

Great Big Sky - Song Lyrics

10-Song Recording Released by Jeffery Straker - June 7, 2024

Some Say It's Just a Sky

These second-hand clouds from Alberta are blowin' across Saskatchewan
Remind me how time keeps slippin' by workin' as heaven's hired gun
I see a portrait of a whisper canvas stretched 1000 miles
Some look up and say Hallelujah, some say it's just a sky

I moved to the city, my friends would ask 'why do you always look up so high'?
That's where my mind goes when it wanders, just seeing where it went this time
Oh somewhere up there "what is" & "what aint" can gently collide
Some fill it up with their dreams, some say it's just a sky

CHORUS:

Oh leave me feeling lonely
Remind me how it feels, to be found again
And teach me 'bout keeping my
Feet down on the ground and
Fill me with wonder asking why?
Some say it's just a sky
Some say it's just a sky

In all that space is the world we know and the world we want it to be
You can't see it in a photograph and it never answers directly but it's taught me that
Lookin up is just kinda like lookin deep inside
For forgiveness, for favours, some say it's just a sky

CHORUS

And the stars'll make you long for all you've left behind
And every sunrise'll whisper, "just give it one more try"

CHORUS

Take Me to the Touchwoods

Take me to the Touchwoods rolling hills of my home
A little closer to heaven down a dirt country road
Where old boots work the fields under skies with new paint
In a weathered picture frame

They call 'em the Touchwoods those hills where I'd play
Where I rambled my young years and to my heart they made claim
Lay me down in those meadows with all of my doubts
Wide open space to figure 'em out

CHORUS:

And time seems to vanish and dreams seem to tarnish
And all you've accomplished is laid bare
Through all the giving and taking, longing, heartaching
I find mercy when I go back there
Oh take me to the Touchwoods

Take me to the touchwoods deliver me
Back through the years like a bird on the breeze
Oh when freedom's all you want it's what you go looking for
Funny I once left for good I swore

CHORUS

Take me to the Touchwoods rolling hills of my home
A little closer to heaven down a dirt country road

Carry on with Grace

Hold on tight steady as you go
Life's a two-step on a tightrope
You walk a line between water & wine using your best moves
Trust your gut follow its lead
Let it take you barefoot through those weeds
With any luck you'll your path'll lead from hope to gratitude

CHORUS:

Some of them miles are gonna feel like you're tryna climb uphill
But that's just your chance to show you got what it takes
When you fall you don't fail that's just part of finding your way
Dust yourself off show 'em you can carry on, carry on with grace

End up on a throne in a castle high
Or an old bar stool in a road side dive
You'll be asking yourself if you gave it your best
So keep your feet on the dirt while you reach for the sky
Plant seeds as you go they just might
Keep growing after your last good byes are said

CHORUS

Hold on tight steady as you go
Life's a two-step on a tightrope
You walk a line between water and wine using your best moves

CHORUS

More than Two by Fours and Timber

They drove for miles from every corner of countryside
Tomorrow'd be too late so they came to see it just one last time
There was a TV camera there by the railroad tracks
Some folks were pointin' lookin' up at it but most were looking back

Used to be three grocery stores in town there's just one left
Padlock the doors board windows up place lookin' a little frayed at the edges
And that church where they'd sing on Sunday's long since closed
Now they gathered here to struggle with holding on while once again letting go

CHORUS:

It was so much more than two by fours and timber
That last grain elevator was comin' down today
Under their breath people said good-bye
They tried their best to take it all in stride
They just got used to doin' it that way

For years that prairie skyscraper stood guard at the end of main street
Farmers measurin' luck by the bushel hauled trucks of what they'd reap
But the bottom line nickels and dimes and progress had their say
They knew if you weren't from 'round here it wouldn't really matter anyway

CHORUS

The bulldozer kept trying but had a hard time getting her to move
Though no one said it it's almost like they knew she had a point to prove
An old couple lookin' on said "well aint that just how it goes, nothing lasts forever"
Kinda clearing their throats

