

Old Days

I was sittin' in the dressing room with Brownie Mcgee
He was drinkin' that milk with that Dewar's Whiskey
Said John, there's nothin' written anywhere
Suggests the blues will set you free
Old days are comin' back to me

I was ridin' in the back seat, with Sonny Terry
Little harmonica player used to drive him around
I think his name was Harry
Tried to get him to eat tofu, raw vegetables, nuts, and berries
But Sonny wasn't havin' any of it

He let me share a room with 'em for a couple of weeks
Sonny slept with his good eye open staring out from under the sheets
I was young and uncomfortable I don't mind tellin' ya kinda gave me the creeps
Old days are comin' back to me

Old days are comin' back to me
Don't know what was so good about 'em
I played practically free
I had nothin' to live up to
Everywhere to be
Old days are comin' back to me

On some dates with Mose Allison somewhere out in the Midwest
Said some of my lyrics reminded him of the poet Kenneth Patchen
I took it as a compliment
He was referring to the line about wearin' neon signs on your wounds
Later on I knew what he meant
Old days are comin' back to me

On a date with John Lee Hooker at a packed joint up in Washington
He came in with a gorgeous woman on each arm as I was singing my song
Walked 'em right up and sat 'em on the edge of the stage as I went singing along
And that's called "evenin' son, I'm the headliner"

Old days are comin' back to me
I don't know what was so great about 'em
I played practically free
But I had nothing to live up to
And everywhere to be
Old days are comin' back to me

Played a gig with John Hammond Jr. up in Vancouver BC
Exotic dancer came in my dressing room, started dancing exotically
They were smoking something in the audience that night, smelled exactly like cat pee
Old days are comin' back to me

Opened up a gig for Gatemouth Brown down in Baton Rouge
He was playing that Hillbilly, Jazz, Cajun, Country, Zydeco, and Blues
Throwin' it out past the walls like some kind of musical centrifuge
Old days are comin' back to me

Old days are comin' back to me

I don't know what was so good about 'em
I played practically free
But I had nothin' to live up to
Everywhere to be
Old days are comin' back to me

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Love You Again

I was speeding through the dark
I didn't know how far
It can all run away with you sometimes in an empty box car
You were trying to tell me something
I wasn't listening to you
There was nothing but confusion
Every time that train come blowin' through

Then you wrote me in a letter
I don't how your courage came
You told me what you wanted
Every word in tears and flame
How you loved me more than ever
In spite of all the hurt inside
And it cracked my heart wide open
'Til there was no place left to hide

And I want to thank you babe
For letting me back in
I want to thank you
For asking me to love you again
I want to thank you babe
For letting me back in
I want to thank you
For asking me to love you again

I'd forgotten how to be patient
I'd forgotten how to caress
I'd forgotten how to ask for help
And how to struggle for my best
I was harder than those iron wheels
Rollin' down the track
And every trip I took I never looked
To getting any feelin' back

And I want to thank you babe
For letting me back in
I want to thank you
For asking me to love you again
I want to thank you babe

For letting me back in
I want to thank you
For asking me to love you again

Then you met me at the station
With a promise and a kiss
You said my love for you will always be true
But you must remember this
Respect me and protect me
But don't expect me not to fall
And I will do the same for you
Until the final call

And I want to thank you babe
For letting me back in
I want to thank you
For asking me to love you again
I want to thank you babe
For letting me back in
I want to thank you
For asking me to love you again

Thank you baby
For letting me back in
I want to thank you
For asking me to love you again

On With You

Twenty years and we're still on the beat
Stretchin' out and goin' for it
I don't know if these ends will ever meet
Thing with love is you can't store it

Even when I was dead inside
You saw somethin' to remind you
Of the man I was tryin' to hide,
The man who needed just to find you

I just wanna go on with you
All the joy and pain and beauty too
Somethin' in your eyes so rare and true
I just wanna go on with you, baby.

That's when you knew I couldn't trust anyone
That's when you knew I couldn't trust myself
You said, "What good is trust with out a smokin' gun?"
If you can't risk betrayal it just sits on a shelf

That's when I knew I was in love with you
That's when the walls started comin' down
That's when I reached out of the darkest blue
And you were there to bring me back around.

