Tallismans Tales

Tallisman

Presented by
My poetic Side

Dedication

To my wonderful wife, Kirsten.

summary

Midnight hour

Passion

Love out of time

Break the chain?

When all is said and done

Melody of life

Not gonna turn out well?

Crying out for hope

Where the hell is it!

A Darkness in the heart

Play the game

Circles in the sand

Road trip

Blood moon

Natures dance

Blood on the water

Watching the world go by ?- [villanelle]

Haiku

Searching for a question?(Acrostic)

Rhyme without reason

Unrequited

Why doesnt the sun rise anymore

Destined.

The Beacon

Sea of dreams

Toreador

I wrote a poem that no one reads

The best of times

Grannies gang. Revised

Devils bride

No gold at the end of a rainbow

What you going to do about that?

Migraine

The singer and the song

Devils bride revisited

Pantomime

Who calls?

Always read the label.

He said, he said?

Man in the moon

The Teddy Challenge

Waiting for you

Goodbye

Into the fire?

Love you so?

Red dusk

My bathroom upgrade

Questions?

When an Angel cries

A bit of nonsense!

Ba humbug!

Back seats

Intracerebral

The Song

The Stone

Child of my youth

The River

Endings

Invisible

The Fall

Time machine

Fly in a storm

The Rocking chair

Consumed

Death in disguise

Why

Playlist

Silent

Ghost

Thrive

Bad poetry

Eagles sing a requiem

They lie beneath

Girl with the long dark hair

The Song

Broken

Lost in the light

Midnight hour

In the midnight hour
She lies awake and cannot sleep
She's lived her life in an ivory tower
But now she's just counting sheep
She wonders how she got life so wrong
How she ended up so alone
Ponders until the blackbirds song
Restores the sun to its throne

In the midnight hour
Her melancholy a dark abyss
Praying to a higher power
That there's more to life than this
She stares out of the window
Eyes reflections of the moon
Hours passing by but oh so slow
The dawn must be coming soon

In the midnight hour
She remembering how love felt
How it would grow inside and overpower
Until it felt that her heart would melt
She yearns to taste that love again
To feel it bloom in her heart like a flower
But all she has is loneliness and pain
To see her through the midnight hour

Passion

He recalls the days that they spent together
The nights they spent making love, all night
Days they thought that would last forever
Suddenly seem lost to sight
What happened to the people that they once were
And how did they get to where they are today?
The passion that once flamed is now a single ember
That's slowly fading and crumbling away

He remembers how the scent of her perfume
Would drive him wild with desire
When a simple smile across a crowded room
Would reignite that fire
Though his love for her is never in doubt
How he misses that burning heat
He thought this desire could never burn out
Leaving him unneeded and obsolete

The love they hold is a strong now as it was then
But he misses the unbridled passion they'd bring
Oh if only they could live their lives over again!
But I guess he wouldn't change a single thing

Love out of time

Love out of time

Every day he's waits outside the post office in town
If anybody speaks he just greets them with a frown
Looks as though he's waiting for someone who never shows
He waits there all day until the evening then goes.

One day I got the courage to ask if he's ok
He just looked right through me until I turned away
Then I heard him speak quietly as I made to leave
He reached out and stopped me by grabbing at my sleeve

He asked me if I'd seen her, he says she's very late
That he'd arranged to meet her here, so he has to wait
She said she'd be here for him but she's never there
He begs me to tell her, to make sure she aware

I said I'm sorry, I don't know who you are waiting for
There's no-one else I've seen, hanging around this store
Are you sure it's here your meeting, is this the place to go
Who is it your waiting for, is it someone that I know?

He pulled out a sepia photo, the sort our grandpa had
But it looked like it was older, like when grandpa was a lad
You could see that she was lovely, thought the print was faded and torn
One thing was certain, she would have been old before I was born

I realised his clothes were from a bygone age
When cravats and cummerbunds would have been all the rage
He was dressed to go a-courting in a century or more now gone
Somehow lost in time, he waited, to a return to "when" he was from

I promised I would wait, he said. Forever if I must

A promise I must not break, I owe her love and trust
So walk on by, my friend, and wish me well if you can
So I left him that day, a lonely but determined man

And as the years went by, the post office became a store
Then a private house, then a couple of flats or more
But always I would tip my hat at the man waiting there still
And I would marvel at the love that could inspire such strength of will

Then one day he was not there, I stopped and looked around
I realised he was gone and he was nowhere to be found
Perhaps I wondered if time had claimed him and returned him to his own
I prayed he was safe and well, I felt somehow left alone

That night I heard a voice calling out as I slept
My friend he said, my promise has been kept
All these years of waiting, finally I am free
my love, my love, has finally come to be with me

In my sleep I smiled, for even old men like me can care
The sepia lady in a photograph now was real and standing there
Then they waved goodbye and left me, back to their own time and place
And I woke up this morning with a smile upon my face

Tallisman

Break the chain?

The day is going overcast
Blocking out the sun
I pull my coat around me
To better hide the gun
We all have to pay
For the choices that we make
At the end of the day
There's a reckoning to make

So you think you can just leave me with a smart remark
Walk away to another man and leave me in the dark
You think that love is transferable, oh honey your so wrong
Your living a real life, not some heroine in some song

My love for you won't die
With the spilling of your blood
I certainly can't deny
That I wish it would
We all have to feel the pain
When life changes direction
What did you think you'd gain
By transferring your affection?

Did you really think that loves tethers were so easy to dispel
That you could walk away and all would be turn.out well?
You think you can snap the links, oh baby that's not true
My hearts in chains and they are all linked right back to you

There's only one way to break the chain
That's what I am here for
A single bullet through the brain
A body on the floor
Who's body that is I cannot know

Until the moments due
But one of us will have to go
And this started with you...

When all is said and done

When all is said and done
When there's nothing left to say
We cannot stop what we've begun
We can only turn away
But what's said cannot be redacted
Words can burn into your soul
How I wish I'd not reacted
I just lost control
I never meant to hurt you,
To say the things I said
Some things are inexcusable
Even angels would fear to tread
I'm here to apologise
But I know I can't be forgiven
I can see the answer in your eyes
And my soul is riven

Melody of life

There's a place by the water where we used to meet
Where we exchanged dreams and your kisses were so sweet
Now it's a valley where I rest when life's roads feel too steep
And I miss you
I sit by the water and watch the ripples pass me by
Let the past entwine me and the memories amplify
Sometimes I almost hear your voice in the rivers gentle sigh
It's true
I wonder what could have been if you were still with me
But fate had decided that we were not destined to be
A speeding car and a driver drunk led to calamity
And you were gone
That was so many years ago, yet here in this special place
I can almost touch you, see the sun upon your face
You touched my heart and soul, and your touch left a trace
You were the one
Now I'm much older but you are forever young
A love snatched from me just as it had begun
The melody of our life was never to be sung
That's so wrong
But here in this place with the river running through
I still dream of the things that we were going to do
And the sounds of the birds makes me smile too
Their singing our song

Not gonna turn out well?

He drives the car with concentration
One thing he can do is drive
Speed limits are for the general population
Fast cars make him feel alive
Today he's stolen a sporty Ford
If such a thing exists
Blue lights flash behind, accelerater floored
Adrenaline flows with the risks
Hits the A road doing a ton or more
Police car closing in the rear
Narrowly misses a four by four
It's driver frozen in fear
Takes the corner much to fast
The tyres lose their grip
Car spins, the world whirls past
 Suddenly feels it flip
The world full of noise and sparks
Amidst the petrol smell
A voice inside his head remarks
This ain't gonna turn out well...

