

Brian May
BRIAN MAY



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All tracks published by Queen Music Ltd. / EMI Music Publishing Ltd.
Except tracks 4,7 published by Queen Music Ltd. / EMI Music Publishing Ltd. / Mystery Music Ltd.
track 12 published by EMI United Partnership Ltd.

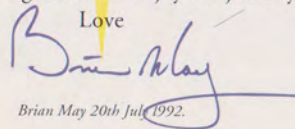
Dear Folks, This
is an album of songs, and
the man who finished making it today
is very different from the man who started it
five years ago. So this is not a set of ideas put down
at one moment, nor is it the story of my life; it is merely
a collection of attempts made at various times to make
sense of life's journey. Thus you won't find much in here
about how fab it is to be a rock star in Queen; but you may find,
in contrast, glimpses of someone quite small and insecure. I know
him well.

Music is joy to me, and living in it is sometimes the only safe
place to be. Much of what is recorded here is for fun, escapism,
music for its own sake, and though I mean what I say, take it with
a small pinch of salt.

In my mind, this album was always called *Back To The
Light*. At its beginning I felt no real hope of finding the
light; now it glimmers dimly, encouragingly, but
always intermittently in the hall of mirrors around
me. I suppose if we ever knew exactly where
the light was coming from, getting
there would be easy.....

Thanks for being with me. Enjoy the journey !!!

Love


Brian May 20th July 1992.

Little Baby sweetly sleep
Do not stir
We will bring a coat of fur
We will rock you, rock you, rock you,
We will rock you, rock you, rock you.....

See the fur to keep you warm
Softly round your tiny form

THE DARK

(May)

Includes material engineered by Alan Douglas at the
Townhouse Studios, 1980

BACK TO THE LIGHT

(May)

Far, far from the light
Hear the night creatures call
With a cold breath they howl
All the hollow hours they're calling you
I'll be there
No matter what you're going through
In the dark I care
I'm hanging on, I'm hoping on
It's still the same old me inside

chorus Back to the light
Back to the streets, that are
Paved with gold
Back to the light
Back to land where the
Sunshine heals my soul

Deep deep in the night
When the world fills with tears
And the wind blows, colder and colder it grows
And the fire dims with the same old fears
I'll be there
Though maybe you don't hear me babe

I still care
No matter when, I'll still be there
When you make it to the other side

chorus Back to the light etc.

On and on
Searching for a clearer view
Winning and losing an inner war
Wonder what we do it for
Though the road seems never ending
Hold on to the hope I'm sending through

I'll be there
No matter where you're going to
In the dark I care
I'm holding on – believe it –
We'll be walking in the light
'Cos they'll be no place left to hide

chorus Back to the light etc.

Drums : Cozy Powell

Bass : Gary Tibbs

**B.V's : Miriam Stockley, Maggie Ryder, Suzie O'List,
Gill O'Donovan.**

**First ideas for this song engineered by Brian Zellis and
Pete Schwier March 1988**

LOVE TOKEN

(May)

Mama's in love, Papa's in love
It's such a shame they don't love each other .
Papa's in a jam, Mama's throwin' pans
The game's up – it's time to run for cover

Everybody's cryin' but they can't stop hopin'
Everybody's lookin' for the door that's open
Mama's making heat to keep the old fire smokin'
Papa's hangin' on to his old love token.

You got love but you ain't got style

You want your freedom but in a while
You're lost children but you know for sure
You gotta find out what your love is for.

