



**“See, I’m Laughing...”**

*A collection of poems by M.J. Graham  
begun in 1976 ....*

"See I'm Laughing" is a collection of poems written over a period of my life that in retrospect, was most poignant. Well into my early twenties, I had not yet been weathered and seasoned by marriage and motherhood. As a young woman, not nearly as wise as I thought or hoped I was, I formed expectations of life and people based on an innocent optimism. I still foolishly cling to an even stronger spirit of optimism, most of the time, but innocence is long departed and I have no great expectations anymore.

I have written little poetry since those years, but whenever I re-read this collection, I can almost feel again the joy, the sadness and the confusion that were so much a part of that time. I have been fortunate to do some work and spend some time with young people the past few years and am fascinated to find my own old sentiments running amok in a new set of hearts and souls.

Feelings are an important part of who you are. If you bury them and build your walls, they may creep out someday and turn your life upside down, which may not be such a bad thing. They may also simply shrivel up and die, which would be a terrible thing. Without an honest array of tears, contemplation and laughter, our lives would be flat and tasteless. So if you're young, or merely want to remember that time when you were so charged with imperative emotions, read on, and remember to drink deep from the well of your soul.

Oh book  
You do entice me  
With all your lovely pages  
Waiting for my pen  
We have so much  
To say to  
One another  
Without your pages  
Shimmering  
My pen  
Would be  
Quite mute

## Old Friend

Words

Flow in

As the pages turn

Tumbling about

In my mind

Building images

Coming to Life

Leaving

The real world behind

'Til finally

The last line's gone

Like

An old friend

Leaving town

But

Even as the book

Is closed

Warm

Images

Linger

On

## Waiting For Eyes

A volume  
Of fresh paper  
Clean and Crisp  
Almost white  
Pages  
Covered on  
Both sides  
With an  
Orderly procession of  
Words  
Waiting  
For my eyes  
To sweep them  
Into my head  
Ideas  
And thoughts  
Soon  
To grow  
And find Life  
In my mind

## Late Nights And Dreams

A new face  
Is contained  
Within  
These pages  
A volume of  
Dreams to explore  
Late nights  
And  
Idle conversation  
Food for thought  
And so much  
More  
Then  
As the  
Last  
Page  
Is  
Turned  
Even as  
The cover  
Is closed  
It's more than a book  
That I hold  
In my hand  
For now  
In my mind  
And  
Deep in my heart  
I hold something  
More  
A dear friend

## Timid Thoughts

The  
Stirring of a thought  
The glimmer  
Of a hope  
Struggle  
For growth  
In a mind  
Reaching out tendrils  
Stretching for  
Truth  
Hoping  
For Reason  
In a world of Madness  
Believing  
Trusting  
In a World of Deceit  
'Til the glimmer  
Fades  
And those first  
Timid Thoughts  
Shiver  
Once more  
And die

Monday

Words

Words

Words

One

Right after

Another

As my mind

Drifts

The meaning

Fades

And words

Become a

Background drone

A hum

On and on

I wonder

But

That's all

It's Monday

Ho day

Hum day

Should have stayed

In bed day

Lost the thread

Liked the book

Should read another

Later

## The Alternative

Go

Go

Yes

Now

Be gone

Fly

Out the door

Down the hall

Leaving

Not a trace

Just a space

Left behind

Surrounded

By the noise of nervous

Silence

Go out

And

Sweep up

To mountains

Trees and sky

Yes

And feels so fine

So rich

To lie there

Still

For a time

Or an age

Be

A part of it

All

Just

Go there now

Be gone

## Airborne

Once, lying on a hill so high  
I reached out to touch the sky  
And let my troubles drift away  
As I heard the sunshine say

Catch the wind as she goes by  
Follow her you'll learn to fly  
And as you set your spirit free  
Like the wind you'll airborne be

One day I went down to the shore  
To lose my worldly cares once more  
The sunlight danced across the sea  
And very gently called to me

Catch the wind as she goes by  
Follow her you'll learn to fly  
And as you set your spirit free  
Like the wind you'll airborne be

