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Produced by Eric "Roscoe" Ambel

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LATE BLOOMER

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Kicking out some rock, making room for roots
Getting green all over, pushing up some shoots
Digging deep down in the dirt is as natural as you can get
Flowers come in their due time, but they're not ready yet

CHORUS: Well, they say that time waits for no one
I just take it in my stride
Gimme some sun, air, and water I've got nothing left to hide
And just when your dead flowers have all wilted in their vase
I'll be blooming in your garden some sunny day

You can force a flower on your window sill
It doesn't really matter if its snowing still
A lady poet wrote that there's risk in remaining oh so tight
It's never too late to share your wares
when that time feels right

(Repeat chorus)

The humming birds ignore me, I'm holding out on them
Nectar over flows from knock-out rose and pink geranium
Honeybees buzz from bud to bud,
they share a silly sense of humor
Hanging back I bide my time, I'm a late bloomer

Murder of crows cry in the field, looking for some death
The cornstalks dry and summer breathes
its final scorching breath

They say that time waits for no one, I just take it in my stride
Gimme some sun, air, and water I've got nothing left to hide
And just when your dead flowers have all wilted in their vase
I'll be blooming in your garden some sunny day
I'll be blooming in your garden some sunny day!

CALL ME

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There's few I keep in touch with, even fewer I believe
And your reasons that we'd be better off apart
are hard to perceive
It's all hard work and if I thought about it
I never would commit
The payoff is sweet and worth the sweat I shed
And for this I'd never quit

So, call me when you get there
after the long and windy drive
Call me because I care that you are still alive
Call me when you get there, let me know when you arrive
'Cause you know, without your sweet love
I never could survive

It's hard to mix your love with blood
when I must get in the middle.
And it hurts me when you think I love them more
and you only a little.

'Cause you're the one I really need, and this I will admit,
The payoff's sweet and worth the sweat I shed
and for this I'd never quit

So call me when you get there
after the long and windy drive
Call me because I care that you are still alive
Call me when you get there, let me know when you arrive
'Cause you know, without your sweet love
I never could survive
Oh, you know, without your sweet love
I never could survive

BETTER HALF OF ME

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I can't sing ever since you're gone
I'm waiting for that ring of the telephone
'Cause you were the one who put light in my song
and I never thought that things could ever go wrong
You think we'd learn, after living this long.

I can't wait forever for your love
Wanna feel you next to me.
I'm watching the corner now,
I'm hoping that you'll come 'round
and bring the better half of me.

I said, "Hey, you are the one."
I said, "Stay, please don't run."
I know that my heart is in need of repair.
But, I guess that's life dear, and it just isn't fair.
I promised you, to always be there.

I can't wait forever for your love
Wanna see you constantly
wanna be the one to whom you always run
and bring the better half of me.

I can't wait forever for your love
Wanna see you constantly
The reasons that we had, were neither good nor bad
and I sure miss your company.
Be the bigger man, say you understand,
and bring the better half of me.

ST. JOHN'S ISLE

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My man is a rock in the middle of the ocean
as I swim in a surge of frivolous emotion
and I'm surprised he hasn't rolled away from me
St. John's Isle, is anchored in the sea

CHORUS: He stands so still, like a stone
with a heart that's always home
and I don't think he'd let me float away
the tide's a thrill, I feel the foam
and my heart and spirit roam
with those East winds blowing me home
My man is a rock, my man is a rock

And my man is a brick in a wall that just won't mend
the missing pieces falling all around us long around the bend
I put it up, and he puts up with me
St. John's smile is all that I can see

He stands so still, like a stone
and I'll never be alone
and I don't think he'd let me float away
the tide's a thrill, I feel the foam
and my heart and spirit roam
with those East winds blowing me home
My man is a rock, my man is a rock

I'm in the sea without a vest
got my arms locked across my chest
I'm dead man floating in deep water
I couldn't stay on dry land,
tried to grind that rock into grains of sand
In it's side I've carved myself a harbor

