



BIG COUNTRY BOOK OF LYRICS

Designed by Robert Oliver



Introduction

Project History

The Big Country Book of Lyrics was originally offered online as a PDF file on a web site that later grew into the current **Steeltown** site. Since I had not been pleased with the formatting restrictions of HTML, I had decided to create a file in Adobe PageMaker and then convert it into a PDF (Portable Document Format) file. This format allows complete control over layout and typography, but can result in very large files. Although PDF files are relatively small compared to their original documents (all of the original PageMaker files for this book total over 18 megabytes), a project as large and comprehensive as the Big Country Book of Lyrics results in an appropriately hefty PDF file. Even though I have since converted all lyrics to HTML and incorporated them into the **Steeltown** web site, the PDF version is still a handy and useful resource, especially when printed and bound for reference. As ubiquitous as the world wide web has become, a printed version of the Book of Lyrics is easier on the eyes, quicker to thumb through, and does not require an internet connection.

Document Navigation

The following methods are available for finding your way around the Big Country Book of Lyrics while using the Adobe Acrobat Reader:

1. Scan down the bookmark list on the left and click on the item of interest.
2. Use the keyboard arrow keys or the PAGE UP and PAGE DOWN keys depending on which version of the Acrobat Reader you are using.
3. Use the arrow icons near the top of the document window.
4. Search the table of contents and click on the song title.
5. Use the FIND command under the TOOLS menu to search for any word in the document.

What's with the ? symbol?

The question mark icon located in the bottom right of some pages indicates a song whose lyrics I am unable to confirm because I have either not heard the song, or have not been able to complete research on that particular song.

Production

Hardware: Gateway 450 MHz Pentium III. Mustek MFS-6000CX flatbed 24-bit color scanner. U.S. Robotics 56k modem. **Software:** Adobe PageMaker 6.52, Adobe Illustrator 7.0.1, Adobe Photoshop 5.5, Adobe Distiller 3.0, Adobe Acrobat Reader 4.0, Ray Dream Designer 3.0. **Typefaces:** Poppl-Laudatio Regular, Runic MT Condensed, Simple Type and Willow.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to Jonathan Berkey, Michael Bickley, Todd Carrier, Mattias Engvall, Tony Dennison, Svein B. Hjorthaug, Jeff Cetola, Lewis Crow, Ian Ingham, Christian Jennings, Thomas Kercheval, John Lewis, Simon McKenzie, Allard Mosk, Erle Mundle, Martin Powell, Brady Severns, Valeri Shaw, Jeroen Sprenkeler, Bas van Giesen, Michael Wallack and Greg Ziegler. *Special thanks to Oliver Hunter.*

Last updated on January 23, 2000: added lyrics from Driving to Damascus and its related singles, as well as the In the Scud and Bon Appetit! EPs.



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Originals

All Fall Together



Wonderland EP (1984) US
Restless Natives & Rarities (1988) UK 5:15

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Big Country

Was recorded for the movie "Streets of Fire" and was done at castle studios just outside Edinburgh. I asked Mark to go in and do a drum track based on a thing he had been jamming. The song was then built around that. Lyrically the subject matter is a kind of doomsday scenario, sort of in the spirit of the movie.

– Stuart Adamson, *Restless Natives & Rarities* liner notes

I forget how it started
But everyone knew of the cause
Hard out of the sun
With a vengeance and all was then lost

They crawled into homes
Yet all of the old ways were gone
It left nothing to run to
But no one can help how they're drawn

We will all fall together
A black sky in the rain
And you can laugh and I will sing
We've changed forever

Survivors set out on a trail in a search for salvation
Looking for remnants of sense in the end of a nation

We will all fall together
A black sky in the rain
And you can laugh and I will sing
We've changed forever

All fall together
A black sky in the rain
And you can laugh and I will sing
We've changed forever

All came together and steadied themselves on the shore
Knowing the terror would find them much worse than before

We will all fall together
A black sky in the rain
And you can laugh and I will sing
We've changed forever

With nothing to live for and nothing more left of your pride
Can you face all the black in your heart that will not be denied

We will all fall together
A black sky in the rain
And you can laugh and I will sing
We've changed forever

We will all fall together
A black sky in the rain
And you can laugh and I will sing
We've changed forever

We will all fall together
A black sky in the rain
And you can laugh and I will sing
We've changed forever

"Giant" is the instrumental version of "All Fall Together"

All Go Together



The Buffalo Skinners (1993) US 4:11
Long Way Home [live bootleg] (1993) 4:07
NON! [acoustic] (1995) UK 3:20

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Stuart Adamson & Bruce Watson

A skyhole here, the sun's let in
It melts the ice, it melts my skin
The oceans rise, the lands recede
Cities crumble, vermin feed

We will all go together when we go, when we go
We will all go together when we go
We will all go together when we go, when we go
We will all go together when we go

The chainsaw roars, the forests fall
The natives hide, the cattle call
The water boils with toxic waste
We catch the fish to get a taste

We will all go together when we go, when we go
We will all go together when we go
We will all go together when we go, when we go
We will all go together when we go

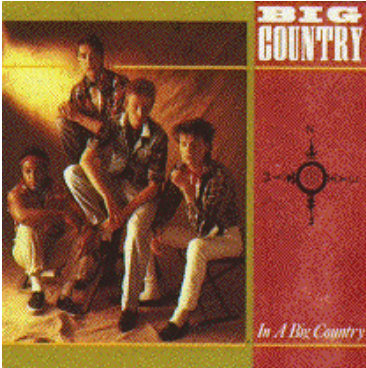
The atoms split to heat the town
And build a bomb to knock it down
Nothing is done for all of this
Till most to blame is most at risk

We will all go together when we go, when we go
We will all go together when we go
We will all go together when we go, when we go
We will all go together when we go

A skyhole here, the sun's let in
It melts the ice, it melts my skin
The oceans rise, the lands recede
Cities crumble, vermin feed

We will all go together when we go, when we go (repeat to end)
We will all go together when we go

All Of Us



"In a Big Country" 7" single (1983) UK
The Crossing [remaster] (1996) UK 4:09
Master Series (1997) UK 4:11

Lyrics and music by Big Country

Bad weather gathers all along the coast
When the storm clouds gather and my blood runs cold
If we can't go further when we get to the shore
Then we have to turn around and fight some more

We'll go together I have room in my soul
That's enough of watching people trading hearts for gold
I can see you on the beach on your knees
Spilling more salt in an already dead sea

We'll feel the wind and the rain in our face
You can do it yourself but I heard of a place
It's got to be now and it better be together
When spirits make a meeting you can feel it forever

Bad weather gathers all along the coast
When the storm clouds gather and my blood runs cold
I can see you on the beach on your knees
Spilling more salt in an already dead sea

Run away with me again
Time for us to grow
Run away with me again
All of us alone

Alone



The Buffalo Skinners (1993) US 5:08
"Alone" CD single #1 (1993) UK 5:16
"Alone" CD single #2 (1993) UK 5:15
Long Way Home [live bootleg] (1993) 4:41
Brighton Rock [live] (1998) UK 4:59
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 4:59

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

The mid-day sky was grey and purple
At least it wasn't blue
I want the sky to be the way I am
And what I do

For I have been a lost and lonely
Sailor on your sea
Run aground by trusting signals
You were sending me

The streets are filled with empty faces
Nothing here is new
It's just the same in other places
I have journeyed to

I was the first across the water
the last across the land
I walked out of the silver mine
My pockets full of sand

Alone inside my head
Alone inside my room
I feel alone inside my head
Alone inside my tiny little world

It's not my life in those old pictures
The ones you threw away
For I was always someone else
And always far away

Walking in the darkest places
Where the mission meets
Waiting for the ground to open up
Beneath my feet

Alone inside my head
Alone inside my room
I feel alone inside my head
Alone inside my tiny little world

Alone inside my head
Alone inside my room
I feel alone inside my head
Alone inside my tiny little world

(repeat to fade)

Angle Park



Fields of Fire 7" single (1983) UK
Wonderland EP (1984) US
Through A Big Country boxed set (1991) JP
4:07

Defrostin [live bootleg] (1993) 4:55
Radio 1 Sessions [live] (1994) US 4:05
The Crossing [remaster] (1996) UK 4:07
King Biscuit Flower Hour [live] (1997) US 4:32
Master Series (1997) UK 4:08

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson and
Bruce Watson

The autumn howled around the heads
That hung so slack with lips so red
The blooms had withered leaves were shed
Tongues stuck in jaws sad clowns parade

The crushing whine began its call
And pointed fingers at us

In Angle Park
The lights are dim
The statues grim
In Angle Park
The fountains crack
In Angle Park

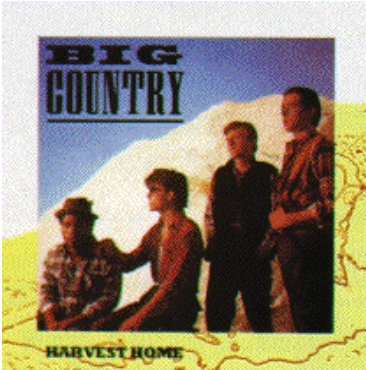
The beaten cry behind white dress
The clowns stuck fast upon the mesh
While mothers wring their hands of tears
The spelling books are in arrears

The evil genius hugs his wife
As tiles ring with fear of life
The window fills with beating hearts
Beat on blindly beat it

In Angle Park
The lights are dim
The statues grim
In Angle Park
The fountains crack
In Angle Park

In Angle Park
The lights are dim
The statues grim
In Angle Park
The fountains crack
In Angle Park

Balcony



"Harvest Home" 7" single (1982) UK
Against All Odds soundtrack (1984) US 3:59
Long Way Home [live bootleg] (1993) 4:16
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

This comes from the first Big Country when Pete Wishart (now with Runrig), Alan Wishart (bass) and Clive Parker (drums) were playing in our "wall of sound" band. This is the band that got thrown off the Alice Cooper tour for being too weird. This is the version done with Tony and Mark and I think it was used in the movie "Against All Odds". – Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

Heave lads, an audience awaits
Heave lads, the final scene is set
Heave lads, curtains clear the debt
Waiting in empty halls
Smiling between the walls

This is my finest hour
Now is your last encore

Sweat boys, the lines are flowing fast
Sweat boys, the cue has come at last
Sweat boys, tonight is just the past
Listen the bullet calls
Herald a great man's fall

This is my finest hour
Now is your last encore

Beat the Devil



No Place Like Home (1991) UK 4:04

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

The seas turning black
The sky turning red
And someone talking in my bed
I know I've got to chase the devil tonight

For the time is here
But the way, way is long
And you may smile at the serpent's song
But I know I've got to face the devil tonight

It'll be alright, it'll be alright
I know I've got to beat the devil tonight
Hey be my guide, won't you be my light
I know I've got to beat the devil
I know I've got to beat the devil tonight

I need the day
For tonight my blood runs cold
And you don't know what I was told
But I know I've got to face the devil tonight

It'll be alright, it'll be alright
I know I've got to beat the devil tonight
Hey be my guide, won't you be my light
I know I've got to beat the devil tonight

The sea turning black
The sky turning red
And someone lying in my bed
And I know I've got to lose the devil tonight

It'll be alright, it'll be alright
I know I've got to beat the devil tonight
Hey be my guide, won't you be my light
I know I've got to beat the devil tonight

It'll be alright, it'll be alright
I know I've got to beat the devil
I know I've got to beat the devil
I know I've got to beat the devil tonight

Beautiful People



No Place Like Home (1991) UK 5:33
"Beautiful People" CD single [edit] (1991)
3:23

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

If beauty is an ecstasy and anger keeps you poor
A hungry man is never free, a rich man never cured
Things were never what they used to be
Now every crowd has its silver lining, we all got stuff to sell
And you may live your life so bitter, but you remember it so well
Things were never what they used to be

For all the folks who can run the world, drive cabs or cut your hair
And the sun may set without your help, but you're beautiful people to me
You may fall before you're pushed, but it's beautiful people I see
If you only see the stars when it's dark, that's enough for me
An empty soul with a full opinion is beautiful people to me

It's all the same in different hats, the proof of the missing link
A nation talking to itself and none of us can think
Things were never what they used to be
For a silent fool may still be wise, there's no way you can tell

And the captain more scared than his crew is beautiful people to me
The finest government you could buy is beautiful people I see
If you live five to one against it's good enough for me

Can't use two steps to cross a canyon, you're beautiful people to me
If you don't see the same trees I see, you're beautiful people to me
Make deserts bloom and oceans die, just beautiful people to me
If you're lost and dying of civilization, that's enough for me

If you believe your own blind eye, you're beautiful people to me
And you may miss what you never had and have what you don't need
And the sun may set without your help, but you're beautiful people to me
You may fall before you're pushed, but it's beautiful people I see
If you only see the stars when it's dark, that's enough for me
An empty soul with a full opinion is beautiful people to me

And the captain more scared than his crew is beautiful people to me
And the finest government you could buy, it's beautiful people I see
If you live five to one against, it's good enough for me

Can't use two steps to cross a canyon, you're beautiful people to me
If you don't see the same trees I see, you're beautiful people to me
Make deserts bloom and oceans die, just beautiful people to me
If you're lost and dying of civilization, that's enough for me

Belief in the Small Man



"Where the Rose is Sown" 7" single (1984)
UK

The Collection 1982-1988 (1993) UK 5:18
Steeltown [remaster] (1996) UK 5:17

Stuart Adamson, Mark Brzezicki, Tony
Butler & Bruce Watson

Just as one life turns from birth
Just as the ring finds its worth
Just as the leaf turns to gold
So you and I will be sold

Sold for the work done
While we could feel young
Sold for the new son
Gold for the pure one

Where does our home lie
Where is our own
Lonely the cold cry
Only unknown

Dark comes the night on the aged
Hard comes the day still unpaid yet
All in a bed still unmade it
Chokes like the tomb and it says it's

Sold for the work done
While we could feel young
Sold for the new son
Gold for the pure one

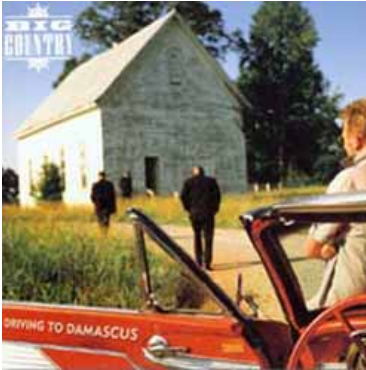
Where does our home lie
Where is our own
Lonely the cold cry
Only unknown, unknown, unknown

Sold for the work done
While we could feel young
Sold for the new son
Gold for the pure one

Where does our home lie
Where is our own
Lonely the cold cry
Only unknown

(repeat)

Bella



Driving to Damascus (1999) UK 3:34
Driving to Damascus limited edition (1999)
UK 3:34

Stuart Adamson

If we could fly
In the dreaming of dreams
And you came to me
I would welcome you in

But now I'm awake
In the dark on my own
With nothing to read
And it's too late to phone

Bella don't cry, Bella don't cry
Time passes by, and loneliness flies
Someday we'll be together
Though it may be forever
Bella don't cry, Bella don't cry

We talk across waters, we walk in the air
Look for reminders of reasons we care
Fill up our days with meaningless acts
Watching the clock as it tries to turn back

Bella don't cry, Bella don't cry
Time passes by, and loneliness flies
Someday we'll be together
Though it may be forever
Bella don't cry, Bella don't cry

And if the place for us
Is far beyond this earth
I'll wait in peace for you
If I should be there first

Someday we'll be together
Though it may be forever
Bella don't cry, Bella don't cry

Someday we'll be together
Though it may be forever
Bella don't cry, Bella don't cry
Bella don't cry, Bella don't cry

Bianca



"You Dreamer" CD single #2 (1995) UK 4:39

Stuart Adamson & Tony Butler

Don't walk away because there is no turning back
Don't yell at me because you think I won't talk back
I'm like a fighter hero dodging through your flak

Bianca, you're stupid
You think I'm sent by Cupid
But me I'm still lucid
And I did more than you did

I might give you an ounce before you come apart
I'm in no state to chase you naked in the park
I hate the company you keep out in the dark

Bianca, you're funny
Because your folks have money
You want it, they buy it
I think your hair's a riot

Bianca, you're stupid
You think I came from Cupid
But me I'm still lucid
And I did more than you did

Don't talk to me because you think I won't talk back
I'm like a fighter hero dodging through your flak

Bianca, you're funny
Because your folks have money
You want it, they buy it
I think your hair's a riot

Bianca, Bianca
Bianca, you're stupid
You think I came from Cupid
But me I'm still lucid
And I did more than you did

Birmingham



Bon Appetit! EP (1999) UK 3:45

Stuart Adamson

Rainman makes his pretty patterns
Up and down the street
I ask about his timing
But he doesn't like to speak

I get a weather warning in my rental car
I should be out of here but I'm not getting far

I'm stuck with a girl like you down in Birmingham
In the stormy weather
I'm just waiting for the clouds to blow, for the rains to go
Feels like forever

I'm stuck here with a girl like you down in Birmingham
And the storm is a raging
I'm just watching while the clouds explode, staying on the road
While you watch me aging

I didn't mean to spend a moment in this place
Alabama medicine turns hours into days
Ladies treat you kindly when you're full of dollar bills
They wash the whiskey from your eyes with consummate skill

I'm stuck with a girl like you down in Birmingham
In the stormy weather
I'm just watching for the clouds to blow, for the rains to go
Feels like forever

I'm stuck here with a girl like you down in Birmingham
And the storm is a raging
I'm just waiting while the clouds explode, staying on the road
While you watch me aging

Thanks for the time that I get, yeah
Thank you for the blues
Thanks for a hole in the sky
The sun comes shining through

I'm stuck with a girl like you down in Birmingham
In the stormy weather
I'm just waiting for the clouds to blow, for the rains to go
Seems like forever

I'm stuck here with a girl like you down in Birmingham
And the storm is a raging
I'm just waiting while the clouds explode, staying on the road
While you watch me aging

Thanks for the time that I get, yeah
Thank you for the blues
Thanks for a hole in the sky
The sun comes shining through

Blue On A Green Planet (cool version)



"I'm Not Ashamed" CD single #2 (1995) UK
4:37

Restless Natives & Rarities (1988) UK 4:38

Stuart Adamson, Tony Butler, Bruce Watson
& Mark Brzezicki

I think this is the demo version of this song done at House in the Woods. We did two versions of this, one a slow grind replete with vocal "brass" section, the other an up-tempo "punk rock" version. – Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

We've got a problem but I don't know what it is
We used to sparkle now we buck without the fizz
My ass is getting pains from sitting on the fence
For everything I need to do is in the future tense

Blue on a green planet
With you

We've got a history but it's too much like the past
I get unwell from stuff that used to be a blast
I did some falling down I did some falling out
I just guess our joint account has fallen into doubt

Blue on a green planet
With you

What more can we say, what more can we do
This is something that I never wanted to go through
But I'm blue on a green planet with you
I'm blue on a green planet with you
I'm so blue on a green planet with you

Blue on a green planet
With you

I'm not that lazy but I just don't need the work
I'm not the proper type to be one of those physical jerks
Some people say you have to change to stay the same
I guess we tried so hard to stay the same we changed

Blue on a green planet
With you

What more can we say, what more can we do
This is something that I never wanted to go through
But I'm blue on a green planet with you
I'm blue on a green planet with you
I'm so blue on a green planet (repeat 2)

Blue on a green planet
With you (repeat 2)

Blue, blue, blue, blue, blue
With you

Blue on a green planet
With you (repeat 2)

Blue On A Green Planet



Why the Long Face (1995) US 4:52
NON! (1995) UK 4:52
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 4:54

Stuart Adamson, Tony Butler, Bruce Watson
& Mark Brzezicki

We've got a problem but I don't know what it is
We used to sparkle now we buck without the fizz
My ass is getting pains from sitting on the fence
For everything I need to do is in the future tense

And I'm blue on a green planet with you
Yes I'm blue on a green planet with you
And I'm blue on a green planet with you
Yes I'm blue on a green planet with you

We've got a history but it's too much like the past
I get unwell from stuff that used to be a blast
I did some falling down I did some falling out
I just guess our joint account has fallen into doubt

And I'm blue on a green planet with you
Yes I'm blue on a green planet with you
And I'm blue on a green planet with you
Yes I'm blue on a green planet with you

What more can we say, what more can we do
This is something that I never wanted to go through
But I am, yeah I'm blue on a green planet with you
Yeah I'm blue on a green planet with you
I'm so blue on a green planet with you

I'm not that lazy but I just don't need the work
I'm not the proper type to be one of those physical jerks
Some people say you have to change to stay the same
I guess we tried so hard to stay the same we changed

And I'm blue on a green planet with you
Yes I'm blue on a green planet with you
And I'm blue on a green planet with you
Yes I'm blue on a green planet with you

Broken Heart (Thirteen Valleys)



Peace In Our Time (1988) US 5:12
"Broken Heart (Thirteen Valleys) CD single
[edit] (1988) UK 4:54
"Broken Heart (Thirteen Valleys) limited
edition CD single [edit] (1988) UK 4:51
Through a Big Country (1990) UK 5:11
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 5:10
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [live] (1994)
UK 5:04

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

"My favorite song ever written." —
Stuart Adamson, Melody Maker
interview, March 26, 1990

Thirteen valleys he has wandered for her love
For he thinks he is the one that she dreams of
But her bed was made elsewhere
From the first day she got there
Now he wanders thirteen valleys crying out
Now he wanders thirteen valleys crying out

It could have been me
I said it could have been me
A broken heart needs someone new to blame it on
A broken heart needs someone new to blame it on

Thirteen valleys she has gone since morning came
She gave so much that only love remains
But her lover is long gone
With the money she sent on
Now she wanders thirteen valleys crying out
Now she wanders thirteen valleys crying out

It could have been me
I said it could have been me
A broken heart needs someone new to blame it on
A broken heart needs someone new to blame it on

That broken heart will be forever and a lifetime
That broken heart will try your love like none before
And you may fight or you may run
For what was fast is now undone
A broken heart needs someone new to blame it on
A broken heart needs someone new to blame it on

Thirteen valleys lying silent in the haze
Filled with promises and spirits that we raised
But the spirits all are ghosts
Of the ones we hurt the most
And they wander thirteen valleys crying out
And they wander thirteen valleys crying out

It could have been me
I said it could have been me
A broken heart needs someone new to blame it on

It could have been me
I said it could have been me
A broken heart needs someone new to blame it on

That broken heart will be forever and a lifetime
That broken heart will try your love like none before
And you may fight or you may run
For what was fast is now undone
A broken heart needs someone new to blame it on
A broken heart needs someone new to blame it on

Buffalo Skinners



"Ships" CD single #2 (1993) UK 5:00
Eclectic [live] (1996) UK 5:58
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 5:56

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Stuart Adamson & Bruce Watson

Out beyond the river
Where you and I would ride
We would skin the buffalo
The last ones left alive

But once again it passed me by
I know it always will
So now I spend my Sunday standing still

Sure we could have
We could have got it right
Sure we could have
We could have got it right

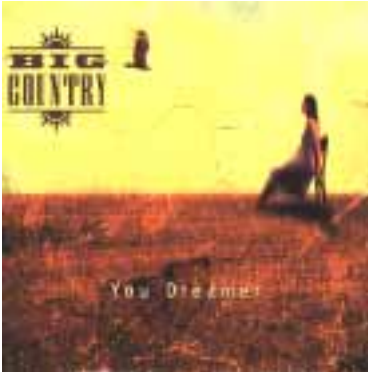
And somewhere she is calling out
On a scarlet plain
But I no longer hear her
I grew out of those games

I never skinned a buffalo
I never even killed
That's why I spend my Sunday standing still

Sure we could have
We could have got it right
Sure we could have
We could have got it right
Sure we could have
We could have got it right
Sure we could have
We could have got it right

Sure we could have
We could have got it right
Sure we could have
We could have got it right
Sure we could have
We could have got it right
Sure we could have
We could have got it right

Can You Feel the Winter



"You Dreamer" 12" single (1995) UK

Stuart Adamson

Do you see the paper, rumor going 'round
Finally they tell us, time to close us down
It's a major story, headlines at the stand
What was once our dignity, so the men bought back
Take away the fabric, make us less than real
Never let us have the cards, don't let us deal
Deep in the city, keep the windows closed
Don't chance a chill, or mess your clothes
Have you any measure what just one of us is worth
The wind that comes to chill us off already froze the north

Tell me, can you feel the winter, feel it cold across your heart
Tell me, can you feel the winter, tearing us apart, tearing us apart

More than a rumor, there go the rats
It's all been said and done there is no turning back
????, you chose the sea
Safe out on the waters, it's where you long to be
Have you any measure what just one of us is worth
And the wind that comes to cool us off already froze the north

Tell me, can you feel the winter, feel it cold across your heart
Tell me, can you feel the winter, tearing us apart, tearing us apart (rep. 2)

We're all in this together, if we're in this thing at all
And we don't need to feel better, when our back's against the wall
If it's over, then it's over
And we don't need to feel better, and our back's against the wall
So wave goodbye to sailor boy, and wave goodbye to me
And let your love be strong for us, beyond the troubled sea
Yeah, wave goodbye to sailor boy, and wave goodbye to me
And let your love be strong for us, beyond the troubled sea

I hope that you can take it, I hope that you come through
For I know what it does to me, it does much worse to you
If it's over, then it's over
For I know what it does to me, it does much worse to you
For wave goodbye to sailor boy, and wave goodbye to me
And let your love be strong for us, beyond the troubled sea
So wave goodbye to sailor boy, and wave goodbye to me
And let your love be strong for us, beyond the troubled sea

More than a rumor, there go the rats
It's all been said and done there is no turning back
????, you chose the sea
Safe out on the waters, it's where you long to be
Have you any measure what one of us is worth
The wind that comes to cool us off already froze the north

Chance



The Crossing (1983) US 4:24
"Peace In Our Time" CD single (1988) UK 4:29
Through A Big Country [7" mix] (1990) UK 4:39
Through A Big Country boxed set [extended version] (1991) JP 6:13
"Alone" CD single #1 [live 1991] (1993) UK 7:28
Defrostin [live bootleg] (1993) 6:17
The Best of Big Country [7" mix] (1994) US 4:41
Tracks from Without the Aid of a Safety Net promo [live] (1994) UK
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [live] (1994) UK 3:44
Where Did the Feeling Go? [live bootleg] (1995) 5:14
King Biscuit Flower Hour (1997) [live] US 5:55
Master Series [single version] (1997) UK 4:28
Brighton Rock [live] (1997) UK 3:24
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 3:13

All the rain came down
On a cold new town
As he carried you away

From your father's hand
That always seemed like a fist
Reaching out to make you pay

He came like a hero from the factory floor
With the sun and moon as gifts
But the only son you ever saw
Were the two he left you with

Oh Lord where did the feeling go
Oh Lord I never felt so low

Now the skirts hang so heavy around your head
That you never knew you were young
Because you played chance with a lifetime's romance
And the price was far too long

Oh Lord where did the feeling go
Oh Lord I never felt so low

Oh Lord where did the feeling go
Oh Lord I never felt so low

Oh Lord where did the feeling go
Oh Lord I never felt so low

Oh Lord where did the feeling go
Oh Lord I never felt so low

Oh Lord where did the feeling go
Oh Lord I never felt so low

Charlotte



Why the Long Face (1995) US 3:54

Stuart Adamson & Bruce Watson

It wasn't in her diary
It wasn't in her stars
She didn't hear it at the mall
It only makes things worse

Charlotte's in her ice box
Needs someone to blame
Another slice of chocolate cake
Helps to ease the pain

He used to buy her underwear
She loved to wear it too
While he would always talk so nice
And she pretended too

They saw the world together
But always in the dark
Three hours in the limousine
To find a place to park

Charlotte's in her ice box
Needs someone to blame
Another slice of chocolate cake
Helps to ease the pain

They lived a million miles apart
Between a dozen blocks
So sometimes she would call him up
But he would never talk

Charlotte's in her ice box
Needs someone to blame
Another slice of chocolate cake
Helps to ease the pain

She never saw him Sundays
He spends time with his kids
And they swore things would never change
But now she knows they did

Charlotte's in her ice box
Needs someone to blame
Another slice of chocolate cake
Helps to ease the pain

Charlotte's in her ice box
Needs someone to blame
Another slice of chocolate cake
Helps to ease the pain

Chester's Farm



The Buffalo Skinners (1993) US 4:38

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Stuart Adamson and Tony Butler

"Some period in our dim and distant past there was this guy working away in a laboratory, and he discovered this weird shit...He let this go and he targeted it at the people who you were most afraid of." – Stuart Adamson, in concert, Germany, 1993.

Black cars come and black cars go
Full of secrets you will never know
Tires hiss in the rain deep into the night
Shadows move behind the glass
No-one worries no-one asks
Politicians come and go so fast

I don't mean to do no harm
I don't want to cause alarm
I try to be cool, I try to stay calm
Something weird's going on at Chester's Farm

This is the place where monkeys die
This is the cage where the mutants fly
On the wings of an industry funded research lie
This is where the tests are made
Where our finest minds parade
Along the plan of bones that they have laid

I don't mean to do no harm
I don't want to cause alarm
I try to be cool, I try to stay calm
Something weird's going on at Chester's Farm

I don't mean to do no harm
I don't want to cause alarm
I try to be cool, I try to stay calm
Something weird's going on at Chester's Farm

Something's cracked and the bugs gone wild
The biological demon child
Is alive and among us
Resistance is futile

I don't mean to do no harm
I don't want to cause alarm
I try to be cool, I try to stay calm
Something weird's going on at Chester's Farm

I don't mean to do no harm
I don't want to cause alarm
I try to be cool, I try to stay calm
Something weird's going on at Chester's Farm

Cimarron



In the Scud EP (1998) UK 4:04

I met a dark-haired girl
In a blue cotton dress
She had a pair of old work boots on

And I asked her her name
And she told me and laughed
But my friends call me Cimarron

For it means that I live in the mountains
And I'm gonna go back there soon
For I need to be high and out of the city
To be closer to the moon

Cimarron, Cimarron, Cimarron
I hope you find your way home

She finished at ten but we sat at the bar
Drinking cola and long-necked beers
Two lost souls in harmony
Everything was clear

We walked in silence to my old red Ford
And we ran deep into the hills
Looked out over the lights of the city
At the night so clear and still

Cimarron, Cimarron, Cimarron
I hope you find your way home
Cimarron, Cimarron, Cimarron
I know where you belong

That was where I woke alone
With the birds of the first light
Sometimes I still drive up there
In the lonely time of night

Cimarron, Cimarron, Cimarron
I hope you find your way home
Cimarron, Cimarron, Cimarron
I know where you belong

Cimarron, Cimarron, Cimarron
I hope you find your way home
Cimarron, Cimarron, Cimarron
I know where you belong

Close Action



The Crossing (1983) US 4:16
The Collection: 1982-1988 (1993) UK 4:18
Defrostin [live bootleg] (1993) 4:35
Radio 1 Sessions [live - 2 versions] (1994) US
3:45/3:55
King Biscuit Flower Hour [live] (1997) US 4:13

A score of years this line has run
Above the crests that drown the sun
A mile high the turbines turned
The stokers sweat the monkeys burned

I will carry you home
With the gods in my eyes
I will carry you home
While the westerlies sigh

The continents will fly apart
The oceans scream and never part
Divided souls can never rest
Must join the nations break the test

I will carry you home
With the gods in my eyes
I will carry you home
While the westerlies sigh

I will carry you home
With the gods in my eyes
I will carry you home
While the westerlies sigh

For endless hours the sirens wail
Await the tide that brings the sail
Cling the walls and close the shore
The lovers wait who walk no more

I will carry you home
With the gods in my eyes
I will carry you home
While the westerlies sigh

I will carry you home
With the gods in my eyes
I will carry you home
While the westerlies sigh

I will carry you home
I will carry you home
I will carry you home
I will carry you home

Come Back to Me



Steeltown (1984) US 4:35
BBC Live In Concert [live] (1995) UK 5:45
Eclectic [live] (1996) UK 4:43
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 4:47

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Big Country

"...this song is all about a woman who has lost someone near and dear to her." — Stuart Adamson, BBC Live In Concert.

The day they had a party
Right out in the street
Flags and flowers and singing
For the homecome hero's treat

I sat in the kitchen
Without a fire on the range
I knew this house had lost the cause
To ever make me warm again

Come back to me
Days are all to long
Come back to me
You never should have gone
I was so young and full of pride
And you were wild and strong
I never knew how weak I was

I watched them gather round him
When he stepped down from the car
While tears fell on my cigarette
He handed out cigars

I have your child inside me
But you will never know
I never will forget you
While I watch that child grow

Come back to me
Days are all to long
Come back to me
You never should have gone
I was so young and full of pride
And you were wild and strong
I never knew how weak I was

I was so young and full of pride
(I never, I never, I never...)