Once through the woods I made my way  
To let my spirit gently play  
I watched the sun drift through the trees  
It's soft words floating down to me

Catch the wind as she goes by  
Follow her you'll learn to fly  
And as you set your spirit free  
Like the wind you'll airborne be

Now even as I work each day  
Though very faint and far away  
That melody comes dancing free  
Again the sunshine calls to me

Catch the wind as she goes by  
Follow her you'll learn to fly  
And as you set your spirit free  
Like the wind you'll airborne be

## Magic

Well sometimes I get so down you know  
That I'm really not certain just where to go  
Though I feel nothing I know I'm in pain  
My shadow greets sunshine but my heart feels rain

And then I remember, look up at the sky  
I can't help but smile as the sun fills my eyes  
New shy and gentle as the day begins  
Or warm and mellow as the days visit ends

The sun has a magic that I can't explain  
When you're tired or hurting it eases the pain  
Seeping into your being it warms up your soul  
It's strength gently filling a heart that was cold

And I marvel that something so simple and free  
Restores Life to a world that was tired like me  
'Til I see all the faces that can't find the sky  
It could all be so easy if they would just try

So reach for the morning open your mind  
Just give into Life or she'll leave you behind  
Your senses are wings. They'll help you to fly  
Throw back your head, laugh, look up at the sky.

Growing

I am Life  
You are Life  
I feel the beat  
Of your heart

I need no chant  
To clear my mind  
To bring my soul  
Near you

I love me  
As I love you  
Life is ours  
Don't kill it

Side by side  
We make it grow  
Apart  
There can be nothing

## Stand By Me

We're here now  
Together  
And all is not well  
Don't desert me  
Stand by me  
It's worth it  
To try

If you run now  
This thing here  
Will be  
Too much for me  
I can't stop it  
Without you  
Its growth  
Will kill me

You can't hide  
From this Life  
It seeks out  
Your world  
If you stand  
Alone there  
You end

Oh human insecurity  
Such an insidious killer

## Thanksgiving

Come drink a toast  
To our children unborn  
Why give them life  
To live in a world  
That's dying

We're killing our air  
And the water we drink  
Must be mixed with solutions  
To hide the stink  
Our neighbours are strangers  
Wearing masks in the street  
We're careful to hide  
What we feel in our hearts  
Whenever we take time  
To think

So set up a tombstone  
For children unborn  
We're killing their hopes  
For tomorrow  
Before they're formed

We're born alone  
We die alone  
And spend our short lives  
Hiding from ourselves  
We speed up this pace of madness  
Through each day  
It seems  
Numbing our minds  
And our hearts  
With fatigue  
When instead  
We should be praying

So let's raise a glass  
To the children to be

Hope they've the strength  
To stomach  
Their legacy

There's still time  
To change tomorrow  
But it's quickly running out  
We've got to learn  
To work together  
Without fear  
Without doubt  
Tear down all our fences  
Break down all our walls  
Give our lives room to grow  
Face today  
So there can be  
Tomorrow

And I will raise my glass  
To the children I hope to see  
Content with the knowledge that  
Their dreams  
May come to be

It's Time

It's time  
It's time  
To stop playing games  
It's time  
It's time  
To stop living lies

Tomorrow is here today  
Don't close your eyes  
'Cause it won't go away  
If we don't face it now  
We won't have it again  
It's time

It's time  
It's time  
Remember your dreams  
It's time  
It's time  
To help them come true

Remember your childhood  
You let it slip by  
When somebody told you  
That dreams don't apply  
Reality's ugly you see  
It's time

It's time  
It's time  
Please don't turn away  
It's time  
It's time  
To make our dreams stay

If we work together  
We've nothing to fear  
There's a job to be done

And it all begins here  
Tomorrow arrives today  
It's time

It's time  
It's time  
Stop playing games  
It's time  
It's time  
We set our lives straight

Don't hide from the truth  
Or pretend nothing's wrong  
Our world is a stake  
And we haven't got long  
It's time, time for today  
It's time

