

MUSICAL DOORS

A COUNTRY MUSICAL



Book, Music and Lyrics © By Richard Nannariello

Richard Nannariello
Ormond Beach FL 32174
Home 386 437 2994
Email nannariell@aol.com

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Musical Doors Production and Staging Information □ Logline

Joe is an itinerant worker and country songwriter and performer telling the story of his life in monologues and autobiographical country songs he has written and providing a narrative on his travels and the women in his life.

Synopsis

Joe, mid-thirties, is a songwriter, guitarist, singer, drifter, and a man challenged to stay in one place and maintain a relationship with one woman. He lives a life of comings and goings and passing through “musical doors” with relationships and jobs and writing his songs. He writes and performs songs about his life and loves and performs his songs in gigs, bars, bowling alleys, and with his Lady Friend.

Joe tells the story of his life from center stage in monologues, playing the guitar, singing his original songs, acting out scenes, and talking to the audience. A physical door in center stage becomes his metaphorical “Musical Doors” and he passes through the door for major events in his life. Each trip to the Musical Door is another scene and chapter in his life.

Sally was Joe’s first love and his wife. He left her for a new relationship, new jobs, more drifting, and doing musical gigs. Sally and various women in Joe’s life and perform scenes with Joe about their relationships on either side of the symbolic Musical Door.

Both acts begin with an overture. The Band is on stage supporting the songs. There is a Backup Singers group on stage all of the time and consist of two girls and one guy; they back up on most choruses in songs and support Joe. There is one Girl that plays all of the parts of the various ladies who appear in Scenes with Joe in his travels as they enter and leave his life.

□ Author Biography

Biography

Richard Nannariello was born in 1933 and raised in White Plains, New York; attended St. John's University on a scholarship; served in the Army for two years, mostly in Korea; worked in management positions for forty years in Information Technology including thirty years at the Readers Digest in New York; currently resides in Florida since 1999.

A lifelong and continuing interest in writing became a bucket list career after retirement 1995. Writing genres includes full length plays, one act plays, movie screenplays, short stories, songwriting, musicals, poetry, and a collaborative ancestry memoir for his Mother and Father celebrating their **Italian- American heritage.**

Author Photo



□ Musical Doors Cast Summary

Joe About 35 years old or older; dresses casual with colorful shirt and jeans; plays the guitar and sings and talks about his life. He speaks directly to the audience and provides a narrative about his life, his loves, his songwriting, his songs, and his travels in many places and many relationships. He was once married to Sally and has many relationships since. Joe is a calm speaker and extroverted entertainer with a mouthpiece microphone, playing the guitar and working the audience the full length of the stage.

Band The Band is on upper stage right for the entire performance. The Band

consists of keyboard, lead guitar, bass guitar and percussion, and also play other instruments (e.g. mandolin, violin) Two of the band members appear separately with Joe for scenes and return to the band.

Backup Singers The three backup Singers support and back up Joe on vocals, particularly on the Chorus of many songs. The Trio is two girls and one guy. They appear on either side of the” Musical Door” as Joe rotates between the two sides. They will do some limited choreography as decided by the production. They will backup Joe on many songs for the chorus.

Male Country Performer 1 Any age; established Country entertainer; very country theatrically dressed; plays guitar and sings; part is played by one of the band members

Male Country Performer 2 Any age: a country singer; one of the band members plays the part. There is an option is to have a changing guest performer appear for one or more performances. Should indicate this in the program and announce when and who the guest is.

Joe’s Ladies There are nine women that play parts in scenes with Joe. Some of the scenes require the character to sing. One female actor/singer will play all of these parts. There will be changes in clothes and hair for the various parts. It is significant and obvious to the audience that it is the same girl. Therefore, playing multiple parts and changing costumes and other changes does not need to excessive.

Joe’s Ladies Following are the various Joe’s Ladies characters in chronological sequence for their appearances.

Sally Young lady; Joe’s first love and wife; they were high school sweethearts. .

Sienna Young lady; Joe’s lover while he is still married to Sally; Joe leaves Sally for Sienna.

Emily Young lady; with Joe after his last split.

Mary Young lady, plays organ in a church; gets Joe going to church and singing in church.

Ellie Young lady, lover while Joe worked at a horse farm.

Sandra Young lady; traveled to Caribbean with Joe.

Jody Young lady; lives in Louisiana; performs on radio station with Joe.