(Repeat chorus)



MAMA WAS A TRAIN WRECK

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Mama was a train wreck, train wreck, train wreck
Mama was a train wreck, train wreck, train wreck

CHORUS: Mama was a train wreck, Daddy was a train
Mama was a train wreck, Daddy was a train
Mama was dependent, Daddy was insane

Go and be a good boy, fetch my liquor son
No one understands me, you're the only one

Sister got the backhand, brother got the switch
Mama called him bastard, Daddy called her bitch

Drunks in the church room 12 stepping a side
Couldn't deal with Daddy, demons running wild

(Repeat chorus)

Jehovah's mighty lantern wasn't bright enough
Daddy had his dogma, traded it for love

When I Got to the crossing baggage everywhere
Got to the crossing baggage everywhere
Mama brushed herself off, smoothed her golden hair
and she said.... Sssssshhhh
Let's keep this in a suitcase underneath the stairs
Let's keep it in a suitcase underneath the stairs
Daddy wasn't there, Daddy didn't care,
Daddy wasn't there
He didn't have a prayer

Mama was a train wreck
Mama was a train wreck
Mama was a train wreck
Daddy was a train!

BETTER DAYS

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I can't give you what you need
I can't watch you as you bleed
I'll make excuses for your abuses
There's nothing I won't deny
I'll protect the ill effect, as life keeps crawling by

I can't watch as you throw your life away
I can't believe the things you say
I could refuse you but I don't choose to
When your mind flies in a craze
Yeah, we've both seen better days

Yeah, we've both seen better days
As I reach for the light beyond the haze
And I thank God we've made it through another night,
but there's no peace if your life is a constant fight.

Love's denial overjoyed
Each day's a trial fill the void
morning bird, a song unheard
with wings too worn to fly
We're in this cage, our lives have changed
and I just wonder why
with a heart too full to cry

Yeah, we've both seen better days
As I reach for the light beyond the haze
And I thank God we've made it through another night,
but there's no peace if your life is a constant fight.
There's no peace if your life is a constant fight.

A WOMAN KNOWS THESE THINGS

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She's got her eye on you, from across the way
Don't make me cry on you, with these games that you play
It's in the way that you greet her, the way her heart sings
You came here to meet her, a woman knows these things

What can I do? Warn her and scold her?
Ask her to leave, or give the cold shoulder?
Wanting you, there's a heartache it brings
Believe me, a woman knows these things

She idolizes you, she gives nothing but praise
I am old tried and true, but I've got something to say
It's in the way that you treat her
There's a pain that stings
You came here to meet her,
A woman knows these things.

It's in the way that you need her
There's a pain that stings
You came here to meet her,
A woman knows these things.
What can I do? Warn her and scold her?
Ask her to leave, or give the cold shoulder?
Wanting you, there's a heartache it brings...
Believe me, A woman knows these things

DAYDREAM

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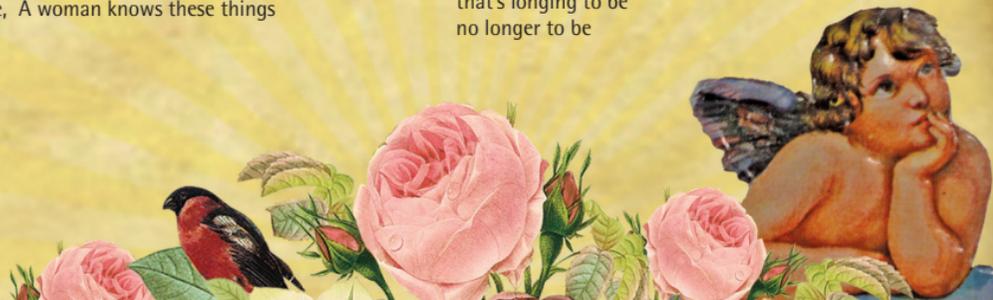
It's your face I look for in the crowd
And it's you that I think of, but that's not allowed
'Cause fate had a different plan,
and it's how it must be
just a daydream of mine, that's longing to be