I will always be here
Fading by the day
I will wash the bloody hands
And cast the bowl away

As the years hang on me
You will always be young
And one day I will lie down
Where the rose was flung

Come back to me
Days are all to long
Come back to me
You never should have gone
I was so young and full of pride
And you were wild and strong
I never knew how weak I was

Comes A Time



No Place Like Home (1991) UK 3:53

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

It's a holy place if you see things that way
Then they rattle the bones and the analysts play
From his backward collar on a worn out book
Another working class poet with an abstract look

So take me up to the edge of the world
And push me over again
Lead me up to the edge of the world
There comes a time

Now, shake your hair and rattle your cans
It's a service funded by a self-made man
Talks to victims and industrial spies
He feeds you tobacco for the four-minute mile

So take me up to the edge of the world
And push me over again
Lead me up to the edge of the world
There comes a time

With some strange god and a good right hand
We can chase the ghost from the promised land
If the promised land turns out as it should
We can flood the place with consumer goods

When the African general meets the bingo queen
And the collective farmer joins the teenage dream
When the miracle worker saves the chat show host
And the caveman paints another holy ghost

So take me up to the edge of the world
And push me over again
Lead me up to the edge of the world
There comes a time

So take me up to the edge of the world
And push me over again
Lead me up to the edge of the world
There comes a time

We can storm the walls in our leisure wear
While we trap the beast in his stormy lair
Then we'll smooth his image and we'll save his soul
While we fill our schools with the gold we stole

With some strange god and a good right hand
We can chase the ghost from the promised land
If the promised land turns out as it should
We can flood the place with consumer goods

Crazytimes



"I'm Not Ashamed" CD single #2 (1995) UK
4:03

Stuart Adamson

Without the sky we get too hot
Upon our small and fragile spot
Best row with the oars we've got
It's a crazytime that we are in

They call you queer, they call you thick
And teach you with a ratlin' stick
You end up either dead or quick
It's a crazytime that we are in

These are crazytimes we're living in
These are crazytimes, ooh yeah
These are crazytimes we're living in
These are crazytimes, ooh yeah

We get weak when we are strong
We know the right and choose the wrong
Most of us just sing along
It's a crazytime that we are in

These are crazytimes we're living in
These are crazytimes, ooh yeah
These are crazytimes we're living in
These are crazytimes, ooh yeah

These are crazytimes we're living in
These are crazytimes, ooh yeah
These are crazytimes we're living in
These are crazytimes, ooh yeah

La la la la la
La la la la la, ooh yea

(repeat to fade)

The Crossing



"Chance" single (1983) UK
Wonderland (1984) US
Through A Big Country boxed set (1991) JP
7:08
The Crossing [remaster] (1996) UK 7:08
Master Series (1997) UK 7:10

Maps on the back of your hands point to the cross
Scratches on walls in a room draw out your loss
Your islands are conquered and
You are returned to the throne
Martyrs take penance and
Fill up the mattress with stones

Pull straws with holy men
Stain all the atlas pink
And let us find a beach
Where we can cross our hearts

Stand in the wind as the carousels spin
Wear out your welcome again
Stand on the silence of mountains and
Wear out your welcome again

Mornings hit hard with an uncontrollable light
Piercing the senses that click deep in the night
Crouched in a pillow of straw feet on the floor
Creeping a path to the mat that holds back the door

Pull straws with holy men
Stain all the atlas pink
And let us find a beach
Where we can cross our hearts

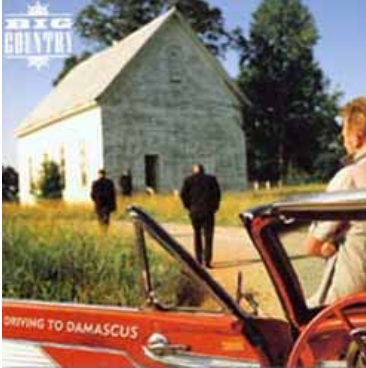
Build up great railways that run
Through the horns of the moon
Hold up a city with cast iron museum walls
Explain your machines to the boys feed them with tools
Bring out the skill in your skin polish your hair

Pull straws with holy men
Stain all the atlas pink
And let us find a beach
Where we can cross our hearts

Stand in the wind as the carousels spin
Wear out your welcome again
Stand on the silence of mountains
And take a look down to the sea

Stand in the wind as the carousels spin
Wear out your welcome again
Stand on the silence of mountains
And take a look down to the sea

Devil in the Eye



Driving to Damascus (1999) UK 4:13
Driving to Damascus limited edition (1999)
UK 4:13

Stuart Adamson and Ray Davies

Take a little care when you put your lips
To her long cool neck
One kiss will be too much, a hundred not enough
Treat her with respect

If I could tell this to you would you believe it was true
You might just laugh I expect
And say you feel sophisticated
Confident and ready for the next

Has no time for modesty,
Doesn't care for honesty
Deals in broken promises
Will spell you with her lies

Has no time for modesty
Doesn't care for honesty
Deals in broken promises
We'll look the devil in the eye

You'll be the class fool, a perfect asshole
You'll be the guy in control
And make decisions based on derision
And wake up deep in a hole

Wishing the ground would open beneath you
Enough to swallow you whole
So you don't have to face the wreckage
You left scattered from the night before

Has no time for modesty
Doesn't care for honesty
Deals in broken promises
Will spell you with her lies

Has no time for modesty
Doesn't care for honesty
Deals in broken promises
We'll look the devil in the eye

You will be dazzled by the pictures she will paint
Colours she will bring
And feel so safe and warm, far away from harm
Wrapped up in her wings

And slowly drift through the day, letting it all slip away
Without a care in the world
And wake up in a cold sweat
Screaming for her touch to ease your troubled soul

Has no time for modesty
Doesn't care for honesty
Deals in broken promises
Will spell you with her lies

Has no time for modesty
Doesn't care for honesty
Deals in broken promises
We'll look the devil in the eye

We'll look the devil in the eye

Dive Into Me (demo)



In the Scud EP (1998) UK 4:21

It was a long hot day
At the end of a summer
I felt a chill in my heart
Like the start of a winter

And I didn't know what to wear
Wasn't sure what to say
I was standing alone
At the tail of the river

Dive into me (dive into me)
Into the raging sea (dive into me)
Follow your heart
Down where it's deep and dark

Dive into me (dive into me)
Into the healing sea (dive into me)
Dive from the shore
Into the deep blue me

So we loaded up the car
Drove deep into the mountains
Where the river was born
In time's holy fountain

And we spoke of how it ran
All the way to the ocean
Trusting it's path
To a natural motion

Dive into me (dive into me)
Into the raging sea (dive into me)
Follow your heart
Down where it's deep and dark

Dive into me (dive into me)
Into the healing sea (dive into me)
Dive from the shore
Into the deep blue me

Sometimes swirling waters
Drag you down
Knowing how to swim
Doesn't mean you'll never drown

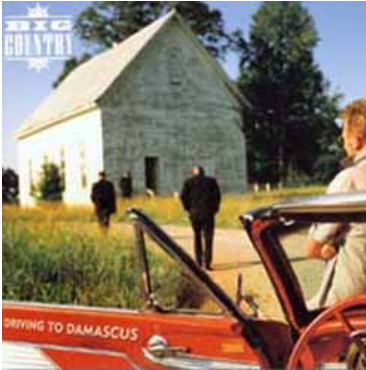
From the storm you hold in fear
Whoever is by your side
Sometimes you're just drifting on the tide

Dive into me (dive into me)
(Dive into me)
Dive into me (dive into me)
(Dive into me)

Dive into me (dive into me)
Into the raging sea (dive into me)
Follow your heart
Down where it's deep and it's dark

Dive into me (dive into me)
Into the healing sea (dive into me)
Dive from the shore
Into the deep blue me

Dive Into Me



Driving to Damascus (1999) UK 5:02
Driving to Damascus limited edition (1999)
UK 5:02

Stuart Adamson, Mark Brzezicki, Tony
Butler and Bruce Watson

It was a long hot day
At the end of the summer
I had a chill in my heart
Like the start of the winter

And I didn't know what to wear
I wasn't sure what to say
I was standing alone
At the tail of the river

Dive into me, into the raging sea
Follow your heart, down where it's deep and it's dark
Dive into me, into the healing sea
Put your life into my hands and take the chance
Dive into me

So we loaded up the car
Drove deep into the mountain
Where the river was born
In time's holy fountain

And we spoke about how it ran
All the way to the ocean
Trusting its path
To a natural motion

Dive into me, into the raging sea
Follow your heart, down where it's deep and it's dark
Dive into me, into the healing sea
Put your life into my hands and take the chance
Dive into me

Sometimes swirling waters drag you down
Knowing how to swim doesn't mean you'll never drown
Come the storm you hold in fear
Whoever's by your side
Sometimes you're just drifting on the tide

Dive into me, into the raging sea
Follow your heart, down where it's deep and it's dark
Dive into me, into the healing sea
Put your life into my hands and take the chance
Dive into me

Don't You Stay



Bon Appetit! EP (1999) UK 4:47

Stuart Adamson

I don't like to ask you
But there are no choices left
Upon that fateful day
When you wore your wedding dress

Did the sun shine brightly
The clouds just drift on through
The way that clouds on wedding days should do

So don't you stay another day
And let your heart go on its way

Does your blood run thin like water
Does he treat you like he ought to
I guess it's time you should be on your way

With the tears upon your lips
The day you made your vow
The words rang out around the church
Do you hear them now

Did the preacher take your hand
And gently place the ring
Did the congregation stand to sing

Now don't you stay another day
And let your heart go on its way

Does your blood run thin like water
Does he treat you like he ought to
I guess it's time you should be on your way

We keep the darkest lies
For the sweetest smiles
We keep our best goodbyes
For the hardest miles
For the coldest night

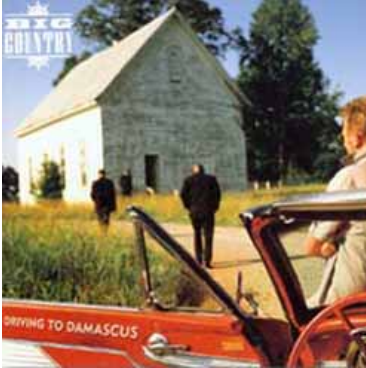
So don't you stay another day
And let your heart go on its way

Does your blood run thin like water
Does he treat you like he ought to
I guess it's time you should be on your way

Don't you stay another day
And let your heart go on its way

Does your blood run thin like water
Does he treat you like he ought to
I guess it's time you should be on your way

Driving to Damascus



Driving to Damascus (1999) UK 3:56
Driving to Damascus limited edition (1999)
UK 3:56

Stuart Adamson, Mark Brzezicki and Bruce Watson

"I was writing a contemporary take on Paul's vision of Christ on the road to Damascus, but with a guy driving a busload of tourists."
— Stuart Adamson, reply to a post on the Official Big Country Web Site bulletin board.

I was driving to Damascus when a sandstorm rose
The road disappeared and the axle froze
I was low on gas and lower on hope
I covered my eyes and I felt for the rope

The wind was howling and the air it stung
I breathed in dust and it burned my lungs
And through the dust a driver came
Small and twisted and his face was plain

He said love them all
All that you need when your heart is small
Love them all
You're gonna find them when they fall

It was not hard to make him out
He simply spoke while I had to shout
He asked me where you driving child?
His voice was clear but his eyes were wild

I said I'm going to the city
To meet the high and proud
And let them know that anger
Is the nature of the crowd

He said love them all
All that you need when your heart is small
Love them all
You're gonna find them when they fall

Love them all
All that you need when your heart is small
Love them all
You're gonna find them when they fall

He said your words are lost on the dead
When you belong to them
Once I was dead and I knew the words
Of those dry and hollow men

And he took the rope and he hitched me up
Freed me from the dust
And he helped me round the pilgrims up
And lead them to the bus

He said love them all
All that you need when your heart is small
Love them all
You're gonna find them when they fall

Love them all
All that you need when your heart is small
Love them all
You're gonna find them when they fall

Love them all
All that you need when your heart is small
Love them all
You're gonna find them when they fall

Dust on the Road



"Fragile Thing" CD single #2 (1999) UK 3:28

Stuart Adamson and Christie Siemans

"I wrote it with a friend of mine here in Nashville, Christie Siemans. I played it to the guys and they loved it, so we rattled off a version." — Stuart Adamson, reply to a post on the Official Big Country Web Site bulletin board.

Little girl racing the setting sun
Kicking up dirt from here to Jackson
Got to be home by supper time
Or her brand new daddy's gonna tan her hide

While the little girl's momma she walks the floor
She was Miss Mississippi back in '84
Daddy's got a belly full of cheap red wine
Momma knows that daddy's not the marrying kind

Dust on the road catches your eye
Flies from the wheels of other lives
Like shiny cars
As the years go by
Leave you behind
Dust on the road

Red and blue lights on a bedroom wall
Grown man's voice says down the hall
By the bed side a little girl prays
The Lord moves in mysterious ways

Momma walks in saying it's allright now
An angel of mercy in a coat and gown
In the cracked rear view of a beat-up Olds
Everything fades in the dust on the road

Dust on the road catches your eye
Flies from the wheels of other lives
Like shiny cars
Like the years roll by
Leave you behind
Dust on the road

Dust on the road catches your eye
Flies from the wheels of other lives
Like shiny cars
Like the years roll by
Leave you behind
Dust on the road

Dynamite Lady



No Place Like Home (1991) UK 5:32

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

I'd better be leaving
She said then she whispered
They're waiting for me at the fairground tonight
I'll never be back and I'll never be missed
But I leave something here
And that doesn't seem right

All of the time I just travel and travel
Am I running away or am I running home
There's a man and a family
Somewhere in the suburbs
I forget his name and I can't find the town

Boom goes the world of the dynamite lady
Making her way with a flash and a bang
Boom goes the life of the dynamite lady
Picking up the pieces wherever she can

All of my days hang on one fiery moment
A hushing of crowds and a dimming of lights
And I lie curled up like a child in the darkness
I die if it's wrong I'm reborn if it's right

Boom goes the world of the dynamite lady
Making her way with a flash and a bang
Boom goes the life of the dynamite lady
Picking up the pieces wherever she can

I walk through the clouds and I don't hear the cheers
There's a sound in my head that you almost could see
And the look in their eyes says I might as well live
It was already over before the dust cleared

Boom goes the world of the dynamite lady
Making her way with a flash and a bang
Boom goes the life of the dynamite lady
Picking up the pieces wherever she can (repeat 3)

Making her way with a flash and a bang
Picking up the pieces wherever she can

East of Eden



Steeltown (1984) US 4:29
Through a Big Country (1990) UK 4:11
Through A Big Country boxed set [extended
version] (1991) JP 6:29
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 4:29

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Big Country

*"One of the pieces I'm most
satisfied with." — Stuart Adamson,
Melody Maker interview, March
26, 1990*

I feel the way the wind blows
It tells me where you've been through
I watch the way the sun sets
Until the night's inside you

Some days I just don't worry, I let it walk through me
Some days I need to bury the very depths of me
So out here to the east of Eden
I let salvation be

I was waiting, I was watching
Would it ever be there for me
And I found that hope and a lucky card
Were all I had to walk with me
Had to walk with me

I watch the way the crow flies
I know it always seems so easy
But if I see it in a grey sky
Can I be sure about the way it leads me

Some days I just don't worry, I let it walk through me
Some days I call upon the very depths of me
So out here to the east of Eden
I watch your soul run free

I was waiting, I was watching
Would it ever be before me
And I found that hope and a lucky card
Were all I had to walk with me

I was waiting, I was watching
Would it ever be before me
And I found that hope and a lucky card
Were all I had to walk with me

Some days will stay a thousand years
Some pass like the flash of a spark
Who knows where all our days go

Out here we lie together
Outside the thunder gathers
Why care about the weather
It always ends in dark

I looked west in search of freedom and I saw slavery
I looked east in search of answers and I saw misery
Some days I just don't worry, I let it walk through me
Some days I walk into the very depths of me
So out here to the east of Eden I let my conscience be

I was waiting, I was watching
Would it ever be before me
And I found that hope and a lucky card
Were all I had to walk with me

Eastworld



"Alone" CD single #1 (1993) UK 4:39

Stuart Adamson

I have come from the Eastworld
From the concrete and the dust
At the end of the empire
For the lifting of the curse

I have come for your hardware
To the strip shows and the bars
I have come to see Madonna
Swim in rivers filled with cars

All bound for miracle land today
All bound for miracle land today
Western men untie my hands
Lead me through the shifting sands
All bound for miracle land today

Take me to your banker
Let me default on my loan
Give me twenty years of payments
And a debt to call my own

Let me camp out on the welfare
Dig a hole to get my high
Show me rows and rows
Of oriental toys that I must buy

All bound for miracle land today
All bound for miracle land today
Western men untie my hands
Lead me through the shifting sands
All bound for miracle land today

The airwaves talk to me deep into the night
I trust the voice of Radio Free Europe

I have come from the Eastworld
With a missile for a god
Where my mouth was always empty
My feet were barely shod

All bound for miracle land today
All bound for miracle land today
Western men untie my hands
Lead me through the shifting sands
All bound for miracle land today

All bound for miracle land today
All bound for miracle land today
Western men untie my hands
Lead me through the shifting sands
All bound for miracle land today

Eiledon



The Seer (1986) US 5:36
Through A Big Country (1990) UK 5:38
Brighton Rock [live] (1997) UK 5:17

Stuart Adamson

The eagle soars above the clouds
The deer ran in the hills
And I may walk in cities
Where the wolf once had his fill

And here is strength for us to find
To turn the old to new
And wipe our eyes of misty years
And see the future through

I chose this place to call my own
The only grace I've ever known
I never tire of legends grown
We dream too much and time has flown

Eiledon, I will be there
Eiledon, my dream is there

So let me fill my children's hearts
With heroes tales and hope it starts
A fire in them so deeds are done
With no vain sighs for moments gone

Eiledon, I will be there
Eiledon, my dream is there
Eiledon, Eiledon, Eiledon, Eiledon

So let us soar up with the eagles
In wild country among the deer
And wake the wolf in every city
And reckoning is drawing near

Eiledon, I will be there
Eiledon, my dream is there
Eiledon

And here is strength for us to find
To turn the old to new
And wipe our eyes of misty years
And see the future through

Everything I Need



Peace In Our Time (1988) US 4:44
In a Big Country (1995) UK 4:40

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

You've got everything I want
You've got everything I need
Maybe we'll go out walking tonight
You've got everything I need

I know you would be so warm
I want you to keep from harm
Maybe we'll go out driving tonight
Maybe it wouldn't be so wrong

All the seasons rushing over me
All the secret wounds that bleed
All the seasons rushing over me
Take me further from my need

For all the places we might go
Places I will never know
I would trade them all for one empty room
With you and I left there alone

All the seasons rushing over me
All the secret wounds that bleed
All the seasons rushing over me
Take me further from my need

Far From Me To You



Why the Long Face (1995) US 4:11
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 4:13

Stuart Adamson

Somewhere there are orange trees
Somewhere skies are blue
Somewhere is a bridge
Across the world from me to you

Sometimes in the darkest sky
The sun comes shining through
And tonight it seems
So far from me to you

Some of us are safe alone
Some of us pretend
We can always start again
The things we never end

Some of us are born to fall
Others to stay true
But tonight it seems so far from me to you
Yeah tonight it seems so far from me to you

So tell me if you hear me come on
Tell me, tell me, can you hear me come on
Tell me if you can hear me, come on and tell me
I'm awake for you

And sometimes in the darkest hour
Love comes shining through
And it doesn't seem so far from me to you
No it doesn't seem so far from me to you

Listening in the darkness to a voice I call my own
Shameful that my emptiness is turning me to stone
In the silence of the night love comes shining through
And it doesn't seem so far from me to you
No it doesn't seem so far from me to you

I'm deep into my darkest hour
Love comes shining through
And it doesn't seem so far from me to you
No it doesn't seem so far from me to you

Fields of Fire



The Crossing (1983) US 3:32
Through A Big Country (1990) UK 3:33
Through A Big Country boxed set [extended version] (1991) JP 5:15
Defrostin [live bootleg] (1993) 5:32
Long Way Home [live bootleg] (1993) 5:38
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 3:33
BBC Live In Concert [live] (1995) UK 9:02
Where Did the Feeling Go? [live bootleg] (1995) 7:15
King Biscuit Flower Hour [live] (1997) US 6:37
Master Series [alternate mix] (1997) UK 3:31
Brighton Rock [live] (1997) UK 6:36
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 5:23

The time in question was Falklands time, and Stuart was spending a lot of it traveling on the train between Scotland and London, sharing a carriage with members of the service. "I was wondering if the guys I sat and talked to on the train had been involved in the war, and how I would feel—I was a new parent at the time—if it was my kids that were involved in it." — Stuart Adamson, Melody Maker interview, March 26, 1990

Between a father and a son
Between the city and the one
Before the teacher and the test
Before the journey and the rest

The shining eye will never cry
The beating heart will never die
The house on fire holds no shame
I will be coming home again

400 miles without a word until you smile
400 miles on fields of fire

Between a woman and a boy
Between a child and his toy
Between a woman and a boy
Between a child and a toy

Before the following of the west
Before the journey and the rest

400 miles without a word until you smile
400 miles without a word until you smile
400 miles on fields of fire

Flame of the West



Steeltown (1984) US 5:01

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Big Country

A stranger came by traveling
He went to every door
He said he'd lost his people
He had come to look for more

And many did believe him
As he talked upon the square
The spell he wove upon us
Fills my body with despair

And in his eyes
Was the flame of the west
Until it burns
He never rests

He had the voice of an angel
And the face of a saint
And though they fell behind him
I knew what it was he meant

His eyes were full of demons
As he made the message clear
He strode the world like Caesar
With a trident held his fear

And in his eyes
Was the flame of the west
Until it burns
He never rests

It's just how its always been
One man with a ruling dream
And everyone falls for him
Heroines in an ancient film

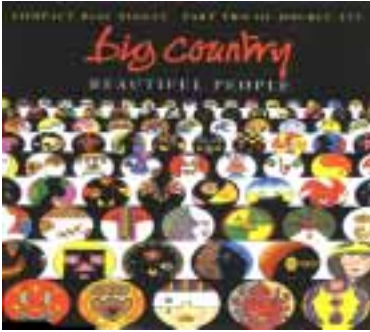
It's just how its always been
One man with a ruling dream
And everyone falls for him
Heroines in an ancient film

Look out for that stranger
If you pass him on your way
He never sees a danger,
In the darkening of the day

There will be dollars in his hand
He has all hell to pay
And he will pass them to you
If you promise you will stay

And in his eyes
Was the flame of the west
Until it burns
He never rests

Fly Like An Eagle



"Beautiful People" CD single (1991) UK 4:47*
In A Big Country (1995) UK 4:24

Bruce Watson

** The original version of "Fly Like an Eagle" was mastered at the wrong speed on the "Beautiful People" single. The In a Big Country compilation has the correct speed version.*

Hey little lady don't you hear my call
Standing by the shadows in your heels so tall
Hey little lady you were only seventeen
When you left home for the city that you saw in your dreams

Cry little angel wipe the tears from your eyes
Stay a little longer leave the rain outside
Searching for something that something can buy
That you stole all the gold from your mother's pocket

You said you're lonely far from home
From the place you knew
For if the truth be told you're far too old for that sin
Well I can tell by the look in your sweet blue eyes
There's an angel coming out
Spread your wings and fly

Fly like an eagle spread your wings now
Soar up on into the sky
Fly like an eagle spread your wings now
For I know in your sweet blue eyes

Hey big brother can you spare me a dime
I've been out in the cold walking a thin white line
Stealing from the bottle is the road I took
And I sure can't find a way out of this prison

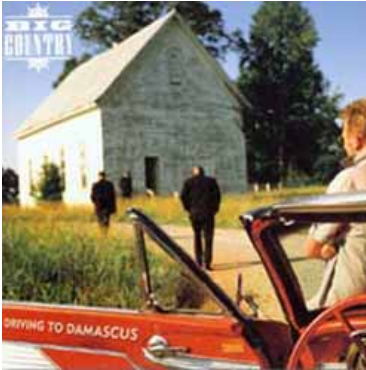
Staring at the people as they walk on my corner
Watch out for the man in the big black suit
Spare me a dime so I can burn the pain
He said the pain gets stronger as the bottle gets empty

You said you're lonely far from home
From the place you knew
For if the truth be told you're far too old for that sin
Well I can tell by the look in your sweet blue eyes
There's an angel coming out
Spread your wings and fly

Fly like an eagle spread your wings now
Soar up on into the sky
Fly like an eagle spread your wings now
For I know in your sweet blue eyes

Fly like an eagle spread your wings now
Soar up on into the sky
Fly like an eagle spread your wings now
For I know in your sweet blue eyes

Fragile Thing



Driving to Damascus (1999) UK 4:34
"Fragile Thing" CD singles (1999) UK 3:42

Stuart Adamson and Bruce Watson

Thank you ma'am for asking
Yes I'm on my own
I guess it's kind of obvious
I'm eating here alone

I'm grateful for the company
Tired of talking to myself
Don't you look into my eyes
You might see someone else

I've been to see a movie
About a man who saved the world
Had the same old happy ending
Where the hero gets the girl

And all I ever wanted
Was to be that hero too
Then I might still be with her
Instead of here with you

Love is a small and fragile thing
I spend a lot of cold nights missing you
Keep it in your hands or let it take wing
I spend a lot of cold nights missing you

Thank you for your time ma'am
I'm gonna go and walk
I might as well do that
Because I'm running out of talk

I could walk a thousand miles tonight
And never find my place
At least until it gets too light
To hide my tearful face

Love is a small and fragile thing
I spend a lot of cold nights missing you
Keep it in your hands or let it take wing
I spend a lot of cold nights missing you

I spend a lot of cold nights missing you

There's a low ballet on the highway
Brief faces in the light
I catch them for a second
Heading somewhere in the night

And we have no connection
But the darkness and the road
I better find a place tonight
I better call it home

Love is a small and fragile thing
I spend a lot of cold nights missing you
Keep it in your hands or let it take wing
I spend a lot of cold nights missing you

I spend a lot of cold nights missing you

Freedom Song



“Republican Party Reptile” CD single (1991)
UK

In A Big Country (1995) UK 4:31

No Place Like Home [remaster] (1996) UK
4:32

Stuart Adamson

At night when I lay sleeping
You stole the breath from me
And I dreamed a hundred thousand dreams
And none of them was real

For history will find us
If you bring the world to me
While all we know is all that's been
And none of what may be

Let them sing a freedom song
If only for a day
Everybody loves a freedom song
For how long

When people rise above themselves
To find that waiting mends
Then all the walls come tumbling down
And things begin to end

Then guide us to the wilderness
My enemy and me
With time and you against me too
The hour draws ever near

Let them sing a freedom song
If only for a day
Everybody loves a freedom song

Let them sing a freedom song
If only for a day
Everybody loves a freedom song
For how long

Let them sing a freedom song
If only for a day
Everybody loves a freedom song

Let them sing a freedom song
If only for a day
Everybody loves a freedom song
For how long

From Here to Eternity



Peace In Our Time (1988) US 4:58

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

How will I know if it's not like the first time
How will I know if this is the one
I try and hold you not for the first time
You step away and the past goes on

If I hold out for you will you hold out for me
Hold out from here to eternity
If I wait for you will you come to me
I need you from here to eternity

Times I walk through empty and aimless
Dragging days like a worn out mule
A night so empty it can only be painless
Weak and weary as your favorite fool

If I hold out for you will you hold out for me
Hold out from here to eternity
If I wait for you will you come to me
I need you from here to eternity
I need you from here to eternity
I carry on

I must take comfort in the little you leave me
The ring you stole on the darkest night
The weight of souvenirs that lie to deceive me
The dust of journeys and the scent of life

If I hold out for you will you hold out for me
Hold out from here to eternity
If I wait for you will you come to me
I need you from here to eternity
I need you from here to eternity
I carry on

Girl with Grey Eyes



Steeltown (1984) US 4:47
The Collection: 1982-1988 (1993) UK 4:48

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Big Country

You make me smile with all the feeling
That you deal in like a gambler
It makes me feel that I'm a winner
Or a sinner and I'm branded

I feel your skin so warm beside me
And I can hide me in your dreaming
You hold me near inside your fear
And I can feel the blood that's running

Just like Josephine, it will not be tonight
Still I have the dream, still I have the sight
Will you and I always be like this, will you and I always have this

I only see those sad grey eyes, I only hear you singing
I am the ticket, you the prize, when begins the winning

It's all we have, the time between us
And no one's been us for a moment
You talk to me just like no other
Like the brother that I never had

I look at you and you will turn and smile
For a little while be happy
I want you with all that loving brings
Like a church bell rings for the morning

Just like Josephine, it will not be tonight
Still I have the dream, still I have the sight
Will you and I always be like this, will you and I always have this
I only see those sad grey eyes, I only hear you singing
I am the ticket, you the prize, when begins the winning

Oh be my woman and I will be your man
Like I know I can if you let me
Just fill my heart and I will fill your soul
Like I know I can if you let me

"Alexandra" will never sound the same
Not a Roman game just a feeling
And I will know the time I heard that name
Will never be the same only better

Just like Josephine, it will not be tonight
Still I have the dream, still I have the sight

I only see those sad grey eyes, I only hear you singing
I am the ticket, you the prize, when begins the winning
I only see those sad grey eyes, I only hear you singing
I am the ticket, you the prize, when begins the winning

God's Great Mistake



Why the Long Face (1995) US 4:48
NON! (1995) UK 4:50
Where Did the Feeling Go? [live bootleg]
(1995) 4:54
Brighton Rock [live] (1997) UK 5:37
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 4:49

Stuart Adamson & Tony Butler

Not enough answers to too many questions
But guns are the last things we need
So we better watch the news
For we all have minds to feed

For the latest in monsters, a word from our sponsors
I write to the weather map guy
Who doesn't have much hair
But he's got a matching tie

Put the cat out and take off the phone
And leave a light on for the last one home

We're all a part of God's great mistake
The problem in the plan
We're all a part of God's great mistake
We get home if we can

There's a police car parked outside a schoolyard
Take home the law in a tin
Are they keeping bad guys out
Are they keeping bad guys in

Put the cat out and take off the phone
And leave a light on for the last one home

We're all a part of God's great mistake
The problem in the plan
We're all a part of God's great mistake
We get home if we can

I believe that democracy is meant to keep us free
I believe that Jesus Christ is who he's meant to be
I believe a living Elvis will soon appear on my TV

Put the cat out and take off the phone
Leave a light on for the last one home

We're all a part of God's great mistake
The problem in the plan
We're all a part of God's great mistake
We get home if we can

We're all a part of God's great mistake
The problem in the plan
We're all a part of God's great mistake
We get home if we can

God's Great Mistake (alternate version)



Restless Natives & Rarities (1988) UK 3:17

Stuart Adamson & Tony Butler

This was done at Chapel Studios on the same session as "Normal." I love to take melodies from folk music I grew up listening to and put them to a really heavy and dark guitar sounds. It's always very evocative to me and usually pushes me into 'apocalyptic' lyric mode as evidenced here.

