

*Carrie
Newcomer*

MY TRUE NAME



I Should've Known Better

By Carrie Newcomer

Been a long time comin'
And the cards were stacked
It's been a long hard road
To hell and back
Your love meant trouble from the day we met
You won every hand and I lost every bet
Now you'd think that I should've known better
Now you'd think that I would have seen it come
My heart sank when I read that letter
It sank like a stone
It sank like a stone
A cup of cold coffee, yesterday's mail
Hard love like that's always bound to fail
Your love meant trouble from the day we met
If you want your things I put them out
On the front step
Now you'd think that I should've known better
Now you'd think that I would have seen it come
My heart sank when I read that letter
It sank like a stone
It sank like a stone
All alone in my kitchen, All alone in my bed
Some things you can't take back once they've been said
I don't know what this love is for
All I know is baby
I don't want it anymore
Now you'd think that I should've known better
Now you'd think that I would have seen it come
My heart sank when I read that letter
It sank like a stone
It sank like a stone
It's been a long time comin'
And the cards were stacked

It's been a long hard road
To hell and back.

When One Door Closes (another Door Opens Wide)

By Carrie Newcomer

When one door closes another door opens wide
It's hard to believe all of the locked doors I've tried
And you can't pray for what you want or what you'd have instead
You can only offer up your heart and ask that you be led

Life's gonna take you, where you never thought you'd go
When you finally think you've got it down, It isn't so
There are windows and doors, you're not finished with yet
It's not always getting what you want, but wanting what you get

Chorus

It's not gettin' easier, so I'm not going to pretend
That I know this story from it's beginning to it's end
Oh believe me when I tell you, believe me if you can

If I could turn down the noise of my own will and choice
I could hear the truth of my life in a clear voice
I will bow down my head to the wisdom of my heart
Cool my heels and hold on to the best parts

Chorus

So Long

By Carrie Newcomer

I don't know why
I can't say no
I guess I should
But I can't let go
Any day I'll be all right
But not tonight

But come away from the window and close the blind
And sleep on the couch when the bed's too wide
Who said you could keep this heart of mine
This long
This long
So long
There's a quiet in this room
The TV don't fill
And I know I'll be better soon
But come away from the window and close the blind
And sleep on the couch when the bed's too wide
Who said you could keep this heart of mine
This long
This long
So long
And there's a bitter taste in my mouth
That's salt and spice and sweet
With one last sigh the leaves let go
And fall down to the street
Not much to say so I won't call
Don't even want to try
And I'll make some sense of it all
But come away from the window and close the blind
And sleep on the couch when the bed's too wide
Who said you could keep this heart of mine
This long
So long

The Moon Over Tucson

By Carrie Newcomer

We just can't help it so we do it again
We just gun the gas and let the wheels spin
It's true and I've heard it said
We're not so very far from the back of our heads
And the moon shines high over Tucson
Over waters that were long ago dried
Cause the moon don't care if the water's not there
It's high tide
Isn't it physical, and we can't pretend
That we know where this starts and where this thing ends
It's a mystery and we don't know why
So we just breathe in deep and close our eyes
And the moon shines high over Tucson
Over waters that were long ago dried
Cause the moon don't care if the water's not there
It still tries
It calls to the water and it calls to the land
It calls to the hearts of women and men
It calls to the water and it calls to the land
It calls to the hearts of women and men
Isn't it a pity, isn't it a shame
That so much of what we are we won't call by name
And it's crazy in little ways
In the light of each and every full phase
And the moon shines high over Tucson
Over waters that were long ago dried
Cause the moon don't care if the water's not there
It's high tide
And the moon shines high

Take it Around Again

By Carrie Newcomer

Too hot to sleep in this room tonight
Just too restless to try
I've been folding my prayers into paper airplanes
Leaning out the window and watching them fly
Music fills the air
Waiting for something
I know isn't there
But there is no shame or sin
In saying "Take it around again"

Sometimes this all feels like a long slow dream
With the years just spilling by
Sometimes I think I've given all I can
But then I think again
And that's a sorry lie
Music fills the air
Waiting for something
I know isn't there
But there is no shame or sin
In saying "Take it around"
"Take it around again"

God bless those hearts that never rest
Who haunt these roads and rooms
May we all pay off our debts
And sleep at home
Some night soon
There's just no brass ring hangin' way out there
Just beyond our reach
I guess I believe that we are born to try
And that I've always had one hell of a ride
Music fills the air
Waiting for something

I know isn't there
But there is no shame or sin
In saying "Take it around "
"Take it around "
"Take it around again"

My True Name

By Carrie Newcomer

Let me call you darlin', maybe call you sweetheart
Don't you hate it when they call you Louise
But isn't it scary, when they want to call you Mary
A whore, or a saint, or a tease.