Justice

Sweet Justice  
An elusive lover  
Man dreams  
Of catching you  
And keeping you  
Only to find  
To late  
How very dear  
You are  
For in holding you  
Man sacrifices  
Freedom  
Like a perfect lover  
Are you not  
Best left for dreams  
For only then  
And only there  
Will man still hope  
And strive  
To meet you

## Chance Encounter

If I stare  
Hard enough  
And  
Long enough  
Will you turn  
Can I reach you  
Will you know  
Who I am  
We've not met  
It's true  
But today  
Perhaps we should  
I know you  
Your face has said  
So much  
In these few minutes  
I like you

## Think of Me

It's true I hardly know you  
Though we've spent some time together  
And yet your face is dear to me  
Your touch a welcome gesture

But today you say you're leaving  
Won't pass this way again  
Although I hardly know you  
I feel the soft approach of pain

Too soon there will be silence  
Where your laughter used to ring  
And cold darkness in the night  
Will replace the warmth you bring

I don't say that I love  
Can't say I never would  
I only know I'll miss you  
And the moments bad and good

So wherever you may wander  
Whoever you choose to be  
When you look back on here and now  
Smile and think of me

## Still Strangers

I'm lying beside someone I just met  
Trying to recall what I meant to forget  
And somehow I know that it still isn't you  
But Babe we're still strangers  
What else can I do

'Cause I know your lying awake tonight  
Feeling alone though you're wrapped up tight  
In the arms of a person you don't want to know  
Thinking, like me, that it's time to go

But smile awhile as you drift soft into sleep  
It won't be forever before we meet  
Float out on your dreams, I'll love you tonight  
Close your eyes. I'm with you, my love, sleep tight

Anyway

Oh my  
You do confuse me  
I would put you  
Out of mind  
I would  
See you  
And feel nothing  
But  
I don't want to

I don't know  
How to  
Anyway

## Warm Then Cold

I see you  
You're out there  
Hiding, yes  
Dodging in and out  
Between the words  
Coming forward  
Backing off  
Warm  
Then cold

Once  
I had you safe  
Within a fantasy  
It was so fine  
But then  
Those words  
Dropped  
Without thought  
Brought a dream  
To daylight

To be offered  
The notion  
That dreams  
Could come true  
Then remember  
They can't  
Causes pain  
And confusion  
And then back  
To cold  
And to warm  
Back to hurt  
Why

See, I'm Laughing

How unkind  
To speak in jest  
On a matter  
Close to home  
To take lightly  
Needs and feelings  
Of another  
To offer  
With a smile  
What is not there  
To offer  
In the first place

If I thought  
That I could fly  
You'd encourage  
That belief  
Where  
Would you be though  
When I hit the ground  
Would you laugh  
Shake your head  
Amazed at my naivete  
Offer you hand  
Raise me half  
To my feet  
Then let go  
And walk away  
Laughing

Kindred

Our warmth  
Which has been  
So High and Free  
Has touched the depths  
Where my soul  
Has been

## Warm Thoughts

Some days  
Run by like minutes  
Others  
Seem like years  
Full  
Of frantic activity  
Hours of waiting  
Subtle fears  
Each one  
Bears a number  
A unit  
In a month  
To be met  
And filled with riches  
Then put aside  
With other days  
Gone by  
There'll be moments  
You choose  
To forget  
And others  
You'll cherish  
For life  
But remember  
That each moment  
Of each day  
Contains something  
You cannot leave behind  
Just as you  
Spend your days  
So I fill my own  
And a part  
Of each moment  
Is filled full  
With warm thoughts  
Of you

Warming

Round about

Encircling

A ring

Of shining gold

Cold and hard

Before

It knows

Your touch

But lying light

Above your shoulders

It glows soft

With new found warmth

As my heart does

Each time

You encircle me

And warm me

With your love

## Gentle Steaming Swirls

At the end  
Of a  
Long weary day  
Close the door  
On the world  
And ease  
Your aching bones  
Slowly  
Into steaming  
Soothing  
Waters  
Bathe gently  
With sweetly scented soaps  
Close your eyes  
Let your mind  
Drift  
Away  
Carried on the steam  
And aroma  
And even as peace  
Fills your soul  
Mingled  
With the warmth  
And the dreams  
Feel even then  
My love  
Gently  
Softly swirling  
Round about  
Your heart