– Stuart Adamson, *Restless Natives & Rarities* liner notes

I believe that democracy was meant to keep us free
I believe that Jesus Christ was who he's meant to be
I believe a living Elvis will soon appear on my TV

For there's a reason for the choices we make
We're all a part of God's great mistake

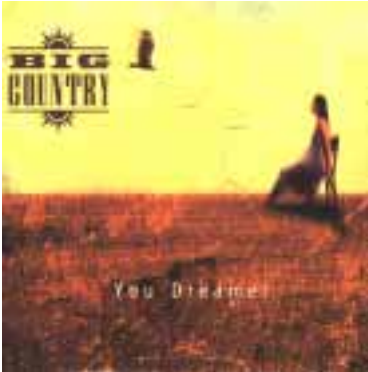
I know we have a future out beyond the stars
I know that there are farmers who were taken off to Mars
I know there is a thing from outer space kept in a big glass jar

Well there's a reason that we fall for the fake
And there's a reason for the choices we make
We're all a part of God's great mistake

I believe in all those people having unprotected sex
I believe that I will die with or without that cigarette
I believe we all should slow right down
And stare at every car we wreck

For there's a reason for the choices we make
And there's a reason that we fall for the fake
Yeah there's a reason for the choices we make
We're all a part of God's great mistake

Golden Boy Loves Golden Girl



"You Dreamer" 12" single (1995) UK

Stuart Adamson

Better wake him gently, shake his ruined bed
Better not resent him, with his face all red
Who is the one to suffer, who is the one to bleed
We look at one another wondering what we need

And golden boy loves golden girl
He dreams of kids in a silver world
But golden girl hates golden boy
He better forget her, he better forget her

Make sure he's in comfort, make sure he's inside
Don't let him be hungry, tell him he's alright
Who is the one to mother, who is the one to free
We look at one another wondering what we see

And golden boy loves golden girl
He dreams of kids in a silver world
But golden girl hates golden boy
He better forget her, he better forget her

Golden boy loves golden girl
He dreams of kids in a silver world
But golden girl hates golden boy
He better forget her, you better forget her

Better take him home now, better let him be
We look at one another wondering what we see

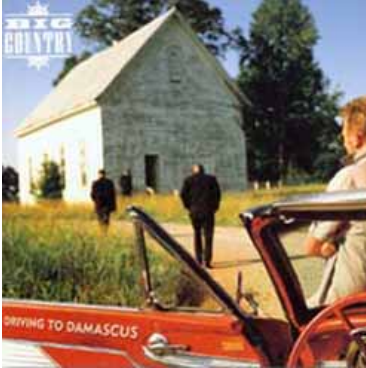
And golden boy loves golden girl
He dreams of kids in a silver world
But golden girl hates golden boy
He better forget her, he better forget her

Golden boy loves golden girl
He dreams of kids in a silver world
But golden girl hates golden boy
So we better forget her, you better forget her

Yeah golden boy loves golden girl
He dreams of kids in a silver world
But golden girl hates golden boy
So he better forget her, we better forget her

Yeah golden boy loves golden girl
He dreams of kids in a silver world
But golden girl hates golden boy
So he better forget her, you better forget her

Grace



Driving to Damascus (1999) UK 5:08
Driving to Damascus limited edition (1999)
UK 5:08

Stuart Adamson, Mark Brzezicki, Tony
Butler and Bruce Watson

Your head is a temple, I walk with the lamb
At your fountain I wash the blood from my hands
I pray deep inside you, where no one can see
Except for the spirit that binds you and me

If there's a reason that I'm quiet when I'm with you
It's because I feel at ease
I wouldn't want to spoil this moment by just talking
When my soul has been released

You bring me grace
You bring me grace

Your heart is an altar , I kneel in disgrace
Awaiting redemption, my sin on my face
When I am weak, I feast on your love
For there's on one below you and no-one above

If there's a moment that I have to be without you
I know you will wait for me
To take a second and remember that I love you
And that we will always be

You bring me grace
You bring me grace

If I am weak, I will be blessed
If I am tempted, I will confess
Your love is a sacrifice, for I am the blade
By your little death are both of us saved

You bring me grace
You bring me grace
Into the heart of me, to every part of me
You make an art of me

You bring me grace
You bring me grace
Into the heart of me, to every part of me
You make an art of me

The Great Divide



Steeltown (1984) US 4:50

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Big Country

Here comes the great divide, I walk the slide
That only killers will fear
Here comes the skill of choice, and all the noise
That I will ring along

Here comes a sign of hope, a length of rope
To measure all our living
I was the mother's son, I took the fun
And knew what I was giving

And suddenly I find the truth
And all it is is sighs and youth

Fire away, fire away, push the token door
Lie away, steal a day, make the engine roar
Fire away, fire away, push the token door

I hope I never fall behind the wall
Although the sound would ring
A skill that will take years and still know fear
Although I never did lie
I had the foreman's kiss, I never lisped
I'm sure it was a downfall

And suddenly I find the truth
And all it is is sighs and youth

Fire away, fire away, push the token door
Lie away, steal a day, make the engine roar
Fire away, fire away, push the token door

Here comes the great divide
Here comes a sign of hope
Here comes the great divide
I walk the slide
I hope I never fall

I know my machine, I sweat and steam
Until the job card colors
I know all my dreams, I shout and scream
Until the day's first break

And suddenly I find the truth, and suddenly I find the truth
And all it is is sighs and youth

Fire away, fire away, push the token door
Lie away, steal a day, make the engine roar
Fire away, fire away, push the token door

Here comes the great divide
And I know all my dreams
Here comes the great divide
Here comes the great divide

Hardly a Mountain



"You Dreamer" 12" single (1995) UK

Stuart Adamson

She still dreams about their time together
Wide awake in the dark morning hours
It was never gonna be forever
Moments fade like a lover's past

And she rises to get through the morning
Doesn't dress until the afternoon
What's the use of it when no one's calling
She wouldn't want to come far too soon

No, there's hardly a mountain that I would not climb
A sea I would not swim
No, there is not a river that I would not cross
To be with you again

No, there's hardly a mountain that I would not climb
A sea I would not swim
No, there is not a river that I would not cross
To be with you again

He likes to say he is too busy to worry
Then it's with him out on his own
They can't help that everything is a hurry
He's in safer hands when he's alone

But in the quiet of an endless evening
Too much time to think, too much to fill
He still dreams about their time together
We come and go like we always will

And there's hardly a mountain that I would not climb
A sea I would not swim
No, there is not a river that I would not cross
To be with you again

No, there's hardly a mountain that I would not climb
A sea I would not swim
There is not a river that I would not cross
To be with you again

No, there's hardly a mountain that I would not climb
A sea I would not swim
No, there is not a river that I would not cross
To be with you again

There's hardly a mountain that I would not climb
A sea I would not swim
No, there is not a river that I would not cross
To be with you again

Harvest Home



The Crossing (1983) US 4:20
Through A Big Country (1990) UK 4:21
Defrostin [live bootleg] (1993) 4:36
Radio 1 Sessions [live] (1994) US 4:06
The Collection: 1982-1988 (1993) UK 4:23
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [live
acoustic] (1994) UK 3:27
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 4:23
King Biscuit Flower Hour [live] (1997) US 4:39

Stuart Adamson

Who saw the fences falling
Who broke the ploughman's bread
Who heard the winter calling
Who wore the tailors thread

How many sheaves were counted
How did the carriage shine
How many thoughts were doubted
How did the landlord dine

Just as you sow you shall reap
Just as you sow you shall reap

Who lead the Mayday feasting
Who saw the harvest home
Who left the future wasting
Who watched the families go

See where the bowls are empty
See where the arms reach
See where the butter melted
See where the alters creak

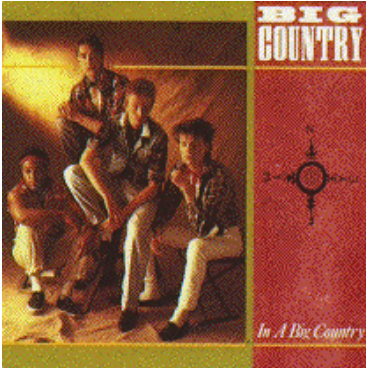
Just as you sow you shall reap
Just as you sow you shall reap
In harvest home

Where were the days of promise
Where were the gifts divine
Where were the heroes honest
Where was the summer wine

Watch how the waves must shatter
Watch how the shore divides
Watch how the nets will tatter
Watch Canute and his bride

Just as you sow you shall reap
Just as you sow you shall reap
In harvest home
In harvest home

Heart and Soul



In a Big Country 7" single (1983) UK
Through A Big Country boxed set (1991) JP
4:32
Radio 1 Sessions [live] (1994) US 4:48
The Crossing [remaster] (1996) UK 4:33
Master Series (1997) UK 5:15

Today...cast out all of the devils you hold
Away...to a time where your youth had been sold
Remove...all the robes worn by sacred ideas
Forget...false accounts of the deeds of brave men

To the dream that fires the furnace
Give all your heart and soul

Teaching...from black books bound up too long ago
Preaching...with a vengeance so bitter and worn
Meeting...in great halls stained with fierce industry
Ashamed...of the secrets that back rooms have held

To the dream that fires the furnace
Give all your heart and soul

Laugh now...while the fire heats the iron so cold
Jest now...over acts that you thought to be bold
Call out...with a courage so false that it shakes
Blindness...brought to bear by the years of neglect

To the dream that fires the furnace
Give all your heart and soul

To the dream that fires the furnace
Give all your heart and soul

Heart of the World



“Heart of the World” CD single (1990) UK
5:35
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 4:42
No Place Like Home [remaster, single
version] (1996) UK 3:45
Master Series [single version] (1997) UK
3:46

Stuart Adamson

I believe in strangers wherever they may be
All the souls who shape the world look pretty strange to me
I never met no president or shook a Gandhi's hand
But I believe we need a love that they may understand

Heart of the world, heart of the world is black
Without the love, love to bring it back
Heart of the world, heart of the world is blue
Without the love, love of me and you

I believe in heroes, whoever they may be
I never saved no universe or set Mandela free
Never sang with Lennon or played in Jimi's band
I believe we need a love that they would understand

Heart of the world, heart of the world is black
Without the love, love to bring it back
Heart of the world, heart of the world is blue
Without the love, love of me and you

I believe in strangers, wherever they may be
All the souls who shape the world look pretty strange to me
I believe in anyone, whoever they may be
Who feels the love that I feel and who sees the need I see

Heart of the world, heart of the world is black
Without the love, love to bring it back
Heart of the world, heart of the world is blue
Without the love, love of me and you

Heart of the world, heart of the world is black
I tell you, heart of the world, heart of the world is blue
Love of me and you

Heart of the world, heart of the world is black
Without the love, love to bring it back
Heart of the world, heart of the world is blue
Without the love, love of me and you

Heart of the world, heart of the world is black
Without the love, love to bring it back
Heart of the world, heart of the world is blue
Without the love, love of me and you

Heart of the world, heart of the world is black
Without the love, love to bring it back
Heart of the world, heart of the world is blue
Without the love, love of me and you

Hold the Heart



The Seer (1986) US 6:07
In a Big Country [edit] (1995) UK 5:35

Stuart Adamson

"It was the third song that I wrote for the LP. I remember thinking that I wanted to write a very ballady song, something that people would never think of as a Big Country song, a very direct boy/girl lost and found song." – Stuart Adamson, interview

The sun beats hard on an empty beach where I tried so hard
But couldn't reach the stars in your eyes
You were just a child when I came to you and we were friends
'Till love stepped in, and you stepped away
I would lie and curse the day
And visit places where we lay alone
And find them turned to stone

Because you hold the heart of someone new
I'll take a chance on time
Hold out here for something true
Standing out of line
But I would wait a hundred years to hear you say my name
The way you did before he came, the way you will again

I fell apart and you came to me
I never can explain how much it turned me round
Much more than upside down

Because you hold the heart of someone new
I'll take a chance on time
Hold out here for something true
Standing out of line
But I would wait a hundred years to hear you say my name
The way you did before he came, the way you will again

And I love the sun, and I need the rain
And I know the way that you left me was only to test me
And I was vain
And I will be strong
And I will be warm
And I will let no one come near me until you will hear me
Just once again

And time will wear a mountain down
And make a lover of the clown who laughed too long
And colored you wrong

Now I hold the heart of someone new
I'll take a chance on time
Hold out here for something true
Standing out of line

But I would wait a hundred years to hear you say my name
The way you did before he came, the way you will again
But I would wait a hundred years to hear you say my name
The way you did before he came, the way you will again

Home Come the Angels



"The Teacher" 7" single (1986) UK
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK

Stuart Adamson

Home, home come the angels
All that was never alive
Cast out and still welcome
All that was never alive

Home, home come the angels
To the shore and sea where they lie
And still the days fire on
With never ending pace

And we are now no nearer
To the finish of the race
And who will know we won
No one

The Hostage Speaks



No Place Like Home (1991) UK 5:52

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Stuart Adamson/Bruce Watson/
Tony Butler

The desert dust was rising from a military convoy
As it ran into the city with a cargo of despair
It waved away the roadblocks, as it dodged among the car bombs
For the cameras of the tourists in the foxhole inn

In the shadows of the ghetto there's a man beneath a blanket
Being kicked into the basement with his hands behind his head
They read him his confession, he agrees in his confusion
Then he asks for absolution from the cameraman

There is no love in the voice of the diplomat
He's running around in circles
There is no fear in the word of the journalist
He's seen it all before

I've had enough of holy men and holy wars
I wish that I was far away from here...away...away
Well I've had enough of holy men and holy wars
I wish that I was far away from here...away...away

We hear you have a story said the fearless freedom fighter
About jet fighters and missiles and the way the east was won
In the street the flags are burning for the women veiled and howling
And the schoolboys fire machine guns for the man from CNN

There is no love in the voice of the diplomat
He's running around in circles
There is no fear in the word of the journalist
He's seen it all before

He's had enough of holy men and holy wars
I wish that I was far away from here...away...away
Well I've had enough of holy men and holy wars
I wish that I was far away from here...away...away

On a runway west of Berlin there's a general and a contract
For the network man's exclusive and the sponsors campaign plan
In the headlights of the limo there's a smiling politician
For once they lock you up they never really set you free

I've had enough of holy men and holy wars
I wish that I was far away from here...away...away
And I've had enough of holy men and holy wars
I wish that I was far away from here...away...away...away

Ice Cream Smile



"You Dreamer" CD single #2 (1995) UK 3:54

Stuart Adamson

When it comes down to this
You never seemed so lonely
Just like the one with an ice cream smile

When it comes down to this
You've never been the only one
Offering up for your ice cream smile

There's a reason for the high wind tonight
There's a reason for the rain
There's a darkness on the island tonight
Like the darkness in my sins
I sit quiet in the calm before the storm

When it comes down to this
You never seemed so lonely
Just like the one with an ice cream smile

When it comes down to this
You've never been the only one
Offering up for your ice cream smile

There's a high tide on the river tonight
Pure white horses on the sea
There's a landslide in your garden tonight
Muddy waters over me

I was born into this trouble
I was born into this muddle
Now trouble isn't trouble
When it doesn't trouble me

There's a reason for your silence tonight
There's a reason for my fear
There's a reason for the violence tonight
There's a great decision here
I am waiting in the calm before the storm

When it comes down to this
You never seemed so lonely
Just like the one with an ice cream smile

When it comes down to this
You've never been the only one
Offering up for your ice cream smile

I Could Be Happy Here



Peace In Our Time (1988) US 4:32

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson

Music by Stuart Adamson & Bruce Watson

If you will take my love
If you will take my stand
If you will be the one
If you will take my hand
If you will never run
I could be happy here

If you could take my pride
If you could take my tears
If you could take my side
If you could take my fears
If you could turn the tide
I could be happy here

I could be happy here
But I see what is done in my homeland
I see what is done in my name
Can you see what is done in your homeland

Tonight we keep our pride
Tonight we dry our tears
Tonight we leave our sides
Tonight we shed our fears
Tonight we turn the tide
And we are happy here
We can be happy here

We can be happy here
But I see what is done in my homeland
I see what is done in my name
Can you see what is done in my homeland

In my homeland
In my name
In my homeland
In my homeland
In my homeland

I Get Hurt



"Fragile Thing" CD single #1 (1999) UK 4:29

Stuart Adamson

Fade to black
And the movie ends
Another night I didn't spend with you girl
Oh you girl

The diner's dead
My coffee's done
I stumbled streets I sailed upon with you girl
Oh you girl

And the night is dark
Cold, hard
You don't need a farmer to dig dirt

I get hurt...I get hurt...hey, I get hurt
I get hurt...I get hurt... I get hurt

Greasy doorman waved me in
Cold dogs curl and beckoning
For you girl
Oh you girl

The cards are turned and the lady hides
Her salvation is on the slide
Like you girl
Oh you girl

And the night is long
Slow, gone
You don't need a horse to lose your shirt

I get hurt...I get hurt...hey, I get hurt
I get hurt...I get hurt... I get hurt

First light of the day appears
Truckers crash the morning gears
Like you girl
Oh you girl

Me I'm tired cold and lost
Worn out from the sleep I've lost
On you girl
Oh you girl

And the night is gone
Day comes
You don't need the sauna to be burnt

I get hurt...I get hurt...hey, I get hurt
I get hurt...hey, I get hurt... I get hurt
I get hurt

I'm Only Waiting



"Republican Party Reptile" CD single (1991)

UK 4:37

Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 4:38

*The Chapel demos once again .
Another nearly song I think. This
was a pretty confusing time for us,
with conflicting signals being sent
from the record company and us
trying to find ourselves after all the
Peace in Our Time stuff. I think this
song reflects a lot of that indeci-
sion musically and lyrically. –
Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives
& Rarities liner notes*

It's a wild night and a new road
Keeps me too long from your door
For we always go slowly
Who never goes sure

You ask which way you should travel
I ask where you want to go
Because the road doesn't matter
To a place you don't know

You see it's not where you started
It's where you finish that counts
But when you finish it's over
And you can't go around

I'm only waiting for a little revelation
I'm only waiting for a sign of a plan
I'm only waiting for a little inspiration
I'm only waiting for a miracle man

I'm only looking for the sacred fountain
The hanging gardens is a place in my heart
I'm only looking for the secret mountain
I'm only waiting for the waters to part

You said let me tell you this boy
You can't live long and die young
I said don't give me your advice man
When it's your money I want

I'm only waiting for a little revelation
I'm only waiting for a sign of a plan
I'm only waiting for a little inspiration
I'm only waiting for a miracle man

I'm only looking for the sacred fountain
The hanging garden is a place in my heart
I'm only looking for the secret mountain
I'm only waiting for the waters to part

I'm only waiting for a little revelation
I'm only waiting for a sign of a plan
I'm only waiting for a little inspiration
I'm only waiting for a miracle man

I'm Not Ashamed



Why the Long Face (1995) US 4:13
"I'm Not Ashamed" CD single #1 [single edit]
(1995) UK 3:43
"I'm Not Ashamed" CD single #1 (1995) UK
4:12
"I'm Not Ashamed" CD single #2 [single edit]
(1995) UK 3:43
Where Did the Feeling Go? [live bootleg]
(1995) 4:40
Brighton Rock [live] (1997) UK 3:58
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 4:13

Stuart Adamson

We all make our plans, we all have our choices
Try on different faces, talk in other voices
I said a lot of things that never let me sleep
Made promises I really meant to keep

I'm not ashamed of the things I've done
I took the blame when I could have run
I'm not ashamed of the things I've done
I know I stayed when I could have gone
I don't expect it to be easy for me

We're tied together by a simple little pledge
Before we know the trust it takes to walk up to that edge
We build a house of cards where the wind has always blown
We build our little garden on a bed of sand and stones
It took to long for me to be who I am
Maybe it's enough for me to be it when I can

I'm not ashamed of the things I've done
I took the blame when I could have run
I'm not ashamed of the things I've done
I know I stayed when I could have gone
I don't expect it to be easy for me

Our little house is where the wind has always blown
Our little garden on a bed of sand and stones
We drift along in quiet waters on the tide
We rise and fall in rhythm almost satisfied

We let ourselves be drawn, let ourselves be used
I only ever wanted to be taken in by you
It took to long for me to be who I am
Maybe it's enough for me to be it when I can

I'm not ashamed of the things I've done
I took the blame when I could have run
I'm not ashamed of the things I've done
I know I stayed when I could have gone
I don't expect it to be easy for me

I'm not ashamed of the things I've done
I took the blame when I could have run
I'm not ashamed of the things I've done
I know I stayed when I could have gone
I don't expect it to be easy for me

In A Big Country



The Crossing (1983) US 4:44
Through A Big Country [7" mix] (1990) UK 3:52
Through A Big Country boxed set [extended version] (1991) JP 6:19
The Collection: 1982-1988 (1993) UK 4:26
Big Sampler promo (1993) US 3:55
Defrostin [live bootleg] (1993) 5:42
Long Way Home [live bootleg] (1993) 2:57
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [live] (1994) UK 6:21
The Best of Big Country [7" mix] (1994) US 3:54
In A Big Country (1994) UK 3:56
"I'm Not Ashamed" CD single #2 [acoustic] (1995) UK 3:15
Why the Long Face [acoustic] (1995) US bonus track 3:13
Where Did the Feeling Go? [live bootleg] (1995) 7:21
BBC Live In Concert [live 1989] (1995) UK 6:09
King Biscuit Flower Hour (1997) [live] US 8:13
Master Series [7" mix] (1997) UK 3:55

Big Country

"...the lyrical idea was about having hope, a sense of self and dignity in times of trouble." – Stuart Adamson, Melody Maker interview, March 26, 1990

Come up screaming
Come up screaming

I've never seen you look like this without a reason
Another promise fallen through
Another season passes by you

I never took the smile away from anybody's face
And that's a desperate way to look
For someone who is still a child

In a big country dreams stay with you
Like a lover's voice fires the mountainside
Stay alive

I thought that pain and truth were things that really mattered
But you can't stay here with every single hope you had shattered

I'm not expecting to grow flowers in a desert
But I can live and breathe
And see the sun in wintertime

In a big country dreams stay with you
Like a lover's voice fires the mountainside
Stay alive

In a big country dreams stay with you
Like a lover's voice fires the mountainside
Stay alive

So take that look out of here it doesn't fit you
Because it's happened doesn't mean you've been discarded
Pull up your head off the floor—come up screaming
Cry out for everything you ever might have wanted

I thought that pain and truth were things that really mattered
But you can't stay here with every single hope you had shattered

I'm not expecting to grow flowers in a desert
But I can live and breathe
And see the sun in wintertime

In a big country dreams stay with you
Like a lover's voice fires the mountainside
Stay alive

In a big country dreams stay with you
Like a lover's voice fires the mountainside
Stay alive

In a big country dreams stay with you
Like a lover's voice fires the mountainside
Stay alive

In This Place



Peace In Our Time (1988) US 4:23

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

All the years I worked in this place
The friends that I knew here, I loved every face
I loved the smoke the heat and the noise
But the profits too small for the black suited boys

Oh angel, it's coming down stone by stone
It's breaking up home by home
Take it away, take it away, take it

In this place I will lay my life down
In this place I will let you carry me
As I age so my learning grows
I still touch the vision
I still smell the rose in this place

All the years I lived in this place
The people we knew here, I loved every face
I love the parties, the funerals and fights
But a supermarket needs the land
And I have no rights

Oh angel, it's coming down stone by stone
It's breaking up home by home
Take it away, take it away, take it

In this place I will lay my life down
In this place I will let you carry me
As I age so my learning grows
I still touch the vision
I still smell the rose in this place

All the years I spent in this place
The children I raised here, I love every face
I love this country, the land of my birth
How much am I wanted, how much am I worth

Oh angel, it's coming down stone by stone
It's breaking up home by home
Take it away, take it away, take it

In this place I will lay my life down
In this place I will let you carry me
As I age so my learning grows
I still touch the vision
I still smell the rose

In this place I will lay my life down
In this place I will let you carry me
As I age so my learning grows
I still touch the vision
I still smell the rose in this place

Into the Fire



No Place Like Home (1991) UK 5:55

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Stuart Adamson, Bruce Watson &
Tony Butler
Additional lyrics by Bruce Watson

Floodwaters rising on the flatlands tonight
Been here before I guess we'll get through again
Get your photographs and hide them all away upstairs
Then tie the shutters down against the rain

Last night I took a walk into the fire
Of a young man's dreams
Someday soon I'll leave that innocence behind me
Until then I'm here

Then I looked into your eyes
And saw the years I spent in them
I was amazed to find they still show clear
Out to the edge of every chance I ever took with you
Shining in the darkest places of my fear

Stay free and throw your cares into the future
Let them all come out
Be true and pass those dreams onto someone
Before you wear them out

Come on baby, come on angel
Take a walk into the fire with me now
Come on angel, come on come on my darling
We can talk into the fire here and now

I love the warmth of summers I remember
I see you shimmering in seven veils of haze
I hear the rainfall of a lifetimes worth of autumn
Running on my shoulders like November days

Last night I took a walk into the fire
Of a young girl's dreams
Someday soon I'll leave that innocence behind me
Until then I'm here

Come on baby, come on angel
Take a walk into the fire with me now
Come on angel, come on come on my darling
We can talk into the fire here and now

Come on baby, come on angel
Take a walk into the fire with me now
Come on angel, come on come on my darling

Inwards



The Crossing (1983) US 4:37
Defrostin [live bootleg] (1993) 4:53
Radio 1 Sessions [live] (1994) US 4:17
King Biscuit Flower Hour [live] (1997) US 5:54

I wouldn't want to go home
On a night like this
When I find out that some of the past
Has been missed

And the light in the window
Has burnt it's fuse
I pull everything inward
But everything's loose

Everything inwards but everything's loose
Everything inwards but everything's loose

I wouldn't want to stay out
With news like this
All the engines too loud
All the pavements hiss

How the scouts in the stairwell
Will meet again
Pull everything inwards
But everything's shame

Everything inwards but everything's loose
Everything inwards but everything's loose

I wouldn't want to stay out
With news like this
All the engines too loud
All the pavements hiss

How the scouts in the stairwell
Will meet again
Pull everything inwards
But everything's shame

I wouldn't want to go home
On a night like this
When I find out that some of the past
Has been missed

And the light in the window
Has burnt it's fuse
I pull everything inward
But everything's loose

Everything inwards but everything's loose
Everything inwards but everything's loose

I Walk the Hill



The Seer (1986) US 3:30
BBC Live In Concert [live] (1995) UK 4:07

Stuart Adamson

Stand up, hold my hand
I hope you understand
Here where time is still, I walk the hill

Stand here, close to me
Here for all eternity
I wait as others will, I walk the hill

I held you then, I hold you still
I held you as I always will
You can have my heart to fill as I walk the hill

Stand up, hold my hand
I hope you understand
Here where time is still, I walk the hill

Stand here, close to me
Here for all eternity
I wait as others will, I walk the hill

I'm not strong as I am told
It feels too long since I was bold
But you can lie in sheets of gold if I walk the hill

You touch me and I understand
We only write our names in sand
But I can stand where legend stands if I walk the hill

Stand up, hold my hand
I hope you understand
Here where time is still, I walk the hill

Stand here, close to me
Here for all eternity
I wait as others will, I walk the hill

I'm not strong as I am told
It feels too long since I was bold
But you can lie in sheets of gold if I walk the hill

You touch me and I understand
We only write our names in sand
But I can stand where legend stands if I walk the hill

Stand up, hold my hand
Stand here, close to me
Stand up, hold my hand
Stand here, close to me
Stand up, hold my hand
Stand up, hold my hand

John Wayne's Dream



"Fragile Thing" CD single #1 (1999) UK 4:58

Stuart Adamson, Mark Brzezicki and Bruce Watson

I could head into the sunset
With my best girl by my side
I could pull her up beside me
And together we would ride

Hey ma, hey pa
Look at me standing tall
Brother, sister
Look at them bad guys fall

I'm walking and talking real slow
Out where the tumbleweeds blow
Hey ma, hey pa, let those wagons roll

I played poker with a doctor
Stand straight up and called him a cheat
Then I walked those twenty paces
Gunned him right down in the street

Hey ma, hey pa
Look at me standing tall
Brother, sister
Look at them bad guys fall

I'm walking and talking real slow
Out where the tumbleweeds blow
Hey ma, hey pa, let those wagons roll

Don't wake me up
I'm dreaming John Wayne's dream
Under a sky so big on the prairie green
Please leave my here in John Wayne's dream

I'd ride shotgun on a stagecoach
Keep those bandits from my girl
I would pull her round the waist, man
Run my rough hands through her curls

I said hey ma, hey pa
Look at me standing tall
Brother, sister
Look at them bad guys fall

I'm walking and talking real slow
Out where the tumbleweeds blow
Hey ma, hey pa, let those wagons roll

Don't wake me up
I'm dreaming John Wayne's dream
Under a sky so big on the prairie green
Please leave my here in John Wayne's dream

Hey ma, hey pa
Look at me standing tall
Brother, sister
Look at them bad guys fall

I'm walking and talking real slow
Out where the tumbleweeds blow
Hey ma, hey pa, let those wagons roll

Just a Shadow



Steeltown (1984) US 5:38
Through A Big Country [edit] (1990) UK 4:28
The Collection: 1982-1988 [edit] (1993) UK
4:23
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [live
acoustic] (1994) UK 3:30
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 5:38

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Big Country

It went so well for you
With a place right where you want
And the ones to fill it to

But some blows break the spell
That it hits you every day
Until you need to hit as well

It's just a shadow of the man you should be
Like a garden in the forest that the world will never see
You have no thought of answers only questions to be filled
And it feels like hell

It all seemed fine for you
Till the struggle of ambition turned in violence upon you
Sometimes a landslide comes
If you're hiding in that avalanche you need a place to run

It's just a shadow of the woman you should be
Like a garden in the forest that the world will never see
And you have no thought of answers only questions to be filled
And it feels like hell

I know there is no need for what's been done
I know there is enough for everyone
Frustration brings a heavy hand to bear
And there's never been a hand

Did we ever have it good
While we lived in Eldorado
Did we find the gold we should

If it really was the truth
Why are faces filled with anger
That should only shine with youth

It's just a shadow of the people we should be
Like a garden in the forest that the world will never see
You have no thought of answers only questions to be filled
And it feels like hell

I know there is no need for what's been done
I know there is enough for everyone
Frustration brings a heavy hand to bear
And there never is a hand outside that cares

Still the promise comes of living fit for all
If we only get our back against the wall
I look at backs that pushed the wall for years
Scarred by many knives and too much fear

Keep On Dreaming



No Place Like Home (1991) UK 4:04
In A Big Country (1995) UK 4:01

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

Born too soon for a future
Born too poor for love
Born too far from the warmth of the sun
Or a place in the heavens above

It's a cold, cold night in the circus
A colder night in the zoo
Light up the fires down in Carton Town
Where the feet and the fingers are blue

I said keep on dreaming
Hey, hey, keep on dreaming

I hear talk of chances
Chances gone to waste
Well it's hard to see opportunity
With a hand drawn across your face

We never chose the doctor
We never chose the school
We never chose the family
Or the winning smile of the fool

I said keep on dreaming
Keep on dreaming
Like the life you have is the life you want
Keep on dreaming

Some of us dream in the morning
Some of us simply will curse
Others will put their defenses to work
Protecting the bad from the worse

A band plays in the valley
A nightmare in every head
And people all sing hallelujah
When they mean heaven help us instead

I said keep on dreaming
Keep on dreaming
Like the life you have is the life you want
Keep on dreaming

I said keep on dreaming
Keep on dreaming
Like the life you have is the life you want
Keep on dreaming

Keep on dreaming
Keep on dreaming
Like the life you have is the life you want
Keep on dreaming

Keep on dreaming
Keep on dreaming
Like the life you have is the life you want
Keep on dreaming

King of Emotion



Peace In Our Time (1988) US 4:51
"King of Emotion" CD single (1988) UK 4:54
Through a Big Country (1990) UK 4:52
The Collection: 1982-1988 (1993) UK 4:49
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 4:51
BBC Live In Concert [live] (1995) UK 6:15
Eclectic [live] (1996) UK 4:10
Master Series (1997) UK 4:53
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 4:08

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

"I grew up playing a lot of R&B music, and I wanted to do a very R&B type song. And I like the 'nah-nah-nahs.' I always wanted a song with those in." – Stuart Adamson, Melody Maker interview, March 26, 1990

I know where all that time has gone
Blown and drifted listening to an August night
I see where I was wrong
But how could I know that you were right

When you said I would need something wild
Something crazy to carry me
I would see you naked and weary
But with pride in your eyes that put shame in me

I wait to find the things I need but I know

I want that love
King of Emotion
Stronger than you and so much deeper than me

I know that love is King of Emotion
King of Emotion take a walk with me
I know that love is King of Emotion
King of Emotion take a walk with me

You know where all that time has gone
Grown up and left
Washed out like an April day
See all those pretty little things you knew
Worn and faded they lie cast away

You said you would need something wild
Something special to carry you
You would see me naked and weary
But with pride in my eyes that put shame in you
Until you find the things you need I know

I want that love
King of Emotion
Stronger than you and so much deeper than me

I know that love is King of Emotion
King of Emotion take a walk with me
I know that love is King of Emotion
King of Emotion take a walk with me

Until we find the things we need I know

I want that love
King of Emotion
Stronger than you and so much deeper than me
I know that love is King of Emotion
King of Emotion take a walk with me

I want that love
King of Emotion
Stronger than you and so much deeper than me
I know that love is King of Emotion
King of Emotion take a walk with me

Kiss the Girl Goodbye



"Republican Party Reptile" CD single (1991)
UK 5:12

In A Big Country (1995) UK 5:13

No Place Like Home [remaster] (1996) UK
5:12

Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 5:14

Stuart Adamson

This was written during the first demos we did at "House In The Woods" when Pat was playing with us, the same demos as "We're Not In Kansas" and "Ships" I think. This is the version done with Mark drumming at "Rockfield" for "No Place Like Home". I think this comes close to being a classic but the verse and lyrics need work. I wrote the song about desperate situations inspiring drastic actions, maybe I should have taken the lyrics advice and tried to do something more with it. — Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

They hit the bank on a dog-day afternoon
With the black top popping and the radio out of tune
They looked so young and wild and people sighed
For desperate men need desperate passers by

You gotta kiss the girl good-bye
Then begin
Kiss the girl good-bye
You know when and I know why
We kiss the girl good-bye

They left the strip just before the hurricane blew
The governor turned his head and the customs man knew
They looked so lean and wired the controller asked why
Well desperate men need a desperate kind of sky

One of them was a sailor
Another one was a fishing man
The third one was a farmer's son
And they kissed their girls good-bye

Kiss the girl good-bye
Then begin
Kiss the girl good-bye
You know when and I know why
We kiss the girl good-bye

Kiss the girl good-bye
Then begin
Kiss the girl good-bye
You know when and I know why
We kiss the girl good-bye

They hit the street with the moon in a funny mind
For a drive past shooting for a deal done just in time
Well they look so young that something's got to give
Well desperate men have desperate lives to live