Used to mean from a distance you were headin' somewhere when headin' here
Now more than the last grain elevator was disappearing

CHORUS

Better Than What We Found

If you don't take a different path you're never gonna get somewhere new
You wake up every morning knowing you got it in you to choose
We don't need all the answers to set out breaking new ground
Just know we gotta leave this place a little better than what we found

With a brave face towards the light of a brand new day
Hold tight onto your compass while raising others up along the way
That's the world we live in take a look around
And try to leave this place a little better than what we found

CHORUS:

Just a little bit better than what we found
You got two hands to do the lifting and a heart to show you how
Wearing an old straw hat or wearing a golden crown
Just know we gotta leave this place a little better than what we found

We're all doin this together tiny sparks in our souls
1 & 1 is 2, 2 and 2 is 4, and before we know
We'll be fanning those flames we all made and feeling proud
Working to leave this place a little better than what we found

CHORUS

No one said it would be easy you might find you wanna give in
Just remember all the ones that came before you and the work they did
It's you and me believing tryin to figure it all out
Yeah we can leave this place a little better than what we found

CHORUS

Just a little bit better than what we found
You got two hands to do the lifting and a heart to show you how
Wearing an old straw hat or wearing a golden crown
Just know we gotta leave this place a little better than what we found
Yeah leave this place a little better than what we found
Oh Better than what we found

Rock, Paper, Scissors

Rock, Paper, Scissors, is how it went
Stand and deliver kids settling bets
As simple as it'd ever get we never knew
Ace of spades in my spokes banana seat motorbike
The stars above decorated our nights
But at some point they just became old light Rock, Paper, Scissors

CHORUS:

Oh find a flat stone perfect to skip
See it settle on the water rise in beautiful lift
Didn't know where it'd land that'd make me smile
Some things just sorta happen you don't know why
Rock, Paper, Scissors

High school made of tin acting bullet proof
First set of wheels cut myself loose
Diploma jump no parachute dreams so big you could fall right in
Got my first old house bird picking a cage
Started punching a clock worrying about colours of paint
My edges wore off somewhere along the way Rock, Paper, Scissors

CHORUS

Back then a sunrise was just a big orange coloured sky
Then you blink you're setting alarms cursing time
Part of you is what you end up leaving behind

Those constellations still marvel from here where I stand
Wondering is this where I thought I'd land?
Funny some things just seem to happen Rock, Paper, Scissors

CHORUS

Oh find a flat stone perfect to skip
See it settle on the water rise in beautiful lift
Didn't know where it'd land that'd make me smile
Some things just sorta happen you don't know why
No matter how hard you try
Rock, Paper, Scissors

Brand New Light

Darlin' can I hold you here under the moon tonight?
As it gives all the glow it's borrowed to the evening sky
Gently reminding me how it's set the bar
For me to give you everything I got here in my heart

CHORUS:

Before I met you moons just haunted the night
Guess I was kinda walking blind
But two hearts leaning in that's how it begins and soon love'll leave you
Looking at it all in a brand new light, yeah yeah I said
Looking at it all in a brand new light

Darlin' let's go climb a mountain high
Promise you out loud up in the clouds the rest of my time
Oh let it show us how looking out everything else seems so small
That's how you know you're with what matters most of all

CHORUS:

Before I met you mountains were just plains reaching high
Guess I was kinda walking blind
But two hearts leaning in that's how it begins and soon love'll leave you
Looking at it all in a brand new light, yeah yeah I said
Looking at it all in a brand new light

Here with you lying in the still of time by this winding stream
Watching the water flow so slow towards the waiting sea
But like that stream learns there'll be twists and turns for us along the way
We'll keep sailing along on trust and faith

CHORUS:

Before I met you streams were just water passing by
Guess I was kinda walking blind
But two hearts leaning in that's how it begins and soon love'll leave you
Looking at it all in a brand new light, yeah yeah I said
Looking at it all in a brand new light, yeah yeah I said
Looking at it all in a brand new light

The Time You've Got

You've heard it said you got one life so make it count
That star you wish upon go on and bring it down
Try to see the world in colour not white and black
Stand out in the crowd don't fade in the back
Are you gonna wait til' it's too late? Do it while you still can
Take a leap see where you land oh

CHORUS:

Whatcha gonna do with the time you got?
If you love somebody then love them a lot
Live for the moment give it all you got
Whatcha gonna do with the time you got?

