



Daryl James

The Younger Years

Fairy Tale

Music and lyrics by Daryl James

*Sittin' down by the fire
In our own little world
Once there was a story
About this boy and girl
A fairy tale in a love song
A fairy tale untold
Of a boy and girl
And how he got so bold...and he said*

*Would you believe in me
If I said that you were my only
And when the stars fall down
I'll be there*

*Tell me a story of sacrifice
Sing me a love song without any words
Don't tell me you love me
Cause words can fade
Just lay beside me
And let your heart beat with mine*

*Remember when I met you
Sweaty hands and shaky knees
Nothing could prepare me
For the fear I faced
All alone in a lonely place
Nobody to hold my hand
But my fears just melted away
The moment I saw your face...and I said*

*pre-chorus
chorus*

*Sittin' down by the fire
In our own little world
Let me tell you a story
About this boy and girl
A fairy tale in a love song
That I wrote for you*

*pre-chorus
chorus twice*

*Of you and me, my darling
And how our love is true*

chorus twice

Entropy

Music and lyrics by Daryl James

*Don't try to take this away from me
Know what you're doin'
Or you might get hurt
And tell me, please, what you're doin'
Little girl...you might get burned
And leave me alone
Something's brewing
And it don't look good
So speak up on the telephone
I know you're home
The lights are on
We'll go tomorrow
Let go the sorrow
And take another piece of me
The will is gone
The price is free
I'll let you do it
If you want me*

*Take my soul in hand
Try to make a stand
Let me see your face
And its saving grace
Let there be no fear
Turn your head to hear
We're comin' on to somethin' wonderful*

*I can see where you're comin' from
Getting nothin' done
Wanna have some fun
Entropy takes time
Makes you feel sublime
You're never gonna get me now
So pacify my mind
I said it is my life, my time
To shine upon the stage
And fret my hour
I don't want no one tellin' me
That time is up, I can't be free
I want to sing my heart, my soul
And baby, let that river flow*

chorus twice

Love You Forever

Music and lyrics by Daryl James

*Before we enter the future
I want your promise that you'll always
be there
Just don't step out from behind me, girl
Your love it leads me, and I'll follow you
there
And as new ventures confront us
We'll stick together, and never part
Bearin' through all the dark times too,
girl
Just let it go and darlin' follow your heart*

*Will you follow me
Into the great unknown?
Don't you worry, girl (I'll be right there,
baby)
Cause you know that you are never
alone (I'll be with you)*

*Let's go and walk along the beach
for a while
With sand underfoot, we can never go
wrong
See the sunset, how it burns so bright
Those sparkling waters,
such a lovely sight
Then after a while, when we settle down
We'll dance in the lapping waves to
candlelight
The stars above us, and the moon aglow
I wanna love you girl,
all through the night*

chorus

*interlude:
Our love will last forever
It never ends, and it never stops
Should I see you with another
My head it hangs, and my heart it
drops*

*I wanna love you forever
No one else, just you and me
I wanna hold you for always
So together we will always be
(repeat stanza)*

chorus

*I wanna love you forever
I wanna love your forever (be my baby)
Love you forever (won't you be mine?)
Love you forever....yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah*

If I Knew

Music and lyrics by Daryl James

*A wonderful connection
Between the ones who wanted it
There was nothing I could do, so I
Let it go, she said
I tried for time's protection, but I
Never could get into it
It never struck me till I knew
That I wanted it, I wanted you*

*Last night I sat alone, and I
Wrote a song to candlelight
It sounded much too sultry, so I
Let it roll, in my mind
I had to know what it felt like
To be labeled a heartbreaker
I had to know what it sounded like
What it sounded like inside*

*If I knew what it took
To be inside you
When the mountains shook
If I could exercise my right
To be there, baby
You'd never be alone
I'd be there, girl
To take you home*

*I know what you've been through, but I
Don't know how it felt
There's nothing I can do, so I
Think I'll just step out
I tried for your protection, but I
Just never could get into it
It never struck me until now
But now I know
Now I know*

chorus

Drifter

Music and lyrics by Daryl James

*Sleepy head
As she turns to me in bed
And she says
Is there anything wrong?
Feels like I'm already dead
But there's nothing that I haven't said
So I try
But it's already gone*

*I want to cry
As you just walk by
And just let me be*

*And I'll drift away
Into nothing
Into something...just let me be
And I'll drift away
Into nothing
Into everything
For a while*