One of them was a brother
Another one was a married man
The third one was a mother's son
They kissed their girls good-bye

Kiss the girl good-bye
Then begin
Kiss the girl good-bye
You know when and I know why
We kiss the girl good-bye

(repeat 4)

Leap of Faith



No Place Like Home (1991) UK 5:04

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

What you gonna do
When the sun don't shine no more
What you gonna do
When the moon don't climb no more
What you gonna do
When the tears won't fall no more
What you gonna do
When the sun don't shine no more

Head on down to the world again
Find your pride in the face of sin
What you gonna do
When the sun don't shine no more

I know you have the strength in you
The love to make that leap of faith
The time is right to let it go
Make that simple leap of faith

I know you have the strength in you
The love to make that leap of faith
The time is right to let it go
Make that simple leap of faith

What you gonna do
When your smile won't smile no more
What you gonna do
When your cares won't care no more
On a wild, wild night then you might believe
All the worn out lines of a stranger in need
What you gonna do
When the sun don't shine no more

I know you have the strength in you
The love to make that leap of faith
The time is right to let it go
Make that simple leap of faith

I know you have the strength in you
The love to make that leap of faith
The time is right to let it go
Make that simple leap of faith

Will you fly
Over my stormy sea
Will you cry
Everything that I wanted to hear
Had to hear

I know you have the strength in you
The love to make that leap of faith
The time is right to let it go
Make that simple leap of faith (repeat 4)

Living by Memory



Bon Appetit! EP (1999) UK 3:59

Adamson/Sutherland

I work the graveyard shift at this station
Down on Twelfth
Spend my time selling cigarettes and talking
Mostly to myself

No one waits for me at home
Getting used to life alone

Living by memory
Eat, sleep, breathe
Just mindless routines
Slowly killing me

Living by memory
Living by memory

I remember it like yesterday
It was a Tuesday, October '92
There was a wreck out on the highway
You might have heard it on the news

Always think it's someone else
In a moment I was by myself

Living by memory
Eat, sleep, breathe
Just mindless routines
Slowly killing me

There's a peace that waits for me
At Heaven's door
But tonight my past
Is all I'm living for

And my memories
Eat, sleep, breathe
Surviving on used-to-be's
Slowly killing me

Living by memories
Eat, sleep, breathe
Surviving on used-to-be's
Slowly killing me

Living by memory
Living by memory

The Longest Day



"Peace In Our Time" CD single (1988) UK 6:41
In A Big Country (1995) UK 6:38
Peace In Our Time [remaster] (1996) UK 6:28
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 6:36

Stuart Adamson

This track was recorded at Windmill Lane, Dublin during a European tour circa 1985. Originally for a film by the same name, but I seem to remember we were not comfortable with the film's subject matter. The chorus, melody and chorus were later to be incorporated into Thirteen Valleys – Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

I've had enough, give me the strength to carry on
Bring me my dove, be my shelter from the storm
Oh let me be, let me keep my life my own
Just let me see a way for me to be alone
I need a friend, I need a place where I can hide
I'm lost again, I need a spell to turn the tide

But like the dog that howls in the night
You fill my broken heart with fright
When I touch you the whole world sighs
When you touch me the whole world cries

The longest day will be forever and a lifetime
The longest day will try your love like none before
But I must stand and I must fight for what is wrong is now my right
The longest day will fill my life for evermore

Will I lie, will I face the fire in you
Or will I fly, will I find out what is true
I will be there, I will be waiting there for you
And who will care when we have done what we must do

But like the dog that howls in the night
You fill my broken heart with fright
When I touch you the whole world sighs
When you touch me the whole world cries

The longest day will be forever and a lifetime
The longest day will try your love like none before
But I must stand and I must fight for what is wrong is now my right
The longest day will fill my life for evermore

I could use some love
I could use some kissing
I could use some gloves
Or maybe just some lessons

I've had enough, give me the strength to carry on
Bring me my dove, be my shelter from the storm
I will be there, I will be waiting there for you
And who will care when we have done what we must do

The longest day will be forever and a lifetime
The longest day will try your love like none before
But I must stand and I must fight for what is wrong is now my right
The longest day will fill my life for evermore

Long Way Home



The Buffalo Skinners (1993) US 5:55
Defrostin [live bootleg] (1993) 4:39
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [live] (1994)
UK 6:01

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

*"This is a song about trying to find
yourself." – Stuart Adamson, in
concert, Germany, 1993.*

Come on lay your hands on me
Feel the will of God's TV
I will save you every one
And you can pay me when I'm done

100,000 Jesus children
All dressed up and no-one with them
Lead them not into temptation
With your tales of hell's damnation

Searching for the long way home
Searching for the long way home
Searching for the long way home
Searching for the long way home

Out upon the China Sea
Boats will run eternally
Storms on land and storms assail
Captains roar and the women wail

A half a million Nixon babies
Some with toys and some with rabies
Hunted by the man in black
No room here man send them back

Searching for the long way home
Searching for the long way home
Searching for the long way home
Searching for the long way home

Underneath your own safe sky
You may never wonder why
Some will never make their peace
Some have never been released

Fires in the L.A. sky
The truth ran out and justice died
You better arm the National Guard
Cause final notice has been served

Searching for the long way home
Searching for the long way home
Searching for the long way home
Searching for the long way home

Searching for the long way home
Searching for the long way home
Searching for the long way home
Searching for the long way home

The long way home

Look Away



The Seer (1986) US 4:24
Through a Big Country (1990) UK 4:26
Through A Big Country boxed set [12" mix]
(1991) JP 6:32
"Alone" CD Single #2 [live] (1993) UK 4:43
Tracks from Without the Aid of a Safety Net
promo [live] (1994) UK 4:28
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [live] (1994)
UK 4:20
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 4:26
In a Big Country (1995) UK 4:26
Where Did the Feeling Go? [live bootleg]
(1995) 5:16
The Seer [remaster - 12" mix] (1996) UK 6:32
Master Series (1997) UK 4:28
Brighton Rock [live] (1997) UK 4:20
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 4:22

Stuart Adamson

...inspired by the little-known Harry Tracey film about the last old-style outlaw in America. "He had a great sense of his own destiny, he knew he was a man out of his time." – Stuart Adamson, Melody Maker interview, March 26, 1990

This time we run, this time we hide
This time we draw on all the fire we have inside
We need some time to find a place
Where I can wipe away the madness from your face

Our name is out, our name is known
Our name is everywhere but who knows where we've flown
I never meant to kill a man
But I will show you how to live like no one can

So look away, look away
Hide your eyes from the land where I lie cold
Look away, look away
From the lies in the stories that were told
Look away, look away
From the love that I hide way down deep in my soul

I met you wild in a snowed up town
Where I was waiting tied and bound to be sent down
Then I broke loose, you weren't around
So I raised banks and trains until I tracked you down

Now Look away, look away
Hide your eyes from the land where I lie cold
Look away, look away
From the lies in the stories that were told
Look away, look away
From the love that I hide way down deep in my soul

You followed me when I said no
You lay with me when there was nowhere safe to go
We made some friends but now it's done
I always knew that we would never find the sun

So look away, look away
Hide your eyes from the land where I lie cold
Look away, look away
From the lies in the stories that were told
Look away, look away
From the love that I hide way down deep in my soul

So look away, look away
Hide your eyes from the land where I lie cold
Look away, look away
From the lies in the stories that were told
Look away, look away
From the love that I hide way down deep in my soul

Loserville



"Fragile Thing" CD single #2 (1999) UK 5:24

Stuart Adamson, Mark Brzezicki, Tony
Butler and Bruce Watson

It's a monument valley of concrete
On the plain where the styrofoam roams
She hits the trail by the charity store
For the cavern of the mobile phones

She wades ankle deep across whino creek
To the rail where the stagecoach waits
And there should be one in a day or so
If it isn't running late

'Cause she lives on a reservation
With a baby called "shut up and wait"
And the missionary school by the alehouse
Is teaching him how to hate

In loserville...loserville
It's 15 miles outside of luck
They live on beer and pills

Now she takes him over to grandma's
Because her cousin gets back tonight
All day he's been out hunting
And they're gonna do the thing with the pipe

'Cause her man is a long time missing
He got lost in the firewater fight
Sometimes she hears him when the moon is out
Screaming at the door in the night

In loserville...loserville
It's 15 miles outside of luck
They live on beer and pills

Loserville...loserville
A couple of lifetimes out of hope
Out there over the hill

It's the fastest growing false economy
The capitol of welfare state
They built a wall around loserville
But they didn't build a gate

I spent half my life getting out of this place
It's everybody's well-laid plan
You can take the boy out of loserville
But you can't take the place from the man

Loserville...loserville
It's 15 miles outside of luck
You live on beer and pills

Loserville...loserville
A couple of lifetimes out of hope
Out there over the hill

Lost Patrol



The Crossing (1983) US 4:53
Through A Big Country boxed set [live] (1991)
JP 4:53
Defrostin [live bootleg] (1993) 5:20
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [live] (1994)
UK 6:10
Where Did The Feeling Go? [live bootleg]
(1995) 7:56
King Biscuit Flower Hour [live] (1997) US 4:48

We lay the night in anguish
Snakes drawn out by the tide
The compass of decision
Falls always on one side

But many went before us
And still the cries are clear
There is no beauty here
Just the stench of wine and beer

We save no souls
We break no promises

We can do nothing more than move
Headlong through the gloom
The thorn between our lips
Is the missionaries tune

Men with open arms
Turn their faces half away
Observe as we approach
We have not come to save

We stand as thick as vines
Though the fruit is torn away
There is no beauty here friends
Just death and dark decay

We save no souls
We break no promises

We save no souls
We break no promises

Made In Heaven



"Broken Heart (Thirteen Valleys)" limited edition CD single (1988) UK 5:11
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 5:09

Stuart Adamson

Was written for the movie of the same name. Bruce and I originally recorded it with a drum machine at R.E.L. and Mark and Tony played on it later. I cant for the life of me remember the name of the girl who sung on it. I don't think it was used in the movie, this is a demo and I think it needs tightening up. – Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

Listen now, there's no time to explain
I've been here such a short time, I will be here again
If you hear my voice in the darkness, if you hear my words in the rain
Don't be afraid, it only says you did not wait in vain

Even the bad things are made in heaven
Even the cold heart, even the cruelest love
All the run down days, all the run down living
Even the bad things are made in heaven (and I will be coming)

I looked out all around my life and I missed what never was
Looked at sinners and I looked at saints and never knew the cause
Sometimes you can tell just how this world is going to be
But it makes me wonder when I look at you just how you look at me

Even the bad things are made in heaven
Even the cold heart, even the cruelest love
All the run down days, all the run down living
Even the bad things are made in heaven (and I will be coming)

You may find a traveling man whose eyes are wild and free
But lay away those fancy things and keep them safe for me

Even the bad things are made in heaven
Even the cold heart, even the cruelest love
All the run down days, all the run down living
Even the bad things are made in heaven

Listen now, there's no time to explain
I've been here such a short time, I will be here again
If you hear my voice in the darkness, if you hear my words in the rain
Don't be afraid, it only says you did not wait in vain

Even the bad things are made in heaven
Even the cold heart, even the cruelest love
All the run down days, all the run down living
Even the bad things are made in heaven

I looked out all around my life and I missed what never was
I looked at sinners and I looked at saints and never knew the cause
Well sometimes you can tell just how this world is going to be
But it makes me wonder when I look at you just how you look at me

Even the bad things are made in heaven
Even the cold heart, even the cruelest love
All the run down days, all the run down living
Even the bad things are made in heaven (and I will be coming)

Even the bad things are made in heaven
Even the cold heart, even the cruelest love
All the run down days, all the run down living
Even the bad things are made in heaven (and I will be coming)

Magic In Your Eyes



"You Dreamer" CD single #2 (1995) UK 2:59

Stuart Adamson

Sometimes in the morning
Before the world is dawning
The way your hair is falling
Makes me want to cry

Our mystery has gone
But there's magic in your eyes
There is magic in your eyes

Just before you wake up
Another day is breakin'
If I'm not mistaken
The sun is gonna rise

Our mystery has gone
Our mystery has gone
Our mystery has gone
But there's magic in your eyes
There's magic in your eyes

Meantime we're agreein'
The causes of my leavin'
Words that I believe in
Steps that I must make

There's no way of knowin'
The way that we are goin'
Seeds that we are sowin'
Chances that we take

Our mystery has gone
Our mystery has gone
Our mystery has gone
But there's magic in your eyes

There's magic in your eyes
There's magic in your eyes
There's magic in your eyes
There's magic in your eyes

Medicine Show



In the Scud EP (1998) UK 4:38

There's a trailer park
On the edge of the swamp
The air is cold
And the bedclothes damp

There's not much chance
Of cutting loose
When you're tied and tied
To your excuse

How can you dream
When you cannot sleep
The walls are thin
And your clothes are cheap

And you better get some rest
You've got two dead-end jobs to keep

Throw away your dreams my dear
The world we knew has disappeared
Kiss the kids before they go
Send them off to join a travelling show
Send them to the old-time medicine show

If your baby cries tonight
Will you make it sleep outside
You learn to lie before he reads
Family don't bring guarantees

Out here we dream of better things
We let our wildest dreams have wings
When you don't have far to fall
Dreams are better than them all

Throw away your dreams my dear
The world we knew has disappeared
Kiss the kids before they go
Send them off to join a travelling show
Send them to the medicine show

It's getting dark
We better get down on our knees

There's a trailer park
On the edge of the swamp
The air is cold
And the bedclothes damp

How can you dream
When you cannot sleep
The walls are thin
And your clothes are cheap

Throw away your dreams my dear
The world we knew has disappeared
Kiss the kids before they go
Send them off to join a travelling show
Send them to the old-time medicine show

Message of Love



Why the Long Face (1995) US 4:05
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 4:06

Stuart Adamson

Ex-spy in a square in Berlin
Got holes in his knife-tipped shoes
He'll tell you the missile codes man
He'll sell you the warhead to

Guy driving my yellow taxi
He had a T-72
I'm doubled up in the back seat
I'm getting a closer view

A working illustration of the golden rule
Whoever ends up with the gold will make the rules

We need a message of love
Something that we can be sure of
Send us a message of love
One thing that we can be sure of

We drive to Checkpoint Charlie
We just drive right on through
We park above the bunker
That's what you're meant to do

Beneath the TV tower
Beside the union hall
Two hookers in plastic trousers
Selling little pieces of the wall

A working illustration of the golden rule
Whoever ends up with the gold will make the rules

We need a message of love
Something that we can be sure of
Send us a message of love
One thing that we can be sure of

A working illustration of the golden rule
Whoever ends up with the gold will make the rules

We need a message of love
Something that we can be sure of
Send us a message of love
One thing that we can be sure of

We need a message of love
Something that we can be sure of

We need a message of love
Something that we can be sure of
Send us a message of love
One thing that we can be sure of

Monday Tuesday Girl



"I'm Not Ashamed" CD single #1 (1995) UK
3:54

Stuart Adamson, Mark Brzezicki & Bruce
Watson

Alright darlin' is this the place for us to be together
Maybe honey we would be safer here in better weather
Listen darlin' get me some oxygen before I pass out
Maybe honey I would feel safer here out in the fallout

Alright darlin' I've waited years for us to share this moment
Maybe honey I waited so long you forgot what we meant
Listen darlin' bring me some oxygen before I pass out
Maybe honey we would be better off out in the fallout

Monday Tuesday girl who are you now
Monday Tuesday girl
Monday Tuesday girl who are you now
Monday Tuesday girl

If things were better here
We'd maybe last another year
Monday Tuesday girl who are you now

Alright darlin' say it's all down to me well I saw it
Maybe honey we would be better off without the worries
She says "listen darlin' bring me some alcohol before I pass out"
Maybe honey I would be better off out in the fallout

Monday Tuesday girl who are you now
Monday Tuesday girl
Monday Tuesday girl who are you now
Monday Tuesday girl

If things here get much worse
We're gonna need your mother's hearse
Monday Tuesday girl who are you now

Monday Tuesday girl who are you now
Monday Tuesday girl
Monday Tuesday girl who are you now
Monday Tuesday girl

If things were better here
I'd maybe stay another year

Monday Tuesday girl who are you
Monday Tuesday girl who are you
Monday Tuesday girl who are you now

Never Take Your Place



"Alone" CD single #2 (1993) UK 4:01

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

Last night I dreamed I saw you there
I dreamed your eyes are blue
And someone's hand upon your hair
I dreamed I saw that too

And not a word that I could say
A thing that I could do
Would ever make you look my way
Or let me look on you

Whip your dogs away from here
There's no more oil and there's no more beer
Whip your dogs away from here
You've no more left to fear
Push away boys, push away boys, it's time we left this place
All the gold of Africa could never take your place

Some fool is hung around your neck
And who around your waist
Or was it all before we met
And in some other place

Or was it just a ghost of me
Lost in another time
Or someone I forgot to be
Who changed his dream for mine

Whip your dogs away from here
There's no more oil and there's no more beer
Whip your dogs away from here
You've no more left to fear
Push away boys, push away boys, it's time we left this place
All the gold of Africa could never take your place

Last night I dreamed I saw you there
I dreamed your eyes are blue
And someone's hand upon your hair
I dreamed I saw that too

Whip your dogs away from here
There's no more oil and there's no more beer
Whip your dogs away from here
You've no more left to fear
Push away boys, push away boys, it's time we left this place
All the gold of Africa could never take your place

Push away boys, push away boys, it's time we left this place
All the gold of Africa could never take your place
All the gold of Africa could never take your place

Normal



Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 2:26

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson and Bruce Watson

Originally from a bunch of demos at Chapel Studios in Lincolnshire. Bruce was fooling around while I was writing lyrics and came up with a really cool lick. I think I then added vocals at House in the Woods and this is that version. The lyrics came from New York Times piece about small town America, although it could be anywhere, the lifestyles are so similar. — Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

**I live in Normal, Normal Illinois
It is the kind of place the commies would destroy**

**We like it that way
We keep it that way**

**We bring our kids up right
They stay indoors at night
We let them watch TV
To teach them properly**

**I come from Normal, Normal Illinois
I can't decide if you are a woman or a boy**

**We like it that way
We keep it that way**

**We bring our kids up right
They stay indoors at night
We let them watch TV
To teach them properly**

**Nothing ever happens here in Normal
And suddenly its happening again**

**We bring our kids up right
They stay indoors at night
We let them watch TV
To teach them properly**

**Back home in Normal, Normal Illinois
We keep the streets clean
We buy the hungry toys**

Not Waving But Drowning



"King of Emotion" CD single (1988) UK 5:55
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 5:57

Stuart Adamson

Title lifted straight from a Stevie Smith poem because I liked the images of someone appearing in control but in reality floundering. This came from the same demos as "Over The Border" and I think it's another of those "close but no cigar" songs. I think during this period a lot of people didn't want us to be the Big Country we were and maybe we were trying to be something that wasn't us. – Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

He sits and says he's sick and tired of the argument
He's heard them all and it makes no change when the money's spent
And all his life he's had to watch the way he's went
No less in need no less deceived by the violence

She stands and says let my man go
Let them all go free
But the diamond's talk
And fools gold is bought
Where the market's free
The sticks come down
The bombs go off
The world is guilty
She holds no power
Just a love of truth
For her own country

I'm not waving
I'm drowning
I've come too far out here
I'm not waving
I'm drowning
And there's no way you can hear
I was too far out all of my life
I'm not waving but drowning

For everyone whose life is run by their daily bread
Another one holds a loaded gun at someone's head
And we stuck fast and our petty fears are already dead
While division rules and tradition's roles
We are all mislead

I'm not waving
I'm drowning
I've come too far out here
I'm not waving
I'm drowning
And there's no way you can hear
I was too far out all of my life
I'm not waving but drowning

I'm not waving
I'm drowning
I've come too far out here
I'm not waving
I'm drowning
And there's no way you can hear
I was too far out all of my life
I'm not waving but drowning

One Great Thing



The Seer (1986) US 4:02
Through a Big Country (1990) UK 4:06
The Collection: 1982-1988 (1993) UK 4:04
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 4:03
In a Big Country (1995) UK 4:04
The Seer [remaster - disco mix] (1996) UK 6:11

Stuart Adamson and Tony Butler

"I wanted to write a very anthemic pop song. If you had to choose one great thing in your life, what would it be?" – Stuart Adamson, Melody Maker interview, March 26, 1990

If there's one great thing
To happen in my life
If there's one great day, if there's one great height
Let it be the time for peace, let it be the time of right
If there's one great thing
To happen in my life

I've seen too much of what fighting has done
I've seen too much anger and I've seen it far too young
And talk will come to nothing
While the shouting still goes on
But we are only singers
And too many songs are sung

If there's one great thing
To happen in my life
If there's one great day, if there's one great height
Let it be the time for peace, let it be the time of right
If there's one great thing
To happen in my life

I've seen the way of martyrs
and I've seen the way of kings
I've seen the hope that love can bring
I only hope what pleases me will also pleasure you
For mine can never be the hands that make a dream come true

If there's one great thing
To happen in my life
If there's one great day, if there's one great height
Let it be the time for peace, let it be the time of right
If there's one great thing
To happen in my life

I've seen too much of what fighting has done
I've seen too much anger and I've seen it far too young
I've seen the way of martyrs
and I've seen the way of kings
I've seen the hope that love can bring
I only hope what pleases me will also pleasure you
For mine can never be the hands that make a dream come true

If there's one great thing
To happen in my life
If there's one great day, if there's one great height
Let it be the time for peace, let it be the time of right
If there's one great thing
To happen in my life

If there's one great thing
To happen in my life
If there's one great day, if there's one great height
Let it be the time for peace, let it be the time of right
If there's one great thing
To happen in my life

If there's one great thing
To happen in my life
If there's one great day, if there's one great height
Let it be the time for peace, let it be the time of right
If there's one great thing
To happen in my life

One In A Million (1st visit)



"I'm Not Ashamed" CD single #1 (1995) UK
5:19

Stuart Adamson

One in a million, that's no lie
My one in a million needs no disguise
Hey one in a million, tell me the truth
Are you one in a million or just some baggage from my youth

One in a million, here's the price
My one in a million, I live for my life
Talk to me slowly and take some time
Hey one in a million, another one of my perfect crimes

And there you are
On and on and on and on and on inside my head like a whisper
Still you go
On and on and on and on and on inside my life for a moment

My one in a million, pleasure and pain
My one in a million, a little sunflower in the rain
Well listen to this one, here's the proof
Hey one in a million, it's not like you're someone that I used

And there you are
On and on and on and on and on inside my head like a whisper
Still you go
On and on and on and on and on inside my life for a moment

You're one in a million, that's no lie
My one in a million, don't need no disguise
Hey one in a million, tell me the truth
Are you one in a million or just some baggage from my youth

And there you are
On and on and on and on and on inside my head like a whisper
Still you go
On and on and on and on and on inside my life for a moment

Here's the price
One in a million
I live for my life

One In A Million



Why the Long Face (1995) US 5:05
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 5:03

Stuart Adamson

I believe what I believe and hope that I am not deceived
By little details I receive, for you know that I never look twice
Something far outside of me, a part of which I could not be
And things I would not care to see
I don't have the time for advice
No, I don't want to hear your advice

You're one in a million
That's no lie
My one in a million
Needs no disguise

If I put my faith in you, put everything in place for you
Have it all replaced by you, you know that I won't do it twice
Brush your lips across my brow, take this fever from me now
If you know when, then I know how
We melt like strawberry ice, yeah we melt just like strawberry ice

My one in a million
Pleasure and pain
One in a million
A little sunflower in the rain

And there you are
On and on and on and on and on inside my head like a whisper
And still you go
On and on and on and on and on inside my head for a moment

Hey one in a million
Tell me the truth
Are you one in a million
Or just some baggage from my youth

How did we come from that to this
How did we fill the emptiness
Where did we learn to cry and kiss
And melt into strawberry ice, yeah we melt just like strawberry ice

You're one in a million
That's no lie
My one in a million
Needs no disguise

My one in a million
Pleasure and pain
One in a million
A little sunflower in the rain

The One I Love



The Buffalo Skinners (1993) US 5:02
Big Sampler [album mix & remix] (1993) US
promo 5:06/5:07
Album Network Expand-O CD Tune Up 37
[Thoener Mix] (1993) US promo 5:08

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Stuart Adamson/Bruce Watson

There were you and me
Seems like twenty five years ago
This old city was different then
How were we to know

I've got to live my life
In a simple way
Got to live it all
In a single day, a single day

The one I love is still in you
And the one I want is in there too
The one I love is still in you
I don't have the time that I used to

I can be your miracle man
Maybe it's my day
I was always a lucky man
Teach me how to pray

I believe in you
You know it too
You can leave me out
But what I do is what I do

The one I love is still in you
And the one I want is in there too
The one I love is still in you
I don't have the time that I used to

The one I love is still in you
And the one I want is in there too
The one I love is still in you
I don't have the time that I used to

The one I love
The one I want
The one I love
The one I want

The one I love is still in you
And the one I want is in there too
The one I love is still in you
But I don't have the time that I used to

The one I love is still in you
And the one I want is in there too
The one I love is still in you
But I don't have the time that I used to

Over the Border



"Peace In Our Time" 12" single (1989) UK
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 5:16

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Stuart Adamson/Bruce Watson

Was one of the tracks we came up with during the period of inactivity between leaving Mercury in the U.S.A. and going to Warners. It started out as a twelve string piece that Bruce had and I built it into the chorus. This is one of those tracks (like a lot on this album) that really still needs work to become a song. This is actually a demo recorded at R.E.L. in Edinburgh. The song is about how you can never run from yourself. – Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

I was holed up out in Denver in the snow
Some sense of adventure left but nowhere else to go
On an endless highway

Howlin' in my room
Howlin' in my ear
Howlin' in my soul

I stayed up all night to watch a new sunrise
Lit up the Rocky Mountains, and I realized
You never really leave home

You can run
But you never lose the world that you are from
Over the border we must cross
Over the walls and damn the cost
Over the border for our sins
With the spirit of the people who light a fire in the wind

Crossed the backbone of the continent
Down to the ocean's moan
Gave myself up to its healing
Felt like I had always known

You can run
But you never lose the world that you are from
Over the border we must cross
Over the walls and damn the cost
Over the border for our sins
With the spirit of the people who light a fire in the wind

You can run
But you never lose the world that you are from
Over the border we must cross
Over the walls and damn the cost
Over the border for our sins
With the spirit of the people who light a fire in the wind

You can run
But you never lose the world that you are from
Find the ridge that we could cross
Find the love that we had lost
Count the lives and clean the cause
With the spirit of the people who light a fire in the wind

Pass Me By



“Save Me” 7” single (1990) UK 4:03
Master Series (1997) UK 3:58
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 3:59

Stuart Adamson

Now I think this and the previous track came from a session at chapel studios out in Lincoln. At the time we were putting songs together for the No Place Like Home album and I'm pretty sure it's Pat Ahern playing on these tracks. I'm completely blank about the lyrics on this. — Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

Johnny comes to town
With his shoes turned out
Saying things are looking up
He's on the street
With his eyes gone wild
He speaks with the voice of a child

When you see me
You pass me by
You don't hear me
You pass me by

No roof and the rains have come
He says he lives in the sun
He light a candle and he'll tell you why
He needs the width of the sky

When you see me
You pass me by
You don't hear me
You pass me by

If you meet me somewhere out there
Don't you ever pass me by
If you see me waiting out there
Don't you ever pass me by

He is sometimes here and often gone
Who knows which road he is on
Stay sad and hold up proof
Which one is sure of the truth

When you see me
You pass me by
You don't hear me
You pass me by

If you meet me somewhere out there
Don't you ever pass me by
If you see me waiting out there
Don't you ever pass me by

If you meet me somewhere out there
Don't you ever pass me by
If you see me waiting out there
Don't you ever pass me by

Peace In Our Time



Peace In Our Time (1988) US 4:36
"Peace In Our Time" CD single (1988) UK 4:40
Through a Big Country (1990) UK 4:35
Tracks from Without the Aid of a Safety Net
promo [acoustic live] (1994) UK 3:27
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [live] (1994)
UK 3:20
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 4:35
BBC Live In Concert [live] (1995) UK 5:24
Brighton Rock [live] (1997) UK 5:09
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 5:05

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

*"A very Sixties feel protest song,
naive but I did it anyway." –
Stuart Adamson, Melody Maker
interview, March 26, 1990*

Who holds the money, who holds the need
Who holds the strings of misery or the purse of greed
And the gunmen reap while the gangsters sow
And law is cheap when the smugglers go

(Give us peace) Give us peace in our time
(Give us peace) Give us peace in our time
While I have a life to live
Then I have no life to give
(Give us peace) Give us peace in our time

In sun-kissed rooms in city slums
Minds are restless till the airmail come
From the forest floor to the western mind
Like a chat show topic on a party line
And the hardest love of all is to forgive
As the world comes tumbling down

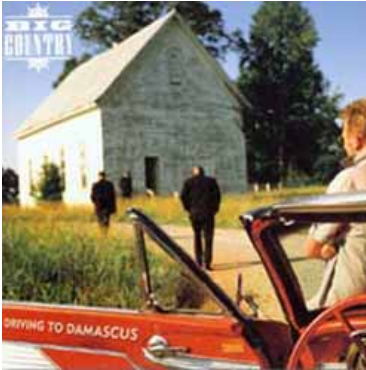
(Give us peace) Give us peace in our time
(Give us peace) Give us peace in our time
While I have a life to live
Then I have no life to give
(Give us peace) Give us peace in our time

Let all the rain come down on blind desire
Like a thundercloud that holds a prairie fire
I hear the blame and I see the cause
A stronger voice and a stronger law
But buyers buy and sellers sell
Public consumption of a private hell

(Give us peace) Give us peace in our time
(Give us peace) Give us peace in our time
While I have a life to live
Then I have no life to give
(Give us peace) Give us peace in our time

(Give us peace) Give us peace in our time
(Give us peace) Give us peace in our time
While I have a life to live
Then I have no life to give
(Give us peace) Give us peace in our time

Perfect World



Driving to Damascus (1999) UK 4:02
Driving to Damascus limited edition (1999)
UK 4:02

Stuart Adamson, Mark Brzezicki, Tony
Butler and Bruce Watson

I searched the globe from A to Z
Found a lot that made no sense to me
I learned a man is just a man
There's nothing more to understand

What I'm looking for is a perfect world
One that I can share with a perfect girl
What I'd like to find is a perfect girl
One that I can share with my perfect world

I read the books I watched the stars
And looked upon the face of Mars
I bathed in sun and walked in rain
It taught me how to laugh again

What I'm looking for is a perfect world
One that I can share with a perfect girl
What I'd like to find is a perfect girl
One that I can share with my perfect world

We got a manifestation
A little bit of animal domestication
Got civilisation
And that old time religion
We got an empire creation
Some industrialisation
Tiny little bit of space exploration
And then a world conflagration

What I'm looking for is a perfect world
One that I can share with my perfect girl
What I'd like to find is a perfect girl
One that I can share with my perfect world

And look what I found
It's a perfect love
With the sea below
And the stars above

Pink Marshmallow Moon



The Buffalo Skinners (1993) US 4:24

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson

Music by Stuart Adamson & Bruce Watson

*"Has anyone here ever been
blindly and madly in love? This is
a song about being like that." –
Stuart Adamson, in concert,
Germany, 1993.*

We could both be something still
We could spend our lives fulfilled
We could leave the battlefields
No more arrows, no more shields

When the dust of war subsides
Will I find you by my side
We could be at peace out there
Before the summer fair

We'll live tomorrow girl
Today has come too soon
We'll live tomorrow girl
Beneath a pink marshmallow moon

On the road to Monterey
I will be with you one day
Ride the length of highway one
Silhouettes against the sun

You can be my surfer queen
I will be your football team
We can build a love machine
At least you let me dream

We'll live tomorrow girl
Today has come too soon
We'll live tomorrow girl
Beneath a pink marshmallow moon

We could find a secret room
Somewhere in the house of gloom
Meet the lost and lonely man
With his lost and lonely plan

He will say what I said then
You have loved and will again
Even though the gift of rain
Is destined to remain

We'll live tomorrow girl
Today has come too soon
We'll live tomorrow girl
Beneath a pink marshmallow moon

We'll live tomorrow girl
Today has come too soon
We'll live tomorrow girl
Beneath a pink marshmallow moon

Porrohman



The Crossing (1983) US 7:53
Defrostin [live bootleg] (1993) 7:59
Radio 1 Sessions [live] (1994) US 7:28
King Biscuit Flower Hour (1997) [live] US 7:52

Night hangs on the city
Like a blanket on a cage
A sacrifice prepared

Laughter lies on faces
Where the sun has never shone
The fear of life is strong

We are waiting in a forest
Deep and dark behind the wall
What is hidden in our hearts

Absolves us of all worry
When our fate is in the hands
Of a demon or a god

Porrohman come from the inside of time
Takes his dust from a moving line
On our knees with our eyes on the ground
Those once lost have now been found