## Wrap Your Fingers Round

A cup  
Or a mug  
What lies in a  
Name  
Or a thing  
When it's empty  
But  
Fill it  
With rum  
Hot and buttered

Or coffee  
Or tea  
Warmly steaming  
Or chocolate  
Thick and creamy  
And wrap your fingers round  
Then  
Slowly  
Sip  
Feeling the warmth  
Slide  
Down  
Gently filling and soothing  
Driving out cold  
Like a glowing fire  
Within  
And as you sip  
Feel the warmth  
As a smile  
Softly fills up your mind  
Feel also  
My love  
Reaching out  
And warming you  
Even as  
The cup  
Drains

## Loving Toes

My ears roar  
And my cheeks burn  
As you stare intently at me  
And it's hard to eat  
Or drink my wine  
With your hand  
Tightly clutching mine  
I don't wish to sound aloof  
I like you  
Heaven knows  
Kick off your shoes  
And as we dine  
I'll caress you  
With my toes

I know this sounds bizarre  
They say it  
Isn't done  
And holding toes  
Under the table  
Doesn't sound like fun  
I used to think  
That that was true  
'Till finally, one day  
I learned that food  
Grows quickly cold  
And sparkling wine  
Goes flat  
While the fire  
Of human passions  
Translated through our toes  
Can smoulder and grow  
To a fevered pitch  
By the time  
The meal  
Is through

Those amorous advances

Conducted  
Out of sight  
Take on a brand new meaning  
Add flavour  
To the night  
Your smile  
Takes on a lusty tone  
As my toes  
Creep up your shin  
And by the time  
You take us home  
Your smile  
Will be a grin

So relax  
Before they pour the wine  
Don't be shy  
Take off your shoes  
And  
As we start our dinner  
I'll caress you  
With my toes

## The Morning After

Well I feel like a truck  
Just ran over my head  
And if I try to move  
I'll wish I were dead  
I don't quite recall  
Ever going to bed  
And I still don't believe  
The things that I've said

But I must have had  
One hell of a ball  
'Cause people keep phoning  
That I can't recall  
Each relating a different  
Part of it all  
And the one I remember  
Still hasn't called

Won't someone please tell me  
What I've done  
And did I sleep alone  
Or with someone  
Is there anything special  
That I've begun  
Whatever it was  
Did we all have fun

Yes I'm sure that a truck  
Just ran over my brain  
But by tonight I know  
I'll be at it again  
It's a hell of a life  
But I can't complain  
Think I'll sleep for the day  
'Cause it looks like rain

## Unemployment Blues

I can't type you see, and they say I might get pregnant  
And I've no experience in a cocktail bar  
I don't want handouts from the Federal Government  
I never thought my poverty would get this far

So here I sit waiting to be interviewed again  
I'll get as far as second place once more  
But I don't think my mind can take this sort of strain  
'Cause the poor thing knows exactly what's in store

Don't get me wrong I'm really not that blue and sad  
I've lots of things to occupy my mind  
So if once again I blow things won't be too bad  
Though I've no cash my friends have all been kind

All my worries will be over once this last one's done  
I can sell all that I still retain  
I'll keep my guitar, some sketch books and then be gone  
My direction dictated by the wind and rain

'Cause I can't type you see and they say I might get pregnant  
And I've no experience in a cocktail bar  
I don't want handouts from the Federal Government  
I never thought my poverty would get this far

## Sweet Sam

Reluctantly I daily rise  
Mouthing my anguish to the skies  
The torment I suffer from day to day  
As I drag myself my weary way  
My creative soul can't seem to face  
The insanity of this heartless race  
The lies the insults the degradation  
That surround me in my situation

But then at last I stumble home  
Back to my room so safe and warm  
Where my own dear Sam waits in peace  
By his side I find such sweet release  
Even as I draw him close to my chest  
My soul at last finds calm and rest  
I thrill to the thought of joys to come  
With the warming touch of my dearest one