Mandy Young lady; twenties; gives Joe a hard time;

Cindy Young Lady, encourages Joe to write a song about auto racing

□Musical Doors Act , Scene, Song and Time Summary

Act	Scene	Time	Song	Song Names
			#	
1	0	3:00	1	Overture Act 1 (excerpt various songs)
1	1	4:57	1	Musical Doors
1	2	5:15	1	Somewhere in The Corner of My Mind
1	3	4:01	1	Morning Time
1	4	6:24	1	Sing Me a Song
1	5	4:05	1	What Good Is My Heart
1	6	5:41	1	Sally Sweet Sweet Sally
1	7	3:58	1	You Are Colors
1	8	6:07	1	One More Summer
1	9	3:50	1	Where Do We Go from Here
1	10	4:18	1	Tears and Beers and Wasted Years
1	11	3:46	1	4 GIV ME I LUV U
1	12	4:18	1	I'm a Better Lover
1	12	6:15	2	Things Really Could Be Worse
1	13	6:59	1	According to the Gospel
1	13	6:27	2	Jesus I Ain't Going
Total Act 1		76:41	Approximate Music Time	

Act	Scene	Time	Song	Song Names	#
			#		
2	0	3:00	1	Overture Act 2 (excerpt various songs)	
2	1	3:25	1	Who Had a Better Time Than Us	
2	2	5:52	1	The Sun Will Light Your Eyes	
2	3	4:45	1	You've Got to Know	
2	4	4:13	1	I'm a Trucker	
2	5	4:53	1	You Even Had to Break My Heart	
2	6	3:20	1	The Latest Greatest Smart Phone	
2	7	3:51	1	I Let You Down	
2	8	4:00?	1	Anything Can Happen to a Man Has Happened to Me	
2	9	4:23	1	Nowhere	
2	10	6:56?	1	Jessus and Earnhardt and Petty by His Side	
2	11	9:20	1	My Old Age and My Old Dreams	
2	12	4:57	1	Musical Doors	

□ **Musical Doors Scene Description Act 1**

Act	Scene	Scene Overview
1	0	Encore for Act 1 with parts of several songs.
1	1	Monologue; Joe talks about his life; sings “Musical Doors”
1	2	Monologue; recalls first guitar, writing songs. Joe sings “Musical Doors excerpt and “Somewhere in the Corner of My Mind.”
1	3	Monologue; Joe and Sally are married and visit Destin, FL; Joe and Sally sing the duet “Morning Time. ”
1	4	Monologue; Joe talks about his life of day jobs and gigs; Sally sings “What Good is My Heart.”
1	5	Monologue; Joe starts a relationship with Sienna; Joe is in Sienna’s Bedroom; Joe and Sienna sing “Sing Me a Song,”
1	6	Monologue; Joe breaks up with Sally; Joe sings “Sally Sweet Sweet Sally.”
1	7	Monologue; Joe leaves Sally for Siena; Siena reads poem “Don’t Ask Me;” Joe sings to Sienna “You are Colors.”
1	8	Monologue; Joe is restless; Sienna senses Joe’s restlessness; Joe sings an excerpt chorus of “Somewhere in the Corner of my Mind;” Sienna and Joe sing “One More Summer.”
1	9	Monologue; After break up with Sienna Joe sings “Where Do We Go from Here.”
1	10	Monologue; Joe starts drinking; regrets about Sally and Sienna; Joe sings “Tears and Beers and Wasted Years.”
1	11	Monologue; Joe does trucking jobs; splits with Emily because of his cheating; Joe sings “4GIVE ME I LUV U.”
1	12	Monologue; Joe goes to Nashville; meets a Country Performer rehearsing in the studio. Country Performer sings “I’m A Better Lover” and Joe and Country Performer sing “Things Really Can’t Be Worse.”
1	13	Monologue; Joe meets church worker Mary in Birmingham, Alabama; Joe and Mary sing “According to the Gospel,” and “Jesus I Ain’t Goin.”

