

## 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**

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"Fast Freight" by Terry Gilkyson, © Unichappell Music, Inc, BMI

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