I just wanna go on with you
All the joy and pain and beauty too

Somethin' in your eyes so rare and true
I just wanna go on with you, baby

I just wanna go on with you

It's like livin' in a dream
Or Wakin' up in the middle of a scream
And realizin' that you're not alone
Or anyway the boogie man went home

I just wanna go on with you
All the joy and pain and beauty too
Somethin' in your eyes so rare and true
I just wanna go on with you

I just wanna go on
I just wanna go on with you
I just wanna go
I just wanna, I just wanna
Baby

Hurt My Baby

No need to be explicit
Anyone can see
Injury was permanent
The wound was really deep
Doesn't talk about it much
I listen when she does
And when she's in that distant place
I know it's just because

Somebody hurt my baby
Somebody hurt my girl
Somebody hurt my baby
Somebody hurt somebody in this mean ol' world

She's developed all these nervous ticks
To prove she's still alive
Does ninety down to zero
Back in over drive
Her sleep is just a nightmare state
She really gets no rest
Till someone has come forward
Till one of us confess

Somebody hurt my baby
Somebody hurt my girl
Somebody hurt my baby
Somebody hurt somebody in this mean ol' world

Somebody hurt my baby
Somebody hurt my girl
Somebody hurt my baby
Somebody hurt somebody in this mean ol' world

What Love Can Do

We were always happiest when we needed the least
Who knew this love would turn in to such a feast
Breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and a midnight snack
I'm full to the brim, but I keep comin' back
You take your tiara babe, I'll take my crown
Come on honey, let's go downtown
Trade 'em in on pauper's rags and some worn out shoes
Count on the kindness of strangers,
That's what love can do

That's what love can do
Make you feel brand new
That's what love can do
Lose someone you thought was you
That's what love can do
Fire your heart and burn clean through
That's what love can do

It's like we've laid in this river bed for a couple o' million years
Shaped by the waters 'till we've nearly disappeared
Two little grains of sand locked in the eternal kiss
Don't wake me up now, there's somethin' that I might miss

That's what love can do
Make you feel brand new
That's what love can do
Lose someone you thought was you
That's what love can do
Fire your heart and burn clean through
That's what love can do

You dream a dream then the dream comes true
Can you imagine what love can do?
You're alone in the coffee shop and then she's by your side
Love picks up the tab and you're both having pie

That's what love can do
Make you feel brand new
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Ride My Pony

Gray and chalky like my granddaddy's skin,
The sky was cold and lonely and closin' in
All the trees look like stubble on winter's chin
And I think I'll ride my pony

There's a wreath of bone's and ribbon hangin' on my cabin door
Lusty appetites have ravaged all of summer's stores
And the fear of death don't even come to visit me no more
So I think I'll ride my pony

Ridin' someplace lonesome has no meaning
Ridin' somewhere I ain't stayed to long
Ridin' down a mountain side careening
Ridin' up some open cut with fate my only song
I think I'll ride my pony

Well the horseman you might say he is a slave to the Brute
But he loves that beast of burden and there is no substitute
For the pleasure of his saddle or the leather of his boot
So I think I'll ride my pony

Had a girl in Dickson County and we rode the Highland Rim
She kept my cabin warm in winter and mended every hem
And I would have took her with me but that trail never ends
So I think I'll ride my pony

Ridin' where spring comes up like roses
Wraps its thorns and petals 'round my mind
Ridin' somewhere only God supposes
I could ever dream of gettin' to, from sneakin' up behind
I think I'll ride my pony

I think I'll ride my pony
I think I'll ride my pony

Cherry Red

I was thinking back to the first time we met
Over plangent chords in a sad vignette
You were waving goodbye in a cherry red corvette
And your lips were too
Cherry red that is, with the sky so blue
It was almost mean and your eyes were too
So blue that is, now I am too
And my heart burns cherry red for you

Now my heart burns cherry red for you
Like a fire of beech wood, the saw don't like it
But you get some cut, one match will strike it
And the embers glow till the wee small hours
When the old seems almost new
That's when my heart burns cherry red for you

It was cherry red with custom flames

At the hot rod show when the Kingsmen came
And that bass guitar, it rattled my frame and it shook you too
The corvette was Big Daddy Roth's design
Get your picture for a dollar and have it signed
First you got yours then I got mine
And my heart burned cherry red for you

Now my heart burns cherry red for you
Like a fire of beech wood, the saw don't like it
But you get some cut, one match will strike it
And the embers glow till the wee small hours
When the old seems almost new
That's when my heart burns cherry red for you

That's when my heart burns cherry red
My heart burns cherry red
That's when my heart burns cherry red for you

Now that fake blue sky, it sure looks real
Like you were goin' to California to make a deal
With the God of youth, with the man of steel
Waving toodle-oo

Now if I was young, I might track you down
But this old picture is all I found
Now my bones are shakin', my teeth are ground down
And my heart burns cherry red for you

Now my heart burns cherry red for you
Like a fire of beech wood, the sun don't like it
But you get some cut, one match will strike it
And the embers glow till the wee small hours
When the old seems almost new
That's when my heart burns cherry red
That's when my heart burns cherry red
That's when my heart burns cherry red for you