□Musical Doors Scene Description Act 2

2	0	Encore for second act with parts of several songs.
2	1	Monologue; Joe works on horse farm; meets Ellie; Joe and Ellie sing “Who Had a Better Time Than Us;” Joe and Ellie split.
2	2	Monologue: Joe meets wealthy Sandra; travels to Caribbean; Joe sings song for girls with two syllable girl’s names; Joe and Sandra sing “The Sun Will Light Your Eyes.”
2	3	Monologue: Joe talks about loneliness; Joe and Jody perform a song at a local Louisiana radio station “You’ve Got to Know.”
2	4	Monologue: Joe speaks of trucking and traveling; Joe sings “I’m a Trucker;” Girl Trio choreography.
2	5	Monologue: Joe has demanding and short relationship with Mandy; Joe & Mandy sing “You Even Had to Break My Heart.”
2	6	Monologue: Joe discusses smart phones; Joe sings “The Latest Greatest Smart Phone.”
2	7	Monologue: Joe talks about many girls he left behind; Joe sings “I Let You Down.
2	8	Monologue: about having done it all; Joe Sings “Any Thing Can Happen to a Man Has Happened to Me”
2	9	Monologue; about traveling and performing; Joe Sings: “Nowhere.”
2	10	Monologue: Cindy suggests Joe write a song about racing; Joe sings: “Jesus and Earnhardt and Petty by My Side”
2	11	Monologue: Joe speaks about song writing and his admiration of Willie Nelson; Joe sings tribute songs to Willie Nelson “My Old Age and My Old Dreams.”.
2	12	Monologue: Joe sings verses from various songs explaining his approaches to life and women; reflects on n his life journey; Joe sings “Musical Doors.”

End of Musical.

□Musical Doors Submission Information

Music and Lyrics and Book Participants

- Music and lyrics and Book are written by Richard Nannariello ©, 11 Gale Lane,

Ormond Beach, FL 32174, email nannariell@aol.com, Home 386 437 2994, Cell 386 235 7020

- Musical Arrangements produced at Sound Mind Studio in Holly Hills, Florida by Matt McKeown.
- The Male vocals by Matt McKeown.
- Female vocals by Anna Maria Cavicchia AKA Anna Maria Soprano of Ormond Beach, FL

Copyright

- The Musical Doors Book is submitted for copyrighted with the US Copyright Department
- All of the copyrights are by Richard Nannariello who wrote music and lyrics and Book.
- Many of the songs have been on You Tube for years
- Many of the songs have been copyrighted years ago by Richard Nannariello
- All songs were recorded at the Sound Mind Studio with original dates and modification dates. The songs are backed up on the Studio computers and on the Cloud.

Musical Overview and Structure

- Act 1 has 13 scenes; 13 songs; one overture; about 76 minutes of music.
- Intermission 20 minutes
- Act 2 has 12 scenes; 12 songs, about 60 minutes of music.g.

Musical Length Production Option

- Many of the scenes are standalone scenes in terms of not having any dependent story flow before or after the scene. This a creative intentional decision.
- If the Musical is too long for production it is possible drop one or more standalone scenes. There can be choices excluding first two and last two scenes in each act.

Musical Doors Book

- The book is in PDF format and is about 110 pages of actual script.
- Pagination is done only for each Scene

Songs Requiring Licensing

- All of the song lyrics and music and arrangements are original and no licensing is required.

Song Score and Chord Sheets

- Song Chord sheets and Piano Arrangements are not provided. If needed, arrangements can be made to make them available.

Music Arrangements

- The arrangements for all of the songs are available for live performances.
- Requires discussions and specific arrangements for their use for live performance.

Vocal Range for Singers

- The four female characters are in the soprano range.
- The three male character are in the tenor or baritone range.

Music File and Vocal File

- The format is MP3
- The Vocal File has the vocals for all songs with the music arrangements..
- The Music File has only the musical arrangements.

Music File and Vocal File Track Number (TN)

- The Track Number is the same for both files.
 - File Type V for Vocal File , M for Music File
 - Musical Name Musical Doors
 - Act Number 01 or 02
 - Scene Number 01 to 13
 - Song Number 1 for first song in a scene and 2 for second
 - Date Created Format is MM/DD/YYYY
or Updated
 - Example TN1 VMusical Doors0101108/22,2025

Example: Vocal, Musical Doors, act 1, scene 1, first song 1
August 22, 2025

- All Songs on both Music and Vocal files have the same musical arrangements to demonstrate the tempo and feel and performance of the song.

□ **Musical Doors Production and Staging Information**

Following is information and creative ideas and guidelines for producing and staging “Musical Doors.” They are intended to support the local production efforts and can be adapted as needed for local production.

