

B A C K Y A R D
U N I V E R S E

OVERWHELMING ODDS FOR UNDERWHEMLING DREAMS



DECISIONS

i miss you in my mind but I don't feel it anymore / that's part of the cycle to close an open door / i hate to say it but I know this will go away / our right now affection will be feelings of yesterday

to push to pull / to give and take / to love and send it away / to hide to seek / to have to say goodbye to every person that you meet

it's a strange dilemma taut with possibilities / forcing confident decisions keeping agile in the knees / it's for the better if we say that we know / but inside we're just making it up as we go

to right what's wrong / to gracefully just move along / to numb to feel / to not be scared / shaking hands with stranger lands

overwhelming odds for underwhelming dreams / chasing tails in circles is as good as its gonna be / sound and sonic distractions making our bodies sway / the sensation of progression keeps us going anyway

DIVING LESSONS

at the ymca swimming pool i was learning
how keep my cool in water deeper than my
head / just started to get a grip listening to the
muted screams underneath I was beginning
to be at peace / i knew it wasn't going to stay
this way to pass the class I had to play the
diving game like all the other kids / from way
up there it looked mile down my knees were
locking I was crying now it doesn't help that
they're cheering me on

i couldn't jump I was wasting time so the
teacher told me to make up my mind or
they'll drop me in

my heart was beating faster than I thought it
could / my legs quit working when they really
should / fear has a funny way of digging in /
my arms start flailing like a cat in the tub / i
couldn't figure out which way was up / i think
this failure is sinking in / I think my failures are
sinking in

Years went by avoiding anything deep diving
lessons never worked on me but I think it's
time to try again / my pal said that he could
give me a hand / we'll take it slow we're not far
from land / we'll have a lifejacket just in case I
start freaking out / but I lost track of my
peaceful mind I was grabbing on to anything
I could find / i almost drown my friend who
was just trying to help me swim

My heart was beating faster than I thought it
could / my legs quit working when they really
should / fear has a funny way of digging in /
my arms start flailing like a cat in the tub / i
couldn't figure out which way was up / i think
this failure is sinking in / i think my failures are
sinking in

BLACK EYE AND REASON WHY

some nights i dream of fighting with my fists /
some days I want to wake up not knowing
where i am / but some little punk is telling me
that's not who i should be / so i'm going to
make sure he knows i have a problem with
him

is the story worth telling about a boring little
chicken **** man sitting in his home town just
wondering when? / is the story worth telling if
my heart's not beat and broken left in all the
places that I've ever been?

i just want to have have a rock star legacy / i
just want to be like lou reed or Jimmy but
that's not me / i just want to be a fight club
kinda guy / i just want to give some asshole a
black eye but that's not me

i know that's not me cuz my skinny arms tire
too easily my passive nature forces me to
apologize if you look angry / but I know that's
not me / i'll go out of my way to agree/ even if
inside you're killing me / i can take what you
dish so easily

my pushover state of mind is aggressively
making me feel less interesting / here's to my
beta male mentality
shutting me up and keeping me clean

i will never have a rock star legacy / i will never
be like lou reed or jimmy / just let me dream /
i will never be a fight club kinda guy / i may
never give some asshole a black eye that's
okay with me / i can't fight but I can scream /
thats enough for me / i don't care if you're
listening / i just need a moment To clear my
brain

OUT OF ORDER

rows of graphite and spongy eyes feed me
that textbook medicine / just don't want to
miss out on potential worth to shove in to my
pasty skin / format matters as a matter of fact
/ fact is I'm feeling formidable / test my
patience like you test my mind writing
answers that crossed the line

business school / college rule / time to Make
something of yourself

out of order today / just can't get my mind over
matter made out / cheating out of the corner
of my eyes connecting the dots but they don't
want to align

ten pound books tearing through my mind /
page by page I found myself stop trying / c's
get degrees that are hotter than mine / f is for
fantastic use of my time / hey check out my
next party trick / it's time for me to drop out
again real quick / i'm not cut out for the a to b
plan / does that make me a lesser man?

business school / college rule / time to make
something of yourself

out of order today / just can't get my mind over
matter
made out / cheating out of the corner of my
eyes / connecting the dots but they don't want
to align

kids get your checkbooks out / play a little
game for fun / freedom ringing in your ears /
feeling like a loaded gun

out of order today / just can't get my mind over
matter made out / cheating out of the corner
of my eyes / connecting the dots but they
don't want to align