Our Time

I traced your arms as you laid spread out on the Sunday paper
Looked like the crime scene of an angel ghost
I heard the gate clatter to on the elevator
I wrapped myself up in it like a cold beef roast

Fell asleep, was cooked medium and placed on a dining room table in Brooklyn
Before an older couple surrounded by family and friends so wonderful and kind
I flashed back to you giving dollars to homeless men down in the bowery
Not before they convinced you it was for sandwiches and not for wine
I just could never convince you baby
This was our time
This was our time
This was our time

Now your feeding me fabulous Chinese takeout on the dampened bed sheets
Our last supper so you might say
I woke up in a cold sweat and realized we'd never cooked one meal together

You always said, "Why bother?" with the cuisines of the world laid at our feet here everyday

Then I thought of our first date back in Nashville
We shared the pupu platter you enjoyed it with such gusto I took it for a sign
We would have many happy meals together in a warm dining room somewhere maybe even
Brooklyn
That was way back then, and I was just another guy with food on his mind
But this, baby this was our time

This was our time
This was our time
This was our time
What did you have in mind?
This was our time

Two Hearts

It's like I got two hearts with you baby
Like I've got two ears
It goes in one and out the other
Whenever you are near

A train of smoke and flames keep a comin'
Like a burning spear
And I know you watch me go
Even as I'm standing here

Doppelganger, Caterwauling
Notes trail off low
Love comes and love keeps going
That's really all I know

You hear the sound of a lonesome town
You wanna let that whistle blow
But it gets there before you do
And it leaves before you wanna go

Two hearts one for me and one for you
Two hearts do you feel the way I do
Two hearts one to have and one to yield
Two hearts and 100 miles of steel
I keep running back and forth, running back and forth for what's real

Could it be there's four between us
That don't scare me none
I seen you when you felt like running
I seen you with your gun

A single bullet in the barrel
Midnight chamber spun
Morning kiss, an unclaimed fist
And you laughing at the sun

Two hearts, one for me one for you
Two hearts do you feel just like I do
Two hearts one to have and one to yield

Two hearts and a hundred miles of steel
I keep running back and forth, running back and forth just to feel

Two hearts one for me one for you
Two hearts do you feel the way I do
Two hearts one to have and one to yield
Two hearts and a million miles of steel
Two hearts
Two hearts

I keep running back and forth, running back and forth just to feel

Same Old Man

Truth is I never was young
Shot like a bullet from a rusty old gun
I could never find the straight and true
Honey, baby till I found you

I ain't saying I ever grown up girl
Oh I'm the biggest baby in the world
I know you can say a lot about that
But you're so sweet you keep it under your hat

Honey I'm still the same old man
That you married way back when
A few less brain cells a lot less hair
Honey tell me do you still care

I love you more than I ever did
I love you just like a little kid
Guess I'll always be your biggest fan
Honey I'm still the same old man

We been down a rough road or two
This is another one we'll get through
Don't ask me how I know
I'm just saying baby please don't go

Cause I can still sparkle up your eyes
You can still cut me down to size
Please take me as I am
Honey I'm still the same old man

Honey I'm still the same old man
That you married way back when
A few less brain a lot less hair
Honey tell me do you still care

I love you more than I ever did
I love you just like a little kid
I guess I'll always be your biggest fan
Honey I'm still the same old man

You start out trying to change everything
You wind up dancing with who you bring

I loved you then and my love still stands
Honey I'm still the same old man

Let's Give This Love A Try

Sometimes I don't like being where I am
No matter what
I'd rather be in a barrel of kosher salt and pickle brine
With a thousand paper cuts
I'm uncomfortable in my own skin you might say
Feeling my own guts
So tell me something about yourself sweetheart
Before I screw this whole thing up

You say you feel like a phony romancer
Though you still believe in love
Make you feel like a dancer
Like you got all the answers
Leave you wonderin' what you were made of
You don't see no chain mail hiding puppy dog tails
I've been sufficiently horrified
I got just enough left to wanna see what's next
Why don't we give this love a try

Let's give this love a try
All we can do is cry
Hang out your tears to dry
Let's try this love
Let's give this love a try
The sun's setting in your eyes
I'm all out of when and why
Let's try this love

I never met two people more likely to explode
Scattered, chopped, screwed, covered up and smothered into each other arms
Please forgive me my basic negativity
God help us both if you find it even part of my charm
By the way you swept me off my feet
With the gentleness of an angel flying by
I'm a long shot baby, but they do come in
Why don't we give this love a try

Let's give this love a try
All we can do is cry
Hang out your tears to dry
Let's try this love
Let's give this love a try
The sun's setting in your eyes
I'm all out of when and why
Let's try this love

I'm all out of when and why
Let's try this love