

CARRIE NEWCOMER

THE BIRD OR THE WING



Holy Ground

There's more to this than me
There's more to this than you
More to this than the sum of all its parts
More to this than I can just keep in my heart

Chorus: There's a woman offering a spirit like wine
And a man in a suit who is trying to sell you God
Close you eyes, bow you head, and sing without a sound
And take off your shoes cause your on Holy Ground
Holy Ground

It comes up from the earth
It comes right through my feet
It comes down through my head and out my fingers
It bounces off the back wall
It's sent out like a letter from you

Chorus: There's a woman offering a spirit like wine
And a man in a suit who is trying to sell you God
Close you eyes, bow you head, and sing without a sound
And take off your shoes cause your on Holy Ground
Holy Ground

Lay down like a lion
Lay down like a lamb
Lay down in the dark next to me
Understand what can folk and unfold

Chorus: There's a woman offering a spirit like wine
And a man in a suit who is trying to sell you God
Close you eyes, bow you head, and sing without a sound
And take off your shoes cause your on Holy Ground
Holy Ground

The Bird or the Wing

You've got that crooked way of smilin',
You got that soft way of talking
You got that crazy way you put our arms around me when we're walkin'
That all right with me, that's all right with me
I don't know if I'm the bird or if I am the wing
But that's all right

I got this place out on the water, I've got a dog and a daughter
I've got a care that's getting old but it's runnin' fine
That's all right with me, that's all right with me
I don't know if I'm the bird or if I' am the wing
I don't know if I'm the bird or if I'm am the wing
But that's all right

I've been walking around your table, I've been circling around the fountain
I've been flying like a falcon, just as hungry as the ocean
But that's all right, that's all right with me
I don't know if I'm the bird or if I' am the wing
But that's all right

It's is deeper than the place where we'll walk in the shadows
It's clearer than the note that we can sing
That's all right with me, that's all right with me
I don't know if I'm the bird or if I am the wing
But that's alright

You got that crooked way of smiling, you go that soft way of talking
You got that crazy way of putting your arms around me when we're walkin'
That's all right with me, that's alright with me
I don't know if I'm the bird or if I am the wing
But that's all right

Nomads

It's hard out on the border, it's cold out on the line
I've haven't slept for hours and hours this time
I get the jitters in my legs, I get wound so damn tight
NI can't turn off the voices talking in my head at night
Nothing is ever really gone, it's all here in my mind
A face will rise u to the surface, smile and fall below the waterline
Were like waves out on the water, we touch then move away
Living in a circle not a line
Just seeing how much compassion in the world we'll fine
Like nomads
Childhood races quicker than the speed of sound
You were once my baby, soon you're be walkin around downtown
I've been working long hours, I've been out there on the road
Hopin' when I come home you're someone I still know
Someday I'm going to fly like an angel in the air
Someday I'm going to close my eyes and be halfway there
Someday I'm going to hear a voice I heard once in a dream

Tenderly With You

I don't mind the years gone by when I think I'm getting better
I don't mind to fall so far when I think I can get up
But I mind the anger I have learned to acquire
And I mind the tough I've growth to wear around like armor
I could live with out you but I don't want to try
I could do it all alone but what would it prove and why
To get beyond our proud and tough
And learn when tenderly enough
I just want to be tenderly with you
I just want to be tenderly with you
When I was a little girl my mother would brush my hair
Now I've learned to brush my own and act like I don't care
And say, "It's not so hard to be so strong"
And do what's right even when they say it's wrong
Yet there days I'd just like to belong
Somewhere
I just want to be tenderly with you
I just want to be tenderly with you
Must we always hurt the ones we love
Does push always heave to come to shove
I just don't believe that's true
There's a hundred ways to guard your heart, if you really want to know
There's a thousand way to stay at arms length if you really wish it so
But I have found that sure resolve, a mystery I'm going to solve
And a hard shell I will dissolve

The Love Letter

When you look real close you can see real good
You can see the imperfections
Now that we know the crooked and the straight
We can love in real completion
It's a danger to love for tomorrow
It's a danger to love for the better
But if it's not there it's just not there
With the things that really matter
Taking it just the way that it is\
I'm taking it at face value
Things can look better in the distance
But that not the way I want to love you

I want to love you that close
I want to love you that close
I want to love you that close

I'm taking it just the way that it is
Opinion s will fly back and forth
And to disagree can be treason
But you have loved my stronger side
And I have loved the reasons
Takin' it just the way that it is
I'm takin' it at face value
Things can look better in the distance
But that's not the way I want to love you
I've been drinking my coffee from a china cup
I've been feeling holy and better
In a borrowed apartment in Boston
I sat down and wrote you this love letter.