QUESTIONS

questioning everything that you see / blurry on
your own history / never trust someone who
knows the truth / they're probably hiding
something from you / speak up louder than
the last guy / that really helps prove that you
are right / i can't help but fall into your arms /
so articulate smart and strong

i know the static wins / you can talk this life to
death but static wins / i know you're
screaming / you're point has been made but
static wins

my respect is earned by honesty / honestly it
doesn't matter to me / we're in a big game of
the price is right / come on down and be our
winner tonight / clarity can set the mind at
ease / or is that just ignorance blessing me? /
maybe someone's watching out for you / the
signals just not coming through

i know the static wins / you can talk this life to
death but the static wins / i know the static
wins / little melodies start creeping in / just as
i start singing the static starts questioning



STUPID KIDS

chasing dreams at night like olympic athletes in
the games / for the glory of that piece of gold /
flying far above like hero's to save the day from
tragedy because the bad guys just won't take a
break / card games on the concrete and candy
from across the gravel street / i swear we would
never get bored / getting close to bed time i
would turn pretend off on a dime / you would stay
there the whole night through

those were the days

we were just stupid kid's under the pine trees
making mud pies and booby traps for the suits
that fight our anarchy / we were just stupid kids
out in the backyard / fighting monsters and
madness that tried to swallow up our families /
we were just stupid kids

high school came so quick / i think both of us
were fed up with it / you would still escape in a
fantasy / time crept in the way and I got
swallowed up by the everyday tasks of trying to
learn reality / weeks turned into years before it all
became so very clear how much those times
together meant to you / i'll try my best to keep our
quest alive and well no matter where in life we
really go

Those were the days

we were just stupid kid's under the pine trees
making mud pies and booby traps for the suits
that would fight our anarchy / we were just stupid
kids out in the backyard fighting monsters and
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we took some dark turns / lost our tracks / maps
out back / we just got frustrated / we were
separated / left behind to find our own way home

THE PARTY

you keep taking and talking and talking /
all night long / just keep fighting and
fighting and fighting / all night long

the lights are blue you seem down to me /
where do you go? / the lights are blue
you're distant from me / where do you go?

something's different it's different / please
tell me / have I let those dark vultures just
pick you right from me?

the lights are blue you seem down to me /
where do you go? / the lights are blue
you're distant from / me where do you go?

why did i come here / is it someones
birthday? / is it a new year? / why did they
invite me / I'm so unprepared for this / this
is a catalyst / for me to disappear / i want to
disappear

the lights are blue you seem down to me /
where do you go? / the lights are blue
you're distant from me / where do you go?

THE WEATHER BROUGHT ME OUT THIS WAY

the weather brought me out this way / It's hot
upstairs sweat drops forming on my face /
trying to calm a nervous knee / some fresh air
would be good for me / there's times to bite
my tongue and cheek / now's not the time i've
got to come clean / because I care for you and
it's eating me away / it's eating me away

I have lied far to many times about about the
thoughts running through my head / when I
said there was joy it was probably rain / i'm
unamused by most everything / so keep being
you and i'll follow along / slowly picking these
rocks out of my brain

i do my best to plan ahead / the the t's are
crossed dot's on my eyes / now I can't read
what i wrote / scratch that ill put it in my
memory / i tend to drive over medians / i'm
going to have rocks in my engine / is it
supposed to sound this way? / it keeps running
i guess it's ok / hold on I'm on my way

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STAR STRUCK REDUX

i don't know what I believe / is it what you
told me? / is it from sunday school? / is it what
makes me cool? / maybe it boils blood /
maybe it makes me a fool / maybe tomorrow
I'll believe in something new

breaking down is how we start / quitting
school is the easy part / being broke is way
more fun / being alive is coming undone /
quitting time is in the dirt / r.i.p is victory /
don't waste your time visiting my body

robots will kill humanity / use our blood
artistically / forget about our history / til earth
is out of batteries / claim they are invincible
because there's one to save them all / as long
you answer that robo call

all I am is all of us / a moment awake / a
bunch of dust

COUCH DAYS

if I spent as much time coughing up
diamonds / as I do sitting with opinions
and vanishing / i could make a buck or two
and a friend or three / breath fresh air /
start feeling free

couch days / landlocked and unafraid /
maybe unamused / it's where i lay / i'm
here to stay

2 am reeling / am I resting or Just restlessly
avoiding everything? / dodging all
decisions / watching underwhelming
dreams / catching what is easy / the odds
are overwhelming

couch days / Landlocked and unafraid /
maybe unamused / it's where I lay / i'm
here to stay

CREDITS

all songs written, recorded, performed, mixed, and mastered by eli stonemets / all drums written & performed by patrick henry / mixing notes from jordan thornquest, bryan stonemets, and jeremy abbot / all songs recorded in the home of heidi & bryan stonemets, neighborhood sounds studio, and eli stonemets' studio apartment in twin falls idaho /

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