He stands outside his house again
Three years he'd spent in a prison cell
Before that six months in pain
On which he'd rather not dwell
In all that time he'd not seen his wife
She hadn't been or sent a note
Just once to tell him get out of her life
And that was all she wrote
So he waited in trepidation
As he'd knocked upon the door
He swallowed hard in the expectation

That she wouldn't want him anymore
The man who answered was not known
He told him he had just moved in there
The previous tenant, no address, no phone
Didn't know who, didn't know where
He grabbed the man by the throat in rage
Pushed him so he fell
Felt a voice inside his head engage
This ain't gonna turn out well...

Now I'm old and look back in sorrow
At the mistakes I have done
There's no future in tomorrow
My time is nearly come
Soon I face my final judgments
A choice between heaven and hell
A voice inside my head laments
This ain't gonna turn out well....

Crying out for hope

She's listening, I can see
Lost inside her mind
Thoughts that should be free
Turn to fears that bind
Circling around like eagles
Looking for their prey
Thoughts that inveigle
Her memories this way

She listens to the voices
She knows them so well
They make her pick her choices
From a menu written in hell
The stories that they tell her
Have no base in truth
But seem real enough to infer
She's guilty without proof

She carries that guilt within
Hides it from her friends
Admitting it would be something
She scared would never end
She apologises for all that's wrong
Though she's not at fault
Shes trying to just get along
While her emotions somersault

She questions her perceptions
On every conversation
Scared of deceptions
And seeking affirmation
She is crying out for hope
But cannot understand

Shes balanced on a tightrope
With nowhere safe to land

And in the quiet of the night
The voices always call
She cannot fight or flight
Or hide from it at all
She losers her sense of reason
Cannot see through the mists
It's always a winter season
When depression exists

Where the hell is it!

Where the hell is it
I'm sure I put it there
Right beside where I sit
In the old armchair
I know I had it not long ago
Are you sure you've not put it away
Just check it's not under that throw
That's where it was yesterday
I know I used it last
No need to raise your voice
Or rake up the past
And for your information
Yes I've been working late
But it's that renumeration
That pays for this fancy estate
Will you stop whining
And come and help me look
Instead of just opining
About the time I took
Oh damn it all I've had enough
Stuff your casserole
Get over here and shift your stuff
And find that remote control!

A Darkness in the heart

There is a darkness in my heart
A fear that you may not stay
I will be broken if you depart
The thought fill s me with dismay
We haven't lately been in much accord
It seems you always want more
More than together we can afford
But I never thought of us a poor
We used to be so rich in love
Material things meant so little
We fitted together like a hand in a glove
Now our relationship seems so brittle
What changed? Is it you, is it me?
Maybe it's the world that our love denied
Maybe we were just an anomaly
That the fates have rectified
I've been giving this some reflection
I would do anything to retain
Even a fraction of that affection
And hold you once again
So stay with me, be with me
Let's regain the higher ground
We could replay the harmony
Of the love that we once had found.

Play the game

It doesn't matter who wins, who loses
We can only play the game.
The hammer falls wherever it chooses
Leaves us to apportion blame

We cannot control the dawning day
Or shelter from the storm
We're dealt the cards we have to play
From the day that we are born

Sometimes we stumble, often we fall
Sometimes we turn to hide from it all
But the sun keeps on shining or the rains just as wet
Life is as good as it's going to get

Wish upon a shooting star, or in a wishing well
Pray to an uncaring God, seek a private hell
Cry out for all you've lost, for what you never had
For all that makes you happy can also make you sad

Sometimes we stumble, often we fall
Sometimes we find courage to face it all
And the sun keeps on shining or the rains just as wet
Life can get better, the futures not set

Circles in the sand

Creating circles in the sand
Chains around my heart
I just don't understand
I guess I'm not that smart
Forest fires all around me
My life going up in flames
Heartaches surround me
Natures playing games
Life and death are measured
By the flicking of a wrist
What is really treasured
Is not known until it's missed
Life needs a reason
Reason makes demands
Changing like the season
Creating circles in the sands

Road trip

We were friends when we left our home streets
When we first set off down that track
So we started sitting in the front seats
But finished spending time in the back
We had decided to go on a road trip
From John O'Groats to Lands End
We had never intended a courtship
We thought we were just good friends
We'd been neighbours since we children
You were the girl next door
I don't remember a time when
We've never been friends for sure
But somehow spending this time together
Just talking the day away
Well I could do this forever
I'm glad you feel the same way
I think by the time the trip ends
Our families will get the shock of their life
We started this trip as just friends
And came back as husband and wife!

Blood moon

Rhiannon, spare a thought for me
Lost in a dark confusion
Hopelessly I'm cursed to be
Living in a sad delusion

Rhiannon, it's a time of hope
Over far to soon
I don't need a telescope
To heed your blooded moon

Rhiannon, the sky bleeds red
Tell me where I have offended?
Is it something I have said
Or as nature intended?

Rhiannon, Celtic goddess, I kneel before you
Pray to the blood moons power
Take my hopes and bless them too
In this my darkest hour

Natures dance

In every century owned by man
Through every torments and trials
In every plague since time began
On every continent and isles
Within the devastation made
By mankind's slow advancing
The earth itself now tired and frayed
But the lady keeps on dancing

The words may change, the music not
As the world keeps on turning
Colder winters, summers more hot
Forest fires keep burning
The ice caps melt, the oceans rise
Mankind loses its last chances
We survey the ruins with stinging eyes
But still the lady dances

Maybe there's time to reverse the trend
And work with nature to enhance
Nature doesn't want the earth to end
She just wants to dance....

Blood on the water

She stands staring out to sea
But she's blind to what is out there
She's replaying her life history
And laying her soul bare
She feels the tears sting her eyes
Scared of where life's bought her
She doesn't see the summer skies
Only blood on the water

She thinks about the hopes she had
And a family lost to war
Ideals once so ironclad
Were not worth fighting for
The price paid was far to high
Overtaken by the slaughter
She's no tears left to cry
Only blood on the water

The cliff edge beneath her feet
Waves breaking far below
Life that once tasted sweet
Burdened by deaths shadow
She knows the pain will not cease
That at least this life had taught her
She steps forwards to a final release
And her blood to the water

Watching the world go by ?- [villanelle]

He waits to watch the world go by
As nothing ever stops
It's enough to make a grown man cry

The sun goes down behind the mountains high
And darkness suddenly drops
He waits to watch the world go by

He wonders where his enemies lie
It's not knowing who to fear
It's enough to make a grown man cry

He knows he can't win, but he has to try
They can always find him here
He waits to watch the world go by

He has nowhere to run and will not deny
He holds their secrets dear
It's enough to make a grown man cry

The secrets always he will keep
Though the fear runs ever deep
He waits to watch the world go by
It's enough to make a grown man cry

Haiku

Where the roses bloom
They shrivel and die too soon
Petals shed like tears

Searching for a question?(Acrostic)

What happened to my heart
How can it break again?
Empty, torn apart
Raw and in pain
Excuse my tears

I cannot stop crying
Some part of me fears

That my heart is dying
Hold me tight
Ever I grieve

Loving is right
Others achieve
Victim of depression
Ever searching for this question...