Production: Joe

- Joe plays the guitar for every song and is accompanied by the Band and often the Backup Singers.
- Joe wears country clothes and changes clothes after Act 1.
- Joe may have the guitar hang around his neck, carry it, or strung over his back. As guitar changes are needed, Joe picks up the guitar from the rack of instruments at center stage, and returns the instrument as needed.
- Joe wears a mouth mike and literally works the entire stage from stage right stage to stage left in his performance. This is done with the energy and show business acumen of a performer like Garth Brooks, but not suggesting copying Garth. Joe does not wear a hat.
- Joe may stand on the stage or move around the stage; or sit on a stool around center stage; or stand in one place. This is decided in the blocking. He always ends up on the correct side of the stage as needed to walk through the “Musical Doors.”

Production: Scene Change Direction

- The musical is organized into 23 scenes and the transition from scenes is seamless with only lighting changes. There is no actual “*FADE TO DARK*” between scenes. There is a reference to “Fade to Dark” to symbolically identify the end of the scene and a change in the lighting. Most of the new scene are identified by Joe passing through the “Musical Door” at Center Stage.

Production: Band

- The Band has five or six members and they are spread out side-by-side on Stage Right.
- One or two guitar players can join Joe on the stage for some of his songs

Production: Joe’s Ladies

- One actor plays all the parts for Joe’s Ladies. This actor sings and does dialogue. Some reasonable changes are made in her clothes but not to the point that it appears she is a different actor.

Production: Backup Singers

- The Backup Singers generally back up Joe on the choruses of many but not all songs. Other backup opportunities are identified during production. Some songs by tempo or narrative are not appropriate to have the Backup Singers sing.

- The Book identifies when they perform with Joe for choruses. However, on the ut the arrangement is available for the Backup Singers in the Book.
- The Backup Singers sometimes stay in one place and other times are moving around the stage depending where Joe is.

Production: Microphones

- All of the singing and speaking actors have a mouth piece microphone.

Production: Stage Direction, Blocking, Lighting

- Stage direction is provided for the characters moving through the scenes, changing scenes, and entering or exiting the stage.
- Basic Blocking is provided for entering, leaving and moving around the stage. Detailed blocking is required during the production.
- Transition from scenes, changing lighting, and up or down curtain options is provided.

Production: Costumes and Clothes

- Joe wears country style clothes and changes for Act 2.
- The band wears country style clothes for the entire show.
- The Backup Singers have the same dress when performing. The Backup Singers change their outfits for the second act.
- Joe's Ladies are the same girl and changes dressing for each Lady appearance.

Production: Set Design

- Band: The band for the entire musical is at Upper Stage Right to Center. One band members will leave to play parts in some of the scenes.
- Musical Door: At Center Stage is the symbolic "Musical Doors." It is an oversized white door frame with a door that is always open. It separates the two sides of the stage. The door is the metaphorical "Musical Doors" through which Joe enters and departs as he goes through his various relationships in his life. Each pass through the door is the ending and the beginning of a relationship and the scene. Joe has sometimes has remarks when at the Musical Door.
- Backup Singers: The Backup Singers stand behind Joe on both sides of the Musical Door. are two areas on either side of the Musical Door, they move to be aligned with Joe. When Joe goes through the Musical Door, the trio follows a short time later.
- Room: For selected Scenes there is a general purpose room, which is sometimes defined and sometimes not defined. The staging requires minimal props to define the room. Some of the locations are a church, radio station, recording studio, bedroom, an unidentified room, etc.
- Stage Rear: The entire stage behind the Band and the Backup Singers and Joe is a Back Stage Curtain that does not move. During production it can be decided to leave it dark or lighted during changes of scenes or other circumstances.
- Guitar Rack: The Guitar Rack is around center stage. It is accessible to Joe when he is on either side of the Musical Door.

Production: Band Instrumentation

- Joe plays a steel string acoustical guitar, and other guitars. He accompanies himself as he sings and plays the guitar and wears a mouthpiece microphone. . The band supports all of the songs.
- The Band accompanies Joe or one of Joe's Ladies on all songs. The Band consists of the following
 - lead guitar
 - bass guitar
 - Other guitar
 - keyboard
 - percussion
 - optional players using mandolin, violin, tambourine, etc.