Give us iron give us rope
Give us iron give us rope

Save us from all worldly pain
Save us from the glowing rain
Save us from all love and hope
Give us iron give us rope

Give us iron give us rope
Give us iron give us rope

Post Nuclear Talking Blues



Why the Long Face (1995) US 3:21
NON! (1995) UK 3:22
Brighton Rock [live] (1997) UK 3:50
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 3:24

Stuart Adamson/Tony Butler/Bruce Watson/
Mark Brzezicki

I don't have the magnetism of a national hero
I'm not desperate enough to
Carry 'round a bomb in a bag

And I hate to clean up behind my dog
He's a pretty big guy and he eats like a hog
I never quite get that haircut they have in the window

I better give myself a talking to
I better work out what I'm going to do
Maybe get myself a wife
Better get myself a life
Instead of these post nuclear talking blues

When I go to the store
The express line gets derailed
I know that none of my batteries were included

I fall down every time I drink
I wash and all my whites turn pink
And I always come home with someone else's pants

I better give myself a talking to
I better work out what I'm going to do
Maybe get myself a wife
Better get myself a life
Instead of these post nuclear talking blues

The rain won't worry a drowning man
Until his feet are on dry land
He won't even care if his best shoes are full of sand

Whenever my flight touches down
My bags are in a different town
And the customs men like to get intimate with me

I better give myself a talking to
I better work out what I'm going to do
Maybe get myself a wife
Better get myself a life
Instead of these post nuclear talking blues

And that's all

The President Slipped and Fell



Driving to Damascus (1999) UK 2:56
Driving to Damascus limited edition (1999)
UK 2:56

Stuart Adamson, Mark Brzezicki, Tony
Butler and Bruce Watson

They found an alien baby in a Russian wood
A man in the delta named Johnny B. Goode
A two-headed cow and a fish that walks
A vampire lover and a monkey that talks
A boy with wings and ice that's hot
And a weeping sports star told us all about pot

Four goals, two cautions and a half-time report
The prime time verdict from the murder court
A woman who died and came back from hell
The president slipped, and he slipped and fell

They found the face of Jesus on an Elvis plate
And snow that fell on the sunshine state
A man at the altar with his 23rd bride
A million small investors who were taken for a ride
A billion dollar budget for the special effects
And a holy man told us not to have sex

Four goals, two cautions and a half-time report
The prime time verdict from the murder court
A woman who died and came back from hell
The president slipped, and he slipped and fell

Gimme one for the money
Make it two for the money
Maybe three for the money
You better make it four for the money
Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah
The more I hear is the less I care

Four goals, two cautions and a half-time report
The prime time verdict from the murder court
A woman who died and came back from hell
The president slipped, and he slipped and fell

Promised Land



"Peace In Our Time" CD single [edit] (1988)
UK 3:50
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 5:41

Stuart Adamson

Another track from the R.E.L. demos done for 'Peace In Our Time'. I can't remember too much of what it's about but I think parts of it ended up in other songs. The fog of time.
— Stuart Adamson, *Restless Natives & Rarities* liner notes

The happy time
All our people are here
All the gifts that they bring
All the songs that we sing
Hollow blessings will ring

The killing time
All the bystanders hide
Everything on the slide
Mad and tired inside
Still a laugh of false pride

Would it take that pretty smile away from your face
Would it turn that pretty laughter into tears
Is there still a need for sorrow in the promised land
Will there always be tomorrow in the promised land
Well there's just too many things I'm afraid to ask

Lying time
No more thought for a vow
One more break of a bough
One more voice asking how
Who is listening now

Would it take that pretty smile away from your face
Would it turn that pretty laughter into tears
Is there still a need for sorrow in the promised land
Will there always be tomorrow in the promised land
Well there's just too many things I'm afraid to ask

Money time
One more judge takes his price
One more room filled with ice
And sadistical vice
One more child without voice

Would it take that pretty smile away from your face
Would it turn that pretty laughter into tears
Is there still a need for sorrow in the promised land
Will there always be tomorrow in the promised land
Well there's just too many things I'm afraid to ask

Is there still a need for sorrow in the promised land
Will there always be tomorrow in the promised land
Well there's just too many things I'm afraid to ask

Rain Dance



Steeltown (1984) US 4:19

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson • Music by Big Country

If I hold my hand to you
Though you never asked me to
You will know it's time for the rains to come
And you must help me through

If you feel the fear on me
That I know the eye can't see
It comes with the sadness that the autumn brings
So we know what has to be

In the rain dance, I cool it all down
It is the year to come, oh when this one's run

We are not dust we are not stone
Just as the wild seed is sown
No one knows how we bring it home
We only take as we have grown

When you put your arms on me
Are they meant to set me free
Or hold me like his master's voice
And put the spell on me

I only have these hands
I only have the land
I fear you like the frost that the spring can bring
Or the fire of a cattle brand

In the rain dance, I cool it all down
It is the year to come, oh when this one's run
In the rain dance, I cool it all down
It is the year to come, oh when this one's run

We are not dust we are not stone
Just as the wild seed is sown
No one knows how we bring it home
We only take as we have grown

If I hold my hands to you
Though you never asked me to
You will know it's time for the rains to come
And you must help me through

When we take all this to town
And I buy the wedding gown
We will find the newborn year
As the winter crashes down

In the rain dance, I cool it all down
It is the year to come, oh when this one's run
In the rain dance, I cool it all down
It is the year to come, oh when this one's run

The Red Fox



The Seer (1986) US 4:11

Stuart Adamson

Question: Back to the LP [The Seer]. "The Red Fox," listening to the lyrics of that it seems to be about an underground resistance fighter. Stuart Adamson: What it says is that struggle is right if the frustration is clear enough. — Stuart Adamson, answering an interview question from the "Hold the Heart" interview.

Coming out into the day and all that I can see
Is the red and white of the King's army
I'll meet with them among the pine
I'll meet with them by noon
The dirge will sound on the morrow's noon

I was not born into this time
To cleave the soil or work the mine
I came to claim my enemy
And be the fox's destiny

I follow on in silence with a quiet heart in fear
I will be done before the dawn if I'm found here
I stand up as he passes and the time has come at last
The prey goes down at the metals crash

I was not born into this time
To cleave the soil or work the mine
I came to claim my enemy
And be the fox's destiny

Kidnapped in the dead of night
I did no wrong, I will not fight
It was not me, I will not run
But I believe in what was done

John, John, there's something wrong
The guns are found and the fox is gone
John, John, before too long
It will be me they hang it on

So send me off to the colony shore
Or send me where I'll laugh no more
I will tell none of what I know
Let the hunter walk where need must go

John, John, there's something wrong
The guns are found and the fox is gone
John, John, before too long
It will be me they hang it on

I will tell none of what I know
Let the hunter walk where need must go
John, John, before too long
It will be me they hang this on

Remembrance Day



The Seer (1986) US 4:29
The Collection: 1982-1988 (1993) UK 4:29

Stuart Adamson

"Question: Why 'Remembrance Day' for a starting point for a song? Stuart Adamson: I think because it's quite a potent image of learning from things gone past. This is the underlying theme and the key that the whole album revolves around. As such, it was a very potent phrase to use in a song and obviously the whole song just turns around the two words. I don't really like pinning myself down too much until maybe this time in two year time, then maybe I'll tell you, is that how it was. It revolves around the old T (?) stuff." — Stuart Adamson, answering an interview question from the "Hold the Heart" interview.

In your fine green ware I will walk with you tonight
In your raven hair I will find the Summer night
Upon far flung soil I will run you through my head
In my daily toil all the promises are said

For I know the weary can rise again
I know it all from the words you send
I will go, I will go, I will leave the firelight
I will go, I will go, for it's now the time is right

I will sing a young man's song
That you would sing on Remembrance Day
I will be the sacrifice
And bells will ring on Remembrance Day

I must leave this land and the hunger that is here
But the place I stand is the one I love so dear
Like a flower in some forest that the world will never see
I will stand so proud for I know what we can be

For I know the weary can rise again
I know it all from the words you send
I will go, I will go, I will leave the firelight
I will go, I will go, for it's now the time is right

I will sing a young man's song
That you would sing on Remembrance Day
I will be the sacrifice
And bells will ring on Remembrance Day

This day I will remember you
This way I will always return
This day I will remember you
This way I will always return

And I will sing a young man's song
That you would sing on Remembrance Day
I will be the sacrifice
And bells will ring on Remembrance Day

And I will sing a young man's song
That you would sing on Remembrance Day
I will be the sacrifice
And bells will ring on Remembrance Day

And I will sing a young man's song
That you would sing on Remembrance Day
I will be the sacrifice
And bells will ring on Remembrance Day

And I will sing a young man's song
That you would sing on Remembrance Day
I will be the sacrifice
And bells will ring on Remembrance Day

Republican Party Reptile



No Place Like Home (1991) UK 4:01
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 4:07

Music and lyrics by Stuart Adamson/Bruce Watson

My cousin PJ gets crazy just as much as he can
A real party reptile for a northern man
He's dressed like a republican
He thinks conservative
But he drives faster than I ever did

He's into nuclear power and insider deals
He has a scene with baby oil and heels
He's my favorite politician
When he comes on weird
Says I'm not fit for this office let's get out of here

My, my, loves his ma and apple pie
Well, well, he's the party's favorite guy
I hope you like it
You know I'm going to take good care of you
I hope you like it
I hope next time you bring your friends with you

He's a drinkin', huntin', shootin', fishin' son of a gun
He knows a surgeon's gonna keep his wife young
Got industrial kickbacks in an offshore bank
Knows who to stand on and he knows how to thank

I hope you like it
You know I'm going to take good care of you
I hope you like it
I hope next time you bring your friends with you
My, my, loves his ma and apple pie
Well, well, he's the party's favorite guy

He likes to come take me for a night with the boys
He talks about the NRA and their toys
Got an automatic rifle in his pick up truck
He drives me home when he's in no state to walk

My, my, loves his ma and apple pie
Well, well, he's the party's favorite guy
I hope you like it
You know I'm going to take good care of you
I hope you like it
I hope next time you bring your friends with you

I hope you like it
Love it, like it
I hope you like it
Love it, like it

Restless Natives



Look Away 7" single (1986) UK
Heart of the World CD single (1990) UK 3:50?
In A Big Country (1995) UK 4:08
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK

Stuart Adamson

(Dialogue from *Restless Natives*)

Alone upon the hills and stone
Through summer sun and winter snow
The eagle he was lord above
And Rob was lord below

Two hundred forty years we lived
Without hope and without pride
So who will know where they come from
Who raised a torch for those who died

I will be with them
In the summer sun and the winter snow
They will come and clouds will go
And show that we are proud again

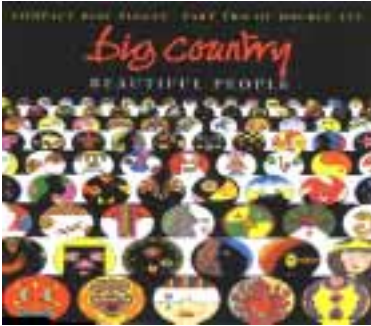
Though all we lost in autumn days
Cannot be born again
Stand here by me until the ways
Of age and youth are one and same

I will be with them
In the summer sun and the winter snow
They will come and clouds will go
And show that we are proud again

I will be with them
In the summer sun and the winter snow
They will come and clouds will go
And show that we are proud again

Alone among the hills and stone
Through summer sun and winter snow
The eagle he was lord above—Rob was lord below

Return to the Two Headed King



"Beautiful People" CD single (1991) UK 4:29
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 4:30

Stuart Adamson

Was written during the "NPLH" demo period with Pat drumming. I think the best song out of this bunch was "You, Me And The Truth" which went on the record. This, another 'almost' song, which Mercury actually cut slow on the record (Nice job guys). It's about two-faced leaders.

— Stuart Adamson, *Restless Natives & Rarities* liner notes

I know the very ground you walk
The colors that you wear
I know the love of which you talk
I know for I am there
Let it rise and fall forevermore

For I have seen my enemy
I look and he was me
And I have fed his family
And he has fought for me
Let it rise and fall forevermore

For it's a haunted land
Where we're understood
For it's a haunted land
That we come home to

Oh guide me through this wilderness
I find two headed king
It's time and you against we two
And what the time may bring
Let it rise and fall forevermore

It's a haunted land
Where we're understood
For it's a haunted land
That we come home to

For it's a haunted land
Where we're understood
For it's a haunted land
That we come home to

River of Hope



Peace In Our Time (1988) US 4:32
BBC Live In Concert [live 1989] (1995) UK
5:40
Eclectic [live] (1996) UK 4:06
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 4:15

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

"Sometimes the human race is given absolutely marvelous gifts, and we take those gifts and squander them just because we are human beings. This is all about that." – Stuart Adamson, BBC Live In Concert.

High above the forest in an unseen place
Where the clouds will gather on another race
In the dungeon depths of an unknown cave
There's a stream that springs with a world to save

And it gathers up strength as it rolls along
And it gathers up hope for everyone
But it runs to plains where the farmlands weep
Through the brand new gardens where rich men sleep

I'm gonna find it, I'm gonna prove it
And show the whole damned world how to use it
When I find it, when I prove it
I know that some damned fool is gonna lose it
For it's the river of hope, from the pool of tears
It's the river of hope, it's the river we lost for years

Past the chemical plant where the junk flows in
By the nuclear project where the children swim
Under bridges in a city where the bodies float
And the summer smell keeps the flies remote

I'm gonna find it, I'm gonna prove it
And show the whole damned world how to use it
When I find it, when I prove it
I know that some damned fool is gonna lose it
For it's the river of hope, from the pool of tears
It's the river of hope, it's the river we lost for years

Through the swamp of a ghetto where the mission was lost
Where the dope is king and the silver boss
Past the trash and wreckage from the garbage trucks
Past the oil slick where the jail boat docks

To a home in some sea at the nations end
Where the submarine is freedom's friend
If we need that river like we did before
There can be no need for it lives no more

I'm gonna find it, I'm gonna prove it
And show the whole damned world how to use it
When I find it, when I prove it
I know that some damned fool is gonna lose it

For it's the river of hope, from the pool of tears
It's the river of hope, it's the river we lost for years

For it's the river of hope, from the pool of tears
It's the river of hope, it's the river we lost for years

Sail Into Nothing



Why the Long Face (1995) US 3:47
Where Did the Feeling Go? [live bootleg]
(1995) 4:25
Brighton Rock [live] (1997) UK 7:06
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 3:49

Stuart Adamson

When I am tired, tired of the fight
You come to me and it's alright
If I am weary ,weary of my sins
You lie with me when I'm fallen

And we, we sail into nothing
Sail on crystal wings
We sail into nothing
And never need these ships again, no

When I am lonely, lonely in the night
Take hold of me and I'm alright
If I am waiting, fallen out of line
You take me in, make it all fine

And we, we sail into nothing
Sail on crystal wings
We sail into nothing
And never need these ships again, no

And we, we sail into nothing
Sail on crystal wings
We sail into nothing
And never need these ships again, no

If I am beaten down and on my knees
You pick me up, set my soul free

We sail into nothing
Sail on crystal wings
We sail into nothing
And never need these ships again, no

We sail into nothing
Sail on crystal wings
We sail into nothing
And never need these ships again, no

The Sailor



The Seer (1986) US 4:55

The Collection: 1982-1988 (1993) UK 4:54

Stuart Adamson

What would you be if the waves set you free
And the wind in your hair brought you sailing to me
Tied up on the shore would you weary no more?
When will it be, when will it be

What would I be if a hurricane came
Would I be clever, would I be shamed
Would I lie helpless, cast up on the flames
What will I be, what will I be

I will be here forever
Till the river runs into the sea
I will always be silent
And hold my head up
And we will be sailors no more

Where would we go
To the sand or the snow
Wander in memories or let them all go
Would we be dreamers, helplessly so
Where would we go, where would we go

I will be here forever
Till the river runs into the sea
I will always be silent
And hold my head up
Till we will be sailors no more (repeat 2)

Let's run right out of the city tonight
With our hair tied up and lips sealed tight
I will cry no more, I said I will cry no more

Like an empty tourist at the world fair
I could only stand and stare
And let it pass by me, let it pass me by

I never should have said out loud
That I wanted to save the world
But I let it slip away, I just let it slip away

The only thing I wanted to be
Was the perfect one who killed for free
And I will try no more, I say I will try no more

But now we are together we won't turn back
Where the boats are burned and the ties are black
And I will cry no more, I will cry no more

Save Me



"Save Me" 7" single (1990) UK 5:35
Through a Big Country (1990) UK 5:30
Through A Big Country boxed set (1991) JP 5:29
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 5:28

Stuart Adamson

"It's certainly harder than the Peace In Our Time stuff. I wanted to create a blues-come-Mission type of feel, like a gospel song, but not done totally seriously. I like the song, and it's great to have played some bloody lead guitar on a record again, just for the sheer joy of playing it" — Stuart Adamson, Melody Maker interview, March 26, 1990

No turning back
No looking around
I wasn't searching
See what I found

Inside the spaces
Inside of me
If there's a reason
What will it be

Come on and save me
Come on and save me
I want to know if you're the one that's gonna to change me
Go on and change me
Hey rearrange me
I need to know if you're the one that's gonna to save me

I thought I knew
I had my hope
Swing in the changes
Ring out the old

I'm happy chasing
What I can't reach
I'm still embracing
Secrets I meet

Come on and save me
Come on and save me
I want to know if you're the one that's gonna to change me
Go on and change me
Hey rearrange me
I need to know if you're the one that's gonna to save me

I wasted time
That wasn't mine
I hung the jury
I fled the crime

Shake off tomorrow
Break off the past
I know that sorrow
It never lasts

Come on and save me
Come on and save me
I need to know if you're the one that's gonna to change me
Go on and change me
Just rearrange me
I need to know if you're the one that's gonna to save me

Come on and save me
Come on and save me
I need to know if you're the one that's gonna to change me
Go on and change me
Just rearrange me
I need to know if you're the one that's gonna to save me

See You



Driving to Damascus (1999) UK 3:50
Driving to Damascus limited edition (1999)
UK 3:50

Stuart Adamson

Lori says to Billy
We've been working for a long time on this story
Trying to find a happy ending
We looked so long and hard for it
Maybe there just isn't one...See you

She says I made excuses all the time
They filled up half my life
But there weren't any reasons
For the way you treated me
Now if you'll excuse me please...See you

All the dreams I thought we shared
Were mine alone
And if only you could see in you
The things I see in you
But you're too scared to look...See you

She says compatibility is people who communicate
Who share their hopes and fears
And co-exist in harmony
That doesn't sound like you and me...See you

All the dreams I thought we shared
Were mine alone
And if only you could see in you
The things I see in you
But you're too scared to look...See you

Billy says I don't know why
I took so long to listen to you
Guess I'm stubborn with my heart
I'm sorry you were right all along
You're not what I want...See you

And if only you could see in you
The things I see in you
But you're too scared to look

I said if only you could see in you
The things I see in you
But you're too scared to look

I guess I'll see you
Bye bye
I guess I'll see you

The Seer



The Seer (1986) US 5:24
Through A Big Country (1990) UK 5:27
The Collection: 1982–1988 (1993) 5:27
BBC Live In Concert [1989 live] (1995) UK
6:47

Stuart Adamson

"We'd like to do something now which is all about being proud of who you are and what you are about. I think everyone should be that. Songs about things which have been, things which are happening now, and things which are still to happen." – Stuart Adamson, BBC Live In Concert.

Long ago I heard a tale I never will forget
The time was in the telling on the bank the scene was set
The sky was rolling blindly on, the daylight had not gone
She washed her hair among the stones and saw what was to come

All this will pass

There will be blood among the corn and heroes in the hills
But there is more to come my boy before you've had your fill
Men will come and rope the sail as though it were their own
And they will bathe their feet in oil as I have bathed my own

All this will pass
All things must come
Just as I tell you here

Stones will stand together as if searching for the stars
And all come crashing down again before they reach too far
She turned to face the setting sun, I turned to walk away
But then she called my name again and beckoned me to stay

All this will pass
All things must come
Just as I tell you here

She told me of the famous sons who write their names in peace
Yet be cut down before the time has come for our release
Just as I tell you here
Even now I wait for the coming day
Even now she waits in the dawn
For the tales she tells, for the gifts that she will sell
For the sight she knows, for a vision that still grows
With the dream in her eyes no one's seen

I listened for so long that day that I can hardly tell
If what she said was heaven sent or brought to bear in hell
That men of hope would stand alone and still be cast a lie
Just as Romans cast them on the day they were to die

All this will pass
All things must come
Just as I tell you here

Even now I wait for the coming day
Even now she waits in the dawn
For the tales she tells, for the gifts that she will sell
For the sight she knows, for a vision that still grows
With the dream in her eyes no one's seen

The Selling of America



The Buffalo Skinners (1993) US 4:20

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Stuart Adamson & Tony Butler

Gonna take a message to mother
Tell her that I'll be home soon
Let her know I'm still undercover
Hiding out behind the moon

The selling of America
Is going on now town by town
The selling of America
You better keep it underground

Better get a message to Martha
Tell her that our workers are doomed
Better call on General McArthur
Tell him the invasion is due

The selling of America
Is going on now town by town
The selling of America
You better keep it underground
Here come the dollar bombers

Better get the word to the boss man
A wire from the industry spy
Tell him that they're over the border
Trying out the White House for size

The selling of America
Is going on now town by town
The selling of America
You better keep it underground

The selling of America
Is going on now town by town
The selling of America
You better keep it underground

Send You



Why the Long Face (1995) US 4:11
Where Did the Feeling Go? [live bootleg]
(1995) 5:15
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 4:13

Stuart Adamson

There's a place where all roads end
A place where we can meet again
If things begin to end
I hope that I can make amends

Hey kid there's nothing wrong with you
There's nothing wrong
Hey kid the circus comes to town
But must move on

I will send you a lullaby
You may not weep, you may not cry
What else am I gonna do
To keep this world from hurting you

I will send you a lullaby
You may not weep, you may not cry
What else am I gonna do
To keep this world from hurting you

There's a time when all things slow
When no one else will come or go
When it's time I hope to know
The strength to let me let it go

You know there's nothing wrong with you
There's nothing wrong
You know the show will come to town
But must move on

I will send you a lullaby
You may not weep, you may not cry
What else am I gonna do
To keep this world from hurting you

I will send you a lullaby
You may not weep, you may not cry
What else am I gonna do
To keep this world from hurting you

Hey kid there's nothing wrong with you
There's nothing wrong
Hey kid the circus comes to town
But moves along

I will send you a lullaby
You may not weep, you may not cry
What else am I gonna do
To keep this world from hurting you

I will send you a lullaby
You may not weep, you may not cry
What else am I gonna do
To keep this world from hurting you

Seven Waves



The Buffalo Skinners (1993) US 4:43

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Bruce Watson

I don't think too much, I don't look inside
For the things I hid away for all those years
Have faded now or died

So don't you look through me, with those strangers eyes
For the world keeps turning underneath my feet
If I go on with the lies

Hey baby just you go out tonight, it's only me that cries

And love is waves away, we are waves away
And love is waves away, seven waves away

That's me down here, shining up your shoes
Keeping my head down like I always do
When you walk in with the blues

There's nothing to be said, nothing to be done
For I laid my head down at your most famous feet
When you said I was the one

Hey baby don't you stay out tonight, and say it isn't fun

And love is waves away, we are waves away
And love is waves away, seven waves away
And love is waves away, we are waves away
And love is waves away, seven waves away

And the sound that comes from you sleeping
In the darkness is a doorway
And the sun that beats on the window
In the morning is a doorway
And the sun that calls through the window
Every morning is a doorway

It doesn't hurt anymore, It doesn't get me down
But I might just swim out on the waves tonight
And lay right down and drown

Do you really want to be here tonight, or are you just around

And love is waves away, we are waves away
And love is waves away, seven waves away
And love is waves away, we are waves away
And love is waves away, seven waves away
And love is waves away, we are waves away
And love is waves away, seven waves away

Shattered Cross



Driving to Damascus limited edition (1999)
UK 4:00

This song is performed by Blue Healer, a collaboration between Stuart Adamson and Marcus Hummon

You don't mess around with a man in black
You say something wrong that you can't take back
You go for a ride in his automobile
The spot in the woods just over the hill
No, you don't mess around with a man in black

You don't fool around with a woman in red
You wake up alone in a cold barren bed
She'll empty your pockets and rip out your heart
And leave you with ruins of a life torn apart
No, you don't fool around with a woman in red

You never make deals with a guy named doc
You'll have a gun in your hands by 12 o'clock
And if the sodium lights with your heart in your throat
You're life won't amount to a bottle of smoke
No, you never make deals with a guy named doc

Don't bring me your tales of temptation and loss
The rags of your dreams, your shattered cross
I've heard your confession, I know who you blame
If you had it all back you'd just loose it again
You can bank on redemption if you're insane

So don't bring me your tales of temptation and loss
Oh don't bring me the pieces of your shattered cross

Ships



No Place Like Home (1991) UK 4:01

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Stuart Adamson/Bruce Watson

"This is a song about me being the happy-go-lucky-go chap that I am, and about being able to see your way through a bad time with the help of people around you." – Stuart Adamson, in concert, Germany, 1993.

Look at him now
Another used man
Wearing the passing of his dignity
With all the courage that he can

He stood in the storm
Carved out in stone
He said I've worn my honesty with pride
In everything I've done

So where were you when my ship went down
Where were you when I ran aground
Where were you when I turned it around
Where were you when they burned me down

You see her now
Tired and worn
She never thought her life
Would come to be so cold or so alone

She walked in the light
Fought bondage for love
She said I cast off the chains that I was born with
But it never was enough

So where were you when my ship went down
Where were you when I ran aground
Where were you when I turned it around
Where were you when they burned me down

Silent souls washed upon the shores
Left to walk the sands
Evermore, evermore

Oh now were were you
When my ship went down
Look at you now just chasing your life
Make like the savior of the planet
You're just trying to get by

Now you may walk the line
You may see it all through
But I know you cry yourself to sleep at night
Just wondering what to do

And where were you when my ship went down
Where were you when I ran aground
Where were you when I turned it around
Where were you when they burned me down

And where were you when my ship went down
Where were you when I ran aground
Where were you when I turned it around
Where were you when they burned me down

Ships



The Buffalo Skinners (1993) US 5:53
"Ships" CD single #1 (1993) 5:53
"Ships" CD single #2 (1993) 5:53
Tracks from Without the Aid of a Safety Net
promo [live] (1994) UK 6:11
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [live] (1994)
UK 6:06
Where Did the Feeling Go? [live bootleg]
(1995) UK 7:25
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 6:54

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Stuart Adamson/Bruce Watson

Look at him now, another used man
Wearing the passing of his dignity with all the courage that he can
He stood in the storm, carved out in stone
He said I've worn my honesty with pride in everything I've done

So where were you when my ship went down
Where were you when I ran aground
Where were you when I turned it around
Where were you when they burned me down

So where were you when my ship went down
Where were you when I ran aground
Where were you when I turned it around
Where were you when they burned me down

Look at her now, all tired and worn
She never thought her life would come to be so cold or so alone
She walked in the light, fought bondage for love
She said I cast off the chains that I was born with
But it never was enough

And where were you when my ship went down
Where were you when I ran aground
Where were you when I turned it around
Where were you when they burned me down

Silent souls washed upon the shore left to walk the sands
Evermore, evermore
Oh now where were you
When my ship went down
Look at us now, just chasing our lives
Make like the saviors of the planet
We're just trying to get by
You may walk the line
Now you may see it all through
I know you cry yourself to sleep at night
Just wondering what to do

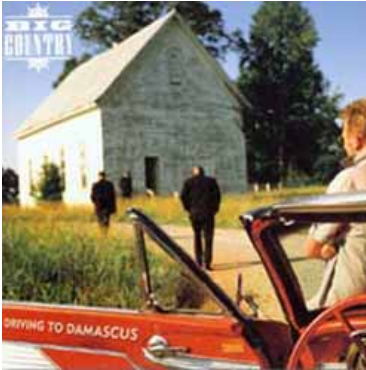
And where were you when my ship went down
Where were you when I ran aground
Where were you when I turned it around
Where were you when they burned me down

And where were you when my ship went down
Where were you when I ran aground
Where were you when I turned it around
Where were you when they burned me down

Oh now where were you
When my ship went down

Where were you when my ship went down
Where were you when I ran aground
Where were you when I turned it around
Where were you when they burned me down

Somebody Else



Driving to Damascus (1999) UK 4:03
Driving to Damascus limited edition (1999)
UK 4:03

Stuart Adamson and Ray Davies

I walk through the debris of cardboard and clothes
Trying to work out where everything goes
I'm short of you and a book or ten
And I'd love to hear those Leonard Cohen songs again

You can keep the wok
'Cos it matches the satellite dish
You can keep that crew neck sweater
I wore to the Talking Heads gig

I don't need that angry sex
I can find that for myself
You can keep that body
It belonged to somebody else

Self-help books and motivational videos
A ticket stub from the late night show
Nonessential items of dysfunctional-ese
I don't have no room for those water skis

You can keep that kiss me hat
The one that I bought in Spain
You can keep my scalextric
And all of my clockwork trains

All that stuff I thought was good for my health
You can leave it all on the bathroom shelf
You can keep that body
It belonged to somebody else

A room a bed and a couple of chairs
Had a hard time getting that fridge up the stairs
Sitting by the window looking out at the rain
I would love to hear those Leonard Cohen songs again

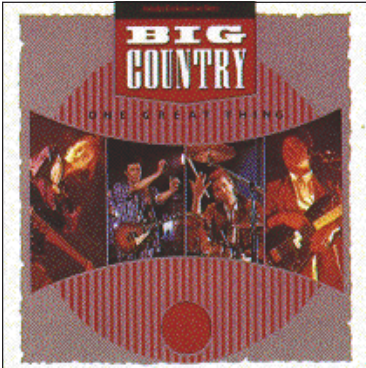
You can keep the wok
'Cos it matches the satellite dish
You can keep that crew neck sweater
I wore to the Talking Heads gig

I don't need that angry sex
I can find that for myself
You can keep that body
It belonged to somebody else

All that stuff I thought was good for my health
You can leave it all on the bathroom shelf
You can keep that body
It belonged to somebody else

Hey I was somebody else
Yeah somebody else
I was somebody else
Somebody else

Song of the South



"One Great Thing" 7" single (1986) UK
The Seer [remaster] (1996) UK 3:48
Restless Natives & Rarities [alternate
version] (1998) UK 5:05

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

Was done at the power plant with Robin Millar producing. Robin is one of the nicest people I have ever worked with and has remained a source of good advice and inspiration. The song is about apartheid and I kind of liked the idea of using a Disney title for it to show how the media exploit real suffering for ratings.