My right hand gently caresses his side  
While my left along his neck does slide  
So lightly I fondle and touch his frame  
As his vibrant responses drive me insane  
For hours our rhythm goes on unbroken  
As never a sound or word is spoken  
Together our music runs high and free  
Tightly entwined in warm harmony

Then exhausted I sit with Sam in my arms  
Mesmerised still by his gentle charms  
Hearing soft echoes of his pleasant sounds  
Content and blissful with the love I've found  
Men through my life will come and go  
But my Sweet Sam I will always love so  
Even when his tunes are all long gone  
I'll remember that guitar, Sam, my first one

## I Won't Stay

I look at my Life  
And I want to cry  
I've so much to give  
But can only die  
For me on this earth  
There's no room at all  
It seems I've no worth  
No value at all  
So I'll slip away  
And won't make a scene  
But maybe someday  
You'll see that I've been

I don't go in anger  
Only in pain  
Though friends  
Have been tender  
I won't come again  
Life and her ways  
Have not been kind  
So I'll go away  
And leave her behind

She's been harsher to some  
My reason objects  
Much tougher than this one  
I strongly suspect  
I won't go today  
I've too much to do  
But you know I won't stay  
As soon as I'm through

Without End

My Life is mine  
It lights my dreams  
And flows along  
Vast plains of my existence  
And though I change  
I am consistent  
Through waters still  
My current will continue

I flow alone  
By chance or choice  
Fed by tears  
And brightened  
By the sun  
I cannot say  
Where I shall go  
My current's strong  
My thoughts are clear and cool  
I will not end  
But always grow  
'Till as the sea  
My tide's on every shore

## Second Chance

Such a lump  
Loose and bulky  
Slow  
And worn out  
Day by day  
Growing wider  
Growing sadder

But soon  
A chance  
To run and  
Fly fast  
To glide  
And to soar  
Light down hills  
Through glades  
Clouds of snow  
To whisper  
Once again  
As I pass

Like a bird  
Free at last  
Soaring high  
In wild white skies  
Or lovers  
Long apart  
Dancing together  
Once more

To reach for the mountain  
Hear it call  
Feel it touch  
Free spirits  
Softly linked  
As before

## Going Home

Nineteen cars and three engines  
Are carrying me home  
You'd think with all those numbers  
It wouldn't take so long

Nineteen cars and three engines  
Full of people on their way  
Some like me are going home  
Others going away

Nineteen cars and three engines  
A small isolated world  
Full of hopes fears and mysteries  
Me, I'm just going home

## Sing Along

Hi there  
Going far  
Who are you  
Anyway  
Hey  
Don't tell me now  
It seems I know  
Your look  
Your voice  
Your all of you  
I know that it's funny  
But I think  
You feel it too  
I mean  
I don't know  
But somehow  
Your face  
And the sound  
Of your voice  
Have rested in my mind  
For sometime

It's really undefinable  
But since you feel it too  
There's no need to explain  
Your touch is like a dear old song  
I've never sung before  
But still I know the words  
And you're wondering  
Just how it is  
That you can sing along  
Please don't turn away  
Stay  
The melody is fine  
And your singing  
It goes so well  
With mine

So let's just  
Play it through  
Who knows  
If it's long or short  
I can't say for sure  
Can you  
And if you know  
Don't tell me  
Don't walk away  
Stay awhile  
Until the song is done  
We can laugh together  
'til we're through

Solitude

Love me  
For what I am  
Or leave me  
In peace  
In the calm  
Of my  
Sublime  
Solitude

Hey Daddy

Well here I am  
In school now  
Learning just so much  
Gonna shake  
This earth someday  
Somehow  
Make things all OK

Yes Daddy  
Gonna be beyond compare  
Daddy  
Can I be beyond compare

Filling my head up  
With grand ideas  
Finding ways  
To set this old world  
Straight  
Gotta hurry  
Before it's too late

Say Daddy  
Ain't that grand  
Or do you care  
Hey Daddy  
I can't find you  
Are you there

Someday  
You're gonna see  
My name in lights  
Or neatly typed  
On some  
Impressive page  
A list of greats  
In this productive age