I can't tell you what I'm thinking about right now
But I'd say something to you, if I had the nerve somehow
I feel good next to you, but it's not enough to be
a daydream of mine, that's longing to be

Just a daydream of mine
Just a daydream of mine
Just a daydream of mine, that's longing to be

I want to kiss you, but all I do is flirt
And if I see you with another girl
I know it's gonna hurt
But reality came through and knocked some sense into me
and this daydream of mine is no longer to be

Just a daydream of mine
Just a daydream of mine
Just a daydream of mine, that's longing to be
that's longing to be
no longer to be



DEAD LETTER FILE

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So sorry my friend I haven't written in a while
I found some paper, and a pen, and my sentimental smile
But each time I write I get no reply
Dead, Dead Letter File

It's kinda stupid, but its a ritual of mine
Keeping in touch with the other side
I should save the 40 cents and leave your letters in a pile
and call it: Dead Letter File
Dead, Dead Letter File

CHORUS

I know you're gone for good
But I write you anyway
There's just so much, I've got to say
But each time I write I get no reply
Dead, Dead Letter File

Oh I know you're gone for good
But I write you anyway
There's just so much, I've got to say
But each time I write I get no reply
My letters end up in the bottom of some pile
Dead, Dead Letter File
Dead, Dead Letter File



BABY'S TUNE

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Your mother must have loved you
she must have really cared
she told you hold your dreams up high
in a world running scared
You may not always hold your tongue
but you speak up just like a man
No other one can love you, like your mother can

Oh yeah, she must have loved you
that gal really tried
She's looking down with eyes of blue
and her heart's filled with pride
she can rest now
she's satisfied
don't you worry no more
she'll be waiting for you
on that crystalline shore

One billion stars above you
within each shines the light
of everyone you've ever known
whose spirit's taken flight
And when you think that you've lost a friend
they send down an angel anew
Now I'm just one who loves you
Don't mind me if I do
Don't mind me if I do

BEAUTY OF THE NOW

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Stephen B. Antonakos /Homefry Music (BMI)

Share the joy in life my dear
There's no need to live in fear
Forget the past, don't mind the pain
Don't drag it out again

That's the beauty of the now
There's no why, no who, no how
All you gotta do is be
Basking in the golden rays of some future good old days
The beauty of the now, the beauty of the now
Beauty of the Now. Now

Living in the present tense
You know it makes much more sense
Here is where love and light exist
What you see is all there is
These words I sing become the past
for just a beat they only last
And I can't help but say "Oh, Wow"
That's the beauty of the Now!

You don't have to work so hard,
open up, let down your guard
The future holds much mystery
And the past, well that's just history
And once you try you can't go wrong
You'll wanna sing it in a song.

That's the beauty of the now
There's no why, no who, no how
All you gotta do is be
Basking in the golden rays of some future good old days
The beauty of the now, The beauty of the now
Now

The Karen Hudson River Band:
Karen Hudson: Vocals/Acoustic Guitar
Stephen B. Antonakos: Lead Guitar
Tom Curiano: Drums
Skip Ward: Bass

Special Guest Musicians
Eric "Roscoe" Ambel:
Lead (1,8), rhythm, & acoustic guitars, Mellotron (6)
Rob Arthur: Hammond B-3 Organ (4)
Shannon Brown: Background Vocals (1,3,5,8,11)
Lisa Gutkin: Violin (8,10)
Skip Krevens: Pedal Steel Guitar (3,8)
Kenny Soule: Drums on (1-4, 8,9)
and Background Vocals (1,3,5,8,11)

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Assisted by Mario Viele
Additional recording by Eric Ambel at Evie's
Additional recording by Mario Viele at CTS,
and by Stephen B. Antonakos at Mon Bijou
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