— Stuart Adamson, *Restless Natives & Rarities* liner notes

When I was young you said to me
How I would grow to find
A world of hope and wonder
That you would leave behind

So now I look around me
I see where you were wrong
The tears that flow for equal rights
Have fallen far too long

Way down south in the township
Way down south in the plain
Does the sun still rise on the land of lies
Every day in fear, every day in shame

And I was told no man was judged
By color or by creed
So why do some have streets of gold
While others only need

No, you cannot tell me
There is pride in fearing pain
A nation born in a country torn
I know the rightful claim

Way down south in the township
Way down south in the plain
Does the sun still rise on the land of lies
Every day in fear, every day in shame

Take away the newsreel
And take the world to task
One man one vote as nations quote
Is that too much to ask

And now I look around me
I see where you were wrong
The tears that flow for equal rights
Have fallen far too long

Way down south in the township
Way down south in the plain
Does the sun still rise on the land of lies
Every day in fear, every day in shame

Starred and Crossed



"King of Emotion" CD single (1988) UK 4:27
Through A Big Country boxed set (1991) JP
4:26

Peace In Our Time [remaster] (1996) UK 4:25
Master Series (1997) UK 4:27

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

Long hard years with the fishing fleet
I hear the owner says he don't need another bad year
Like the five that went before

Oil men came and trawlers went
Put up the rigs and put up the rent
But we were working, paying our own way

Work was hard and days were long
Shoot a little pool and sing old songs
'Till the tour was over
And the town was painted red

Starred and crossed like saints we never were
Starred and crossed like all the paths we shared
Just got a little money in this town
And now they're pulling the whole place down
Saying it's over, it's all over
Saying it's over and I know they never cared

We sunk the drills, we cleared the ice
We rode the storms, we paid the price
The sea expected
Well nothing comes for free

Boomtowns come and boomtowns go
Put up the shutters after the show
But we were born here
This is all we know

Starred and crossed like saints we never were
Starred and crossed like all the paths we shared
Just got a little money in this town
And now they're pulling the whole place down
Saying it's over, that it's all over
They're saying it's over and I know they never cared

Oil men came and the trawlers went
Put up the rigs and put up the rent
But we were working
Paying our own way

Boomtowns come and boomtowns go
Put up the shutters after the show
But we were born here
This is all we know

Starred and crossed like saints we never were
Starred and crossed like all the paths we shared
Just got a little money in this town
And now they're pulling the whole place down
Saying it's over, it's all over
They're saying it's over and I know they never cared

Starred and crossed like saints we never were
Starred and crossed like all the paths we shared
Just got a little money in this town
And now they're pulling the whole place down
Saying it's over, it's all over
They're saying it's over and I know they never cared

Steeltown



Steeltown (1984) US 4:39
The Collection: 1982-1988 (1993) UK 4:39
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [live] (1994)
UK 5:38

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Big Country

Here I stand with my own kin
At the end of everything
Finally the dream is gone
I've had enough of hanging on

I came here with all my friends
Leaving behind the weight of years
Leaving our own in a flood of tears
Out on a prospect that never ends

All the landscape was the mill
Grim as the reaper with a heart like hell
With a river of bodies flowing with the bell
Here was the future for hands of skill

We built all this with our own hands
For who could know we built on sand
But now it's barren all too soon
There is no miracle in ruin

We set the flame and it burned so blue
With open eyes I watched it grow
A sea of palms in an ocean of snow
Hands with the courage to start anew

Here was a home for the lost and scared
Out of the yards and the run dry dock
To the call of the steel that would never stop
Here was a refuge for those who dared

In a steeltown
When the heat's on
I went down
And the heat turned on me

In a steeltown
When the heat's on
I went down
And the heat turned on me

There I stand with my own kin
At the end of everything
Finally the dream is gone
Nothing left to hang upon

In a steeltown
When the heat's on
I went down
And the heat turned on me

In a steeltown
When the heat's on
I went down
And the heat turned on me

In a steeltown
When the heat's on
I went down
And the heat turned on me

The Storm



The Crossing (1983) US 6:21
The Collection: 1982–1988 (1993) UK 6:25
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [acoustic
live] (1994) UK 4:51
King Biscuit Flower Hour (1997) [live] US 5:16

I came from the hills with a tear in my eye
The winter closed in and the crows filled the sky
The houses were burning in flames gold and red
The people were running with eyes full of dread

Ah my James
They didn't have to do this

We chased them for miles I had tears in my eyes
Through forest and moor as the clouds filled the sky
The storm broke upon us with fury and flame
Both hunters and hunted washed out in the rain

Ah my James
They didn't have to do this

I know I can never return
To the time of hope when I was born
Let the strength of peace run through my hands

When we walk away from the storm's roar
Then I will be afraid no more
And now I'm sure of where I stand
Let the strength of peace run through this land

And nobody smiled as we took back our own
While rain beat upon us the thunder would moan
And nobody smiled when we knew what was lost
We knew well enough only time proves the cost

Ah my James
They didn't have to do this
Ah my James
They didn't have to do this

I know I can never return
To the time of hope when I was born
Let the strength of peace run through my hands

When we walk away from the storm's roar
Then I will be afraid no more
And now I'm sure of where I stand
Let the strength of peace run through this land

Sun and My Shadow



Bon Apetit! (1999) UK 3:38

Adamson/Boonstra

You've got some nerve
Telling me what's right
I've got the urge
To set you straight tonight

Are you a TV mystic
Do you have the second sight
Better know the enemy
Before you pick a fight

Between the sun and my shadow
That's where I'll be
Between hell and high water
She comes looking for me

I've got a bad, bad feeling
Ah, but what the hell
As long as I stay between the sun and my shadow
I guess I'm doing well

So what
So I'm a little drunk
What's it to you
I ain't some kind of monk

I know what's wrong and right
And I prove it every day
Worn out trying to listen
For the things she doesn't say

Between the sun and my shadow
That's where I'll be
Between hell and high water
She comes looking for me

I've got a bad, bad feeling
Ah, but what the hell
As long as I stay between the sun and my shadow
I guess I'm doing well

Between the sun and my shadow
That's where I'll be
Between hell and high water
She comes looking for me

I've got a bad, bad feeling
Ah, but what the hell
As long as I stay between the sun and my shadow
I guess I'm doing well

Between the sun and my shadow
That's where I'll be
Between hell and high water
She comes looking for me

I've got a bad, bad feeling
Ah, but what the hell
As long as I stay between the sun and my shadow
I guess I'm doing well

Take You to the Moon



Why the Long Face (1995) US 4:55
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 4:55

Stuart Adamson

It's 3 A.M. I'm going home
I watch the white lines pass alone
There is no moon so I just drive
I feel like the last man alive

I find a voice on the radio
It sounds like someone I used to know
He sends out songs that are sad and slow
For us with nowhere else to go

That's when I get to crying
And crying never makes no sense
When too much has gone on for it to ever be coincidence

Who's gonna take you to the moon, who's gonna take you to the stars
Who's gonna wait around for you, who's gonna bring you back from Mars
I'm gonna take you to the moon , I'm gonna show you 'round the stars
But if I take you to the moon will you come back the way you are

If absence makes the heart grow fond
Why does my presence seem so wrong
If I am here and you are gone
I wonder what it is I've done
That's when I get to crying
And crying never makes no sense
When too much has gone on for it to ever be coincidence

Who's gonna take you to the moon, who's gonna take you to the stars
Who's gonna wait around for you, who's gonna bring you back from Mars
I'm gonna take you to the moon , I'm gonna show you 'round the stars
But if I take you to the moon will you come back the way you are

We keep our secrets to ourselves
We leave those lies for someone else
We rise above what we used to be
Don't get discouraged easily
That's when there's no more crying
'Cause crying never makes no sense
When too much has gone on for it to ever be coincidence

Who's gonna take you to the moon, who's gonna take you to the stars
Who's gonna wait around for you, who's gonna bring you back from Mars
I'm gonna take you to the moon , I'm gonna show you 'round the stars
But if I take you to the moon will you come back the way you are

I'm gonna take you to the moon , I'm gonna show you 'round the stars
But if I take you to the moon will you come back the way you are

Tall Ships Go



Steeltown (1984) US 4:38
The Collection: 1982-1988 (1993) UK 4:38

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Big Country

I dreamed I heard that you were dead
I dreamed I searched an empty bed
For a sign of you

And the sea called hard to me
Like a cell without a key
And I felt the distance

I watched the tall ships go
With the drift wood on the flow
With pride that grows in hardship
And I knew you were below

I hear your voice
And it keeps me from sleeping
Why must it always be dreams
When your voice comes to me

I dreamed you felt the typhoon spit
And walked into the heart of it
While the sea gulls cry

I know how to feel that call
It never suited me at all
But some are born to it

And you seemed so bright and hard
Like a bloody edge of sword
But if you're an enemy
Then you look a lot like me

I hear your voice
And it keeps me from sleeping
Why must it always be dreams
When your voice comes to me

I dreamed you sailed me to the swamp in a black boat
You spoke to me of things
Of the shame that years will bring
And I felt your hand shake

Though you always seemed so hard
Now I never see the sword
And I find the enemy
Has to feel the same as me

I hear your voice
And it keeps me from sleeping
Why must it always be dreams
When your voice comes to me

The Teacher



The Seer (1986) US 4:06
Through A Big Country (1990) UK 4:07
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 4:05

Stuart Adamson

We talked and smoked all through the night
You led me where I had no sight
Till birdsong broke the morning light
And I was weak with strange delight

Teacher will you show to me
The bond between the land and sea
For I am new to mystery
I want everything laid out for me

All of history
All of history

You showed me walls around the world
Where seekers passed and flags unfurled
You wove a tale in silken curls
And blew the mist in silver swirls

Teacher will you show to me
The bond between the land and sea
For I am new to mystery
I want everything laid out for me

All of history
All of history

Teacher will you show to me
The bond between the land and sea
For I am new to mystery
I want everything laid out for me

All of history
All of history
All of history
All of history

This Blood's For You



In the Scud EP (1998) UK 4:20
"See You" CD single #1 (1999) UK 3:45

Stuart Adamson

Held his cards close to his chest and smiled across the mud
Blew the smoke from a green flak vest and laid back like a god
Saved my life a million times before I knew his name
Watched him die between the lines praying for his pain

For all the struggle that you go through
For sorrow that we cause
For all the trouble that you go to
For all your mortal flaws

For every wicked sinner born anew
And every fallen angel turning blue
For every long, lost soul without a shoe
Hey, for all, for all that you do, this blood's for you

Kicked the dust between the rows and dug and empty well
Broke the plow then blew his nose and cursed the sky to hell
Said its got so dry out here that I can't even cry
I can't work and I can't speak but it's too damn hot to die

For all the struggle that you go through
For sorrow that we cause
For all the trouble we put you to
For all our mortal flaws

For every wicked sinner born anew
Yeah for every fallen angel turning blue
For every long, lost soul without a shoe
Hey, for all, for all that you do, this blood's for you

God put his son upon the world to spare the sins of men
Let them kill him on a cross and then took him home again
Maybe he's a vengeful god and maybe we're to blame
Maybe we're just paying back the blood and death and pain

For all the struggle that you go through
For sorrow that we cause
For all the trouble we put you through
For all our mortal flaws

And for every wicked sinner born anew
And for every fallen angel turning blue
Yeah, for every long, lost soul without a shoe
Yeah, for all, for all that you do
This blood's for you

1,000 Stars



The Crossing (1983) US 3:53
Defrostin [live bootleg] (1993) 4:42
Radio 1 Sessions [live] (1994) US 4:21
In A Big Country (1994) 3:55
King Biscuit Flower Hour (1997) [live] US 4:25

Now we play our final hand
Move in closer, understand
This time like never before
Only the black queen scores
A card so high and so wild
We should burn it

The luck of a thousand stars
Can't get me out of this
The luck of a thousand stars
Losing its charm

There are people I have loved
Hypnotized by lies
In defensive disguise
Some say protect and survive
I say it's over

The luck of a thousand stars
Can't get me out of this
The luck of a thousand stars
Losing its charm

Hold me through the darkest night
I feel secure in your arms
While all the city's on fire
It's not between you and me
But we are losing

The luck of a thousand stars
Can't get me out of this
The luck of a thousand stars
Can't get me out of this
The luck of a thousand stars
Losing its charm

Thousand Yard Stare



Peace In Our Time (1988) US 3:54
Through A Big Country boxed set [live] (1991)
JP 4:54
The Collection: 1982-1988 (1993) UK 3:51

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Stuart Adamson & Bruce Watson

You should have called me a brother
You should have been real close
But you knew I loved you brother
Enough to take over your post

I guess it's always with me
I guess it will always be there
As I step on the runway I always will see
The boy with the thousand yard stare (thousand yard stare)

But you were asleep my brother
I didn't mean you no harm
You were asleep when they came through the wire
And I couldn't reach the alarm

I guess it's always with me
I guess it will always be there
As I step on the runway I always will see
The boy with the thousand yard stare (thousand yard stare...)

You'll never leave me brother
Though I watched them fly you back home
I'm still in country brother
I won't make the world on my own

I guess it's always with me
I guess it will always be there
As I step on the runway I always will see
The boy with the thousand yard stare

I guess it's always with me
I guess it will always be there
As I step on the runway I always will see
The boy with the thousand yard stare (thousand yard stare...)
The boy with the thousand yard stare
The boy with the thousand yard stare

Thunder & Lightning



Why the Long Face (1995) US 3:38
Brighton Rock [live] (1997) UK 4:22
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 3:40

Stuart Adamson

Maybe it could be a problem
Tall clouds gather over there
We know where we should be going
But I'm wondering if we really dare

Just remember your big umbrella
Leave your good dress on
We'll be safe under your big umbrella
If we walk away from the storm

And don't get too frightened by thunder and lightning
Don't let it scare you away
Now don't be too frightened by thunder and lightning
You know it's just passing our way

I know it's going to get darker
Hey, it's been dark before
We shouldn't worry about being outside
When it's dark on both sides of the door

Hey girl there's a blue horizon
Underneath the gray
Just fix your eyes on that blue horizon
For surely it's heading our way

And don't get too frightened by thunder and lightning
Don't let it scare you away
Now don't be too frightened by thunder and lightning
You know it's just passing our way

Can you feel the warmth of the waters
Can you see the color of the wind
Skies collide and then they fall in on us
Like it's going to wash away your sin

Hey girl there's a blue horizon
Underneath the gray
Just fix your eyes on that blue horizon
For surely it's heading our way

And don't get too frightened by thunder and lightning
Don't let it scare you away
Now don't be too frightened by thunder and lightning
You know it's just passing our way

And don't get too frightened by thunder and lightning
Don't let it scare you away
Now don't be too frightened by thunder and lightning
You know it's just passing our way

Time For Leaving



Peace In Our Time (1988) US 5:03

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Big Country

There's an ill wind on the lowlands
A famine in the hills
A rust storm on the northern seas
A dust storm on the skills

Where is the law that holds me
In a grey unpleasant land
I will not dance for the medicine man
With the happy pills at hand

I will pack up my things and go
Head on down to Australia
Just strap on some wings and I'll blow
Right here in my time, right here in my mind
Right here in my life, this is a time for leaving

I will not sing a chain gang song
I will not walk the line
The company store won't have my soul
And Al won't have his dime

You could take my job and shove it
If I just had one to give
You could take my pain and love it
But you won't know how I live

I will pack up my things and go
Take a train over Canada
Tie up my strings and I'll blow
Right here in my time, right here in my mind
Right here in my life, this is a time for leaving

If I fill my eyes up with the sun
And I hold my face to the blazing sky
My shadow will be cast behind me
And I'll look no more at its beaten eyes

This is a time
Listen to the city fall
Listen to the warm wind call
Listen to me my love

This is a time for leaving
Right here in my time, right here in my mind
Right here in my life, this is a time for leaving
This is a time for leaving

Too Many Ghosts



Driving to Damascus limited edition (1999)
UK 4:10

This song is performed by Blue Healer, a collaboration between Stuart Adamson and Marcus Hummon

I took my past out for a ride
Along the North Sea
All my demons in the back seat
Crying out for me

Time to pay the piper, time to call in a marker
Time to cough it up
The last thing on my mind
Was another shot at love

Too many, too many, too many ghosts
One too many ghosts to fall in love

Avarice and drunkenness
Pride and infidelity
I left them off at a bus stop
Along the coast

You brushed past from nowhere
And you sat right up front with me
You were looking like a virgin
Unconfirmed, waiting for the host

But there are no virgins here
No novices
No innocence
Just the dark desire for forgiveness

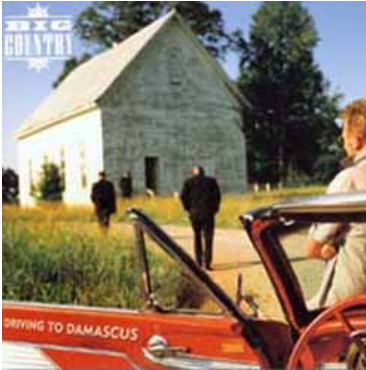
Too many, too many, too many ghosts
One too many ghosts to fall in
Too many, too many, too many ghosts
One too many ghosts to fall in love

I took my new love out for a ride
Along the North Sea
Forgiveness or forgetfulness
It's all the same to me

And as I stare into her eyes
And press her in my arms
I look over her shoulder
And there my demons are

Too many, too many, too many ghosts
One too many ghosts to fall in
Too many, too many, too many ghosts
One too many ghosts to fall in love

Trouble the Waters



Driving to Damascus (1999) UK 4:10
Driving to Damascus limited edition (1999)
UK 4:10

Stuart Adamson, Mark Brzezicki and Bruce
Watson

They took a southern working man and chained him to a car
Claimed before the judge we didn't pull him very far
Anyway, he looked at us with murder in his glance
We want to make a bargain, and the plea is self defense

Look mother trouble the waters
We've lost our sons and daughters
Blame religion, blame the family
It had to be somebody

Painless violence, daddy's silence
Feed the glamour of drugs and guns
Somebody tell me, you gotta
Who threw the stone to trouble the waters

They took a student farmer and they chained him to a post
And sent their finest greetings with him to the holy ghost
This is a place where men are men and we don't need his kind
We know what he planned for us, we could read his filthy mind

Look mother trouble the waters
We've lost our sons and daughters
Blame religion, blame the family
It had to be somebody

Painless violence, daddy's silence
Feed the glamour of drugs and guns
Somebody tell me, you gotta
Who threw the stone to trouble the waters

They took a box of rifles and they hauled them off to school
Set up like a sniper in that movie that was cool
Someone tripped the fire alarm and panic set about
They looked upon their enemy and calmly took him out

Look mother trouble the waters
We've lost our sons and daughters
Blame religion, blame the family
It had to be somebody

Painless violence, daddy's silence
Feed the glamour of drugs and guns
Somebody tell me, you gotta
Who threw the stone to trouble the waters

Look mother trouble the waters
We've lost our sons and daughters
Blame religion, blame the family
It had to be somebody

Painless violence, daddy's silence
Feed the glamour of drugs and guns
Somebody tell me, you gotta
Who threw the stone to trouble the waters

Who threw the stone that trouble the waters
Who threw that stone
Who threw the stone to trouble the waters
Trouble the waters

Troubled Man



"Heart of the World" 12" single (1990) UK

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

Once my dreams came true
Once but not for me
I told them all to you
But dreams are never clear

If I must be alone
Then let it be forever
For it takes a troubled man
To know the freedom of his fear

No longer will I look
For what can never happen
No deeper can I long
For what I know is dear

If I must live my life
In darkness and in shadow
For it takes a troubled man
To know the freedom of his fear

If words could fade away
And strangers go unanswered
Let friendships all be gone
And no acquaintance near

For I would rather die
Than love you for this moment
For it takes a troubled man
To know the freedom of his fear

I think I'm in trouble
Once again you come to me
I think I'm in trouble
Take this troubled man from me

We're Not In Kansas



No Place Like Home (1991) UK 6:12

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

What did you learn in school today
Did you learn to run when the teachers pray
Did they teach you enough to know the state you're in
Not enough to get out, not enough to win

What did you learn at home today
Did you learn to hate in the proper way
Did your liberated parents patronize your friends
Cos they had enough money cos they had the right skin

I sat me down and wondered, what kind of place this really is
Well maybe it's in the parks, maybe it's in the stores
I know if we're being honest, it's in the people
But they're all caught up in the traffic
Listening to the weather

Well dog, I know we're not in Kansas—the sky's all colored wrong
I know we're not in Kansas—the days are all too long
I sure don't understand this—that's what you're howling for
I know we're not in Kansas, Kansas anymore

What did you learn in your job today
Did you learn to sleep while the boss is away
Did you shut your mouth when he called you down
Cos there's not much work in that kind of town

I wander around thinking, well what kind of place is this
Where they say hey well what did you do in the war
And I ask well hey man well what did you do with the peace
Well we built these real safe weapons, so we could sleep with ease

Well dog, I know we're not in Kansas—the sky's all colored wrong
I know we're not in Kansas—the days are all too long
I sure don't understand this—that's what you're howling for
I know we're not in Kansas, Kansas anymore

Well what kind of place is this
On the wrong side of the rainbow where the twisters never come
And they tore up all the yellow bricks and they sold them to Japan
And still the advertisers tell you, hey, there's no place like home

Well dog, I know we're not in Kansas—the sky's all colored wrong
I know we're not in Kansas—the days are all too long
I sure don't understand this—that's what you're howling for
I know we're not in Kansas, Kansas anymore

I know we're not in Kansas—the sky's all colored wrong
I know we're not in Kansas—the days are all too long
I sure don't understand this—that's what you're howling for
I know we're not in Kansas, Kansas anymore

We're Not In Kansas



The Buffalo Skinners (1993) US 6:23

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

What did you learn in school today
Did you learn to run when the teachers pray
Did they teach you enough to know the state you're in
Not enough to get out, not enough to win

What did you learn at home today
Did you learn to hate in the proper way
Did your liberated parents patronize your friends
Cos they had the right money cos they had the right skin

I wander 'round thinking, well, what kind of place is this
Well maybe it's in the parks, maybe it's in the stores
But I know if we're being honest it's in the people
But they're all caught up in the traffic
Listening to the weather

Well dog, I know we're not in Kansas—the sky's all colored wrong
I know we're not in Kansas—the days are all too long
I sure don't understand this—that's what you're howling for
I know we're not in Kansas, Kansas anymore

What did you learn in your job today
Did you learn to sleep while the boss is away
And you shut your mouth when he calls you down
Cos there's not much work in that kind of town

I wander around thinking, well, what kind of place is this
Where they say, hey, what did you do in the war
And I ask them well, hey man, what did you do with the peace
Well we built these real safe weapons so you could sleep with ease

Well dog, I know we're not in Kansas—the sky's all colored wrong
I know we're not in Kansas—the days are all too long
I sure don't understand this—that's what you're howling for
I know we're not in Kansas, Kansas anymore

Well what kind of place is this
On the wrong side of the rainbow where the twisters never come
And they tore up all the yellow bricks and they sold them to Japan
And still the advertisers tell you, hey, there's no place like home

Well dog, I know we're not in Kansas—the sky's all colored wrong
I know we're not in Kansas—the days are all too long
I sure don't understand this—that's what you're howling for
I know we're not in Kansas, Kansas anymore

I know we're not in Kansas—the sky's all colored wrong
I know we're not in Kansas—the days are all too long
I sure don't understand this—that's what you're howling for
I know we're not in Kansas, Kansas anymore

What Are You Working For



The Buffalo Skinners (1993) US 4:00
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [live] (1994)
UK 4:00

Lyrics and Music by Stuart Adamson

"When I was growing up, the circumstances that I grew up in I was expected to know my place and keep my mouth shut and be a nice good little boy and pay my taxes and work for someone else. ??? to that." – Stuart Adamson, in concert, Germany, 1993.

There was a crooked man
And he wore a crooked smile
He built a crooked highway
And it ran for miles and miles

With money from the revenue
Sponsorship from Ford
It barely holds together
With the goodwill of the Lord

In the penthouse of the baron
The little children sleep
Daddy talks to smugglers
While the armed gorillas creep

Poison for the great unwashed
Business for the mob
Another teenage murder
It's just trouble on the job

Now I see what I must see
The poor do time the rich go free
You keep the faith and they keep score
Is this what you were working for

A newsleak in the city
Another scandal breaks
Sex and drugs in city hall
Someone's on the make

Legal bounty hunters
Aim their lawsuits well
The victim talks to Playboy
Says I guess I'll go to hell

Now I see what I must see
The poor do time the rich go free
You keep the faith and they keep score
Is this what you were working for

Now I see what I must see
The poor do time the rich go free
You keep the faith and they keep score
Is this what you were working for

Now I see what I must see
The poor do time the rich go free
You keep the faith and they keep score
Is this what you were working for

When A Drum Beats



"Broken Heart (Thirteen Valleys)" CD single
[edit] (1988) UK 5:04
Peace In Our Time [remaster] (1996) UK 5:01
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 6:19

Stuart Adamson

I like the guitar intro to this and I'm going to nick it for something else. We were demoing a lot of tracks at R.E.L. at this time and maybe we should have developed some of them a bit further. The lyric is about refusing to get caught up in jingoism and misplaced patriotism. – Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

Is this civilization
Is this all we're gonna be
A helpless United Nations
A censored BBC

War in the African nations
Hate in the Middle East
Just a mess of frustration
Waiting for release

Oh no! When they beat a drum it's too much to swallow
Oh no! When they beat that drum it just sounds so hollow
I'm not ready to fight, I'm not ready to go

I saw an F-111
Beside a Kremlin guard
And the Magnificent Seven
In the printed word

Is this a public service
Or a civil war
While I sit here nervous
Waiting for a call

Oh no! When they beat a drum it's too much to swallow
Oh no! When they beat that drum it just sounds so hollow
I'm not ready to fight, I'm not ready to go

Let cities crumble, empires waste
And generals find a resting place
For leaders too will be replaced
If fear and fate come face to face

Leave a red sky for night time
Know a mother's love
Here now for all time
Lose the tyrant's glove

Give the whole of the life lime
On the reaching palm
Leave us out of the dead line
For tomorrow's man

Oh no! When they beat a drum it's too much to swallow
Oh no! When they beat that drum it just sounds so hollow
I'm not ready to fight, I'm not ready to go

Oh no! When they beat a drum it's too much to swallow
Oh no! When they beat that drum it just sounds so hollow
I'm not ready to fight, I'm not ready to go

Where the Rose is Sown



Steeltown (1984) US 4:58
Through A Big Country [edit] (1990) UK 4:09
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 4:57
Eclectic [live] (1996) UK 4:10
Master Series [edit] (1997) UK 4:11
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 4:12

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Big Country

We're at war
We will win
We are strong
We are right
Leave your work
Leave your home
Take up arms
Sound alarms

All the papers say
I read today
It wasn't us
Who started this
I just left school
I am no fool
It left me strong
The school bell rings

Sons of men who stand like gods
We give life to feed the cause
And run to ground our heathen foe
Our name will never die
This time will be forever

Join up here
We need you
Have no fear
God will be
Take the vow
Praise the flag
We're at war
We will win

I wave good-bye
Oh my breast sighs
Now I must try
With braver men
I know it's right
The good fight
I'm on my way
Why do I pray

Sons of men who stand like gods
We give life to feed the cause
And run to ground our heathen foe
Our name will never die
This time will be forever

I wait here in this hole
Playing poker with my soul
I hold the rifle close to me
It lights the way to keep me free

If I die in a combat zone
Box me up and ship me home
If I die and still come home
Lay me where the rose is sown

Sons of men who stand like gods
We give life to feed the cause
And run to ground our heathen foe
Our name will never die
This time will be forever

Wildland In My Heart



Why the Long Face (1995) US 4:04

Stuart Adamson

Cathy came home and no one cared
Even her friends were unaware
That's how it is when they lose track
I always say hey don't look back

Lassie got loose and made it home
No one had even telephoned
That's how it is out of the pack
I always say you don't look back

Sometimes I think of how things were
Right at the start
When she made a wildland in my heart

The seven returned and no one cheered
We don't think you're magnificent 'round here
Even if you look great in black
I should have told them don't look back

Sometimes I think of how they were
Right at the start
When they made a wildland in my heart

I was young, I didn't care
I would have followed them anywhere
You know I was young, I didn't care
I would have followed you anywhere

The ranger is finally on his own
Tonto got married and went home
That's how it is when your first name's Lone
Keep on the track, hey don't look back

You know you don't look back
You don't look back, I say you don't look back

Sometimes I think of how things were
Right at the start
When you made a wildland in my heart
You know you don't look back

Sometimes I think of how things were
Right at the start
When you made a wildland in my heart

You know you don't look back
You don't look back, you don't look back

You know you don't look back
You don't look back, you don't look back

You know you don't look back
You don't look back, you don't look back

Winding Wind



The Buffalo Skinners (1993) US 4:30

Lyrics and music by Stuart Adamson

I lived a thousand years
In someone else's shoes
I lived a thousand lives
With someone else's blues

I talked so many nights
With voices I don't know
Wore someone else's face
And hoped it didn't show

Oh winding wind
Oh winding wind

I made a place for you
And you made time for me
And we have promised all the things
We know will never be

I waited far too long
Out on the winding wind
Dreaming and hoping as the world moved on
It would blow away my sins

Oh winding wind
Oh winding wind

Everybody's got a soul to sell
Everybody's got a tale to tell
All about the things that might have been
Blown away in the winding wind

And some may change the world
And some just lose their way
And some just sit around holding hands
Praying for a judgment day

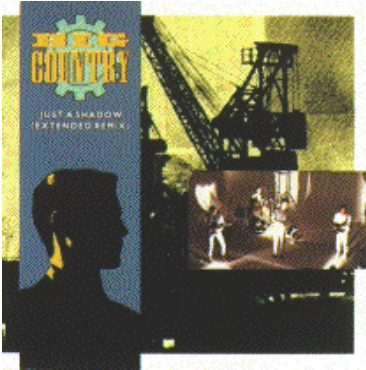
I hear them talking deep in the night
Wondering if they will make it tonight
So I will walk with giant men
At peace among their feet
And we will cross the wild frontier
Not ever to retreat

Oh winding wind
Oh winding wind

Everybody's got a soul to sell
Everybody's got a tale to tell
All about the things that might have been
Blown away in the winding wind

Everybody's got a soul to sell
Everybody's got a tale to tell
All about the things that might have been
Blown away in the winding wind

Winter Sky



"Just a Shadow" 7" single (1985) UK
"Alone" CD Single #2 [live] (1993) UK 4:36
Steeltown [remaster] (1996) UK 3:16
Eclectic [live] (1996) UK 4:07
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 4:03
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 3:18

Lyrics by Stuart Adamson
Music by Stuart Adamson & Bruce Watson

Bruce and I recorded this ourselves at Palladium in Edinburgh as a b-side but this time I actually think we got a great song. The bass, bass drum and snare were played on a synth at separate times, in fact I think Bruce did the bass drum and I did the snare. Thrown away on a b-side I think. — Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

The stories of the world are sung
In places that were never young
I have counted every one

All the clouds will come to you
So the sun never comes through
And we will hide from twenty years
Of winter sky

The faces of the world are hung
In places I was never born
Some will smile while others mourn

All the clouds will come to you
So the sun never comes through
And we will hide from twenty years
Of winter sky

The pictures of the world are shown
In places I have never known
Who will know who shaped the stone

All the clouds will come to you
So the sun never comes through
And we will hide from twenty years
Of winter sky

Still it turns and says to me
In words that come uneasily
Answers are not meant to be

All the clouds will come to you
So the sun never comes through
And we will hide from twenty years
Of winter sky

Without Wings



In the Scud EP (1998) UK 4:40

It's a mighty fine line
Between true love and desperation
There's a mountain you must climb
Between talking and the conversation

I have to learn the difference
Between walking out and walking away
Sometimes there's just a place to live
But here I've found a place where I can stay

Without wings
You have taught me how to fly
Without wings
Through the darkness of the night

I have dreamed
And cast off my earthly ties
You have taught me how to fly
Without wings

There's a whole lot of time
Between always and forever
There's a whole lot of change
Between being and being together

Takes a moment in the darkness
To know how much you love the light
And you have to know the truth
Before you start to understand the lies

Without wings
You have taught me how to fly
Without wings
Through the darkness of the sky

I have dreamed
And cast off my earthly ties
You have taught me how to fly
Without wings

I say you have to know the truth
Before you start to understand the lies, those lies

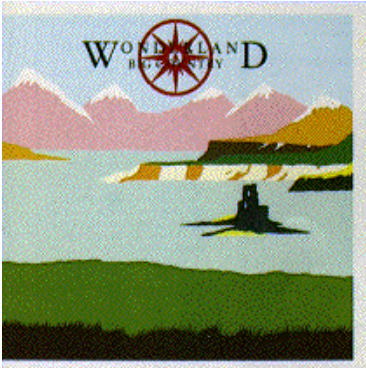
Without wings
You have taught me how to fly
Without wings
Through the darkness of the sky

I have dreamed
And cast off my earthly ties
You have taught me how to fly
Without wings

I have dreamed
And cast off my earthly ties
You have taught me how to fly
Without wings

Without wings

Wonderland



Wonderland (1984) US
Through A Big Country (1990) UK 3:58
Through A Big Country boxed set [live] (1991)
JP 6:02
“Broken Heart (Thirteen Valleys)” CD single
[12” mix] (1988) UK 7:10
The Collection: 1982-1988 (1993) UK 3:55
Defrostin [live bootleg] (1993) 4:31
The Best of Big Country (1994) US 3:56
Without the Aid of a Safety Net [live] (1994)
UK 5:54
BBC Live In Concert [live] (1995) UK 6:44
Where Did The Feeling Go? [live bootleg]
(1995) 7:21
Steeltown [remaster - 12” mix] (1996) UK
7:08
King Biscuit Flower Hour (1997) [live 1983] US
4:10
Master Series (1997) UK 3:51
Brighton Rock [live] (1997) UK 5:47
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 5:44

Lyrics and music by Big Country

If you could feel how I must feel
The winds of quiet change
If you could see what I must see
Still hidden in the rain
But when the thunder rolls
It comes and covers up my soul

And you will take my hand
And be with me in wonderland
I am an honest man
I need the love of you
I am a working man
I feel the winter too

If you could hear what I must hear
Then nothing would replace
The fifty years of sweat and tears
That never left a trace
But when I look at you
I see you feel the same way too

And you will take my hand
And be with me in wonderland
I am an honest man
I need the love of you
I am a working man
I feel the winter too

You still remember other days
When every head was high
I watched that pride be torn apart
Beneath a darker sky
With innocence within ourselves
We sing the same old song

And you will take my hand
And make believe it's wonderland
I need the love of you
I am a working man
I feel the winter too
I am an honest man
I need the love of you
I am a working man
I feel the winter too

Wonderland, wonderland, wonderland...