The Yes of Yes

When the morning comes like a moment blessed

Breathing next to you my yes of Yes,
And hold you like some promises made
It's a way of way of praying
I hold her little tender hand, walk side by walking side
She asks me why, I smile and say
"It's a way of, way of praying."
It's moments so fleeting that make our whole life long
Oh, some things come and some things go
And some things we will never know
Some mysteries will guide our way
It's a way of way of praying
I raise my hands to frame the light
I raise my voice in the middle of the night
I close my eyes when I start to sign
It's a way of, way of praying
In the silence you surround my soul
In the laughter you can make me whole
I hold it all like some promise made
It's a way of, way of praying

Wisdom is Watching

He believes he's right, she believes she's right
He stepped out of the car, he stepped into the light
He stepped into a war, believing he was right
He believes he's right, he believes he's right
He stepped into the circle, he read between the lines
With a blood lust religion saying, "vengeance is mine"
But God is watching, Wisdom is weeping
This is not what was meant, this is not what was said
I am shakin', it's crazy and absurd
It comes down to what you love
Not down to who you hurt
She believes she's right, he believes he's' right
He's lying on the ground and he's bleeding out his life
Like an unwilling hero, believing that he's right
But God is watching, Wisdom is weeping
This is not what was meant, this is not what was said
I'm shaken, it's crazy and absurd
It comes down to what our love
Not down to what you hurt
She believes she's right, she believes she's right
She steps out of the car, she steps out in the light
she steps into a war, believing that she's right.

Under Your Skin

I spent time in a truck stop, time pouring coffee
I was wearing my hair long, I was loving an angry man
I wore too much eyeliner
I spent time in a new town, playing covers for tips
I spent my birthday this year in Ohio in a Day's Inn hotel
It's all in who you are and where you've been
That gets into your bones that get under your skin
It's not just the memories you take from them
That gets into your bones than get written on your heart
That gets under your skin
I spent time on Lake Michigan, we were drinking in high school
We were restless and waiting, restless and wanting
For something to break
And time and another I was watching it wither
I was holding my hands out, holding my hands up
Holding it together
There have been people and partings
And those things that you should have seen coming
There have been memories and moments
And those faces you can't forget
I lay back with my baby, we were lit up like lanterns
We were rolling like laughter, rolling like thunder
Rolling around in your arms
It's a strange adventure, this whole getting older
There is so much to measure, so much to treasure
So much to grieve
And there is a girl at the counter and she's pouring me coffee
She's wearing her hair long, she's got too much eyeliner
Like I used to wear
She 's pouring me coffee, she's got to much eyeliner
Like I used to wear

I'm not Going to Let you Break My Heart

You lay down you money and you take your ride
You reach out in the darkness and you step inside
You keep on believe not matter what's died
You raise up your head and you wipe your eyes

I'm not going to let you break my heart again
I'm not going to let you break my heart
I've tried and I've asked about that was all in the past
And I'm not going to let you break my heart

Skin can be salty and love can be sweet
And I know every work cause I've said them complete
I wont get caught up in the struggle to get close
And I won't lose myself to the thing I want the most

I'm not going to let you break my heart again
I'm not going to let you break my heart
I've tried and I've asked but that was all in the past
And I'm not going to let you break my heart

You got the letter that I tacked on your door
And I guess that last phone call was words and nothing more
I found myself crying in the shower thin morn
Well, I might be forsaken, but I'm not forlorn.