*Sing a sad song
But don't make it too, too long
As she smiles
And she falls asleep
Now that she's too far gone
I see that she is the one
And I sing
These wishes I'll keep*

*You know I won't forget it
That kiss
Those lips like crushed red velvet*

chorus

*Sleepy head
As she turns to me in bed
And she says
Is there anything wrong?*

Redneck Jonny

Music and lyrics by Daryl James

*Well, redneck Jonny was a country boy
Liked to raise a lot of hell,
Make a lot of noise
He grew up in a small, small town
And heard his girlfriend Sally was
Messin' around
Johnny got mad, put his truck in gear
And then he lit up a smoke,
Said "I'm outta here"*

*Jonny pulled in to the Motel Six
Took one look around,
Said "what the hell is this?"
Sally was there with her brand-new beau
And they had mussed-up hair
And ruffled clothes
A fight broke out in the parkin' lot then
As Jonny aimed his fist
At the other man's chin*

*Sometimes bad things happen
And there ain't no rhyme or reason
There ain't nothin' left here in this town
There ain't noone here worth pleasin'
Well, Jonny just talk to Jesus
Cause if you ask Him, you'll be forgiven
But you shouldn't have
Pulled that trigger, boy
Cause now it's landed you in prison*

*Now, Jonny's got sense,
But he's only seventeen
And he might be small,
But he's mighty mean
He looked at Sally, and didn't skip a beat
He just reached up under
That old truck seat
Then he pulled out a gun,
Said "you shouldn't have lied..."
"...I'm gonna light you up with my .45"*

chorus

*Now Jonny's in the jailhouse,
Sally's in the grave
And the whole town's prayin' that
Jonny gets saved
He's got two days until his last meal
So they gave him a priest,
Who said "here's the deal..."
"...Jonny, you'll be forgiven if you just
Confess your sin"
He said, "if I could go back...I'd do it again."*

chorus

*No, you shouldn't have pulled that trigger, boy
Cause now it's landed you in prison*

Out of Austin

Music and lyrics by Daryl James

I don't think I'll ever shake this feelin'
The one I thought I'd left so far behind
Sittin' in a truck with a worn-out seat
Hopin' that the rain would clear my mind

Somewhere on the high roads
Out of Texas
I went off the trail and I got lost
Lookin' for a dream that
I'd find someday
Maybe somewhere out of Austin

I met my first dream up in Kerrville
A pretty girl in pigtails at the bar
I promised her the world,
And the stars above
But that didn't get me very far

Sittin' at a table in the corner
I looked in her eyes and I was lost
Lookin' at a dream that
I'd find that day
Maybe somewhere out of Austin

I still can't believe I believed her
I should have just let go and took the fall
But there's still a hope
That I'll find my dream
Shinin' out in Austin after all

Somewher on the high roads
Back to Texas
I went off the trail and I got lost
Lookin' for a dream that
I'd find someday
Maybe somewhere out of Austin

I'm lookin' for a dream
And I'll find her soon
Maybe somewhere out of Austin

Pretty

Music and lyrics by Daryl James

Like a hail storm
You came crashin' in
When some things weren't right
And I was givin' in, so I
Took a chance on you
Let you pull me through
You paid for all my sin
Made me strong again, till I

Felt the waters calm
And I held you tight
And we sang our song
Night after night
But there was somethin' wrong
That I never saw
You took a chance on me
Until it rubbed you raw

And I will admit
We had somethin' good
And I will admit
I didn't do what I should...so

Pretty, don't be shy
Pretty, please don't cry
First you said hello
Now it's told you so
Pretty, please don't shake
Pretty, please don't break
I just wanted you to know
That I'll never let you go

I remember
How it hurt that day
I remember
When you walked away
Heart hammerin'
Like a waterfall
And when you turned around
I saw those tears fall

Pre-Chorus
Chorus

Thinkin' back on
All the memories of
All the times we had
How we fell in love
There's no turnin' back...but..
Pretty, please come back
Give me one last chance
Pretty, please come back

chorus twice

Cause I
Will admit
We had somethin' good...