Rhyme without reason

It's a cold and wet night in a dismal part of town
In the yellowing streetlights a drunk staggers home
From the multi-storey car park a man is looking down
Waiting, to be sure he's alone

He's listening to the voice that's all in his head
Telling him that all hope is lost
Filling his heart with despair and with dread
Knowing a line has been crossed

The shadows in the street call for his release
The rhythm of the rain beats a song
Only in the shadows can he find that final peace
Seeking a right from a wrong

When depression falls there comes a time
the soul enters the darker season
There's no rhythm in life's rhyme
Rhyme without a reason

The car parks empty, but still it rains
The flashing blues long gone
Rainwater washes away what remains
Of another life gone wrong

Unrequited

We cannot read the minds of those so close,
Or feel the deep emotion
You may as well be comatose
Your mind Is like the ocean
So deep I cannot reach you
So big that I am lost
So dark I cannot see through
Yet in the swells I'm tossed
I need to find an island
Where our minds can meet
Build sandcastles in the sand
Sweep you off your feet

You always keep a distance
It's pulling at my heart
It's like your living in a trance
Keeping us apart
Don't you know I need to,
I need to keep you near
To know everything about you
You are all that I hold dear
I would go to any length
Go that extra mile
Where do you find that strength
To deny me your smile?

Why doesnt the sun rise anymore

Why doesn't the sun rise anymore
My life is suddenly dark
Finding nothing left to strive for
All gone, so barren, so stark
All alone, in the wasteland of my life
Strewn with lost hopes and desire
balanced as on the edge of a knife
Between absolution and hellfire
Who took away all my hopes
Who took away my queen
And left me reeling on the ropes
Crying for what could have been
An Angel took you away from me
My heart is broken.in two
So why doesn't the sun rise? you see
It's because it cant shine on you.

Destined.

I'm destined for greater things
Of this I can be sure
Ready for whatever this life brings
All I will endure
I will slay the dragon in his lair
Put the ghosts to rest
Rescue the damsel with long hair
And by bishops I'll be blessed
The bards will all sing of my good deeds
They will write a book on me
I will ride into glory on my white steeds
And mine enemies will flee
I'll do all this before the alarm rings
And blows my dreams away
Oh I'm destined for greater things
But maybe not today...

The Beacon

The light flickers at the window pane
A beacon for all to see
A lady peers out in the rain
Oh Lord, send him home to me.

The soldier looks up to the skies
Body crumpled to where he was thrown
Staring now with unseeing eyes
That will never again see home

The fisherman caught in a net of his weaving
Screaming his life at the sea
Fighting his death and still unbelieving
That this could be happening to me

The driver mangled in the remains
Of what was once was his pride
his life ran out with the blood of his veins
Alone, far from home when he died

A flickering light calling for shades of the past
Window glass steams with her breath
Though the night is so long it cannot outlast
The despair and denial of death.

Sea of dreams

Sea of dreams

Crashing of breakers against the rocks
As the waves roll in from the sea
Sitting alone in the shadow of the docks
He watches in quiet reverie

In the distance the haunting sound
Of a foghorn pierces the night
Like the agony of the souls of the drowned
Trying to get back to the light

He shivers lightly at that thought
Wonders where he goes from here
He's in the path of lifes juggernaut
But frozen in its headlights of fear

He was broken by stress and ambition
From which he had eventually run
In his quest to improve his position
Like Icarus he flew to close to the sun

So when all that stress came to nought
In a way he couldn't foresee
He found that now he's literally caught
Between the devil and the deep blue sea

His old life is now just a place in the past
And as the seagulls cry in a new day
He knows what he had can be surpassed
He just has to find his new way

His world, like the sea before him

Is full of opportunities to try
In the sea of dreams you learn to swim
In this world, your dreams can fly

He now knows it's not about gaining things
Life should also be fun
He will fly again and spread his wings
But keep well away from the sun

Toreador

She sings alone her repertoire
Dancing in her front room
Pretending to play a Spanish guitar
Imagining her Flamenco costume
A rose held lightly between her lips
Dress flowing and swishing the floor
Feeling the touch of his hands on her hips
Her imaginary toreador

Ten years on she's lost those dreams
One child and one on its way
To tired to chase these old moonbeams
A life in disarray
But sometimes she hears the Spanish guitar play
Childish daydreams rise to the fore
For a moment in time she is swept far away
In the arms of her toreador

I wrote a poem that no one reads

I wrote a poem that no one reads
On barren ground I planted seeds
I begged for love but no one heeds
I was deserted and in despair

I was a mystery to society
Where no one had a use for me
I had no place I needed to be
No one to really care

Then I sang a song sweet and low
Played the tune and played it slow
The world listened to the music flow
And begged me for more

Then I sang a song low and sweet
My adulation was complete
As the people worshipped at my feet
Or gathered outside at my door

Then suddenly I realised
I'd become someone I despised
Saw myself through weary eyes
didn't like what I saw

So I turned to deny the world at last
And turned to hide in my past
Choosing to become an outcast
To hide away in shame

But the music never really dies
It lives on in some disguise
And I am left to realise

That nothing stays the same

I wrote a poem that no one reads
On barren ground I planted seeds
The poem expanded to become a song
The seeds grew vines thick an strong
But the love I begged for was never there
Still deserted and in despair...

The best of times

Another year has passed us by
Another day is done
We can't stop time however hard we try
We cant be forever young
But time together is the best of time
Memories entwined with love
For I am yours and you are mine
I thank the Gods above

So whatever ages we may wear
Whatever time is passed us by
All the years of love we share
a blink in an eternal eye
There is no time that is not ours
No place we need to be
Eternity is not measured in hours
Nor freedom with a key

When we finally say goodbye
It's not going to be forever
A blink in that eternal eye
Before we are back together
The wheel of existence keeps on spinning
We're on it for the ride
The game of love I know we're winning
With you standing at my side.

Tallisman

Grannies gang. Revised

My grandma bought a motorbike
She's only eighty eight
She wanted to try it out
Before it gets too late
We didn't mind the motorbike
But the leathers had us in stitches
She wanted to do it right
But the logo was " hells bitches"!

Then she went and formed a gang
The average age was eighty two
They would rev the bikes outside the pub
It was closer to the loo
They had this particular game
Took young men by surprise
When they got a well placed Zimmer frame
Straight between the eyes

One motorbike had a wheel chair
Strapped to the side
93 year old mad Beryl sat in there
Along for the ride
She was the moll of Bertie Titus
Who at the age of seventy two
Despite his advance arthritis
Was the youngest of the crew

Then their was evil Ant
We thought was grannies guy
He had a droopy seventies moustache
And an eyepatch over one eye
He has a talking parrot as a pet
And a peg leg too

He reminds me of someone maybe I've met
I just can't think who..

The neighbourhood sadly reports
It wasn't for the best
Seeing grannie in her tight leather shorts
And a low cut vest
They complained to the authorities
And "help the aged" as well
Who made it the police priorities
To round up this gang from hell

The police went to break up the gang
They didn't expect a chase
The octogenarian's decided to go out with a bang
And chose to have a race
Around the block the bikes wobbled away
A race not for the scared or the meek
The winner finished later that day
The rest slightly later that week

The policemen decided to take chase
And after a bit of a talk
They didn't bother with the car
It was easier to walk
All were captured and locked away
In the old folks home
So now they know that crime don't pay
As much as bingo in the hippodrome

Devils bride

She left him, just walked away.
Never stopped or looked around
He couldn't find the words to make her stay
He couldn't make a sound

He watched her car drive away
Drive off down the street
Finally he turned away
His misery complete

Her love eats like venom into your heart
Her arms both enfold you and tear you apart
Her kisses taste sweet but take away your breath
She makes you feel alive but she leads you to death
She's poison dressed up in black lingerie
She's a bride of the devil and you are her prey

Her poison was deep in his heart
Her words fractured his head
His life was now torn apart
A future born in dread

In his mind he replayed the scene
Unable to process what he'd lost
Refusing to accept what it would mean
Not able to count the cost

Her love burns like acid into your mind
Her arms hold you close but permanently bind
Her kisses taste sweet until the end nears
They taste of foul waters when your mind finally clears
She's a lady of style from shoes to beret
She's a bride of the devil and you are her prey

They found him next day out in the shed
Swinging slowly from a rafter
He lived for her love but lost it instead
And can't face the world thereafter

She's older than time but as young as required
She is as cold as ice but as hot as desired
Her grace and her beauty is without parallel
She dines on despair and she likes to dine well
She's a dream and a queen who makes her own way
She's a bride of the devil and you are her prey...