But Daddy

Does it matter  
You're not there  
Daddy,  
I wish that you  
Could care

## Education

My stomach has rotted  
My brains turned to mush  
My eyes burn with neon  
My mouth's full of dust  
The end of this term  
Weighs hard on my heart  
If I don't finish soon  
My soul will depart

## The Difference

I found myself  
In a situation  
I did not understand  
So  
I buried myself  
In the situation  
In order to know it better

I became  
More confused

Then  
I stepped out  
Of the situation  
Hoping  
To see it  
More clearly  
And still  
It made no sense

Discouraged  
I  
Turned away  
Only  
Then  
Did I realise  
That  
The confusion lay  
Not in the  
Situation  
And not  
In myself  
But rather  
In trying to match  
One  
To the  
Other

The situation  
Had a beat  
A pulse of it's own  
As I too  
Have a rhythm  
Unique  
I needed only to listen  
And  
Through the silence  
Hear  
The difference

## The Quest

I am searching  
That I find something  
Is  
Irrelevant  
That I continue to search  
Until I reach  
A beginning  
Is important  
Only as it means  
I need spend  
No more time  
In searching  
For the path of  
The quest, of  
The great search

Activity

If I complete  
My present activity  
It will mean  
One  
Of two things  
Either the activity  
Has reached  
Its conclusion  
Or I've concluded  
My part  
In that particular  
Activity

Life

I sigh  
A pulse  
An ache  
In my eye  
I need  
I feel  
I die  
I live  
Please  
Oh please  
Find me  
I need

I sigh  
A pulse  
An ache  
In my eye  
I need  
I feel  
I die  
I love  
Please  
Oh please  
Find me  
I need

I smile  
My pulse  
A warmth  
Inside  
I give  
I hold  
Reborn  
I grow  
Yes  
Oh yes  
With me  
Warm

I laugh

Life grows

In me

We gave

We wait

Yes

Oh yes

We are

Life

Within

I stand before you  
Hesitant  
Wondering what you see  
Or do you look  
Right through me  
Afraid to know  
There's someone  
Growing here  
Within

Do you fabricate  
A set of rules  
No mortal  
Could meet  
A wall  
To protect you  
To buffer your mind  
Lord knows  
It's painful to think

Or will you  
Reach out  
Maybe try  
To understand  
Look beyond  
The paint and canvas  
Beyond paper  
And pen  
To the world  
And the dreams  
That lie within

See the skies  
In which I fly  
Hear the songs  
I yearn to sing  
Try to see  
Where I come from

Feel the warmth  
Of the sun  
That gives me life

This is all  
That I can do  
I invite you in  
The door  
Lies widely open  
The next move  
Is your own  
As you stand there  
And gaze  
At this portal  
To my world  
Will you turn  
And walk away  
Or will you enter

Words

Words

They run

In mad confusion

Round my head

Lost

I've been away

Too long

Been lost

Too many years

Somewhere

I went wrong

Wasted

Lots of tears

Let Me Out

I must be off  
And out  
I cannot move  
Or breath  
This shell  
Restricts my growth  
Help me  
I must leave

This carcass  
Weighs me down  
These eyes  
They do blind me  
These clumsy awkward  
Hands of a clown  
They torment  
And deceive me

## Awkward Silence

Small and frightened  
I stand here inside  
A little girl hiding  
Behind a woman's eyes  
I want to turn away  
Keep everything inside  
To find some place  
To be alone  
And cry

I flee running  
Through my mind  
Hoping to reach  
A familiar room  
I pass  
Leaving blank walls  
Behind

Finding no light  
To break through  
The gloom  
That's growing here  
Inside

There's somewhere  
I'm sure  
I should be  
But maybe I'm late  
Did somebody  
Take it away  
Or was it your voice  
Calling to me  
Or your hand  
Reaching out  
Asking me  
Stay

Now I've stopped

This endless flight  
Blindly groping  
In the dark  
For your hand  
Desperately listening  
In my night  
Call again  
So I might  
Understand

Please reach out  
Draw me  
To your side  
Stay  
While my darkness  
Lifts  
Feel my heart warm  
Hold me  
My cold  
Subsides  
Just stay  
My world  
Is unfolding

