

Lyrics for the Album Church Bell Blues
Words and Music by Catherine MacLellan
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Dreams Dissolve

This is where the dreams dissolve, this is where illusions shatter
It's been a long year of trying to stay afloat
And oh the constant struggle, my mind fights for reason
My heart fights for hope.

Have I spent any of this time alone
Cause that's what this was for
No I've been hopping in and out of bed
With friends and lovers

I was never one of those who could not be alone
But now something has changed
Love never finds you when you want it to
It waits til you've stopped waiting

Will I have to spend this life alone?
Where is my companion?
So far I have been very blessed
Am I too demanding?

Open up the windows wide, let the cold air come in
Let the snow come too
Give me something unfamiliar give me seething I can use
Let me find something new

All these things I can't figure out alone
Don't matter with someone
Maybe I could learn to let it all go
And just have some fun.

Emily's Song

When the rain pours down like this
On the working days
You could just lay in bed
But you know that you can't stay there

Well your whole life's changing
You got the house for sale
23 years rearranging
Each breath seems a sad exhale

*Well love can be so forgiving
Gives you one more reason to live
You just keep on breathing...*

When the rain pours down like this
And it just won't stop

Hard to recall asking the weather
To send down these drops

So let's dance let the water find us
Let's gather round
Love is coming at us from every angle
Let our joy abound

*Well love can be so forgiving
Gives you one more reason to live
You just keep on breathing...*

Pleas don't let me stop moving
Don't let me sink on down
I can feel my mind start slowing
I don't have time for that right now

So let's dance let the water find us
Let's gather round
Love is coming at us from every angle
Let our joy abound
Let our joy abound!

River Valley Plains

All the way down
This old highway I found
You asleep as I drove
My eyes wanting to close

Fell asleep to the sounds of that man
Telling us the history of this land
All the houses that were built
And the blood that was spilled.

Now there is no king to say who really owns these lands
We'll just settle them as fast as we can
We'll get a saw mill there so you can build your houses build your chairs
Does the mighty river know what we have planned?

I am woken by first light
I'll leave you sleeping there 'til check out time
Let the sun have it's day
You're a child of the night anyway

In this city these old weathered streets
They whisper things they were told not to repeat
So let's get out while we can
To the place where the river valley ends

On this river valley plain we'll cut these trees, we'll grow these grains
We'll settle it as fast as we can
One hundred fifty years we'll throw our garbage shed out tears
Into the river that once ran clear through these lands

All the way down

This old highway I found
You asleep as I drove
My eyes wanting to close

Too Easy

It was all going too easy, I should have known better
Never thought I'd have to face up to the hard truth
Cold as a stone, knocked me from my throne
All my life it was given to me, should've known it was too easy

You know I never worked a hard day, except when I wanted to
Just kept on sliding right on through
And every time in excess I thought I'd learned my lesson
But it never stuck to me, just kept repeating

Sometimes I wouldn't know the right thing if it hit me in the face
Hear the telephone ringing, hear a note out of place
Gotta listen to my own voice when it's saying something
Gotta leave this safe shore to find what I'm looking for

Ohh...

It was all going too easy, I should have known better
Never thought I'd have to face up to the hard truth
Cold as a stone, knocked me from my throne
All my life it was given to me, should've known it was too easy

There You Are

Lover lay me down, my heart is quiet tonight.
You know that I am found inside these arms of yours that hold
When there is no answer in the dark
There you are.

Forgive me for being late, I was just running around
With others I would hesitate, with you I know the answers now
When there is no answer in the dark
There you are.

I long for those endless days of us not doing a thing
Keep the outside world at bay, let the telephone ring
When there is no answer in the dark
There you are.

Tell the others to go away it is just you that I need
Lock the doors and shut the lights, come lay down beside me
When there is no answer in the dark
There you are.