No gold at the end of a rainbow

A rainbow at Chapelhope by Walter Baxter is licensed under CC-BY-SA 2.0

He walks the dusty roads that go nowhere
Because he has nowhere to go
He has buried his past in a pit of despair
And looks to a new tomorrow
But you can't leave behind your traitorous mind
The shadows follow you wherever you go
and soon you will find there are ties that bind
and there's no gold at the end of a rainbow

In your dreams and deep in your heart
You know that there's nowhere to hide
Time and distance set you apart
But The truth can not be defied
You can run so fast but that can't last
Sooner or later you will slow
And then you'll realise where the truth really lies
And there's no gold at the end of a rainbow

Turn around, go back, make amends
Nothing is as bad as it can appear
You have enemies, but you have friends
Keep the enemy close and friends near
How can you decide that friends be denied
How can you deal such a blow?
At least you'll have tried and you can confide
That there's no gold at the end of a rainbow

What you going to do about that?

Oh! He exclaimed did I hear that right?
You gone and got yourself in a bit of fight
Well that don't sound so good or right
So what you going to do about that?

No ! He said, you can't run away
Worst thing you can do at the end of the day
Them bad boys ain't gonna see it that way
So what you gonna do about that?

What! He cried do you think your doing?
Them criminals gonna be your ruin
They'll cook you up like their barbecuing
So what you gonna do about that!

Hide! What, Do you think your clever?
Do you think you can hide forever?
Them will peel your hide like it's made of leather
What you gonna do about that?

You what! Actually that's a good idea
That will teach them boys a bit of fear
She will send them off with a flea in their ear
your mum will knock those suckers flat!

www.tallisman.co.uk

Migraine

He cannot hear the silence
Through the beating of his heart
Or the sound of his common sense
Tearing itself apart
He crushes his head between his hands
Falling to his knees
Nerves tensed like elastic bands
But the pain cannot ease
He longs for the darkness to descend
And prays to feel no more
The pain seems to be without end
Until he can't take it any more
He beats his head against the ground
The light torturing his eyes
The world spins around and round
And the darkness multiples
As he slips into unconsciousness
To escape from the pain
It's hard to understand the distress
Or the suffering of migraine

Tallisman 2022
www.tallisman.co.uk

The singer and the song

It's all about the singer and the song
It's not about what's right or what's wrong
It's not about the money, it's not about being a star
It's all about the person that you really are

It's not about the high life that you live
It's all about the love that's yours to give
If you treat me like a fool I won't forget
Is this really a life you won't regret?

Yes, you're a singer and your songs set you apart
They have a power and they can melt my heart
But at the end of the day its just words that you sing
To a broken heart they won't mean a thing

I never forget you're not singing these songs to me
Your music belongs to all of humanity
I need you to pick me up and make me feel whole
Write me a song and sing it straight to my soul

It's all about the singer and the song
It's not about what's right or what's wrong
It's about the heart that beats to that sweet melody
Of a song of love written and only sung for me

Tallisman 2022
www.tallisman.co.uk

Devils bride revisited

I introduced this lady in my poem Devils bride and immediately fell under her spell! So I thought I would expand on it!

She haunts the city and she rules the night
She steps from the shadows as they chase off daylight
Dark creatures surround her and answer her call
She's the duchess of darkness and rules them all
She's a killer, a lover, dressed in black lingerie
She's the bride of the devil and men are her prey

She's walked this world since the days of inception
A mistress of death and glorious deception
Men pale at her beauty and fall for her lies
Sell her their souls just to look in her eyes
She takes all that they offer then will betray
She's the bride of the devil and men are her prey

She's older than time but as young as required
She is as cold as ice but as hot as desired
Her grace and her beauty is without parallel
She dines on despair and she likes to dine well
She's a dream and a queen who makes her own way
She's a bride of the devil and you are her prey...

Men have lusted for her since the beginning of time
Thinking such beauty could only be divine
Over time immemorial she has woven her spell
Despatching such suitors to her master in hell
She delights in destruction and desires our dismay
She's the bride of the devil and we all are her prey

www.Tallisman.co.uk

Pantomime

I can't feel your love anymore
Your smiles are empty and cool
You never turned your face away before
Do you take me as some kind of fool?

We used to sit and watch the sky at night
Wrapped together in old woollen throws
your hair shimmering silver in the moonlight
But now, nothing remains but the shadows

We used to be so close, needing one another
But now you always have somewhere else to be
A friend in need, sometimes family, or another lover?
It's seems anywhere is better than being with me

I can't stand the silences and I don't need the pain
I can't stand to see you avoiding me again
If you are so unhappy, then I guess it's time
That we stop acting and end this pantomime

So the curtain closes, the lights suddenly flare
The pages of the script, faded and now bare
A relationship collapses, the actors take a bow
Our pantomime is over, the stage is empty now

Who calls?

Bloody battles in fields once green
Ghosts of warriors walk unseen
Through rivulets of the fallen blood
Where ancient evils once withstood
In moonlight shadows on castle walls
Who calls?
Who calls?

The castle stands in older realms
A place where history overwhelms
Fought over by warring lords
With men of steel and dripping swords
Steeped in death from bloody brawls
Who calls,
who calls?

Of those who came for blood to spill
Most of these remain here still
The castle built upon their bones
Endless death for distant thrones
Buried now beneath these walls
Who calls?
Who calls?

Through these ancient stone built halls
Along the lichen coated walls
Feel the ache of long passed souls
Trapped now in their tormented roles
Through their bones feel eternity crawl

They call..

Always read the label.

Always read the label
It tells you what to take
Because if you take too many
Then you're reading it to late
If you've not had enough
Then its probably no good
That can be pretty tough
When you're told it would

Always read the label
Remember what it said
You need to keep stable
Not to end up dead
It's really there to help you
To stop you getting stumped
Not to end in a hospital queue
to have your stomach pumped

I didn't read the label
Look what happened to me
Sat at a psychiatrist table
Writing silly poetry...

He said, he said?

There is no God, how can there be
With so much death and strife?
On who's side would He be
To justify loss of life?

You deny a God based on man made decisions
But it's politicians that maim and kill
Both sides will claim Him to support their own visions
But neither respects His will

Where was He in two world wars
Or the Ukraines "special operation"?
What side will He back the cause
When it comes to nuclear devastation?

Why would He take sides if all sides are equal
In His eyes we are created exactly the same
and if nuclear weapons means there's no sequel
I guess he'll just start all over again

Who supports the religious guise
The church I'm sure will do
In the name of God it justifies
The evils that we do

Religions, whatever God they proposed
Are institutions run by man
So to all man's faults and failings exposed
Yet they do the best that they can

The Devil rules this world, he said
And the devil will get his due
And no matter why religions spread

They all serve the devil too.

If we accept a God, do we accept a devil?
Or is the devil just unconsciously willed?
In our pride and our greed we are prone to revel
And blame the devil for the evil instilled

So bow your head and don't despair
He said, evil will not cease
There is a hell but we're already there
Death is our release.