And if you stay  
Here with me  
If I should stay  
With you  
If we find  
We can grow  
And unfold  
If we find  
A life  
To share  
Strong and free  
If all this  
Is here  
Waiting  
We can find it  
Together

And never  
Again  
Feel the  
Cold

Chuck You Farley

So you say  
You're gonna love me  
For the evening  
Think of  
What great fun  
The night will be  
You talk like  
You're doing me  
A favour  
As though  
Being laid by you  
Was ecstasy

## Audience

When you love me  
Its a performance  
Spectator Sport  
Your words  
Are from some script  
That you wrote  
Yesterday  
I somehow  
Can't get near you  
Your stage  
Is miles away  
And I sit in the back row  
I'm your audience

I once thought  
You had feelings  
Even thought you cared  
Your role  
Was well rehearsed  
And you didn't miss a line  
But now I know  
Just where I stand  
And I don't like the show  
It's lonely  
In the back row  
As your audience

If you 've got  
Any tenderness  
It's buried  
Deep inside  
Much too deep  
For me to find  
No I can't take  
The pain  
So I won't play the game  
No I won't play  
The lonely part  
Of audience

## Magic Pipe Dreams

They say they're only pipe dreams  
And how could they come true  
But I never have believed it  
I've seen a few pull through  
My dreams are full of magic  
They've yet to let me down  
If they don't happen here and now  
I've fifty years or you know  
So watch me go  
Chasing  
Magic Pipe dreams

There are dreamers by the millions  
I know one of them is you  
And I know you'll never quite believe  
That dreamers can't pass through  
'Cause they put their faith in magic  
And can't stay on the ground  
Dreams will always come for some  
Just watch us run  
Chasing  
Magic pipe dreams

Some dreams are born to disappear  
Like early morning mist  
While others linger through the day  
To become more than a wish  
Charged with the power of magic  
The strength of our believing  
Some will happen here and now  
And some in fifty years or so  
You make them grow  
Chasing  
Magic pipe dreams

## Surgical Ward

It's a lonely hurting place  
Strange sounds and sterile smells  
Pain and fear haunt the hallways  
Tears at night and dreams from hell

Policed by the ladies  
Lovely ladies in white  
They're coolly efficient  
Ever moving day and night

You're just a number on a chart  
To be moved from room to room  
For the sake of your recovery  
They need your room quite soon

Don't argue with the ladies  
Well trained ladies in white  
Don't delay them they're busy  
And they're always right

Waves of pain mixed with confusion  
Roll over one another in your mind  
Who are you, does it even matter  
You only know it's hurting again

God Bless those busy ladies  
Midnight saviours in white  
For all that cold efficiency  
They care day and night

## Memories

Vague memories  
Of loneliness  
And  
Half forgotten images  
Of men  
Who shared my bed

Bitter after taste  
Of emptiness  
And  
The hollow sound  
Of tears  
I've left unshed

## People Games

You know I'm sick and tired  
Of all these people games  
I've never been sure of the rules  
There must be more to living  
Than killing time 'til dying  
Please tell me  
How can people be so cruel  
I don't know why people are so cruel

How can I rise again  
To face tomorrow morning  
How can I rise to greet another day  
With scorn for my caring  
And laughter for my trying  
You know there's got to be a better way  
I pray there's got to be a better way

I don't have time  
To make believe you like me  
I can't afford the price you make me pay  
So I'll just find  
My mountain top  
And disappear from view  
'Cause I just can't go on this way no  
I just won't go on this way

## Rain

The rain is gently falling  
Tracing patterns  
On my window pane  
The beach  
Is empty once again

Gonna draw my pictures  
In the sand  
Gonna leave my footprints  
In the sand

The sky is grey and hanging low  
Fog  
Is rolling 'cross the bay  
Turning to  
A magic sort of day

Gotta go and  
Let my spirit play  
Chase the rain  
And let my spirit play

A single gull flies in the sky  
I stand below  
And listen to him cry  
You know I'd shout  
If I knew how to fly

