background vocal
Delia Castillo - background vocal
Chris Maresh - upright bass

Jens Lysdal - electric guitar, electric slide guitar

The Ark

(Eliza Gilkyson)

It was just about a year ago I woke up from a dream
That filled my soul with wonder
Where the heavens rained down water and it filled the lakes and streams
And the world was shook by thunder
And the waters came together til they formed a mighty sea
And all the land went under

So I started making plans and my sons all felled the trees
And the wood they set to planing
While the women built the stockpile of provision grain and seeds
And relationships were straining
All the townfolk think we're crazy when we pass them on the street
They look down at their feet

It's 300 cubits long
Like the belly of a bird
Three decks high and strong enough
To ride upon the surge

So gather up the grandchildren and all the ones we love
And the animals for breeding
Don't forget the donkeys and the ravens and the doves
Someday we might need them
There is nothing we can do now for the ones who will remain
And the sky that looks like rain
And the sky looks like rain

EG - acoustic guitar, electric guitar, pump organ
Chris Maresh - upright bass
Cisco Ryder - loops, drums, doumbek, tabla, background vocal
Kamran Hooshmand - santour, daf, oud
Rich Brotherton - cittern

Fast Freight

(Terry Gilkyson)

I listen for the whistle and I lie awake and wait

Wish the railroad didn't run so near
The rattle and the clatter of the old fast freight
Is always ringin music in my ear
Go bum again

I wouldn't give a nickel for the bum I used to be
Work as hard as any girl in town
Got a good hearted man who thinks the world of me
And I would be a fool to let him down
Go bum again
Go bum again

Hear the whistle blow
Hear the whistle blow
Clickety clack clickety clack
Wheels are singin to the railroad track
If you go you can't come back
If you go you can't come back

So every night I listen and I wonder if it's late
In my dreams I'm ridin on that train
I feel my pulse beatin with that old fast freight
And thank the lord I'm just a bum again
Go bum again
Go bum again

Hear the whistle blow....

EG - acoustic guitar
Cisco Ryder - percussion, background vocal
Mike Hardwick - Omnichord, lap steel guitar
Ray Bonneville - harmonica
Delia Castillo - background vocal

The Red Rose and the Thorn

(Eliza Gilkyson)

You are the thief that the night calls in
You're always gone by the light of morn
You steal my heart and leave for me
The red rose and the thorn

You're always waiting around the bend

Your steps I trace where the path is worn
Along the way you've placed for me
The red rose and the thorn

I've searched for you both far and wide
From mountain top to riverside
But you're the master of disguise
Who's hiding right before my eyes

And when I lay me down to sleep
I pray my company you'll keep
And if I die before I wake
My life was always yours to take

You're in the house when the lights go down
I search each face where the curtain's torn
And tumbling from the balcony
The red rose and the thorn

EG - electric guitar, keyboards
Chris Maresh - bass
Cisco Ryder - drums
Rich Brotherton - mandolin orchestra
Ian McLagan – Hammond organ

Not My Home

(Eliza Gilkyson)

This house has windows it has walls
This house has doors that lock and shadows lurking in the halls
This house has mirrors that don't tell
All of the dirty lies that turn a house into a living hell

This house is not my home
I may be standing here but I'm a million miles away
Someday my life will be my own
Til then I'm here alone in this house that's not my home

Why don't they notice something's wrong?
Why don't they ask me if there's something different going on?
I'm living in a danger zone
This house has secrets that no one should ever have to bear alone

This house is not my home...

Someday I'll walk out my front door
I won't come back here anymore
I'll live the life that's meant for me

This house is not my home....

EG - acoustic guitar, electric guitar
Mike Hardwick - electric guitar, Dobro
Cisco Ryder - drum loops, background vocal
Chris Maresh - bass

Touchstone

(Eliza Gilkyson)

When shadows fall where you lie sleeping
In that dark hour before the dawn
Your breathing calm, your lone heart beating
Give me the strength to carry on

My darling one, you are my touchstone
My guiding light when I'm alone
Your love shines through this world's obstruction
The road to you's my journey home

My heart's been claimed since we came together
The girl I was I can't recall
Your love has changed me for the better
The way that love can change us all

My darling one...

And when that sad day comes upon us
When one must go and one stays behind
Then we will know we kept love's promise
And wasted not our precious time

My darling one...

EG - acoustic guitar
John Egenes - autoharp
Mike Hardwick - Dobro

Rich Brotherton - mandolin
Chris Maresh - upright bass
Lucy Kaplansky - background vocal
Cisco Ryder - background vocal

World Without End

(Eliza Gilkyson)

It's a world without end, that's what they told us
Your last breath is not what it seems
Forever amen, sounds like something they sold us
To keep us enslaved to our dreams
So close yet so far, you never rest
Everything you've invested is gone
You wish on a star, yeah you do your best
But you know in your chest it's all wrong

World without end, looking to find
Something to believe in again
World without end, traveling blind
Trying to pretend
It's a world without end

Crown of creation, that's what they call us
A vain declaration I fear
Bowed down to temptation, what will befall us
When something so wicked draws near?
Beauty on trial, the jury is hung
The vultures begin to descend
The coyotes smile, the damage is done
There's nowhere to run to my friend

World without end...

And now here we stand, so blessed and cursed
Looking back on the rivers we've crossed
Our lines in the sand, our fortunes reversed
Wondering if it was worth what was lost

World without end...

EG - acoustic guitar
Cisco Ryder - drum loops, background vocal, keyboards

Chris Maresh - upright bass
Mike Hardwick - electric guitar, Dobro

All Right Here

(Lyrics: Eliza Gilkyson
Music: Jens Lysdal)

Some people ride on that train
Bound for fortune and fame
It's a journey I never did start
But this rocky old path brought me love that would last
I've got it all right here in my heart

Well I should have been this
And if I would have done that
I could have climbed to the top of the chart
But from the loftiest view I'd still be searching for you
I've got it all right here in my heart

And tonight I confess
I am forever blessed
By these riches of family and hearth
And with this roof o'er my head
And you in my bed
I've got it all right here in my heart

Some folks tally the score
They want more they want more
And their hunger will never depart
But wherever I roam
Far from you and our home
I've got it all right here in my heart

EG - electric guitar
John Egenes - Weissenborn slide guitar, pedal steel, saw

Credits

All songs by Eliza Gilkyson, © 2013 GilkySongs/Bluewater, BMI
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"Where No Monument Stands" lyrics by William Stafford, music by John Gorka, © Blues Palace Music, ASCAP
"Fast Freight" by Terry Gilkyson, © Unichappell Music, Inc, BMI

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