Production: Projecting Lyrics on the Stage Screen:

- Projecting lyrics on a screen real time is effective for both informing and involving the audience. Many of the songs are appropriate for audience participation and particularly the choruses.
- Some of the songs provide an opportunity for the Audience to sing-along.
- Joe works the stage and encourages the audience to sing-along.
- The Backup Singers support Joe on the chorus of many songs and also work the stage to encourage audience participation. .
- The large screen is around the middle center stage for projection. The size of the screen and lyrics and software to be used is a technical and creative production decision.
- When the screen is not used for lyrics, it can be used to provide still photos or appropriate video or a screen full of color to creatively support the songs.
- Projected lyrics improves audience engagement allows the audience to follow along and sing with the performers.

□ACT 1 SCENE 0 SONG: OVERTURE ACT 1

(FADE TO DARK)

(LIGHTS UP)

(BAND IS ON STAGE RIGHT OF CENTER)

(NOTE: CURTAIN IS UP FOR ENTIRE SHOW)

THE BAND PLAYS PARTS VARIOUS ACT 1 SONGS :

MUSICAL DOORS

SOMEWHERE IN THE CORNER OF MY M IND,

SALLY SWEET SWEET SALLY,

ONE MORE SUMMER

YOU ARE COLORS

TEARS AND BEERS AND WASTED YEAR

ACCORDING TO THE GOSPEL.

(FADE TO DARK)

END OF ACT 1 SCENE 0

□ACT 1 SCENE 1 SONG: MY LIFE IS MUSCAL DOORS

(LIGHTS UP)

(JOE WALKS TO STAGE FRONTCENTER)

(CARRIES HIS GUITAR)

JOE

(SINGS: MY LIFE IS MUSICAL DOORS”)

(Verse 1)

I have lived my life

Some doors I have closed

Others I’ve opened

Wondering and hopin'
I'd find some new roads

You reap what you sow
You toil every day
Ignoring some voices
Making your choices
While making your way

Comin' and goin'
To back where I start
Just chasing the clock
And doors that I lock
Like strings in a heart

I went on my ways
Just looking for dreams
Too often I found
Impossible schemes

Life's just like a play
We write all the scenes
We play all the parts
Just searching for dreams

My life is musical doors
My life is musical doors
My life is musical doors

(Verse 2)
It's lonely out there
When you're on your own
Just sleeping around
Hearing the sound
Of sleeping alone

I've made my own luck
With loves I have found
Loves that were golden
Just couldn't hold'em
Keep moving around

I find a new place
The door opens a crack
I don't like bitchin'
But I get an itchin'

That's calling' me back

At the end of the day
You find from the start
That all that you lost
Lived deep in your heart

Life circles around
Like a carousel
You reach for the ring
'Till you hear the bell

My life is musical doors
My life is musical doors
My life is musical doors

(Verse 3)
Some loves I have earned
Others I've taken
A thief in the night
And now out of sight
My dreams forsaken

The winds at my back
And gives me a shove
Sailing the seas
Riding the breeze
Just looking for love

Life's musical doors
New songs being played
The door's revolving'
Life is evolving
Just like a parade

(Verse 4)
Now I can't go home
No one's there any more
I'll just have to find
My musical doors

(Release 4)
My life is a house
With musical doors
You get trapped between
The ceilings and floors

Now I can't go home
No one's there any more
I'll just have to find
My musical door

(Finale)
My life is musical doors
My life is musical doors
My life is musical doors

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMER BOWS)

(FADE TO DARK)

END ACT 1 SCENE 1

□ACT 1 SCENE 2 SONG: SOMEWHERE IN THE CORNER OF MY MIND

(LIGHTING)

JOE

(WALKS THROUGH MUSICAL DOOR)

(SITS ON A STOOL WITH GUITAR)

My name is Joe. When all you good people go to a show, you want to be surprised and entertained. You don't want somebody giving away the story and the plot in the first few minutes of the first act. If they did that you might just as well leave and go have a beer in some nice place. But that's just what I'm going to do. Going to tell you like it is and like I am.

"Musical Doors" is the story of my life and the women I've known and I've disappointed. It's about playing my guitar and writing songs and doing odd jobs like truck driving and farming and working as a janitor. I'm pushing forty and I've been everywhere and I've been nowhere. Did a lot of living and did a lot of nothing. That's it. How about putting those house lights on so I can see these good-looking people?

(HOUSE LIGHTS ON)

(JOE TALKS TO THE AUDIENCE, MOVES AROUND)

Some of you people look a lot older and smarter than me, and a heck of a lot better looking too. Now that door I just walked through is my Musical Doors. Every time I pass through from one side to other, there is a change in my life. Another town, another job, another woman that I'll try to make happy. Basically, I'm out searching but never quite certain what I am searching for. At the same time I am often getting a little more lost in my life than before.