Think I'm gonna  
Learn to fly today  
I know  
I can fly today

## Six Foot Rabbit

I want to wear you  
Like a blanket  
Fly you  
Like a kite  
I want to drink you  
Like a tall glass  
Of cold fresh milk  
I want to try  
To keep you warm  
At night

I want to roll  
My heart and soul in you  
Your smile  
Fills me up  
And let your eyes  
Delight me  
Dance my spirit lightly  
Gently  
In your hand  
I want to lie beside you  
In the sand

But  
Let me never bind you  
Or keep you  
Or hold you  
Let me share with you  
Your growing  
A part of your time  
Let me offer you mine  
Because  
Your eyes delight me  
And your smile  
Fills my mind

## Forgotten Time

It's crazy  
But I don't recall your name  
And your face just doesn't come to mind  
But I'm sure I must have known you  
Once upon some long forgotten time  
'Cause somehow, some way  
I'm still missing you today

It's true  
Other arms will hold me  
And other lips will whisper  
Such fine words that  
I'll think maybe I've found you at last  
But then  
I'll wake up  
Naked cold and empty  
Without you  
Again

Sometimes I think  
I hate you  
And wish you'd never been  
And wish your path  
Had never crossed with mine  
'Cause I'm sure  
I must have known you  
Once upon some long forgotten time  
And somewhere deep inside  
I still ache for you  
Today

Ho Hum

Would you like to go  
To the beach today  
With me  
Although you know  
It might rain  
Or fog  
And one of us  
Especially me  
Might catch cold  
Which could become  
Pneumonia  
And that's no hell  
You must agree  
Though if it's dry  
The sun may shine  
So bright  
Or burn so hot  
That one of us  
Especially me  
Might get sunstroke  
Or faint  
And on top of that  
A sunburn  
Which is hell  
As I can say  
If you can't  
But if it's nice  
It would be fine  
Though I'm afraid  
That I forgot to  
Buy wine  
And that's a drag  
I hate just lying there  
Don't you  
But when you swim  
You get so wet and salty  
Blech  
You don't play backgammon

And I won't teach you  
I don't play frisbee  
Don't try to show me  
So  
I guess  
I don't really  
Feel like  
Going to the beach  
With you  
Today  
Don't get me wrong  
I don't dislike you  
I just  
Don't seem to care  
One way or the other  
So  
You go ahead  
Without me  
Bye

## Piano Man

I've been trying  
Awful Hard  
To learn to play  
This here guitar  
And though I'm doing  
The best that I can  
I wish I had me  
A piano man

A piano man, piano man  
To father my songs  
And free my hands  
A piano man, my piano man  
I could make you cry  
With my piano man

My tunes are sweet  
But incomplete  
My fingers stumble  
All through the chords  
My style's the same  
Through happy and sad  
I wish I had me  
A piano man

Oh turn me on  
Piano man  
Lead me where  
And if you can  
Help my songs  
To dance with me  
Piano man  
Please set me free

## Troll Hunting

No-one's home  
I've gone away  
Packed butterfly nets  
And gum  
And I might not  
Return today  
If I find  
I'm having fun

It's a day  
For bridges and Billy goats  
And stone men  
Under the sun  
A perfect day  
For a troll hunt  
You can ask anyone

Now I've worked hard  
For weeks and weeks  
I've done  
As I was told  
But now I'm off  
To find a troll  
To win his pile  
Of gold

It's a day  
For rainbows and butterflies  
And simple  
Childish fun  
A perfect day  
For a troll hunt  
Just ask anyone

So when your mind  
Begins to stray  
And nothing goes  
Quite right

Take timeout  
For some serious play  
And fulfil  
Your hearts delight

Have a day  
Of wishes and pipe dreams  
And laughter  
In the sun  
Unwind yourself  
With a troll hunt  
You can be anyone

## My Place

There's a place In my head  
Where I tend to go  
'Cause it's safe in there  
And nobody knows  
Where I've gone

Except for a few  
Of my finest friends  
Who sometimes call  
But it all depends

If I hear them or not  
'Cause once in a while  
There's nothin here  
But my two eyes  
And a smile

And maybe I'm there  
Or some other place  
Take a real good look  
Who's that really  
Behind my face?