[Oh baby life ain't what it used to be]
[You're tellin' me – not since you 'been hangin' round
here]
[Mama what you screamin' for actin' like a demon for
And hey mama quit wavin' them hands in the air
(Don't talk to me that way)
[Well I don't see no reason to raise your voice to me]
[You put fat in the fire you got meat for brains]
[Well you don't give me comfort and a
Man's gotta get it somewhere]
(Ooh that's a shame) [Yeah, well.....]
Mama's hangin' on to every word that's spoken
But Papa's hangin' onto his old love token

Oh I don't wanna leave you Mama
Oh I don't wanna leave you Papa

Long haired women gonna turn you to stone
You can't beat em – cos you need 'em
You gotta live – you gotta love
Your love token's gotta fit like a glove

Listen to the story 'bout the dream that's broken
You gotta keep a hold of your old love token

Oh I don't wanna leave you Mama
Oh I don't wanna leave you Papa
No I don't wanna leave you alone
But I'm gonna have to Babe

Drums : Cozy Powell

Bass : Neil Murray

Piano : Mike Moran

RESURRECTION

(Words : May. Music : May, Powell, Page)

There's a pain in my brain
Confusion in my heart
My blood's fit for bursting
My body apart – I'm gonna ride –
Ride the night into the morning sun

Gonna make my resurrection
No more of this crap
Got a whole new direction
Ain't no turning back
Resurrection is a-gonna come

My spirit is weeping
For freedom it cries
Been scraping my living
In the Valley of Lies
Ride the night into the morning sun

I'm a victim of a victim
Of a conspiracy
From a corpum derelictum
Gonna fly and be free
The resurrection is a-gonna come

Clear the vision
Heal the system
Sins forgiven – RISE !

Flee the prison
Break the system
Sins forgiven – RISE !! RISE !!

Ride the night – yes I know I'm still alive –
Gotta ride the night – yeah I'm gonna ride –
Gonna rise again in the morning light

There's no use in counting
The price of those years
There's too many heartaches
And too many tears

Gotta ride the night into the morning sun

Yes, I thought I was dreaming
But the East is ablaze
With the promise of the future

Those Heavenly Days
Ride the night into the morning sun
Ride the night – into the morning sun
Cos the resurrection is a-gonna come

Drums : Cozy Powell

Extra keyboards : Don Airey

**Includes material engineered by Sean Lynch and Leis
Masses at Mono Valley Studios and Marcus Studios**

TOO MUCH LOVE WILL KILL YOU

(May, Musker, Lamers)

I'm just the pieces of the man I used to be
Too many bitter tears are raining down on me
I'm far away from home
And I've been facing this alone for much too long
I feel like no-one ever told the truth to me
About growing up and what a struggle it would be
In my tangled state of mind
I've been looking back to find where I went wrong

Too Much Love Will Kill You
If you can't make up your mind
Torn between the lover and the love you leave behind
You're headed for disaster 'cos you never read the signs
Too Much Love Will Kill You – every time.

I'm just the shadow of the man I used to be
And it seems there's no way out of this for me
I used to bring you sunshine
Now all I ever do is bring you down
How would it be if you were standing in my shoes
Can't you see that it's impossible to choose
No there's no making sense of it
Every way I go I have to lose

Too Much Love Will Kill You
just as sure as none at all,
It'll drain the power that's in you
Make you plead and scream and crawl
And the pain will make you crazy
You're the victim of your crime
Too Much Love Will Kill You – every time

Too Much Love Will Kill You
It'll make your life a lie
Yes, Too Much Love Will Kill You
And you won't understand why
You'd give your life you'd sell your soul
But here it comes again
Too Much Love Will Kill You
In the end.....
In the end.

DRIVEN BY YOU

(May)

Woh – Everything I do I do for you –

We touch and you're afraid of me and
We burn and now I'm at your feet
High speed, but you know you're in safe hands
In the dark we make a brighter light
From one spark to the horizon wide
We trust, and together we tame the land

You'd be forgiven if you think you're dreaming
But we're working night and day to make a dream come true
Everything I do is driven by you

Oh well it's tough to make a journey through
The right stuff is dead ahead of you and me
And you know we've still got time
Hold on tight to the driving wheel
This ride is really out of line
Raw deal, but there's no other that's worth a dime

You know I love you but you drive me crazy
'Cos you're saying all the things I want to say to you
(you say)

Everything I do is driven by you

Everything we do
Everything we do
Everything we do
Everything we do is driven by you

Inner children lost their way
Now they know the price you pay
I'm holding on to life with you
'Cos life without you just won't do

Driven by you

You know we're never going to know who's dreaming
But we're working night and day to make a dream come true
Everything I do is driven by you
Everything we do
Etc.