The Long Way Home

The hours that we spent in between

They didn't mean what we wanted them to mean
We were tired and scared and having dreams of showing up unprepared
Now the little bird is perched on that giant tree
Singing songs so sweet and beautifully
Now as the sun it sets
I wonder if there will be anything I'll regret

*So let's take the long way home
Every moment I spend with you
Let's make it slow, so slow
We'll mark the moments as they go.*

I love when everything falls into place
Only happens after I've given up the race
Well, I have eyes to see
I have life that's bursting forth inside of me

*So let's take the long way home
Every moment I spend with you
Let's make it slow, so slow
We'll mark the moments as they go.*

To many people I have been many things
Hunger hatred love and endless innocence
And to those who've gone
I am one who will remember them in song

*So let's take the long way home
Every moment I spend with you
Let's make it slow, so slow
We'll mark the moments as they go.
We'll mark the moments as they go.
Yeah we'll mark the moments as they go.*

Stronger

I feel the seasons change
That means my life will too
The change is early this year
Is there nothing I can hold on to

I know I've got you all around
But I need someone to sink into
Someone who's standing still
Someone with a very strong will

*I always have my eyes on someone out of reach
Won't somebody teach me how to be stronger
That's what I long for.*

No I can't go on like this
All these turn arounds
But what alternative
How can I help myself

Even though I had watched him

Struggle with this all his life
It gives me the will to fight
But for how much longer

*I always have my eyes on someone out of reach
Won't somebody teach me how to be stronger
That's what I long for.*

Snow Day

Snow down, you can't hear it land
Take time if you can to see it's shape
Slow down, there's no need to rush
There's nothing but snow and slush on the streets

*And all the dogs are stuck inside
They'll be there until spring time
Oh It's too cold they say*

Snow day, everything is shut down
There's no one in town, on the streets
It's no day for doing a thing
No chores I'll just song you to sleep

*And all of us are stuck inside
Out there it's just too wild
Oh it's too wild out there*

From my bed I can see that tree
It speaks to me in my sleep
Lover said I'm glad it's there
It's something to stare at today

*And all the crows they laugh at us
As my car turns to rust
Oh it's too old they say*

Church Bell Blues

We've got many things to decide
And it's keeping me up at night
I don't want no taking sides
There ain't or wrong or right
How will we compromise
How will we make things right

Plant a seed and watch it grow
Right now nobody knows
We'll keep our secrets close
Just until we get home
We've been working nice and slow
Out here on the road

Soon we'll hear those church bells ring
We'll ask all our friends to sing

The wine will be pouring
When we exchange those rings
Into a brand new world
We will be entering

Calls are coming in for me
Y'know it's awfully nice to see
How will we manage as three
When there ain't no money
I'm sure we'll work things out
This ain't no time to doubt

January Song

I wasn't expecting this, but I'm ready now
Suddenly the winter hits, there's so much snow down
It's not like the year before, everyone has changed their place
I'm knocking on brand new doors, everything is rearranged

Yes it was a crazy year, we all had so much fun
But now I feel I'm wasted here, time to get some things done
It feels so hard to begin, just want to hang around with you
Think I could fit some business in between loving you.

Now we're all tired and we're all broke, now we're all anchoring
Too much drinking too much smoke, too much of something
It is January, and I'm wide awake
Always feels like morning and I'm running late.

Brave Love

We've all had bad love
Some of us have been blessed
With the kind of love that nurtures and cares
The kind of love that does away with the rest.

So how can I tell you
The good things will come
When I have had so much
And you seem to have had none
But the good things will come

It's so easy to wall ourselves in
Behind coldness and fear
Don't want to tear those wounds open again
But you can not stay here

With all these people but who do you love
And who loves you
Can you give your self to anyone
Can you dare to, can you dare to?

I want to shake the trees and send down the rain
I want to love you

Show you this world alive again
I want to love you, I want to love you.

Long Time

All those books that you gave to me now lay
Scattered amongst these rooms
And marked with pen are the passages then that
you felt spoke the truth

I could use you now to guide me somehow or to
Walk me down that isle
But I will not be the first you will miss giving birth
This will be your seventh grandchild

Well it's been a long time
It's been a long time

Got your old 45s on the turn table while
I go flipping through those pages
All those old photographs of days we can't get back still
The people sing your praises

It's been a long time
It's been a long long time