But you came here in summer, you'd been living in Manhattan
You caught me wide eyed and half sane
But you saw to my center past every imposter
And you whispered My True Name

I have been Betty, Eleanor and Rosie
I've been the shamed Magdaline
And if the truth be known I've attempted Saint Joan
Donna, and Sarah, and Jane

For we all have our heros and we all have tormentors
and we'll play them again and again
But you saw to my center, past every imposter
And you whispered My True Name

And if you see me standing on the banks of Lake Griffy
Throwing white bits of paper to the wind
I'm just throwing the shards, of all my calling cards
And I'm speaking My True Name

I'm just throwing the shards, of all my calling cards
And I'm whispering My True Name

The Razor's Edge

By Carrie Newcomer

There's a shifting of the shadows down along the woods
There's an echo of a gun down in the hollow

The neighbor's dog is barking like a wild thing that's been caught
Howling like there ain't no tomorrow

I've walked out on this ridge
And walked the razor's edge

And something still is calling me back again
Handed off like a secret, passed down like an heirloom
You've taken on their sorrows for pity or for love
Not because you want to, not because you have to
Just because it's time for the grieving to be done

You've walked out on this ridge
And walked the razor's edge

And something still is calling you back again
We are walking in the darkness
We are walking hand in hand
We are walking out in the darkness again

So close the door, slam the door put it softly in it's frame
You can walk on through, walk on out
No two doors are ever quite the same
And I'm pretty strong, but I've never been that tough
But when It comes to walking
That's still good enough
I've walked out on this ridge
You've walked the razor's edge
And something still is pulling us back again

Just a Little Hand

By Carrie Newcomer

Just a little hand can be a great big help
It can make a big difference
And there's a better plan than to do this ourselves
There is another point of reference and
I've never known an island
and I've never seen it work that way
I've come to understand
We do the best we can
But everybody needs a little hand
Just and little hand can go a long long way
And there's no shame in askin' and yes
No matter what they do
Or what they say
You can't live without a little tenderness
There's always gifts of kindness
And there's always little acts of bravery
I've come to understand
We do the best we can
But everybody needs a little hand
So call if your ever alone or down
And you need someone to be around
Just call
Just a little hand can be a great big help
It can make all the difference
And there's no reason to doubt
There is no story or fiction here, and
I've never known an island, and
I've never seen it work that way
I've come to understand
We do the best we can
But everybody needs a little hand
So call if your ever alone or down
And you need someone to be around

I've come to understand
We do the best we can
But everybody needs a little hand
Just a little hand

One Good Turn

By Carrie Newcomer

Where do we start
How do we proceed
It's been such a long time
Just to sit here and bleed
It's hard enough to see you
A bit of a surprise
This bittersweet feeling
And the look in your eyes
Now one good turn deserves another
Let's at least try to be kind
Don't forget when things were better
In another life in another time
Oh in another time
When this started it was a lifetime ago
You were dying to tell me
And I was aching to know
You kissed me hard
Like a question mark
And we carved our names
On each other's hearts
Chorus
There's no more pride for us to swallow
All that's left is a little scar
Isn't love too much to figure
So why are you laughing
And why am I smiling
You still feel good and your skin smells nice
It was a marriage of body and spirit
When I was yours
And you were mine
Chorus

Something Worth Fighting For

By Carrie Newcomer and Pierce Pettis

There's stormy seas this side of heaven
No guarantees of reaching shore
Well I'm not perfect and you're no better
But this is something worth fighting for
We got something worth fighting for
It's not enough these hearts and flowers
You build your home on something more
When life gets tough then
Love must be tougher
This is something worth fighting for
We got something worth fighting for
For everything I ever wanted
And I never wanted less
Than a lifelong true companion
And a love that can always stand the test
We can be strong
Come hell or thunder
Mightier than the sword
This time we're on the side of the angels
Cause this is something worth fighting for
We got something worth fighting for
This is something worth fighting for
Worth fighting for

Close Your Eyes

By Carrie Newcomer

I believe we're born good from the start
And we come equipped with a piece of God in our hearts
But the world exacts a hard and bitter cost
And some of us get oh so very lost
Close your eyes
Your heart knows why
And what's the truth
And what's the lie
Through each mistake and every old regret
and every hope that hasn't come through yet
I still believe though it's crazy that I might
And like a diamond shines each bit of light
Close your eyes
Your heart knows why
And what's the truth
And what's the lie
So how I got this job I'll never know
But when it calls you can't refuse to go
So most of us just do the best we can
And in this stumbling world just try to stand
Close your eyes
Your heart knows why
And what's the truth
And what's the lie

The Length of My Arms

By Carrie Newcomer

I've always had long arms
and my sleeves never fit.
And my mother would worry
about my dangling wrists and
I never grew to tall,
but it did me no harm
To never grow into
the length of my arms

What I have embraced,
what I've carried for years
Like a bucket of self doubt,
like a basket of fears
but we finally cherish
what we got from the start
Like the length of our own arms
and the shape of our hearts

I dreamt I was flying,
and I dreamt of my mother
She was walking in paradise
with one saint or another
and I looked out at my own arms
and they felt so strong
and really quite lovely
though ridiculously long