I'm not going to let you break my heart again
I'm not going to let you break my heart
I've tried and I've asked but that was all in the past
And I'm not going to let you break my heart

Closer to Home

This is a lovely place that is hard to leave
And there is a loneliness that we will always grieve
So give what you can and only take what you need
And hope your heart will know what your eyes can't see
When I was a child I still thought like a child
And I still feel like a child sometimes
But I'm learning the farther I'll travel each day
Is to the edge of my blindness, and then a little more ways
We will meet again I'm sure
Someday when our sorrows are cured
And we'll walk like friends, embrace again
Much closer to home we'll be then

The world will build walls without any doors
And it is easy to forget what we are climbing them for
But I saw an angel with hope on its face saying
"There's good work to do, and there is no time to waste"

Chorus

We are closer to home, we are closer to home
We are closer to home that we know
I felt your soul in your fingertips
And I have held your hand and brushed them to my lips
And I saw the child that I birthed in my pain
And when she opened her eyes there were your eyes again
Chorus

Looking For Something

There no black and white, no easy answer I've found
Only shades of gray on a gray on a gray background
It's got nothing to do with your spirit it's got everything to do with politics
It's got nothing to do with love, its only power and who's wielding it.
I really couldn't tell you, I really couldn't say
How love can hold you, love transforms you, love stops away
Love will fight like two cats in the alley, or slam the door in rage
Love shines like reason in the darkness, love turns the next page
But you say you love me and you've loved me all along
But how can I trust my heart when it's been so wrong
How can I believe this is not another near miss
How could I put my heart into your hands and take another risk
Chorus: I've been looking for some thing
Looking for something all my life
How restless how uneven the time has been until now
Though everything has brought me here, though I couldn't tell you how
We have been alone together, we've been separate and complete
But how it shivers and it trembles in the place we meet
But you say you love me and you've loved me along
How can I ever trust my heart cause it's been so wrong
How can I believe this is not another near miss
How can I put my love into you hands and take another risk
Chorus: I've been looking for some thing
Looking for something all my life
He said the one of you without any wrong could throw the first stone
And they all got very quiet and they had to slip away home
He walked right over and picked up a stone, put it in her hand and said," There s no one here to judge you here and I understand
You've been looking for something looking for something all your life.

The Prelude

It's a prelude to goodbye
When you close your eyes
You didn't see the signs Maybe I'm right, maybe I'm wrong
Maybe I thought I had met my match
But maybe I'm not that strong
I'm all right I'm just fine
I've been hurt harder than I've been hurt this time
It's a shame you can't take words back
Cause they hang in the air, they linger and that's a fact
Words can be arrows, they can be windows
They can do so very much of mean so very little
Maybe I'm just amazed that I could feel thins hard
Maybe when I fall these days, I only fall so far
It's a way of letting go, when you steel yourself
For some kind of trouble, and cut your losses low
And you smile like it's no big deal
Like it's one more misjudgment
In the way that you thought you'd feel
But I'm not finished I'm not done
Maybe I've just started, maybe I'm only numb
Maybe I'm just amazed that I could feel this hard
Maybe when I fall these days
I only fall so far

Distance

Distance can deepen your appreciation
I think it makes your heart forgetful
Sometimes I wonder what we do this for
But I can feel you sitting in the side seat
I can hear you whispering against my cheek
Hotel beds get big and wide
I can see me coming home to you
I can see me walking real slow and sure
I can see me coming home to you
Coming home
I've always been like so much running water
Smoothed your heart like stones in the riverbed
But sometimes I don't know my own heart and head
You are also restless and moving
You are crossing another state line
You say that you love me, but it's been a long long time
I can see me coming home to you
I can see me walking real slow and sure
I can see me coming home to you
Coming home, coming home to you
I've got hours to go, just me and my radio
With my hands filled with time I've got a hungry mind to know know it and to know you
Making peace with the past and the things that we've come to learn it like we've earned it
To live after a fashion a with some kind of passion
It's another love song that I don't have an end for
Another way of saying I hope this whole thing works out again
But I've always kept a part of my heart free
And that's the part you've been asking of me
I can see me coming home to you
I can see me walking real slow and sure
I can see me coming home to you
Coming home coming home to you.