All of you good people certainly probably did a lot of living and you lasted long enough to be here. Since you don't know me and I don't look particularly interesting, you may all want to just get up and get your money back and go to a good restaurant. Because you know the plot and there ain't much more than one I told you. Unfortunately, you're past the point of getting a refund. So, sit back and enjoy. I'm going to tell you my story with some monologues and a few songs and introduce you to some of the Ladies in my life. Actually, more than a few songs and more than a few Ladies, so stay awake. Sometimes I express myself better in my songs than in my spoken words. There's a line from one of my songs "Just because you know my songs, don't mean you know the man." That's me. Think about it! Enjoy!

(LIGHTS DOWN)

JOE

(SINGS "SOMEWHERE IN THE CORNER OF MY MIND")

(Chorus 1)

Somewhere in the corner of my mind
There's a dream that I can't seem to find
Every time I find a home
Something tells me I must roam
Sometimes I think my heart is just too blind
To find
The dream in the corner of my mind

(Verse 1)

She had a special glow about her
When she dressed in white
The only one I have showed
The poetry I would write

She brought such laughter to my heart
But I just made her cry
'Cause the day she said she loved me
Is the day I said goodbye

(Chorus 2) JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS (SING))

Somewhere in the corner of my mind
There's a dream that I can't seem to find
Every time I find a home
Something tells me I must roam
Sometimes I think my heart is just too blind
To find
The dream in the corner of my mind

JOE (SINGS)

(Verse 2)

I've traveled this world all around
Always looking for a place
To hang my hat and warm my heart
To find a friendly face

There's a thousand places just like that
And there will always be
But always something missing
It's missing inside of me

(Chorus 3) JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS)

Somewhere in the corner of my mind
There's a dream that I can't seem to find
Every time I find a home
Something tells me I must roam
Sometimes I think my heart is just too blind
To find

The dream in the corner of my mind

(Verse 3) JOE

I've been loved and I have loved
But never without pain
On a sunny day with skies of blue
I still can find the rain

I have said goodbye as I leave
With the winds to set me free
There's an echo of I love you
And go search again for me

(Chorus 4) JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS)

Somewhere in the corner of my mind
There's a dream that I can't seem to find
Every time I find a home
Something tells me I must roam
Sometimes I think my heart is just too blind
To find
The dream in the corner of my mind

(Instrumental)

(Verse 5)

I've had some dreams and I lost a few
But few dreams I could share
There's other dreams inside my heart
But I want nobody there

I have traveled lonely roads
And each road was my choice
I've listened to my heart
And I heard a stranger's voice

(Chorus 5) JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS)

Somewhere in the corner of my mind
There's a dream that I can't seem to find
Every time I find a home
Something tells me I must roam
Sometimes I think my heart is just too blind
To find
The dream in the corner of my mind

(Finale)

The dream in the corner of my mind
The dream in the corner of my mind.
The dream in the corner of my mind

(AUDIENCE APPLAUSE AND PERFORMER BOWS)

JOE

(SITS ON STOOL)

As I told you, the songs I write and sing for you tonight are about my life. I know it sounds a little self-patronizing but it's what I'm gonna do. I try to tell the truth. Now there are several lines in that song I just sang that I would like to repeat.

(HALF SINGS AND HALF TALKS THE LINES)

(JOE ONLY PLAYS THE GUITAR AND NO BAND)

She had a special glow about her

When she was dressed in white

She's the only one I have showed

The poetry I would write

She brought such laughter to my life

But I just made her cry

Cause the day she said she loved me

Was the day I said goodbye.

Those few lines kind of reveal how most of my relationships start and finish. Never quite sure if my leaving is the worst thing I can do to another person or possibly the very best thing I can do for them. Getting me out of someone's life could be a blessing.

(JOE WALKS OVER TO THE MUSICAL DOOR)

(AS JOE IS SPEAKING)

(OPENS AND CLOSSES THE DOOR)

(THEN WALKS THROUGH THE DOOR)

All my life I've been entering and exiting doors my Musical Doors! Sometimes I walk through a door knowing exactly where I'm going. Other times I don't take much care where I'm going. They say every time a door closes another door opens. Sounds nice enough, but sometimes another door doesn't open. Trust me! Or maybe a door opens and takes you to a place you don't want to be or shouldn't be. On the other side of the door you can find angels or you can find the devil. Or worse than that—you can find yourself. For good or for bad.