Everything we do is
Driven by
Driven by
Driven by you
(Ooooooh everything I dooo – I do for you!)

**Recorded and mixed with David Richards co-producing,
at Mountain Studios, Montreux, Switzerland, 1991**

NOTHIN' BUT BLUE

(Words: May. Music: May, Powell)

I look at your picture
I'm nothin' but blue
I'm hearing you whisper
The way you used to do
And I can't stop wondering
Just how things might have been
No I'm nothin' but blue

My life has no rhythm
Somehow it's out of tune
I keep trying to tell them
We'll be seeing them soon
But the truth keeps rushing back
Guess you know what I mean.....
No I'm nothin' but blue

No use in crying – that ain't what you would do – no
Living or dying – we'll just keep on fighting through

No I can't stop my wondering
'Bout all those things that might have been
No I'm nothin' but blue
Nothing.....
Nothin' but blue

Drums : Cozy Powell

Bass : John Deacon

Extra keyboards : Don Airey

**Includes material engineered by Sean Lynch and Leis
Masses at Mono Valley Studios and Marcus Studios**

I'M SCARED [Justin's mix '92]

(May)

You take me to the party
You put me on the stand
You're pumpin' up my heart
To the beatin' of the band
You toss it in the air
And you don't care where it lands
You take it – you break it
You're hurtin' me

Because I wasn't prepared
I couldn't go where you dared
You got my whole soul bared
I never knew that you cared

I'm scared.....etc.

You take me out to dinner
And you swallow me whole
You're nothin' but a sinner
With a dark black soul
I figured I could handle you
But I'm just a toy
You're gettin' bolder and bolder
You're just a bad bad boy

I'm scared.....etc.

What you starin' at
You're such a scaredy cat
When I know that I just can't fight it
So what you starin' at
You're such a scaredy cat
'Cos I'm only scared that maybe I might like it....

Chaos Karaoke – do your own thing but try the following :-

*I'm scared to move, I'm scared of standing still
I'm scared to change, I'm scared to stay the same
I'm so scared I want to die
I'm scared of dying
I'm scared of not being liked, not being loved
I'm scared to be alone
I'm scared of being with people
I'm scared of disapproval
I'm scared of life
I'm scared to lose what I have built
I'm scared of feeling scared
I'm scared of being ugly, being boring, being dull
I'm scared of my thoughts
I'm scared of being found out
I'm scared of Steven Berkoff
I'm scared to dance, I'm scared to speak, to sing
I'm scared my body's awkward, the wrong shape, wrong smell
I'm scared to say what I think
I'm scared to say no, or yes too often*

*I'm scared of disappointing
I'm scared of losing control
I'm scared of pain, I'm scared of hurting, being hurt
I'm scared this will go on 'til I die
I'm scared of losing my home, my love, my kids, my kids,
my kids
I'm scared my heart will break
I'm scared of losing myself
I'm scared of finding myself
Because there might be no-one there at all
I'm scared of the unknown future
I'm scared to make a wrong turn
I'm scared of the dark
I'm scared of failing
I'm scared it may all be for nothing*

You take me to the limit
You push me to the brink
You left me with the blues
When you found me in the pink
You know just what you're saying
But your metaphors stink
I gotta lick it, or stick it,
Or this is the end

I'm scared.....etc.