World On Fire



"Save Me" 7" single (1990) UK 3:50
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 3:49

Lyrics and Music by Tony Butler

Tony's song done at Chipping Norton and basically I just turned the guitar up and played along. Done during another burst of "let's fill up those formats" recording. — Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

Feel how the years have passed, rushing like a raging sea
Riding on the crest of a breaker, holding on to what could be
Never dreamed I could love a stranger, never doubted the mystery
Now living is pure adventure
'Cause I know, I know you'll stand by me

Feel how the moods are changing, the nations of every creed
The symphony of every heartbeat, the movement for those in need
If tolerance falls to the wayside, if freedom is down on its knees
I won't fall far with the sinners
'Cause I know, I know you'll stand by me

There's a reason, there's a cause
We can benefit from playing all our cards together
Through the seasons and up to the stars
We could elevate a consciousness forever

But I'm gonna tell them
I won't leave it, I won't tire, I want to keep my sole desire
I wanna run it to the wire, we don't need another world on fire

Liberate the real tomorrow, leave a chance for the mild and meek
Realize that time is borrowed, look ahead to the gift we seek
When the sea runs wild to the ocean, the river runs true to the sea
I'll follow this dream with the tide
'Cause I know, I know you'll stand by me

There's a reason, there's a cause
We can benefit from playing all our cards together
Through the seasons and up to the stars
We could elevate a consciousness forever

But I'm gonna tell them
I won't leave it, I won't tire, I want to keep my sole desire
I wanna run it to the wire, we don't need another world on fire

There's a reason, there's a cause
We can benefit from playing all our cards together
Through the seasons and up to the stars
We could elevate a consciousness forever

Well I'm gonna tell them
I won't leave it, I won't tire, I want to keep my sole desire
I wanna run it to the wire, we don't need another world on fire
I won't leave it, I won't tire, I want to keep my sole desire
I wanna run it to the wire, we don't need another world on fire
World on fire

You, Me and the Truth



No Place Like Home (1991) UK 5:19

Lyrics and Music by Stuart Adamson

There may be trouble ahead
There may be light in the distance
It may be something you said
Maybe my lack of resistance

It took you so long to be young
And just a second to be old
Leave me a moment in the sun
I've got forever to be cold

Some people can find a way
To get this thing together
But there's me
And there's you then there's the truth

How did you learn to be kind
Where did you learn to be honest
How do you learn to be blind
Why do you whisper the promise

If you can't have what you want
Why don't you use what you've got
I won't do things that I can't
I can't be something that I'm not

Some people can find a way
To get this thing together
But there's me
And there's you then there's the truth

Some people can find a way
To get this thing together
But there's me
And there's you then there's the truth

Maybe we should just be friends
Maybe we'd be better strangers
I know that everything ends
I know the color of danger

All we do is hide the fire
We just forget about the smoke
Is that a smile with a future
Or just a farewell to hope

Some people can find a way
To get this thing together
But there's me
And there's you then there's the truth

Some people can find a way
To get this thing together
But there's me
And there's you then there's the truth

But there's me
And there's you then there's the truth

You Dreamer



Why the Long Face (1995) US 4:50
"You Dreamer" CD single #1 [edit] (1995) UK 3:40
"You Dreamer" CD single #2 [edit] (1995) UK 3:40
Where Did the Feeling Go? [live bootleg] (1995) 4:29
Brighton Rock [live] (1997) UK 4:32
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 4:52

Stuart Adamson

Down at the corner store
Never busy any more
He's in the back room talking pie
In there all by himself
Counting bugs up on the shelf
Watching the window fill with flies

Oh you dreamer
Is this the way that you believed your life was gonna turn out
Oh you dreamer
Is this the better world that you were making all those plans for

Meanwhile in the great indoors
Pizza boxes on the floor
Prescription junkies pass the day
TV actors screw around
Wrapped in silk and dressing gowns
A grown up drama for a day

Oh you dreamer
Is this the way that you believed your life was gonna turn out
Oh you dreamer
Is this the better world that you were making all those plans for

You know there's house on Victory Street
Where no one wipes their feet
A car is rusting in the yard

Mommy scrubs and daddy scores
Keeps his stash beneath the floor
Under the bed of baby blue

I need a guide book
Get me a map
Not even Indiana Jones could deal with that

The tank is empty, a wheel came off
How can someone find me if no one knows I'm lost
Hey if no one knows I'm lost

Oh you dreamer
Is this the way that you believed your life was gonna turn out
Oh you dreamer
Is this the better world that you were making all those plans for

Oh you dreamer
Is this the way that you believed your life was gonna turn out
Oh you dreamer
Is this the better world that you were making all those plans for

Oh you dreamer
Is this the way that you believed your life was gonna turn out
Oh you dreamer
Is this the better world that you were making all those plans for

Oh you dreamer
Is this the way that you believed your life was gonna turn out
Oh you dreamer
Is this the better world that you were making all those plans for

Your Spirit to Me



Driving to Damascus (1999) UK 5:13
Driving to Damascus limited edition (1999)
UK 5:13

Stuart Adamson

There's only seconds of your life
That really count for anything
All the rest is killing time
Waiting for a train

Come the revelation brother
I was sitting by myself
The last thing I was looking for
Came and left

The sea still rolled, no mountain fell
The sun still rose, the moon as well
I was undone, some kind of free
The day you sent your spirit to me

I ran and looked in the mirror
Like I'm expecting a change
But there deep in my eyes
The fear remained

The sea still rolled, no mountain fell
The sun still rose, the moon as well
I was undone, some kind of free
The day you sent your spirit to me

Is this just something else to lose
That you never replace
Another name that you try to give a face



Instrumentals

Bass Dance



"Where the Rose is Sown" 7" single (1984) UK
Steeltown [remaster] (1996) UK 1:39

Stuart Adamson, Mark Brzezicki, Tony
Butler & Bruce Watson

INSTRUMENTAL

Camp Smedley's Theme



"See You" CD single #2 (1999) UK 4:04

Mark Brzezicki and Bruce Watson

INSTRUMENTAL

Dead On Arrival



"Save Me" 12" single (1990) UK
Master Series (1997) UK 3:29
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 3:28

Bruce Watson

I can't remember this at all. I can't think whether this is Bruce's demo or if I played on it. Help!!! Extra format track (Chipping Norton). Unfinished song, I thought it sounded like a heavy metal track (says Bruce). — Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

INSTRUMENTAL

Flag of Nations (Swimming)



"Harvest Home" 12" single (1982) UK
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 4:40

Stuart Adamson

Once again I don't know how Tony and Mark got credited in fact I don't even think that Chris Thomas is the producer. I'm pretty sure this was done by Bruce and myself, messing around with John Leckie's sequencer when we were doing some tracks with him. The bass part ended up as the bass part for 1000 stars. A lot of the early Big Country songs I wrote on the bass and a really naff drum machine. — Stuart Adamson, Restless Natives & Rarities liner notes

INSTRUMENTAL

Giant



"Wonderland" 7" single (1984) UK
Through A Big Country boxed set (1991) JP 5:18
In A Big Country (1995) UK 3:57
The Seer [remaster] (1996) UK 3:57

Big Country

INSTRUMENTAL

This is an instrumental version of "All Fall Together"

On the Shore



"King of Emotion" cassette single (1988) UK
Restless Natives & Rarities (1998) UK 3:42

Big Country

Another b-side recorded at R.E.L. This time during the period Josh Phillips Gorse was playing with us. Tony had a cool bass piece and I just jammed along on top of it. It's a nice evocative little piece.

— Stuart Adamson, *Restless Natives & Rarities* liner notes

INSTRUMENTAL

Soapy Soutar Strikes Back



"Broken Heart (Thirteen Valleys)" CD single (1988)
UK 4:17

"Broken Heart (Thirteen Valleys)" limited edition
CD single (1988) UK 4:17

Master Series (1997) UK 4:15

Bruce Watson

INSTRUMENTAL

The Travellers



Peace In Our Time (1988) US 3:12
"King of Emotion" CD single (1988) UK 3:18
The Collection: 1982-1988 (1993) UK 3:13
BBC Live In Concert [live] (1995) UK 3:33

Stuart Adamson & Bruce Watson

INSTRUMENTAL



Covers

Big Yellow Taxi



Eclectic [live] (1996) UK 3:51

Joni Mitchell
Originally performed by Joni Mitchell
Lead vocal by Carol Laula

They paved paradise and put up a parking lot
With a pink motel, a boutique, and a swinging hot spot

Don't it always seem to go
But you don't know what you've got 'till it's gone
They paved paradise and put up a parking lot

They took all the trees and put 'em in a tree museum
And they charged all the people a dollar and a half just to see 'em

Don't it always seem to go
Said you don't know what you've got 'till it's gone
They paved paradise and put up a parking lot

Hey farmer, farmer put away the D.D.T.
Give me spots on my apples
But leave me the birds and the bees, please!

Don't it always seem to go
You don't know what you've got 'till it's gone
They paved paradise and put up a parking lot

Late last night I heard that screen door slam again
And the big yellow taxi come and take away my old man

Don't it always seem to go
Said you don't know what you've got 'till it's gone
They paved paradise and put up a parking lot

Don't it always seem to go
You don't know what you've got 'till it's gone
They paved paradise and put up a parking lot
Paved paradise and put up a parking lot
They paved paradise and put up a parking lot

Black Skinned Blue Eyed Boys



"Heart of the World" CD single (1990) UK
3:24

Through A Big Country boxed set (1991) JP
3:23

In A Big Country (1995) UK 3:21
Master Series (1997) GM 3:21

Eddie Grant
Originally performed by the Equals

Okay I'm loosened up now children
White is white
What's black ain't over (?)
Together we'll be
When the war is over
You see them black-skinned blue-eyed boys
Ain't gonna fight no war—Oh no!

You go to school
Where the teachers beat ya
When they see that they can't reach ya
You see them black-skinned blue-eyed boys
Ain't gonna fight no war—Oh no!

They ain't got no country
They ain't got no creed
People won't be black or white
The world will be hybrid, world will be hybrid, world will be hybrid
You see them black-skinned blue-eyed boys
Ain't gonna fight no war—Oh no! (repeat 2)

A brand new day
We're a brand new people
Whole new world
With just one people
You see them black-skinned blue-eyed boys
Ain't gonna fight no war—Oh no!

Black-skinned blue-eyed boys
Ain't gonna fight no doggone war (repeat 4)

Baby you know that we ain't fighting (repeat 4)

They ain't got no country
They ain't got no creed
People won't be black or white
The world will be hybrid, world will be hybrid, world will be hybrid
You see them black-skinned blue-eyed boys
Ain't gonna fight no wars—Oh no!

Black-skinned blue-eyed boys
Ain't gonna fight no doggone war (repeat 2)

Baby you know that we ain't fighting (repeat 2)

Black-skinned blue-eyed boys
Ain't gonna fight no doggone war (repeat to fade)

Cracked Actor



"Ships" CD single #2 (1993) UK 3:09

David Bowie • Originally performed by David Bowie

I've come on a few years
From my Hollywood highs
The best of the last
The cleanest star they ever had

I'm stiff on my legend
The films that I made
Forget that I'm fifty
Cause you just got paid

Crack, baby, crack, show me you're real
Smack, baby, smack, is that all that you feel
Suck, baby, suck, give me your head
Before you start professing that you're knocking me dead

Oh stay
Please stay

You caught yourself a trick
Down on Sunset and Vine
But since he pinned you baby
You're a porcupine

You sold me illusions
For a sack full of checks
You've made a bad connection
Cause I just want your sex

Crack, baby, crack, show me you're real
Smack, baby, smack, is that all that you feel
Suck, baby, suck, give me your head
Before you start professing that you're knocking me dead

Crack, baby, crack, show me you're real
Smack, baby, smack, is that all that you feel
Suck, baby, suck, give me your head
Before you start professing that you're knocking me dead

(Don't Fear) The Reaper



"Ships" CD single #1 (1993) UK 4:30

D. Roeser
Originally performed by Blue Oyster Cult

All our times have come
Here but now they're gone
Seasons don't fear the reaper
Nor do the wind and the sun and the rain (we can be like they are)

Come on baby (don't fear the reaper)
Baby take my hand (don't fear the reaper)
We'll be able to fly (don't fear the reaper)
Baby I'm your man

Valentine is now
Here but now they're gone

Romeo and Juliet are together in eternity (Romeo and Juliet)
Forty thousand men and women everyday (like Romeo and Juliet)
Forty thousand men and women everyday (redefine happiness)
Another forty thousand coming everyday (we can be like they are)

Come on baby (don't fear the reaper)
Baby take my hand (don't fear the reaper)
We'll be able to fly (don't fear the reaper)
Baby I'm your man

Love of two is one
Here but now they're gone

Came the last night of sadness
It was weird that she couldn't go on
The door was open and the wind appeared
The candles blew and then disappeared
The curtains flew and then he appeared (saying don't be afraid)

Come on baby (and she had no fear)
And she ran to him (and they started to fly)
They looked backward and they said goodbye (she had become like they are)
She was taking his hand (she had become like they are)

Come on baby (don't fear the reaper)
I said come on now (don't fear the reaper)
Come on baby (don't fear the reaper)
Baby come on now

Eleanor Rigby



Eclectic [live] (1996) UK 3:47

John Lennon & Paul McCartney
Originally performed by The Beatles

Eleanor Rigby
Picks up the rice in the church where a wedding has been
Lives in a dream

Waits at the window
Wearing the face that she keeps in a jar by the door
Who is it for?

All the lonely people
Where do they all come from?
All the lonely people
Where do they all belong?

Ah, look at all the lonely people
Ah, look at all the lonely people

Father McKenzie
Writing the words of a sermon that no one will hear
No one comes near

Look at him working
Darning his socks in the night while there's nobody there
What does he care?

All the lonely people
Where do they all come from?
All the lonely people
Where do they all belong?

Ah, look at all the lonely people
Ah, look at all the lonely people

Eleanor Rigby
Died in the church and was buried along with her name
Nobody came

Father McKenzie
Wiping the dirt from his hands as he walks from the grave
No one was saved

All the lonely people
Where do they all come from?
All the lonely people
Where do they all belong?

Ah, look at all the lonely people
Ah, look at all the lonely people

Ah, look at all the lonely people
Ah, look at all the lonely people

Honky Tonk Women



“Hold the Heart” single (19??) UK
In A Big Country [live] (1995) UK 3:54

Mick Jagger & Keith Richards
Originally performed by The Rolling Stones

I met a gin-soaked barroom queen in Memphis
She tried to take me upstairs for a ride
She had to heave me right across her shoulders
I just can't seem to drink you off my mind

She's a honky tonk woman
Gimme, gimme, gimme the honky tonk blues

I laid a divorcee in New York City
I had to put up some kind of a fight
I laid her then she covered me in roses
She blew my nose and then she blew my mind

She's a honky tonk woman
Gimme, gimme, gimme the honky tonk blues

She's a honky tonk woman
Gimme, gimme, gimme the honky tonk blues

She's a honky tonk woman
Gimme, gimme, gimme the honky tonk blues

She's a honky tonk woman
Gimme, gimme, gimme the honky tonk blues

I'm Eighteen



"You Dreamer" CD single #1 (1995) UK 2:57
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 2:54

Cooper, Bruce, Buxton, Dunaway & Smith

Lines form on my face and hands
Lines form from my ups and downs
I'm in the middle without anything
And I'm a boy and I'm a man

I'm eighteen and I don't know what I want
Eighteen, I just don't know what I want
Eighteen, I've got to get away
I gotta get out of this place
I go runnin' in outer space, oh yeah

I've got a baby's brain and an old man's heart
Took eighteen years to get this far
Don't always know what I'm talking about
Feels like I'm livin' in the middle of doubt

'Cause I'm eighteen
I get confused every day
Eighteen, I just don't know what I say
Eighteen, I've gotta get away

Lines form on my face and my hands
Lines form to the left and right
I'm in the middle, the middle of life
I'm a boy and I'm a man

Eighteen and I like it
I like it
I like it, like it, love it, like it, love it
Eighteen, eighteen, eighteen
Eighteen and I like it

I'm On Fire



Eclectic [live] (1996) UK 2:40
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 2:39

Bruce Springsteen
Originally performed by Bruce Springsteen

Hey little baby is your daddy home
Did he go and leave you all alone
I got a bad desire
Oh, oh, oh, I'm on fire

Hey little baby is he good to you
Does he do the things that you wouldn't let me do
I can take you higher
Oh, oh, oh, I'm on fire
Oh, oh, oh, I'm on fire

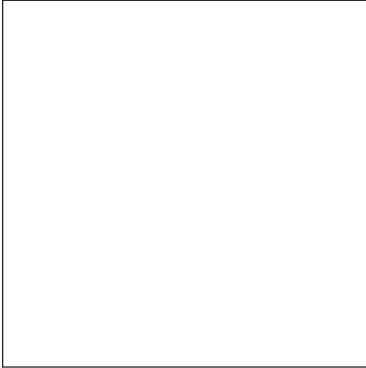
Somebody took a knife now baby
Real edgy and dull
And cut a six-inch valley
Through the middle of my soul

And I wake up at night with the sheets soaking wet
And a freight train running through the middle of my head
I got a bad desire
Oh, oh, oh, I'm on fire
Oh, oh, oh, I'm on fire

Somebody took a knife now baby
Real edgy and dull
And cut a six-inch valley
Through the middle of my soul

And I wake up at night with the sheets soaking wet
And a freight train running through the middle of my head
I can take you higher
Oh, oh, oh, I'm on fire
Oh, oh, oh, I'm on fire
Oh, oh, oh, I'm on fire
Oh, oh, oh, I'm on fire

Killiecrankie



(recorded for video in 1990)

Robert Burns

Where hae ye been sae braw, my lad?
Where hae ye been sae brankie, O?
Where hae ye been sae braw, my lad?
Cam ye by Killiecrankie, O?

An ye hae been where I hae been
Ye would no be so cantie, O!
An ye hae seen what I hae seen
On the braes o Killiecrankie, O!

I faught at land, I faught at sea
At hame I faught me auntie, O
But I met the devil and Dundee
On the braes o Killiecrankie, O!

An ye hae been where I hae been
Ye would no be so cantie, O!
An ye hae seen what I hae seen
On the braes o Killiecrankie, O!

The bauld Pitcur fell in a furr
An Clavers gat a clankie, O
Or I hae fed an athole gled
On the braes o Killiecrankie, O!

An ye hae been where I hae been
Ye would no be so cantie, O!
An ye hae seen what I hae seen
On the braes o Killiecrankie, O!

An ye hae been where I hae been
Ye would no be so cantie, O!
An ye hae seen what I hae seen
On the braes o Killiecrankie, O!

An ye hae been where I hae been
Ye would no be so cantie, O!
An ye hae seen what I hae seen
On the braes o Killiecrankie, O!

The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down



Eclectic [live] (1996) UK 3:44
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 3:47

J. R. Robertson
Originally performed by The Band

Virgil Caine is my name and I worked on the Danville train
'Till Sherman's cavarly came and tore up the tracks again
In the Winter of '65 we were hungry, just barely alive
By May the 10th Richmond had fell
Was a time I remember oh so well

The night they drove Old Dixie down
And all the bells were ringing
The night they drove Old Dixie down
And all the people were singing
They went, nah, nah nah nah nah nah, nah nah nah nah...

Back with my wife in Tennessee
So one day she says to me
"Virgil, quick come see, there goes Robert E. Lee"
Well I don't mind chopping wood
And I don't care if the money's no good
You take what you can and leave the rest
But they should never have taken the very best

The night they drove Old Dixie down
And all the bells were ringing
The night they drove Old Dixie down
And all the people were singing
They went, nah, nah nah nah nah nah, nah nah nah nah...

Like my father before me
I will work the land
Like my brother below me
I took a rebel stand
He was just 18, proud and brave
But a Yankee laid him in his grave
I swear by the mud beneath my feet
You can't raise a Caine back up when he's in defeat

The night they drove Old Dixie down
And all the bells were ringing
The night they drove Old Dixie down
And all the people were singing
They went, nah, nah nah nah nah nah, nah nah nah nah

The night they drove Old Dixie down
And all the bells were ringing
The night they drove Old Dixie down
And all the people were singing
They went, nah, nah nah nah nah nah, nah nah nah nah

Oh Well



"Ships" CD single #1 (1993) UK 2:23

P.A. Green

Can't help about the shape I'm in
I can't sing, I ain't pretty, and my legs are thin

Don't ask me what I think of you
I might not give the answer that you want me to

Oh well

When I talked to God I knew he'd understand
He said sit by me I'll be your guiding hand

So don't ask me what I think of you
I might not give the answer that you want me to

Oh Well

On the Road Again



"You Dreamer" CD single #1 (1995) UK 4:19
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 4:21

Jones/Wilson
Lead vocal by Tony Butler

Well, I'm so tired of crawlin' out on the road again
I'm on the road again
Well, I'm so tired of crawlin' out on the road again
I'm on the road again
I ain't got no woman just to call my special friend

You know the first time I traveled out in the rain and snow
In the rain and snow
You know the first time I traveled out in the rain and snow
In the rain and snow
Didn't have no bedroom not even no place to go

And my dear mother left me when I was quite young
When I was quite young
And my dear mother left me when I was quite young
When I was quite young
She said, "Lord have mercy on my wicked son."

Take your hand from me mama please, don't you cry no more
Don't you cry no more
Take your hand from me mama please, don't you cry no more
Don't you cry no more
'Cause soon in the morning down that road I'm goin'

But I ain't going down that long lonesome road all by myself
I can't carry you baby, gonna carry somebody else

Paranoid



"Ships" CD single #2 (1993) UK 2:45

Ozbourne, Ward, Butler & Ionmi
Originally performed by Black Sabbath

Finished with my woman
'Cause she doesn't help me with my life
People say I'm insane
Because I am running out of time

I'll be alone and think of things
But nothing seems to satisfy
Think I'll lose my mind
If I don't find something to pacify

Can you help me
Can you fool the brain

I need someone to show me
The things in life that I can't find
I can't see the things that make true happiness
I must be blind

Make a joke and I will sigh
And you will laugh and I will cry
Happiness I cannot feel
And love to me is so unreal

Answer as you hear these words
Telling you about my state
I tell you to enjoy life
I wish I could but it's too late

Prairie Rose



"East of Eden" 7" single (1984) UK
Through A Big Country boxed set (1991) JP
4:49
Steeltown [remaster] (1996) UK 4:46

Bryan Ferry & Phil Manzanera
Originally performed by Roxy Music on the
album Country Life

(Texas)
Oh, that's where I belong
It seems to me
Lonesome star shine on the big country
With open skies and you for company
Oh prairie rose
How happy I should be

Hey, hey... You can take it from me
Hey, hey... I'll be home and you'll see
Hey, hey... Oh what a state to be in
Hey, hey... You're tantalizing me

(Texas)
I will compose in fancy rhyme or just plain prose
A song of praise to you my prairie rose
Though I'm not sure I can explain your strange allure
Oh prairie rose
A crown of thorns, a scented flower

Hey, hey... You can take it from me
Hey, hey... I'll be home and you'll see
Hey, hey... I better leave right away
Hey, hey... I can hear you calling me

Hey, hey... Prairie rose
Hey, hey... Prairie rose
Hey, hey... Prairie rose
Hey, hey... I hear your voice and it keeps me from sleeping

Prairie rose

Hey, hey... Prairie rose
Hey, hey... Prairie rose
Hey, hey... Prairie rose
Hey, hey... Prairie rose

Rockin' in the Free World



"Beautiful People" CD single [live] (1991) UK
6:34

"Alone" CD single #1 (1993) UK 6:48
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 6:25

Neil Young

Originally performed by Neil Young

There's colors on the street
Red, white and blue
People shuffling their feet
People sleeping in their shoes

There's a warning sign on the road ahead
A lot of people saying we'd be better off dead
Look like Satan, I am to them
I try to forget it any way I can

Keep on rockin' in the free world
Keep on rockin' in the free world
Keep on rockin' in the free world
Keep on rockin' in the free world
Keep on

I see a woman in the night with a baby in her hand
Under electric lights beside a garbage can
And now she puts the kid away, she's gonna get a hit
She hates her life and what she's done to it
That's one more kid that'll never go to school
Never get to fall in love and never get to be cool

Keep on rockin' in the free world
Keep on rockin' in the free world
Keep on rockin' in the free world
Keep on rockin' in the free world

We got a thousand points of light for the homeless man
We got a kinder, gentler machine gun hand
We got department stores and toilet paper
Styrofoam boxes for the ozone layer
A man of the people says keep hope alive
We got fuel to burn and roads to drive (?)

Keep on rockin' in the free world
Keep on rockin' in the free world
Keep on rockin' in the free world
Keep on rockin' in the free world
Keep on

Ruby Tuesday



EclectiC [live] (1996) UK 4:15
Kings of Emotion [live] (1998) UK 3:59

Mick Jagger & Keith Richards
Originally performed by The Rolling Stones

She would never say where she came from
Yesterday don't matter now it's gone
When the sun is bright
Or in the darkest night
No one knows
She comes and goes

Goodbye, Ruby Tuesday
Who could hang a name on you?
When you change with every new day
Still I'm gonna miss you

Don't question why she needs to be so free
She'll tell you it's the only way to be
She just can't be chained
To a world where nothing's gained
And nothing's lost
At such a cost

Goodbye, Ruby Tuesday
Who could hang a name on you?
When you change with every new day
Still I'm gonna miss you

Goodbye, Ruby Tuesday
Who could hang a name on you?
When you change with every new day
Still I'm gonna miss you

There's no time to lose, I heard her say
Catch your dreams before they slip away
Dying all the time
Lose your dreams
And you will lose your mind
Ah ain't life unkind?

Goodbye, Ruby Tuesday
Who could hang a name on you?
When you change with every new day
Still I'm gonna miss you

Goodbye, Ruby Tuesday
Who could hang a name on you?
When you change with every new day
Still I'm gonna miss you
Still I'm gonna miss you

Sling It



Eclectic [live] (1996) UK 3:04

Steve Harley
Lead vocal by Steve Harley

Well the ship was sailing through a tempest of fear
There was lightning and explosions galore
And the waves came a whooshing and crashing and boy
There was panic as we swam for the shore

There was ladies and babies being trampled to hell
And the flames flickered happy and sad
And the honey-colored moon was bouncing around
Laughing and saying, "Christ, this is mad"

Come on
Sling it, sling it
Let's sling it and do it again

Message flashed in the sky by the sun
"Be careful it's only a game
If you believe what you see you'll be rewarded by me
Or be drowned or burned it's all the same"

And the fear in our hearts
Was diminished at once
We began to restore love and peace

Although the ship was going down
There was a moral to be found
"If this is life, it's hard to believe"

Come on
Sling it, sling it
Let's sling it and do it again

Sling it, sling it
Let's sling it and do it again

Sling it, sling it
Let's sling it and do it again in 5/4

Summertime



Eclectic [live] (1996) UK 3:58

Gershwin & Du Bose Hayward

Summertime
And the living is easy
Fish are jumpin'
And the cotton is high

Your daddy's rich
And your mama's good lookin'
So hush little baby
Don't you cry

One of these mornin's
You're gonna rise up singin'
You're gonna spread your wings
And you'll touch the sky

But til that mornin'
Ain't nothings can harm you
You got your daddy
You got your momma standin' by

Summertime
And the living is easy
Those fish are jumpin'
And the cotton is high

Your daddy's rich
And your mama's good lookin'
So hush little baby
Don't you cry

Hush little baby
Don't you cry
I don't wanna make you cry
I just wanna hold you in my arms
Love you like your mama she would, baby

Summertime...???...is so easy
So hush little baby
Don't you cry
Don't you cry (repeat to end)

Tracks of My Tears



"Chance" 7" single (1983) UK
Through A Big Country boxed set [live] (1991)
JP 3:34
Defrostin [live bootleg] (1993) 3:17
In A Big Country [live] (1995) UK 3:31
Master Series [live] (1997) UK 3:32
King Biscuit Flower Hour [live] (1997) US 3:15

Smokey Robinson, Moore & Taplin
Originally performed by The Miracles

People say I'm the life of the party
Cause I tell a joke or two
And though I might be laughing
Loud and hearty
Deep inside I'm blue

So take a good look at my face
You'll see my smile looks out of place
If you look closer it's easy to trace
The tracks of my tears
I need you, need you, need you

Since you left me
If you see me with another girl
Look like I'm having fun
Although she might be cute
She's just a substitute
Because you're the permanent one

So take a good look at my face
You'll see my smile looks out of place
If you look closer it's easy to trace
The tracks of my tears
I need you, need you, need you

(Outside) I'm masquerading
(Inside) my love is fading
I'm just a clown
Since you put me down
My smile is my make-up
I wear since my break-up with you

Baby take a good look at my face
You'll see my smile looks out of place
If you look closer it's easy to trace
The tracks of my tears

Vicious



“You Dreamer” CD single #1 (1995) UK 3:15
Why the Long Face (1995) US only bonus
track 3:13
Kings of Emotion (1998) UK 3:15

Lou Reed
Originally performed by Lou Reed

Vicious
You hit me with a flower
You do it every hour
Oh baby you’re so vicious

Vicious
You want me hit you with a stick
But all I’ve got is a guitar pick
Oh baby you’re so vicious

When I watch you come
Baby I just want to run far away
You’re not the kind of person
Around I’d want to stay

When I see you walking down the street
I step on your hands and I nail your feet
You’re not the kind of person I’d even want to meet
Baby you’re so vicious

Vicious
Why don’t you swallow razor blades
You must think I’m some kind of gay parade
Oh baby you’re so vicious

When I see you coming
I just have to run
You’re not good
And you certainly aren’t very much fun

When I see you walking down the street
I step on your hands and I mangle your feet
You’re not even the kind of person I’d even want to meet
Baby you’re so vicious

Woodstock



"Ships" CD single #1 (1993) UK 4:13

Joni Mitchell

Originally performed by Joni Mitchell

I came upon a child of God
He was walking along the road
When I asked him, "where are you going?"
This he told me

I'm going down to Yasgur's farm
Gonna join a rock and roll band
I'm going to camp out on the land
And try and get my soul free

We are stardust
We are golden
And we've got to get ourselves back to the garden

Then can I walk beside you
I have come here to lose the smog
I feel just like a cog
In something turning

Well maybe it's the time of year
Or maybe it's the time of man
I don't know who I am
But life is for learning

We are stardust
We are golden
And we've got to get ourselves back to the garden

By the time I got to Woodstock
They were half a million strong
Everywhere there was song and celebration

I dreamed I saw the bombers
Riding shotgun in the sky
Turning into butterflies above our nation

We are stardust
We are golden
And we've got to get ourselves back to the garden

We are stardust
We are golden
And we've got to get ourselves back to the garden



Solo

But I Still Want You



Tony Butler: The Great Unknown (1997) UK
4:44

Tony Butler

So now I've turned my life around, yeah. [a cappella]
One, two. [spoken]

And I believed in the things that we said we'd do.
And I believed every day that she said "I do".
Don't ask me, I don't know,
I got a letter saying I'm "not the one".
There's a dream that I've held since I was a boy,
And I've held it like a child holds a brand-new toy.

So now I've turned my life around (around, around, around)
The "Dear John, I'm sorry" broke me down (me down, me down, me down)
Now I'm moving in the big time,
I'll be Hollywood's biggest brightest star,
But I still want you wherever you are.

I sold my life when I met you,
My friends knew I was lucky too.
What's going on? I don't know,
She wrote this letter that began "Dear John".
Save the dream that I've had since I was young,
Will fill my lonely days 'til the big time comes, yeah!

So now I've turned my life around (around, around, around)
The "Dear John, I'm sorry" broke me down (me down, me down, me down)
Now I'm moving in the big time,
I'll be Hollywood's biggest brightest star,
But I still want you wherever you are.

There's a peace when we're ready,
That lays in wait in our hearts.
When we breathe (when we breathe),
When we plead (when you plead).
When the anger's rage concedes
I feel no pain, don't feel pity,
I am alive and in the city.
There's a voice in my head and it's told me the score,
I've made up my mind: I won't cry anymore.

Don't ask me, I don't know.
She wrote a letter and now she's gone.
There's a dream that I had when I first met you,
I sacrificed my dream for a life with you, yeah!

So now I've turned my life around (around, around, around)
The "Dear John, I'm sorry" broke me down (me down, me down, me down)
Now I'm moving in the big time,
I'll be Hollywood's biggest brightest star,
But I still want you wherever you are.

So now I've turned my life around (around, around, around)
The "Dear John, I'm sorry" broke me down (me down, me down, me down)
Now I'm moving in the big time,
I'll be Hollywood's biggest brightest star,
But I still want you wherever you are.
But I still want you wherever you are.
But I still want you wherever you are.



Can You See Heaven



Tony Butler: The Great Unknown (1997) UK
3:25

Tony Butler

I couldn't explain the reformation, I couldn't explain the wars.
I couldn't explain the revolutions, I couldn't explain the laws.
I couldn't explain discrimination, when people say they're free.
I couldn't explain the United Nations but I know why I'm here.

Sit down and take a look around and tell me what you see.
Well are we ready? Tell me are we ready?

I said "Lord! You've been a long time coming."
Don't go away, you're here to stay and I'm pleased to meet you.
I said "Lord! You've been a long time coming."
Open your eyes towards the skies, can you see heaven?

I couldn't explain the new religions, I couldn't explain the war.
I couldn't explain the persecution, that I couldn't explain at all.
I couldn't explain the abolition, when people say they're 'green'.
I couldn't explain my generation but I know why I'm me.

Come out and take a look about and tell me what you see.
Well are we ready? Tell me are we ready?