Hell and heaven are mutually diverse
Here and now are all we can see
If this is hell, well things could be worse
But this is no heaven to me

Man in the moon

Watch the moon, does he smile
Will he hold your heart a while?
Take the pain, hold it tight
Diffuse it through his pale moonlight
But dawn will come and all reborn
My heart returned to be forlorn
My memories also will renew
And I can see the face of you..

Bitter tears, so well remembered
Bitter love so well dismembered
Torn apart, ravaged and spurned
But oh so deeply I have yearned
I curse the dawn and miss the night
Look for oblivion in cold moonlight
But dawn colours the sky in autumnal hue
And I can smell the scent of you..

The rising sun will bring no heat
It brings the taste of bittersweet
It's rays of gold darken my heart
It's shadows a perfect counterpart
For how can I welcome the day
My life just mournful shades of grey
On the roses glistens morning dew
Memories of the tears I cried for you

The Teddy Challenge

Hello all!

I wrote a poem and unintentionally upset free versers and non rhyming poets! Not intentional, I forgot to leave a comment that it was "tongue in cheek". Apologies!

However Friend Teddy challenged me to do free verse poem about love, as a penance, here goes!

I feel your love
Warming me
Your breath
Excites me
Your skin
Touches me
And I am lost

dont forget to come and visit at www.tallisman.co.uk !

Waiting for you

There's a place
Somewhere close
To my heart

There's a time
Some time coming
But soon

There a you
Always you
In that place
In that time

I'm there waiting
So long waiting
For you

There's a place somewhere close to my heart
It's a place where we met and we first made a start
On this love that I have for you
There's a time, some time coming, but soon
Where we will dance in the light of the moon
And in the moonbeams consummate our dreams
And the love that binds us through and through
I am waiting, always waiting, for you...

Goodbye

This is not a criticism of free verse or other non rhyming poetry! It's intended to be a humorous reference to the reduced popularity of rhyming... and I will probably get pilloried for saying that!

its intended as a (poor) joke!

I've just called in to say goodbye
I'm discouraged, but not sure why
It's hard being a poet who likes to rhyme
In a world where free verse is in its prime
I'm just an old fashioned poet facing defeat
In a world where rhyming has become obsolete

So I lay down my mouse and switch off the screen
Let the free versers reign here supreme
I will turn my back on paper and pen
Never to pick up on my muse again
I bid you goodbye and wish you goodnight
As I exit this stage and leave the spotlight

Who am I kidding, I know you won't believe
A rhymer must rhyme, just as they must breathe
You can't write a poem without holding a pen
It's not a matter of will but a matter of when
Stand back, free versers, I'm coming through!
I've got a million poems that rhyme for you!

Into the fire?

Where the hunger is
Where the desire
Born in desperation
Raised from the mire
Struggle through life to
Raise themselves higher
But we're all running
Into the fire

Twisting and turning
No avoiding our fate
Feeling the burning
Is this love or hate?
The struggle consuming
You're beginning to tire
But you can't stop running
Into the fire

Feeling so alone?
It's part of the game
Without a sweet lover
There's no-one to blame
Baby, If you want me
Look to the funeral pyre
I'll be dancing like a flame
Into the fire

Love you so?

Can you feel the chill in the air
The promise of winter is out there
I wonder if you'll ever know
That as that winterly wind will blow
(I will always love you so)
Affairs of the heart are cold it seems
Frozen in the death of summer dreams
But I will always love you so
(Love you so)

Footsteps trodden in icy snow
Marking a future to bestow
Why cant I just turn away
Retrace my steps to an earlier day
Tomorrows a lonely place to be
Without you lying next to me
But I will always love you so
(Love you so)

The Gods loved you and called you home
To sit upon an Angels throne
My heart cracked with such a terrible blow
Though I will always love you so
I curse the Gods and cry in pain
At the very mention of your name
Memories of you a constant flow
Because I will always love you so
Love you so

Red dusk

The evening sun colours the sky
Bleeding red as the daylight fades
Red eyes opening somewhere close by
The rasp of a stone sharpening a blade
Muttering of a preacher for his Gods sake
As the denizens of darkness awake

Evening laughter from street side bars
Hiding the fear and the grief
Below the surface of mental scars
The raw reality buried beneath
By the moment, by the drink, by the night
Despair hidden yet still in plain sight

The red dusk fades to starlight
The light of lovers and lust
There will be no regrets tonight
Tomorrow if you must
There's no thereafter, tonight is all
With the death of the sun, we fall, we fall

My bathroom upgrade

The bathroom needs an upgrade
I'm sure it won't take long
Just reline the walls she said
What can possibly go wrong
Well the sinks in the backyard
The waters everywhere
Flowing from a broken pipe
And running down the stair
The old toilets leaking
And the smell is rather rank
This very simple upgrade
Is about to break the bank
The plumber man is laughing
He thinks I'm a fool
There's nothing to have a bath in
I forgot the cardinal rule
When someone says diy
It's the "y" that really counts
As in "why should I"
The costs really mount
So when this job is finished
And all is well and done
My DIY skills diminished
And the plumbers had his fun
I'm hanging up my hacksaw
My hammers in the bin
I'm running out the back door
Before my wife gets in!

Questions?

When does the evening end and the night begin?
When does dusk fade to night?
When does romance turn to lustful sin?
How many wrongs make a right?

How can it be wrong to look at you?
To run my hands through your hair
It's surely not wrong to kiss you too
And never come up for air?

How can it be wrong to feel this desire?
To feel your skin quiver to my touch
It's impossible to quench this fire
I need this heat to much

Is it wrong to see that blush on your skin
As you surrender to my sight?
At what point does desire end and love begin?
How many wrongs make a right?

When an Angel cries

When an Angel cries
The world stops spinning
Darkness like death
And nobody winning
Pausing for breath
Looking for treason
Buried deep in lies
No room for reason
When an Angel cries

When an Angel cries
The weight of the world
A burden well born
A flag unfurled
The living will mourn
Even the devil saw
Tears in his eyes
The world at war
When an Angel cries

A bit of nonsense!

The Christmas elves got frisky
Just before Xmas time
Polished off the whisky
Not to mention the wine
So on the morn of Xmas Eve
No-one turned up to load the sleigh
So Santa Claus wouldn't be able to leave
To deliver by Xmas day

The union suggested it wasn't a crime
As Christmas was a celebration
If he hadn't built it up as a party time
There would be no inebriation
They also said that working Christmas Eve
Should count as extra pay
As well as extending annual leave
By an extra day

Santa was so full of fear
Though he had some empathy
Then Rudolph and his reindeer
Walked out in sympathy
As Santa couldn't make inroads
He sold out to DHL
All the kids got barcodes
And a tax and duty bill as well

Ba humbug!

Ba Humbug!

My wife thinks it's Christmassy
She is buying strange things
Hanging them on a Nordic tree
From little bits of string
She's buying lots of presents
For people I don't know
And strange smelling incense
With names like "purple snow"
I don't know what that is
And don't really want to know
As long as it don't smell like er whiz
The same as yellow snow

On Christmas Day she's said
I can prepare the meal
So I guess it's water and crisp bread
If she wants to seal that deal
She asked me what I've bought her
I'm keeping that one close to my chest
I might have managed to infer
That some jewellery might be best
That might not even be a lie
I might get a reprieve
If the late shop has any ii can buy
Ten o'clock on Christmas Eve

I resent the Christmas crackers too
They cost more than I earn
All we do is pull them in two
And get nothing in return
Except a stupid party hat

Thar rips when it's on my head
And a bit of metal tat
That's probably toxic lead
My consolations is the drink
A bottle or a jug
Christmas cheer I don't think
So ...ba humbug!