Drums : Cozy Powell

Bass : Neil Murray

**Includes material engineered by Pete Schwier,
assisted by Richard Edwards**

LAST HORIZON

(May)

Keyboards: Mike Moran

**Includes material recorded with David Richards at Sarm
Studios**

LET YOUR HEART RULE YOUR HEAD

(May)

If you've got time stay and listen to my story
Just a moment of your life is all I need
Don't say we should be parted
'Cos we only just got started
Let your heart rule your head tonight

There's a full moon shinin' on the water
There's a warm breeze blowin' off the sea
And when my pulse starts a racin'
I know life is for the tastin'
Let your heart rule your head tonight

chorus Let your heart rule your head
Let your heart rule your head
Let your heart rule your head tonight
When your whole world is sinkin'
Come to my way of thinkin'
Let your heart rule your head tonight

It's been so long since I put my arms around you
And I don't know if it's real or it's a dream
But don't pussy-foot about it – shout it
Just can't live without it!
Let your heart rule your head tonight (everybody)

Let your heart rule your head..... etc.

You're starin' at my face as though I'm crazy
When I tell you that I need you every day
Can't you see that I love you pretty baby
And ol' time don't ever stop tickin' away

Well your Mama don't mind
And your Papa don't mind
But you'll never be mine
If you're thinkin' all the time
We can work it out right
When I'm holdin' you tight
We can make it tonight

'Cos it ain't no crime
Don't let the moment slip away.....
Don't think about it – do it!

Well I know that we're in a time of changes
And in love there is danger everywhere
But consider every portion
When you've taken your precautions
Let your heart (let your heart)
Let your heart (let your heart)
Let your heart, let your heart, let your heart
Let your heart rule your head..... etc.

Bass : Gary Tibbs

Drums: Geoff Dugmore

B.V's : Suzie O'List, Gill O'Donovan

**Includes material engineered by Pete Schwier, assisted by
Richard Edwards at Sarm Studios, March 1988**

JUST ONE LIFE

(May)

I did not know you
Our lives never touched
'Til the day they gathered
To bid you farewell
And they painted your picture
And as I looked around
I felt I saw you
In the words and the sound

Your talent came flowing
Through the stories they tell
And through the faces
Of those who loved you so well
Your life gave them a treasure
A piece of themselves
Something they carry
And still serves them well

Just One Life
Just One Life

Just One Life
That is born, and is, and is gone
Just One Life
And I'm so glad to know you
As I know you now

Perhaps inside you
You were messed up like me
But to them you were whole and strong
And friend in their need
And what you left behind you
And what swept over me
Says that your life's work
Rolls on and on
A piece of eternity

Just One Life
Just One Life
Just One Life
That is born, and is, and is gone
Just One life
Did you ever have the chance to find out
What life is all about

I did not know you
Our lives never touched
Til the day we gathered
To say our farewells

Dedicated to Philip Sayer.
Includes material engineered by David Richards at
Mountain Studios, Montreux

ROLLIN' OVER (Marriot, Lane)

Goodbye sunshine I'm on my way
I'll be long time gone by the break of day
Tell everyone that I'm gonna find it
There ain't nothin' gonna stop me –

Rollin' Over, Rollin' Over

Save all your lovin' till I get home
To the sweetest lovin' sunshine that I've ever known
Tell everyone that I'm gonna find it
There ain't nothin' gonna stop me –

Rollin' Over, Shak-do-way
Rollin' Over, Yeah-yeah-yeah.....

Vocals : Brian with Chris Thompson
Drums : Geoff Dugmore
Bass : Gary Tibbs
Piano : Mike Moran
B.V's : Miriam Stockley, Maggie Ryder, Chris Thompson
Includes material engineered by Pete Schwier, assisted by
Richard Edwards – March '88 at the Townhouse

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Produced by Brian May

Co-produced and engineered by Justin Shirley-Smith

Technical Assistance by Brian Zellis

Mastered by Kevin Metcalfe

All vocals, backing vocals, guitars, keyboards and anything
else around – by Brian May unless otherwise stated.