If you gotta say sorry be sure to say it out loud
If one foot's in a rut use the other to turn yourself around
Know that there's strength in forgiveness
And if you're humble and kind yeah well that's not a weakness
Are you gonna wait 'til it's too late? Do it while you still can
Take a leap see where you land oh

CHORUS:

Whatcha gonna do with the time you got?
If you love somebody then love them a lot
Live for the moment give it all you got, Whatcha gonna whatcha gonna do?
Watch the sunset let your worries go
Cuz life keeps moving like a river flows
It's the twists and turns that'll letcha know, Whatcha gonna do with the time you got?

There'll always be something you can't outrun
What would you do if tomorrow wasn't gonna come
And your next breath was the last one?

CHORUS:

Whatcha gonna do with the time you got?
If you love somebody then love them a lot
Live for the moment give it all you got
Whatcha gonna whatcha gonna do?
Watch the sunset let your worries go, Cuz life keeps moving like a river flows
It's the twists and turns that'll letcha know
Whatcha gonna do with the time you got

Sing Your Song

There's a whole world inside this piano as a kid I'd explore and play
Used to dream of my name on a marquee but I stopped dreaming those dreams one day
There was a fault line between who I once was and who I guess I became
Against my will a canyon I filled with wishes excuses and blame
Looking back through present light I was only running from myself but I

CHORUS:

Learned it's ok to not quite belong
That letting down your guard is how to be strong
I was so afraid of getting it wrong
Even if you think your voice ain't the best that's OK it's yours go right ahead and
Sing your song, Sing your song

If you told me your dream I wouldn't judge you
'cause I've already stood in those shoes
I know what it's like to stand up there alone with everything to lose
Yeah a soul is a bit like lightning
and there's thunder when you open it wide
It's the gamble you take you don't know what they'll say
And you know you got nowhere to hide
Looking back through present light I was only running from myself but I

CHORUS:

Learned it's ok to not quite belong
That letting down your guard is how to be strong
I was so afraid of getting it wrong
Even if you think your voice ain't the best
That's OK it's yours go right ahead and
Sing your song
Oh Sing your song
Yeah Sing your song

So tell me are you one who's been waiting? Is tomorrow where you're placing your bets?
Keep on reciting those warn-out storylines pretending there won't be regrets

CHORUS:

Oh I Learned it's ok to not quite belong
That letting down your guard is how to be strong
I was so afraid of getting it wrong
Even if you think your voice ain't the best that's OK it's yours go right ahead and
Sing your song, Oh Sing your song

Dandelions

Another day heading out wandering
Looking for a sign that proclaims in neon shining
That I finally found my way
I hope this brave face don't get worn out stumbling here in these weeds
Thoughts crossing my mind that getting lost is kinda like
Setting yourself free oh

CHORUS:

Sometimes I tell myself stories
Sometimes they leave me cryin
When life aint always comin up roses
I stop and smell the dandelions
I stop and smell the dandelions

Pickin' up pieces broken hearts in turn take a toll
But the thing I've learned about wounds is they let you
See deep in your soul
And workin' on forgivin' I found grace in a starry sky
Someday they'll all burn out but 'til then they just keep
Giving away their light oh

CHORUS

Oh it seems the more that I go looking the more I come to see
Sometimes to find the flowers you gotta take the time to plant the seeds

CHORUS