Back seats

Do you want to go to my room and make out?
Not the words I expected to hear
I mean the answer was never in doubt
So why do I want to disappear
I mean this girl is seriously stunning
I know that this is what I want
After all I did all the running
So I can't act all nonchalant
I guess now it's finally a possibility
I'm worried that something might fail
So I'm now questioning my virility
I'm a scared and untested male
Now my head is spinning, circling around
Elated and frightened, confused
My hormones are locked in this battleground
And she has lit the first fuse
Do you want to go to my room and make out?
Thinks "I do, I don't, I don't know!"
Or we can go watch a movie instead?
"Yes please...what am I thinking, NO!"
So how did it go, you are thinking
Well I don't want to be accused of deceits
But the movie was particularly stinking
So we made out in the back seats!

Intracerebral

Smell the smoke that stings his eyes
Voice's reverberating
Images that truth belies
And the lies are intoxicating
Paranoiac vision's spinning
Bouncing images in his head
Fights that he's never winning
Waking sweating in his bed
Behind the curtain the shape of a person
Waiting his moment to fight
Inside his head the images worsen
As the knife blade catches the light
Under the bed a monster awaits
The wardrobe harbours an assassin
Inside his mind crashes alternate fates
As his sanity starts to unfasten
The knock on the door brings sweat to his brow
The telephone unplugged from the wall
He has lost all control and he doesn't know how
To avoid the inevitable fall

The Song

She sings her songs in the silence
Her voice so strong and free
Her words for a while a sweet pretence
An echo of normality
Her words are that of sadness
Lost loves, lost hopes, lost lives
She sings among the madness
Brings unexpected tears to my eyes
I don't know who is singing
But her voice breaks my heart
For a moment hope is clinging
And my soul shatters apart
Inevitably the song was ended
Life continues as before
For a moment in time I pretended
Life was worth living for
I long to hear that voice again
To revel in it once more
In a world so cold and inhumane
I felt my spirit soar
Floating high upon her sweet song
To where the Gods hold sway
Losing briefly all thats wrong
Feel my worries fall away
Maybe I heard an Angel sing
And into paradise trod
And for the flutter of an Angels wing
I tasted the scent of God.

The Stone

Welcome to another millennium
Two thousand years have past
Since the beginnings in Byzantium
We have held steadfast
We hold the immortal secrets
As guardians of the Stone
We act as our faith befits
And to the world are unbeknown

When the world forsook its magic
And put science to the fore
The results of which were tragic
But we hold the ancient lore
We are awaiting the new magician
Who can wield the sacred flame
And will manage the transition
So can this world reclaim

The time is fast approaching
The Guardians are prepared
The world is encroaching
As we uncover the sacred prayers
When the immortal walks this world again
And holds that precious Stone
Magic will flow like electric rain
And the truth once more be known

Kings and despots will tremble
As their realms are swept away
And the Guardians disassemble
The world as it is today
Humanity will be raised
To heights previously unknown
Poverty and hate will be erased

By the powers of the Stone

Child of my youth

I looks in the mirror but cannot see
Anyone looking back I recognise
Just an old man who cannot be me
I look back ready to apologise
But I am alone, no one else to accuse
The truth has been laid bare
But my mind still tries to eschew
The devastation I can see there
What happened to the man I used to be
And when did he slip away
Leaving behind this travesty
That I can see in the mirror today
I remember the face of my father
I remember the face of his son
When did they merge or rather
When did the two become one?.
Where now is the youth emerging
When my whole world was still new
An addled and confused twenty something
Who thought the world would come to you
How I wish that I'd known
That the struggles were about to begin
That twenty is just a milestone
And the challenges you rarely win
And somewhere along life's pathway
Where wrong turnings are the norm
Opportunities are just debts to repay
Grab a rose and you catch the thorn
The mirror they say never lies
It's reflection the reflection of truth
And though I look into my mirrored eyes
I still can't find the child of my youth.

The River

In the endless darkness of the night
I reach out to wherever you may be
Longing to touch you, to hold you tight
But there are only memories left to me
Through the window I watch the tree branches sway
Shadowy fingers against the moonlight cast
And wonder again if there was nothing I could say
That would reset the present and change the past
A river of my tears run through the valley of despair
Where my memories of love reside
A closed part of my mind has made its home in there
Giving homage to a love that never died
Life keeps moving on and nothing is the same
As if to make that point the first light of the dawn
Forms patterns in the condensation on the window pane
Unconsciously in this a heart and a name I've drawn
Angrily I rub it out feeling the damp upon my hands
Use them to cool my feverous brow
Self pity overwhelms me, no one understands
That I find no solace in the here and the now
I spend my days waiting for the night
In the hope of finding you in my dreams
But the sleep evades me, denies me the right
Spiralling my despair to extremes
One day I will find my way to escape this
In the valley of despair I'll climb down
In my mind all my hopes and dreams I'll dismiss
And in that river of tears I will drown.

Endings

A time of ending
A bitter truth
To give up defending
The mistakes of youth
That somehow became
Vagaries of age
Still burns the flame
Consumed by the rage
Haunted by history
No use pretending
There's no real mystery
In a time of an ending
Beginnings were so sweet
Joys held precious inside
Swept off your feet
A beautiful bride
Remember those days
Tears sting your eyes
So many ways
To bury the lies
Some from your peers
But most from yourself
A dusty book of the years
On your own bookshelf
Romantic notions
Buried and lost
In life's great oceans
Where dreams are tossed
Swamped by the waves
Drowned in tears
We are all slaves
To the passing of years
We paint smiles on our faces

Though doom is impending
And we seek out our places
And times of an ending

Invisible

Her calm and cold manner is beyond reproach
Unsmilingly following the path of duty
Difficult to know, yet hard to approach
Unaware of her unassuming beauty
Dealing with problems with finest precision
The life lived alone well that suits her just fine
Controlling her world without indecision
Then why do I want her, need her in mine?

Long dark hair and eyes that see through me
Dreaming of her every time I close mine
It seems I've spent half an eternity
Living in shadows bereft of sunshine
For once in my life I want to be noticed
To see her smile when i walk into the room
I'm the invisible man, I just don't exist
A seed of desire that's unable to bloom

So you will move on to faraway places
Leave me behind even though you don't know
Maybe one day you will remember the faces
That you left behind when you decided to go
Perhaps you will wonder what you left behind you
Having chosen your freedom over the shackles of man
Maybe you will discover that love does have value
I hope it will find you one day if it can

The Fall

In the great book is written, A tale that should be told
Of an Angel smitten by a love so uncontrolled
That it had the potential to destroy the realms of mankind
In a war so monumental to heaven and hell combined
Samuel was an Archangel, a leader of heavenly host
Which made his fall more shameful as an Angel trusted the most
So when in the course of his duty he met a demon Eisheth
He was stunned by her great beauty and couldn't put her to death
She also was totally enamoured, declaring her love was true
She handed Samuel her demon sword and her heart and her body too
For a century they were lovers before they were both revealed
As an example to others, were Into purgatory sealed.