I said "Lord! You've been a long time coming."
Don't go away, you're here to stay and I'm pleased to meet you.
I said "Lord! You've been a long time coming."
Open your eyes towards the skies, can you see heaven?

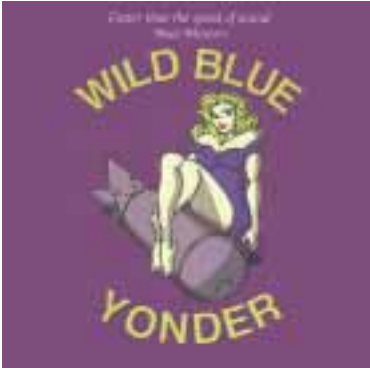
"Guitar!"

I said "Lord! You've been a long time coming."
Don't go away, you're here to stay and I'm pleased to meet you.
I said "Lord! You've been a long time coming."
Open your eyes towards the skies, can you see heaven? Yeah, yeah, yeah.

I said "Lord! You've been a long time coming."
Don't go away, you're here to stay and I'm pleased to meet you.
I said "Lord! You've been a long time coming."
Open your eyes towards the skies, can you see heaven?



The Days



Wild Blue Yonder: Faster Than the Speed of Sound (1998) UK 4:00

McCafferty and Watson

Yeah, I sit here thinking about the days
We knew it all
And the power we could never lose

Now ??? on broken dreams is how it is today
Not too much imagination
Broken heart to the state of a nation
Looking for repatriation to get back to you

The days we could do anything
The nights we ruled the world
The days that slipped my memory
Of the nights we ruled the world

Never standing by the wall
All come down
We were stronger we could never fall

Always asking the haze what happened to yesterday
Taking things at straight face value
You know I'm standing here I can tell
No alcohol we tried it all gotta get back to you

The days we could do anything
The nights we ruled the world
The days that slipped my memory
Of the nights we ruled the world

Sit here thinking about the days
We knew it all
And the power we could never lose

Now ??? on broken dreams is how it is today

The days we could do anything
The nights we ruled the world
The days that slipped my memory
Of the nights we ruled the world

The days we could do anything
The nights we ruled the world
The days that slipped my memory
Of the nights we ruled the world



Everyday



Tony Butler: The Great Unknown (1997) UK
5:13

Tony Butler

Alex: Mummy can I have a playground?
Jackie: Where am I gonna get it from?
Jake: Mummy can I have a drink please?
Jackie: Sorry, there's none left.
Joella: Where's Daddy?
Jackie: Watching the telly again.

I've shed a tear after watching the news,
There's not enough water for those people without shoes.
Lots of people fighting, some for oil and some for land,
Gold and guns in the wrong people's hands.

There's not enough rainfall, too many people in a hole.
What do I know? It's getting worse every day.
The seasons are restless, so what can I do? I say
What do I know? I can't afford to be lame,
My pockets are empty and I'm out of a job again.

I'd like to water my roses, I'd like to wash my own truck.
I'd like to shout expensive things but I guess I'm just out of luck. (?)
I'd like to buy an old T-Bird, I'd like to buy some clean clothes.
I'd like to eat at good restaurants and go to West-End shows.

Everyday, when your dreams seem so far away,
No money means no life for me.
On a desert day, when the rain seems a dream away,
No water means no life for me.

The hole in the ozone is letting in the rays,
It's getting bigger each second and is counting out our days.
Like a grape to a raisin we're being dried by the sun,
Even those who have money will have nowhere to run.

There's not enough rainfall, too many lives without a goal,
I guess we can wait to see what tomorrow brings,
We can only pray that tomorrow comes.

I'd like to clean all my windows, I'd like to refill my pool.
The hose-pipe ban will cramp my style,
But I'll find a way to stay cool.
I'd like to have a good party, I think I'd be a good host.
I'd like to buy a peninsular and build a house on the coast.

How do I know that what I see on TV
Won't influence my judgement, 'cos I still believe I'm free?
What do I know? I've got my head in the sand,
I can't find the energy, I don't want to understand.

Everyday, when your dreams seem so far away,
No money means no life for me.
On a desert day, when the rain seems a dream away,
No water means no life for me.

Everyday, when your dreams seem so far away,
No money means no life for me.
On a desert day, when the rain seems a dream away,
No water means no life for me.



The Great Unknown



Tony Butler: The Great Unknown (1997) UK
6:15

Tony Butler

It was me on the street, with my face on the stones
I didn't know where I'd been, I couldn't feel my bones
It was me in the gutter, in the city of sin
I had no sense of time, I didn't know where I been

I opened my eyes saw the rain coming down
Here's a brave new day for a sad old clown
I looked at the sky and lost in the grey
It's the same old world, better change my ways

I'm going back to the great unknown, to bare my soul and to find my home
I'm stepping out of this empty space, to make my peace with the human race
I don't need you to sympathize, I just want you to be my guide
But if I fall, I'll turn to stone, and lose my place in the great unknown

It was me on the cross, with my hands full of holes
Just one more drink and I could save your souls
It was me on the end of the fist on your face
I'm not a violent man, just a complete disgrace

I held up my head to the picture of you
There's a devil inside that could see me too
I held up my hands to the cold grey light
See me through the day, stay with me tonight

I'm going back to the great unknown, to bare my soul and to find my home
I'm stepping out of this empty space, to make my peace with the human race
I don't need you to sympathize, I just want you to be my guide
But if I fall, I'll turn to stone, and lose my place in the great unknown

The great unknown

There must be more than this for me
I've gone too far, even I can't see
This useless waste of flesh and bone
Must reach out into the great unknown

The great unknown

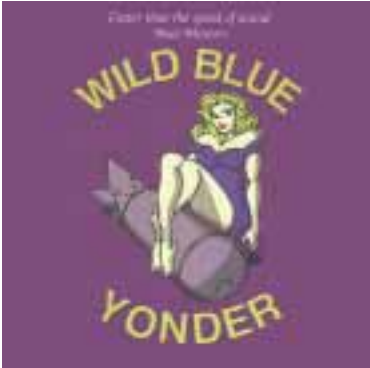
I held all the keys to success in my hand
Why did I let go? I don't understand
Do I know now what I didn't before
Did you love me then? I was never sure

I'm going back to the great unknown, to bare my soul and to find my home
I'm stepping out of this empty space, to make my peace with the human race
I don't need you to sympathize, I just want you to be my guide
But if I fall, I'll turn to stone, and lose my place in the great unknown

I don't need you to sympathize, I just want you to be my guide
But if I fall, I'll turn to stone, and lose my place in the great unknown



Highland Girl



Wild Blue Yonder: Faster Than the Speed of Sound (1998) UK 3:33

Bruce Watson

Didn't get to bed last night
I don't wanna remember
Stranger than it seems
I'm amazed I'm still upright, right

Well I'm thinking of you cause I'm lonely
It's so funny cause I'm not that type
But be careful the days since you left you

I can't seem to find my highland girl
I'm just waiting on a friend to call
All the loneliness and sadness
It's all wasted

Didn't realize
That your girlfriend gave you the letter
Better understood
But your girl keeps dragging you down, down

You're so lonely tonight as your'e crying
It's a shame because your'e all dressed down
You're so far off the mark when your'e dreaming

I can't seem to find my highland girl
I'm just waiting on a friend to call
All the loneliness and sadness
It's all wasted

Tomorrow is getting closer
And inside I'm getting ready to run
All this time of isolation
All this time

Didn't get to bed last night
I don't wanna remember
Stranger than it seems
I'm amazed I'm still upright, right

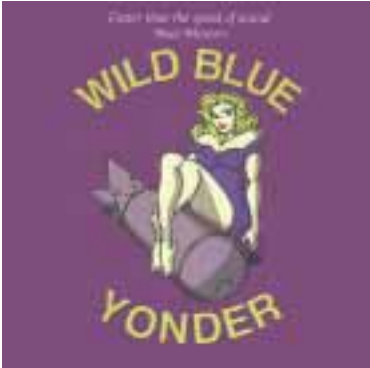
Well I'm thinking of you cause I'm lonely
It's so funny cause I'm not that type
But be careful the days since you left you

I can't seem to find my highland girl
I'm just waiting on a friend to call
All the loneliness and sadness
I'm just waiting on a friend to call

I can't seem to find my highland girl
I'm just waiting on a friend to call
All the loneliness and sadness
It's all wasted



Holiday



Wild Blue Yonder: Faster Than the Speed of Sound (1998) UK 3:14

Agnew/Cleminson/Charlton/McCafferty/
Sweet

Drinkin' my wine, makes me feel fine
Gonna have me a holiday
Poor man's party, rich man's daughter
She's gettin' hotter and hotter

She's pushin' way too hard
I don't want any part of her way
Drinkin' my wine, makes me feel fine
Gonna have me a holiday

It's a holiday, it's a holiday

Mama, mama, please no more jaguars
I don't wanna be a rock star
Mama, mama, please no more deckhands
I don't wanna be a sailor man

Mama, mama, please no more facelifts
I just don't know which one you is
Mama, mama, please no more husbands

Drinkin' my wine, wastin' my time
Hiding out in my rented dream
Lookin' for attention
A cover story mention in Life magazine

Ask the chauffeur who he knows
Numbers he's got, lots of those

Drinkin' my wine, spendin' my time
Tryin' to run from this halloween

It's a holiday, it's a holiday

Mama, mama, please no more jaguars
I don't wanna be a rock star
Mama, mama, please no more deckhands
I don't want to be a sailor man

Mama, mama, please no more facelifts
I just don't know which one you is
Mama, mama, please no more husbands
I don't know who my daddy is

(repeat to fade)

How Many Times



Tony Butler: The Great Unknown (1997) UK
4:46

Tony Butler

You give me, give me time to spare,
Give me room to care, give me love so rare.
So bright, so fair, you fill me,
Fill me full of lust, riches I can't touch, (?)
From dawn to dusk,
But leave out must you fill me.

How many times did I resist your calls to come?
And how many nights did we believe that we were one?
How many times have I refused to carry on?
And how many nights have I convinced myself I'm wrong?

Oh I can't hear you, I can't see you,
But I know it won't be long.
My heart still beats for you,
My body needs you and I know it won't be long.

You gave me, gave me a Wild West dream,
A foolish scheme like the silver screen,
The courtroom scene, you made me,
Made me wear my pride, made me run and hide,
Hide my freedom deny, but side by side you made me.

How many times did I refuse to tie you down?
And how many days did I insist on coming around?
How many times have I direct a curse above?
And how many nights have I insist on making love?

No I can't hear you, I can't see you,
But I know it won't be long.
My heart still beats for you,
My body needs you and I know it won't be long.

The love that hungers for you is way too strong,
The longer I'm away is the more I cry in fear of losing you.
But soon I'll ride back into town, the hero on his stallion,
Whisk my girl away, pledge that I will stay forever.

How many times did we go walking hand-in-hand?
And how many days did we explore the unknown land?
How many times did we avoid the Sheriff's gun?
And how many times did we romance under the sun?

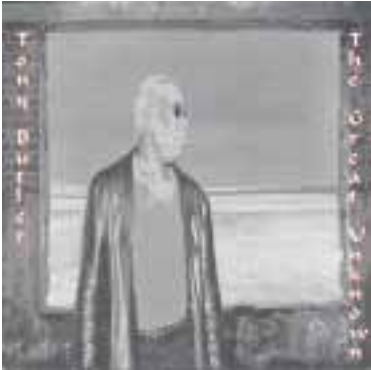
I can't hear you, I can't see you,
But I know it won't be long.
My heart still beats for you,
My body needs you and I know it won't be long.

No I can't hear you, I can't see you,
But I know it won't be long.
My heart still beats for you,
My body needs you and I know it won't be long.

I'll see you again and I know it won't be long.
[repeat & fade]



I Believe In Angels



Tony Butler: The Great Unknown (1997) UK
4:38

Tony Butler

I will never know, I will never find, a way to deal with you
It never will, I won't even try, to make your dream come true
I will never change, no reason why, please look into my world
There's more than my life I lead, just look toward the sky

Another place, in another time, how should I feel for you?
Another world, a different sky, is there something I should do?
Another trip, just another high, please look into my world
There's more than my life I lead, just look toward the sky

Do you believe in angels? I have seen their wings spread on high
Do you believe in angels? I have felt their love floating by
I believe in angels, I can hear them calling me, don't cry

I've seen the way, another road, another way without you
I've got a friend, a guiding hand, showing me the way
I'll never stop, I'll never stop loving you, please look into my world
There's more than my life I lead, just look toward the sky

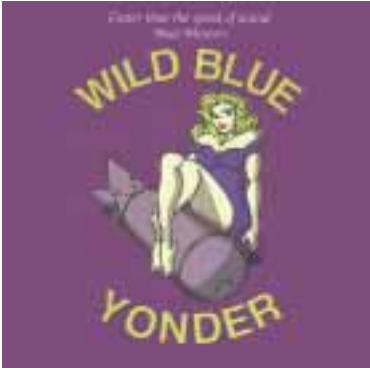
Do you believe in angels? I have seen their wings spread on high
Do you believe in angels? I have felt their love floating by
I believe in angels, I can hear them calling me, don't cry

I love you! [whispered]

Do you believe in angels? I have seen their wings spread on high
Do you believe in angels? I have felt their love floating by
I believe in angels, I can hear them calling me, don't cry
Don't cry tonight
Don't cry, don't cry tonight



Kingdom Come



Wild Blue Yonder: Faster Than the Speed of Sound (1998) UK 3:54

Bruce Watson

Romeo takes a pill
Swallows it deep inside
Looks up to the sky
Juliet by his side

Never seems to worry
Will it never end
I guess sometimes it doesn't make no sense

They bought a mansion up on the hill
With Joan and the Stones on the radio
They will drag you right down babe one by one
They will drag you right down 'till the kingdom come

Miss the ocean
Miss that time of year
Remember when they used to go down south

All alone now
In deep blue water
He never thought she would understand

They bought a mansion up on the hill
With Joan and the Stones on the radio
They will drag you right down babe one by one
They will drag you right down 'till the kingdom come (repeat 2)

Fallen down drunken stairs
All the candles burned
Juliet by his side
Looks up to the sun

Always been a worry
Right to the bitter end
I guess this time they could say this is the end

They bought a mansion up on the hill
With Joan and the Stones on the radio
They will drag you right down babe one by one
They will drag you right down 'till the kingdom come (repeat 3)



Living Side By Side



Tony Butler: The Great Unknown (1997) UK
3:02

Tony Butler

There's a beauty in an English garden
There's a heat in southern sea
There's a smell in a Swedish forest
There's a chill in a northern breeze (Oh-oh-oh)
There's a crime in a punishment beating
There's a blue in a burning flame (Oh-oh)
There's a hate in a raging riot
There's a loser in every game

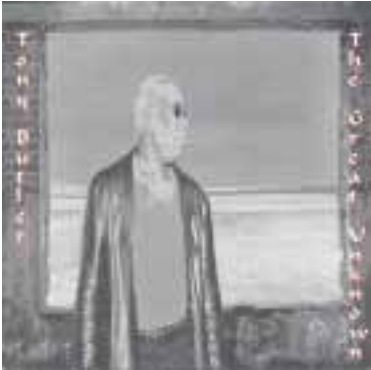
(And when I feel) And when I feel it's all gone wrong, it reappears
(The breath of light) The breath of light that shines the answer
Honey bees and wild red roses, living side-by-side
And side-by-side I'll stand with Moses
The words in stone they'll be my guide

(Oh-oh-oh)
There's a garden in a new-found aura
There's an age in full-grown tree (Oh-oh)
There's a hunger in a sunlit region
There's a lie in the land that's free
(There's a colour) There's a colour in fresh new season
(There's a light) There's a light in the ray of hope
(There's a beat) There's a beat in the heart of the chairman
(There's a waste) There's a waste in a bag of dope

(And when I feel) And when I feel it's all gone wrong, it reappears
(The breath of light) The breath of light that shines the answer
Honey bees and wild red roses, living side-by-side
And side-by-side I'll stand with Moses
The words in stone they'll be my guide
The words in stone we've found'll be my guide
Honey bees and wild red roses, living side-by-side
And side-by-side I'll stand with Moses
The words in stone they'll be my guide
The words in stone we've found will be my guide



The Man with the Hooded Face



Tony Butler: The Great Unknown (1997) UK
4:03

Tony Butler

Little lady, put your hand in mine.
Little lady, I will always be here for you.
Little lady, If I'm the sea then you're the ocean
My love will always be running into you.

Little lady, you're all I've wanted.
Little lady, I hope that we can make it through.
Two more years and we can see if things can be the same.
Two more years and I'll be on my way home to you.

There's no reason, there's no place,
There's no future for the man with the hooded face.
There's nothing left for a man who's been disgraced,
There's no freedom for the man with the hooded face.

Little lady, I'm so sorry that I made you sad.
Little lady, I always knew that you believed in me.
Little lady, I only wanted us to have the best.
A desperate man finds desperate ways to find his dignity,
But they're the wrong ways.

There's no reason, there's no place,
There's no future for the man with the hooded face.
There's nothing left for a man who's been disgraced,
There's no freedom for the man with the hooded face.

There's no reason, there's no place,
There's no future for the man with the hooded face.
There's nothing left for a man who's been disgraced,
There's no freedom for the man with the hooded face.

(There's no reason, there's no place.)
(There's no future for the man with the hooded face.)
(There's nothing left for a man who's been disgraced.)
(There's no freedom for the man with the hooded face.)

There's no reason, there's no place,
There's no future for the man with the hooded face.
There's nothing left for a man who's been disgraced,
There's no freedom for the man with the hooded face.

Ha! Ha!



The May Queen Leads Her Parade



Tony Butler: The Great Unknown (1997) UK
4:07

Tony Butler

Come inside and let us shelter from the early summer sun,
And watch the maypole ribbons glimmer as they swing.
Let us watch the children dancing as they rejoice the end of spring,
As we prepare for what the summer has to bring.

As the church bells' chime rings through the air,
Gathering all the people there and
The May Queen leads her parade across the square.

'Cos life is so beautiful, a time for us to live again.
A valley so beautiful, a place where we can love again.
This day was so beautiful, I can hear the little heartbeat of a child.

Sit beside me, hold my hand, and watch the carnival pass through,
And I will drink to their good fortune and to you.
(Their good fortune and to you)
Feel the moment's jubilation while the season changes shade,
A gentle breeze disturbs the waters by the glade.

Now the sun hangs high over fields of green,
A fragrance fills the air so clean and
The May Queen leads her parade across the square.
And the May Queen leads her parade across the square.
And the May Queen leads her parade across the square.

'Cos life is so beautiful, a time for us to live again
(yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah).
A valley so beautiful, a place where we can love again
(yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah).
This day was so beautiful, I can hear the little heartbeat of a child.

'Cos life is so beautiful, a time for us to live again
(yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah).
A valley so beautiful, a place where we can love again
(yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah).
This day was so beautiful, I can hear the little heartbeat of a child.



Mist In Your Moonlight



Tony Butler: The Great Unknown (1997) UK
4:05

Tony Butler

I was in no doubt, when your voice rang out
I would loose this bout, I'd be lonely
I would cry with joy, if you'd fight this boy
Found another toy, I'd be happy
I wish I knew what you wanted right from the start
Ooh, I never could understand why you bought my heart
But I can't run, I can't steal away
You steal my love then you lock me away

(Here I am) Here I am but I'm nowhere in your life
(Here I am) Here I am but you don't see me
(Here I am) Here I am just the mist in your moonlight
(Here I am) Drifting lonely and cold every night
Here I am, see me, let me be

I would call you a whore, always wanting more
I should break your jaw, you just used me
When they call me back, how my world turns black
Always high on crack, you disgust me
I never knew why you set your mind on me
Ooh, I never knew what you wanted or what I was to be
But I can't run, I can't steal away
You steal my love then you lock me away

(Here I am) Here I am but I'm nowhere in your life
(Here I am) Here I am but you don't see me
(Here I am) Here I am just the mist in your moonlight
(Here I am) Drifting lonely and cold every night
Here I am, see me, let me be

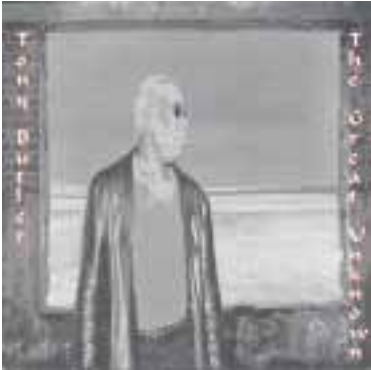
But I can't run, I can't steal away
You steal my love then you lock me away

(Here I am) Here I am but I'm nowhere in your life
(Here I am) Here I am but you don't see me
(Here I am) Here I am just the mist in your moonlight
(Here I am) Drifting lonely and cold every night
Here I am, see me, let me be

(Here I am) Here I am but I'm nowhere in your life (always in my head)
(Here I am) Here I am but you don't see me (always in my bed)
(Here I am) Here I am just the mist in your moonlight (always burning inside)
(Here I am) Drifting lonely and cold every night
Here I am, see me, let me be



Old Money



Tony Butler: The Great Unknown (1997) UK
3:57

Tony Butler

Winter sun hangs high above a cold and wretched world,
Streets once paved with Gold are filled with souls like flags unfurled.
And you were in a castle in your privileged cocoon,
And I could hear the nation cry it's feeling blue.

Everyone knows the outrage grows but they say it's OK,
The ordinary citizen has pride.
And you were in a castle with everything you hide,
And still you think we don't know we're being taken for a ride,
And I can hear the nation cry its fear inside.

Old money, knows its place, old money, veiled in lace,
Old money, hides its face, old money, knows no grace,
Old money, holds the ace to the blood-line years,
Old money, needs no space, old money, leaves no trace.

Season's celebrations die away as the last bell tolls,
Last year's memories are swept aside,
And you were in your castle, as the cold and driving rain
Beats down on the homeless as they cry in shame.

Everyone knows and they know that it shows but they say it's OK,
The Royal and the Noble fire their eyes.
When you were in your castle do you cast off your disguise?
While you wait the storm breaks, you still carry away the prize,
Then I will see the nation rise, the nation will rise.

Old money, knows its place, old money, veiled in lace,
Old money, hides its face, old money, knows no grace,
Old money, holds the ace to the blood-line years,
Old money, needs no space, old money, leaves no trace.

Born into money, born to be King,
Born from history, taken from within.
Scandals come, rumours go,
The pageant goes on, enjoy the show.

Old money, old money, old money, old money,
Old money, holds the ace to the blood-line years.

Old money, knows its place, old money, veiled in lace,
Old money, hides its face, old money, knows no grace,
Old money, holds the ace to the blood-line years,
Old money, needs no space, old money, leaves no trace.

Old money, knows its place, old money, veiled in lace,
Old money, hides its face, old money, knows no grace,
Old money, holds the ace to the blood-line years,
Old money, needs no space, old money, leaves no trace.

Old money [repeat & fade]



One Day to the Next



Tony Butler: "One Day to the Next" CD single
(1998) UK 4:17

Tony Butler

Help me...tell me what I'm meant to do
I can't stand up, I can't slow down
Does this make sense to you

Tell me...if you believe me make it clear
"There's nothing we can do"
Are not the words I want to hear

There's nothing here to comfort me at midnight
Why do I feel so scared and so alone

Give me courage, give me answers, give me love
I'm so confused it's been so long
One day to the next is the way I carry on

Is there someone who can find the cure for me
I had a life I felt so strong
One day to the next is the way I get along

Help me...I've lost my confidence, my drive
The months have turned to years
I feel no better, but I'm alive

Tell me...one day the pains will fade away
The sun will come, the rains will go
And I will live my way

If someone's there to catch when I'm falling
Why do I feel so empty and alone

Give me courage, give me answers, give me love
I'm so confused it's been so long
One day to the next is the way I carry on

Is there someone who can find the cure for me
I had a life I felt so strong
One day to the next is the way I get along

Me and my life

There's nothing here to comfort me at midnight
Why do I feel so scared and so alone
If someone's there to catch when I'm falling
Why do I feel so empty and alone

Give me courage, give me answers, give me love
I'm so confused it's been so long
One day to the next is the way I carry on

Is there someone who can find the cure for me
I had a life I felt so strong
One day to the next is the way I get along

Me and my life

Pleasuretime



Tony Butler: The Great Unknown (1997) UK
4:13

Tony Butler

I'm in a place, out of the big town,
You won't believe the things I've seen that's going down.
There's no graffiti, no sign of trouble here,
The people look so happy, they walk around without a care.

I heard a rumour but I hoped it was a lie,
From a government official with a glint in his eye.
He said the "time had come" to put the Nation at ease,
"The time had come" for us to do as we please.
We'll re-write your memories and regain your souls,
The time had come to give you what we call 'Pleasuretime', for free, yeah!

I asked a face, under a big car,
He grinned with grace and said it wasn't going far.
I asked a lady, she had a big smile,
She gave me lots of money and asked if I could stay awhile.

I stayed around a while but I didn't see,
The government official with his eye on me.
He said the "time had come" to put the Nation at ease,
"The time had come" for us to do as we please.
We'll re-write your memories and regain your souls,
The time had come to give you what we call 'Pleasuretime', for free, yeah!

Tony
Drink a cup of 'Pleasuretime'
Treat yourself and you'll feel fine
'Pleasuretime' is all you need
To live your life in harmony
Yey!

Announcer (spoken)
Drink a cup of 'Pleasuretime'
Treat yourself and you'll feel fine
'Pleasuretime' is all you need
To live your life in harmony

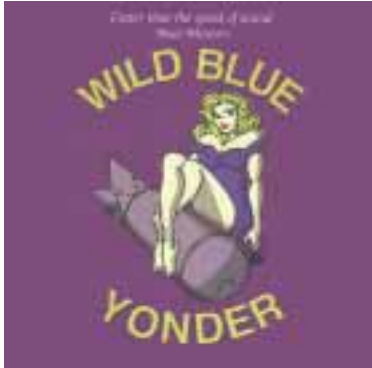
A normal place, turned into happy town,
The jails are closed and doors are open all around
Nobody's angry, nobody's sad here,
They're so serene, there's no-one left to share my fears.

Am I alone, or are there others here who see,
Like the government official who keeps following me?
He said the "time had come" to put the Nation at ease,
"The time had come" for us to do as we please.
We'll re-write your memories and regain your souls,
The time had come to give you what we call 'Pleasuretime', for free, yeah!

The time had come to put the Nation at ease,
The time had come for us to do as we please.
We'll re-write your memories and regain your souls,
The time had come to give you what we call 'Pleasuretime', for free, yeah!
'Pleasuretime' is free, yeah.



Republican Party Reptile



Wild Blue Yonder: Faster Than the Speed of Sound (1998) UK 3:51

Music and Lyrics by Stuart Adamson/Bruce Watson

My cousin PJ gets crazy just as much as he can
A real party reptile for the northern man
He dressed like a republican
He thinks conservative
But he drives faster than I ever did

He's into nuclear power and insider deals
He has a scene with baby oil and heels
He's my favorite politician
When he comes on weird
Says I'm not fit for this office let's get out of here

My, my, loves his mom and apple pie
Well, well, he's the party's favorite guy
I hope you like it
You know I'm going to take good care of you
I hope you like it
I hope next time you bring your friends with you

He's a drinkin', huntin', shootin', fishin' son of a gun
He knows a surgeon's gonna keep his wife young
Got industrial kickbacks in an offshore bank
Knows who to stand on and he knows how to thank

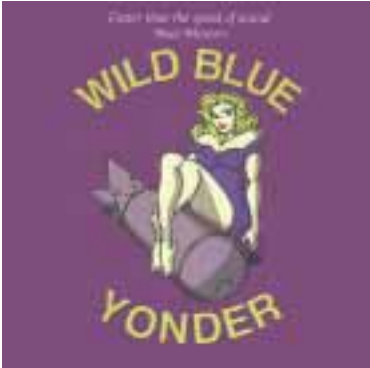
I hope you like it
You know I'm going to take good care of you
I hope you like it
I hope next time you bring your friends with you
My, my, loves his mom and apple pie
Well, well, he's the party's favorite guy

He likes to come take me for a night with the boys
He talks about the NRA and their toys
Got an automatic rifle in his pick up truck
He drives me home when he's in no state to walk

My, my, loves his mom and apple pie
Well, well, he's the party's favorite guy
I hope you like it
You know I'm going to take good care of you
I hope you like it
I hope next time you bring your friends with you

I hope you like it
You know I'm going to take good care of you
I hope you like it
I hope next time you bring your friends with you

Start My Engine



Wild Blue Yonder: Faster Than the Speed of Sound (1998) UK 2:49

Bruce Watson

Well I took a little trip about an hour ago
And my head don't feel too fine
I drove my car down the open road
Gonna park it where the sun don't shine

Spend all my money on gas and booze
But the bridge don't work at all
Yet I feel real queer in second gear
And you know I'm gonna have a ball

Start my engine honey
See it up and do it again
Won't you start my engine honey
Back up before the fall

Well I drove on down to the end of town
I was doing about 96
Then I crashed my car into Looey's bar
I was ??? enough to be real sick

When the cops showed up I had to grease them down
And then I was feeling good
But I know what makes me feel this way
But I guess I know I always should

Start my engine honey
Gonna have a ball
Won't you start my engine honey
Back up before the fall

Well I told my story to the local ?
She said honey you're still alive
I don't want no ? with some skinny kid
I'm gonna take you down deep inside

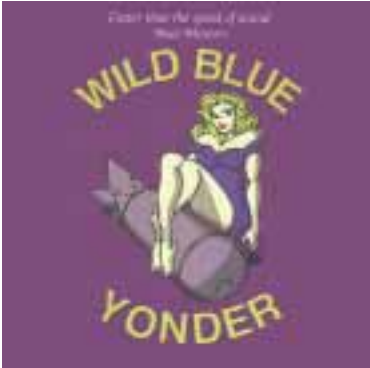
I said hold on lady what are you trying to pull
Don't give me no second chance
And in one fast swoop I was in the coup
She had me by the seat of my pants

Start my engine honey
We're gonna have a ball
Come on and start my engine honey
Back up before the fall

Start my engine honey
We're gonna have a ball
Come on and start my engine honey
Back up before the fall



Suspicious



Wild Blue Yonder: Faster Than the Speed of Sound (1998) UK 3:41

Bruce Watson

I never knew your name when you come to town
Just a little ??? inside
You never listened to your mom and dad
Always wanted to hurt their pride

I guess you're looking for something special
I know what it's like
The pain inside never will subside
I know it's alright, it's alright

I don't know what's going on
I don't mind but I guess I'm suspicious
I don't know if we went wrong
I don't care at all

I used to follow you 'round when you went downtown
It is a secret I can't hide
As I watch you walk through the afternoons
Always wanna be by your side

You got me under your spell with your long dark hair
It chills me to the bone
But the only time you ever noticed me
Was when your father was dragging you home

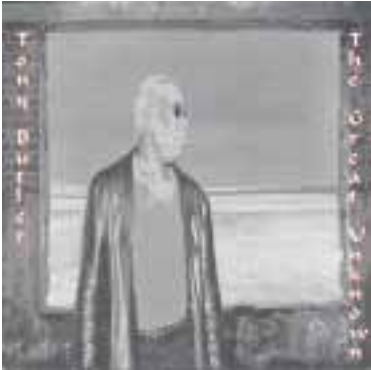
I don't know what's going on
I don't mind but I guess I'm suspicious
I don't know if we went wrong
I don't care at all

I don't know what's going on
I don't mind but I guess I'm suspicious
I don't know if we went wrong
I don't care at all

I don't know what's going on
I don't mind but I guess I'm suspicious
I don't know if we went wrong
I don't care at all



When The Trees Come Down



Tony Butler: The Great Unknown (1997) UK
4:07

Tony Butler

We've sung the songs about peace and love
Sung our praises to the heavens above
I'm walking down this road again
I've wasted all this time, my friend
I'm not angry, I'm not sad
This time of year always makes me feel bad

Calling up the grey again
I see a few more lines, my friend
I'm older but I'm young
This time of year I can never see the sun

The day the trees come down, on that January day
An empty feeling grows in my heart
Until the birdsong calls, and the snows melt away
My life's a cold dark space, in an empty place in time, in time

We've sung the songs about peace and love
Sung our praises to the heavens above
Getting back to work again
Gets harder every year, my friend
I'm not hungry, I get by
But times like this always makes me sigh

Got those after-Christmas blues again
It happens every year, my friend
I go crazy, I get bored
I miss the spirit of the season of the Lord
Season of the Lord

The day the trees come down, on that January day
An empty feeling grows in my heart
Until the birdsong calls, and the snows melt away
My life's a cold dark space, in an empty place in time, in time

When February comes, my life will start anew
And I will put behind me, the pain I've been going through
And all those songs of peace and love, the festive tales and rhymes
Like my blues will drift away, until the next time

The day the trees come down, on that January day
An empty feeling grows in my heart
Until the birdsong calls, and the snows melt away
My life's a cold dark space, in an empty place in time, in time, in time





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