Way I'm Feelin'

Music and lyrics by Daryl James

No more miles left
On this old rusty Chevrolet
Guess I'll have to get back on my feet
Ten miles out of Austin
On a hot summer's day
I step out of my truck, and hit the street

Somewhere down the highway
I'll be dreamin'
Of a cold, dark beer
And brand new boots
But it won't compare
To the nightmare I've been seein'
Of all the things that I did to you

That's just the way I'm feelin'
I'm pickin' up the scraps
Of our goodbye
And I've lost every time
With the cards that I've been dealin'
Sometimes I can't get you
Off my mind
And I'm walkin' down the road
To a hopeful healin'
But that's just the way I'm feelin'

Sittin' on a barstool
I think clearly
But I think my soul is plain worn through
And I'm drownin' in a bottle
Of cheap, watered whiskey
Gettin' over gettin' over you

chorus

Hey, bartender
Pour me another one
Before I have to get back on the road
Cause I just can't stop thinkin'
That I've gone and lost the only one
And that she'll never ever
Come back home

chorus

Breathe

Music and lyrics by Daryl James

*When we were young
You stole my heart away from me
You gave me somethin' I could trust
Somethin' to believe
And all these years
Well, I've watched them pass me by
And still I don't know why I'm here
I don't know why I cry...so I say*

*Hey, you
Why are you inside my head?
You made me feel so special, then you
Left me for dead...and now I
Hate you
And I wish that you would leave me
You took away my life, and it's so hard...
Just to breathe*

*Yesterday
I felt another stab of pain
I found a note that you had written
With a heart above your name
I read out loud
And I imagined your voice
Saying that we were forever
But it wasn't your choice...and it said*

chorus

*So please be honest
Do you still think of me?
Maybe when you fall asleep
You have a little dream
And if not
Why don't you just fucking go away?
Leave me here inside myself
And listen when I say...when I say*

chorus twice

A Note of Thanks

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you.

When I wrote, performed, and recorded these songs, I had the same hopes that most other musicians have: that I'd get famous, and rich, and have some kind of glamorous life. It never happened. I remained in the lower middle class and used whatever skills I had or could learn to sustain myself and support a family.

Then, one day, I laid down for a nap with my Labrador...and woke up days later in the ICU with all sorts of problems. Apparently, my body ran out of vitamin B1. Instead of waking up refreshed, something really bad happened inside of me and I got brain damage. I had a legitimate near-death experience and went into a coma after some quick thinking and life-saving efforts by who I consider to be heroic medical personnel: EMTs, doctors, and nurses. Due to their efforts, I woke up from the "big nap." All of you have my very deep and heartfelt thanks.

Nevertheless, the brain damage is serious enough to disable me in several ways. I could go on about it all day, but the summary is simpler: I'm now unemployable. I cannot be "productive" in any way that matters for a typical job or career position. My wife and stepson abandoned me. I lost my home, my truck, and even my beloved dog. How's that for a stereotypical country song?

So...I'm using what I've got left to try and make a living. I'm letting my songs do what they were always supposed to do: *express my emotions, thoughts, and dreams*. Your purchase of this album has helped me make something of myself, earn my keep, and *feel heard*.

Thank you for that. Thank you *so much*.

I refuse to give up. I will continue to make music using technology and try to license or sell other songs I've written. You can keep tabs on new music and other things at my website, <http://daryljames-songwriter.com>.

Thanks again, listener. I hope you enjoy this album.

~ Daryl James

Credits

This album, in its entirety, was performed, recorded, mastered, designed, and produced by Daryl James...a man who now sits disabled, with brain damage, unable to play a musical instrument or sing. These songs were all written and recorded "raw" many years ago, in my younger years, when I still performed live. I decided to produce and release them, rather than letting them go to waste.

I chose CD Baby (cdbaby.com) as my distributor.

The photos used on this digital booklet are mine. The cover photo is of me, 18 years old, playing at Schreiner College in 1997. The photo on the back cover is me with a family friend, Rhonda Smith, at a Pat Green and Kenny Chesney concert in 2007. Rhonda and her husband Mike are good friends who have always been kind to me. Along with my family, they and many other friends always encouraged me to pursue music.

I'd like to thank all those who have helped me in some way along the way. First and foremost, I thank God for giving me musical talent. Mom, Dad, Taylor, Megan, Nanny, Pop-Pop, my uncles Darrell and Dean, my Aunt Frances, my cousins, my friends (Steve, William, Eric, Fred, Brandon, Virginia, Tyrel, Cody, Slade, Bent, Ryan, Angie) and so many more also deserve my thanks.

Thank you *all*.

Daryl James

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The Younger Years

1) Fairy Tale

6) Redneck Jonny

2) Entropy

7) Out of Austin

3) Love You Forever

8) Pretty

4) If I Knew

9) Way I'm Feelin'

5) Drifter

10) Breathe