Eisheth had born a child now well hidden in the world of men
The form of an Angel, demon blood running wild, known as a Nephalem
To both Demons and Angels an abomination as it carried the powers of both
Together they hunted through the population hoping to stop the powers growth
Cassandra was her name, the "One who shines over men"
Her one wish was to ensure her parents were able to return again
The rulers of Angels and Demons fearful of the powers she could wield
Searched through mankind's regions looking for where she's concealed
Many years passed in succession until Cass knew her powers were strong
To the Gods there would be no concession, they had showed her nothing but wrong

On that final day for the first time she finally showed her wings
Spreading them to show her prime, while around her nature sings
She sent her call to the heavenly hordes ordered them to her side
Breaking through the archangels wards, her call not to be denied
And the legions answered her call unable to deny her need
One by one within her thrall her orders they did heed
Then she called out once more to the Devils domain
And from the depths of Hells deep core the Demons crawled and came

Lucifer stood before her then kneeled to show tribute
And all his demons did defer and all followed suit
She offered him her hand and sat him one step below
To show all she did command and all around would know.

Once more she sent another call that was powerful and insistent
The Archangels appeared before them all unable to stay resistant
Michael stood before them too furious in his shame
He said "you think you can summon God too? You don't even know his name"
"No", Cass said, "don't you see? I am one of his Children too,
It's in his name that I stand here, It's his power that I used on you.
You think you do what is best, when you wanted my childish blood?
An innocent child you would divest of her life? Oh but that you would!
Great wrong has been done in his name, a price must now be paid
You and Lucifer must share the blame, in his eyes you have strayed"
With a wave of her hand they were left alone, both Angels and demons sent back
The Archangel gave a moan on finding his soul was black.

Cass turned to the Devil and enquired, "First fallen, Have you nothing to say?"
He smiled, "This position was never desired, It seemed just to happen this way"
The Archangel "it seems all madness has consumed angelic and demonic hosts"
He leaned back consumed by sadness, "We are both undeserving our posts"
And so an ending was contemplated, endings are beginnings as well
Two enemy's were obligated to merge both Heaven and Hell
Cass and her parents got together and helped as all was restyled
Maybe some day, maybe never, something omnipotent looked back....and smiled.

Time machine

In the dying glow of the sun declining
When the world slows down to rest
And the moon rises, its moonbeams shining
To shine a light on the nightly unrest
In It's pale light ominous shadows will make
A hangman's noose against a wall
A man who did his own life take
And a rope to break a fall
A clock ticking a sound so pleasant
A Time Machine to count the beat
To draw in the changing present
Reject the past in its defeat
Yet nothing changed but everything broken
Tears from a mother, regrets and despair
The whole world turns on words unspoken
For though still a presence he is no longer there
His memory lives in all those who loved him
They pray to their Gods for the sake of his soul
But they wonder what demons he harboured within him
That damaged his mind and swallowed him whole
What could have been done to his state of mind
What circumstance did lead to his plight?
So many unknowns and all intertwined
So many wrongs that no-one can right
The grandfather clock keeps on counting its heartbeat
Calling the future without judgment or fear
What's done is done and is now just bittersweet
Memories of times when he was still near

Fly in a storm

There are those who stand together
And others who drift apart
Bonds supposed to last forever
Crumble from the start
For some they follow their own creeds
Others follow their own desires
Some take depending on their needs
Others what their greed requires
Some pray to a God that's benign
Others to a God that rages
Some live life to their own design
Some live their life in cages
Some worship only what they see
Others only what they are taught
Finding religion in imagery
Or salvation in theological thought
Some cry for a past that's not forgiven
Some weep for futures pending
For the path that on which we're driven
Leads only to an ending
Some laugh in the face of fate
Some whisper in the wind
Some love where others hate
Some pray where others sinned
We are but a single drop of rain
In a storm battering eternity's shore
A fly caught in a hurricane
Then lost for evermore

The Rocking chair

The old rocking chair slowly rocked
Creaking softly in the dark
Outside an owl softly mocked
The fear in his heart
He lay stiff in desperation
Wrapped in the covers
Panicked respiration
Listening for others
Not believing in apparitions
The darkness eroding this non belief
Remembering stories and superstitions
That always end with grief
And still the chair rocks on and on
But no one sits therein
It's passenger long dead and gone
But somehow lingering...

Consumed

Consumed by the fire inside
Burnt out and defeated
Nowhere to go, no place to hide
His will to live depleted
Because loving is a fever
That incinerates your heart
An emotional sharpened cleaver
That can tear your heart apart
Feeling trapped and in despair
Living a shadow of a life
A relationship in despair
Balanced on the edge of a knife
He took the knife and kissed the blade
Ran it across his wrists
Closed his eyes as the room swayed
Wondered if he'd be missed
What would happen when he'd gone
He hoped she would forgive
It turns out he was not that strong
Not strong enough to live
His last thought was of her smile
as they once danced in the rain
He died dreaming that in a while
They could meet and dance again

Death in disguise

His eyes that once were warm with laughter
Now bitter and full of hate
Unable to process what comes after
To wrestle with his fate
His life now an endless hurricane
Of denial and despair
Consumed by his guilt and pain
He turns around and she's there...

He reaches out to hold her
Calling out her name
A sudden clash of thunder
A flash of lightening came
And in that sudden illumination
Her face a grinning skull
His hopes final annihilation
Succumbing to deaths pull

She reached her arms around him
Pulled him to her breast
Her arm but a skeletal limb
Thrust inside his chest
She wrapped her fingers around his heart
Tore it through his skin
His horror peaked then fell apart
As she sucked his soul within

So beware one and all of you
For that girl who walks the storm
She is the evil that lies with you
Death in skeletal form
If the thunder you can hear
And the lightening blinds your eyes

Run from the things you most fear
For death lies in disguise...

Why

Why does the winter sunshine
Feel so cold against his skin
Icicles crawling down his spine
To freeze the heart within
Why does the blackbird sing
When all around it dull and grey
He finds no joy in anything
Least of all another day
Why does his broken heart
Plead for another chance
To beg her for another start
To rekindle a lost romance
Why does his head deny
His hearts insistent demands
You cannot build on a lie
A love on shifting sands
Better to turn and walk away
Better to not ask why
Some feelings words cannot convey
So turn and say goodbye

Playlist

Hear the rhythm in that beat
Feel it through your restless feet
And let the music fill your soul
Mesmerised and in a trance
Body sways though you can't dance
On baby, this is rock and roll
Let your problems go away
Just listen to that music play
Lose yourself to sweet melody
An escape from that daily grind
Leave your reality far behind
And let yourself float free...
And if you should feel a tear in your eye
It's not the music that makes you cry
But the memories it chooses to replay
For your life has a playlist that only you know
Good times and bad times, times we outgrow
Raising ghosts that you left locked away

Silent

Silent
Filled with echoes of what could be
The silence sounds so loud to me
Echoed thoughts that hurt my heart
Ripping the veil on my life apart
My energy spent
Silent
So quiet, my heartbeat is all
A metronome measuring my fall
A beat in my head
That fills me with dread
And a desperate intent
Silent
The rushing of blood through my veins
Precursing inevitable migraines
Screaming my fears
But nobody hears
My descent
Silent

So silent.

Ghost

In the dark hours she wanders the halls
Dressed in white, a bride of the night
Deep golden tresses from her head falls
Framing her face unnaturally white
No stumbling gait, she flows like a stream
Her eyes hold darkness, her lips a deep red
Ignorant of all around her as if in a dream
She passes me by without a word being said
Lights flicker and dim as she wanders within
An impossible presence from a time now gone
I can see the firelight through her translucent skin
But no shadows are cast as she walks on

As the Grandfather clock chimed midnight
She suddenly turned as if she could see
Just for a moment I felt drawn into her sight
Then she just faded away in front of me
I called out to her but she was gone
Back to her life or to rest in her grave
A ghost? A memory? A dream forgotten?
A body to mourn, a memory to save?
At that moment I swore that to be there
Every night until I saw her once again
For inside my heart I felt something flare
A spark to ignite a passionate flame

I don't know is she is a dream or a ghost
Or a ghost of a memory that's lost to my years
But it's the love of that dream that hurts me the most
And the silence is screaming to my ears
Then once again, before midnight
The lights flickered and faded down low
I held my breath and felt my heart go tight

As the doorway started to glow
I staggered and felt my legs give way
A vivid pain shot through my chest
Somewhere I heard a sweet voice say
Truly have you been blessed

Deep golden tresses, dressed in white
Beautiful and sweet, a heart of gold
Loving forever, to my delight
Without the fear of growing old
She was born in a Tudor spring
Of an aristocratic birth
I in the reign of a Windsor king
But me a man of little worth
But the Gods took pity it seems
And allowed time to release its controls
And love to be released from its dreams
To join our two lonely souls.