Recorded at Allerton Hill except where stated.
Mixed at Metropolis Studios except where stated.
(Assistant engineers Noel Haris and Heidi Cannavo)

Management: Jim Beach and Julie Glover.
Tour manager: Gerry Stickells.

Sleeve design and photography by Richard Gray.

Fan Club: 46 Pembroke Road, London W11 3HN.

These performances were digitally recorded on two linked
Sony '3324' 24-track machines with Apogee filters and mixed
back on to two tracks on the same machines.

The album was then digitally compiled at West Heath
Studios with Ian Sylvester.

The guitars were played mainly either through 'Zoom' boxes
or good old (or new) Vox AC30's.

Extra expert programming by David Richards and Brian
Zellis.

MY THANKS TO:

Jacky Gunn, Sally Hyatt, Val Moss, Allistair McLaren, Marjie
Winter, Melanie Martin-Keady, Neal Levin, Peter Chant,
Robert Lee, Vicky Vocat, Andre Gauchat, David Richards,
Lola at Sarm, Barbara Jeffries, Penny Robinson, Crystal,
Martha, Big Martin, Ray Burdis, Dominic Anciano, Jill
Sinclair, Anita Keogh, Brenda Brooker, Spike Edney, The
Wildes of Knebworth, Pete Schwier, Richard Edwards,
Lonnie Donegan, Eddie Naughton, Gary Langan, Karen
Goodman and all at Metropolis Studios, Peter Harrison,
Maggie Winkworth, Alan Maclean, Tony (the sweet shop
man), David Mallet, Debbie Mason, Wendy Laister, Roxy
Meade, Derry Hawes, Diana Moseley, Jane Gregory,
Malcolm Hill, Jim Jenkins, Michael Eisner, Peter Paterno and
all at Hollywood Records, Gary Arnold, Rupert Perry, Tony
Wadsworth, Andrew Pryor, and all at EMI Records, Helmut

Fest, Korg UK, Ian Southwell, HHB, Audio FX, Brazenrock,
Bill Acton, Ian Sylvester, Lynne Carey, Bryn Bridenthal,
Carmen Rivera, Alan Douglas, Eren Mehmed, Dave Potter,
the good folks of The Sun, Windlesham, all members of the
Queen fan club, Trip Khalaf, Jim Devenney, Patrick
Woodroffe, Peter Hince, Rudi Dolezal, Hannes Rossacher,
Stephanie Wagner, Paul Bobbins and Toby (the dog),
Malcolm Thomas, Marie Ramsden, John (Tunbridge) Wells,
Wally Gore, Ron The Dog.

**For the past 20 years I have been privileged to work with
the best team in the world. Thankyou Roger, John and
our dear incomparable, sorely missed, Freddie, and all
those who worked for Queen over the years, for getting
me this far.**

MY SPECIAL THANKS ALSO:

To my Dad for making my guitar with me. It should just see
me out.

To Dick Denney, for designing the AC30.

To Jimmy May for keeping me clear about how cool I'm not,
Louisa May for pet care and control, and Emily May for
sunshine every day.

To my dear Mum for keeping Allerton Alive.

For persistent friendship, much appreciated, Tom Short,
Nathan East, Steve Ferrone, Rick Wakeman, Steve Vai, Paul
Rodgers, E.V.H., Elton John, Axl, Slash and the Def Leps.

To Joe Satriani for a magnificent guitar which makes its
debut on *Nothin' But Blue*.

To Justin, for hanging in there like the trooper he is and
patiently dealing with my erratic recording habits.

For support and encouragement, to Tony Iommi, Joe Elliott,
Nuno, Gary, Paul and Pat of Extreme, Neil Murray, Jack
Nelson, Mike Moran and Cozy Powell, whose contribution
to this album is inestimable.

And to my lady, Anita Dobson, for having the faith that I
could fly.

This album is dedicated to Harold May, Alfred Dobson and
Freddie Mercury. And to all those loved ones we have lost too
soon.