Thrive

No matter how much we want to pretend
That our lives are uniquely bright
But beginnings give birth to an end
And we all must face the night
Riches and armies cannot prevent
That last inevitable fall
Whether noble or evil in intent
We will all heed that call
Those with honour will step into light
Accepting judgment without debate
Those steeped in sin will scream and fight
Unable to face their fate
Though man himself will surely die
His ideals and dreams survive
So though he in his mortal grave must lie
The legacy he leaves will thrive

Bad poetry

Why, she said, in despair
Do these things keep happening to me
Does no one here really care
About this bad poetry?

The other day the poet raved
Her hair was glimmering gold
And in her sleep her hair was shaved
And taken to be sold
Then the poet wrote her beauty fair
Could stop a thousand hearts
She awoke to find corpses everywhere
They had to remove them in carts

Then he wrote that gentlemen
Would throw themselves at her feet
The next day again and again
They kept tripping her in the street
Finally she had enough
Of this poets romanticism
It was time for her to get tough
To reject his composition

She realised that the poetry
Was really just a curse
It had no meaning in reality
It only made things worse
So she sat down at the table
And got herself a pen
She knew that she was able
To turn the tide again

She wrote a poem about the poetry

The Poets joy and pride
She mentioned his vulgarity
And much more beside
She bemoaned his poor use of verse
And she rhymed every line
In doing so she reversed the curse
Sent fear in the poets spine

So beware poets one and all
Once written there's no reverse
You cannot regret or recall
No way to stop the curse
Better to not write one line
Than write and rue the day
And if it's as bad as mine
Who's going to read it anyway?

Eagles sing a requiem

He returned to gaze on the mountains high
Snow tipped peaks that scraped the sky
Beautiful yet deadly in their majesty
Uncaring of the passing humanity
Who in the mountains shadow live and die
some in this shadow still must lie
And some have carried pain from the past
Return to face their pain at last

Replay the memories from a childhood day
When life or death was a game to play
But two climbed that mountain wall
One returned, one not at all
One always lost, one never found
Somewhere on that frosty ground
Should mournful weary souls decry
There still his white bones must lie
Entrapped by wild flowers roots and stem
Where eagles sing his requiem

He gazed upon that mountain high
Where all forbidden secrets lie
Of the two, he was the one so lost
He survived but at what cost
In his dreams old memories abound
Of a childhood friend who needs to be found
He heeds his call with weeping eyes
The child he once was replies
It was time to climb the mountain again
Where Eagles still sing a requiem

They lie beneath

In this place where blood was spilled
A place where many men were killed
Each fighting for a dishonourable cause
Where some distant lord will take applause
And count his coin with treacherous hands
The price of death in foreign lands
Paid by the blood of fighting men
Who never returned to home again
Their bones restless in unfamiliar ground
Thrown together in a burial mound
No mourners there to vent their grief
Grass grows on the soil they lie beneath
But still there are those that mourn
In the places they were born
Where streets of smoke deny the day
And candles burn to light the way
Where some still weep and some still wait
Unable to comprehend their fate
Time sheds hope like a tree sheds leaves
Some live now only in their memories
As the world moves on they are left behind
Still searching for a love they cannot find
No tombstones stand, no flowers or wreath
Grass grows on the soil they lie beneath

Girl with the long dark hair

A child of my times, restless and seeking
A future path to lead me to truth
To listen to tutors endlessly speaking
Dismissing their wisdom with the hauteur of youth
Sitting exams with low expectations
Winging those tests on a wing and a prayer
Outside the window she was picking carnations
That's when I first began to care
For the girl
For the girl with the long dark hair
A bloody war for reasons no one understands
But for people like me the bloodstains were real
Politicians in silk gloves to hide the blood on their hands
Profiting on the dreams that they steal
Death begat ghosts and the ghosts they were abundant
Until I could see them just about everywhere
So they locked me away making my dreams redundant
Dreams that I wanted to share
To the girl
To the girl with the long dark hair
Now I'm old and lonely looking out at a winters scene
But turning over my memories like pages in a book
Building a story of a life that could have been
If I could have avoided the paths that I took
I mourn the loss of youths possibilities
Shadows surround me and lay my life bare
And I worry about the probabilities
Would life have been fair
To the girl
To the girl with the long dark hair

The Song

She sings her songs in the silence
Her voice so strong and free
Her words for a while a sweet pretence
An echo of normality
Her words are that of sadness
Lost loves, lost hopes, lost lives
She sings among the madness
Brings unexpected tears to my eyes
I don't know who is singing
But her voice breaks my heart
For a moment hope is clinging
And my soul shatters apart
Inevitably the song was ended
Life continues as before
For a moment in time I pretended
Life was worth living for
I long to hear that voice again
To revel in it once more
In a world so cold and inhumane
I felt my spirit soar
Floating high upon her sweet song
To where the Gods hold sway
Losing briefly all thats wrong
Feel my worries fall away
Maybe I heard an Angel sing
And into paradise trod
And for the flutter of an Angels wing
I tasted the scent of God.

Broken

So many times I have called to you
How can I show you I care?
And how many times can my heart be broken
My love, I'm not sure I can bear
Reality tells me I'm wasting my time
Over and over again
Can't you heal this ache that is mine
Killing me with this pain
Echoing voices that fill my head
Redemption comes at a cost
Hope is crushed as dreams are shed
Inside me all is lost
It seems to me that nothings real
This world just cannot be
A judgement made with no appeal
A cell door without a key
Locked inside my nightmare
A maze inside my head
Looking for somewhere, anywhere
Where I can feel instead
Numbed by life, by circumstance
Accusing thoughts I've never spoken
Paranoia does it's happy dance
But I am left alone and broken

Lost in the light

She dances as the moonlight
Weaves silver through her hair
A princess in the realm of night
O would she this heart ensnare!
Her hair shimmers like dark water
Her eyes shine with an inner light
She is her father's daughter
And her father rules the night

When I close my eyes I see her srill
Her dreams broken and undone
The night holds her against her will
She longs to feel the sun
The shadows follow her everywhere
Protection that holds her tight
Forbidden to leave her fathers care
She is bound to the endless night

Oh how I loved her, how I cared!
Yet this love I did betray
Her need of darkness was not shared
I yearned for the light of day
I returned to the land of the living
Intending to return hastily
But Her father was unforgiving
And The night was lost to me

So I wasted under the blazing sun
Tormented by the shadows it threw
I took to searching every one
For a glimpse of a face that once I knew
But as I neared the shadows faded away
Leaving me lonely with my regrets

In anger I cursed the light of the day
In a place where the sun never sets

When I close my eyes I can see her dance
Feel her hand slip into mine
A waking dream of a forbidden romance
From another place or time
I long for the day when my beating heart stills
And the dark shadows come alive
We will dance together on moonlit hills
Where the sun will never rise