Sometimes doors get slammed in your face by someone and sometimes you slam a door behind you. You can enter an open door with a closed mind or you can enter a closed door with an open mind. I've passed through a lots of doors and sometimes I feel like I've ended back where I started. There are times I've banged my head on a wall in frustration, but as hard as I banged my head on that damned wall, it never turned into a door. It just stayed a wall. Here are a few lines from the opening song. You'll have to stick around to hear my whole story before the song will make real sense.

JOE

RETURNS TO THE STOOL)

(HALF SINGS AND HALF SPEAKS)

(PLAYS THE GUITAR & BAND DOES NOT PLAY)

My life is a house

With musical doors

You get trapped between

The ceilings and floors

Now I can't go home

No one's there any more

I'll just have to find

My musical door

JOE

I got my first guitar when I was twelve. Sometimes one man's bad luck is another man's good luck. My Uncle Charlie died and left me his guitar. Uncle Charlie once told me you can play a guitar and you can play a woman, but unlike a guitar you can't put a woman down as easily as a guitar when you get tired of playing it.

At the time I had no interest in playing that guitar and so it sat in the corner of my room. One day I got sick and had to stay home from school for about a week. I picked up that guitar and began picking at it. I've never put the guitar down since that day. God bless Uncle Charlie.

We had a teacher in high school, Mrs. Shutts, tried to get us to read and enjoy poetry. When she read poems out loud, it made the words come alive. I liked that feeling when spoken words make you feel different. I started writing poetry and one day it all came together and I learned how to talk with my guitar and write the lyrics to my songs.

Stick around and hear the rest of my story. It'll only take a few hours.

(STANDS UP)

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMER BOWS)

(FADE TO DARK)

END OF ACT 1 SCENE 2)

□ACT 1 SCENE 3

SONG: MORNING TIME

JOE

(WALKS THROUGH THE MUSICAL DOOR)

(TO CENTER STAGE)

I hardly remember a day not knowing Sally. We were in sixth grade together and every year after that. I remember a few of us guys were teasing some of the girls down at the ballfield. Sally got so damned angry at me she kicked me in the leg. Hell, it hurt so much I nearly cried and I was so embarrassed for my almost crying and her kicking me, I didn't talk to her for the better part of a year. One day she kind of grew up overnight. I'd get so damn excited about being near her that my head would throb. My God she was beautiful!

SALLY

(ENTERS AND SITS IN A CHAIR)

(MINIMAL PROPS TO REPRESENT A BEDROOM)

JOE

(WALKS TO THE ROOM WITH SALLY)

(KISSES SALLY)

Sally, please tell me what a genius I was to pick this place.

SALLY

You're a genius.

JOE

Say it again. I like the sound of your saying it.

SALLY

Joe, you're a genius.

JOE

That proves you've got good judgment.

SALLY

No! It proves that your cousin arranged with his friend to let us use this lovely place in Destin for a few days. And not charging us anything.

JOE

My genius is knowing the right people.

SALLY

Did you ever imagine when you fell in love with me in high school that we would ever be this happy?

JOE

(LAUGHING)

Who said that I fell in love with you in high school?

SALLY

You told me you loved me.

JOE

What did I know about love? I was sixteen.

SALLY

You were so beautiful too.

JOE

No, I was kind of handsome and that's stretching a point. You're beautiful.

JOE AND SALLY

(EMBRACE AND KISS)

SALLY

You were beautiful. Even with all that acne.

JOE

(RUBS HIS FACE AS IF SHE WOULD HIT HIM)

Our sex life cleared that up. I would have loved you a few years sooner, if you didn't kick me that time in the school yard.

SALLY

You had it coming. I should have kicked you, you know where.

JOE

That could have had an impact on our sex life now.

SALLY

Well, I couldn't kick you in the head. It was too hard. Let's stay in bed all day. We'll eat ice cream and drink wine and we'll do---

(KISSES JOE, LAUGHS)

Well you know what we'll do.

SALLY (SINGS MORNING TIME)

(Verse 1)

Morning time

The sun awakes

And paints the colors in the morning skies

Hmm Hmm

Morning time

And you awake

With the look of love painted in your eyes

Morning time

I feel the love of you inside me

As you lay there warm beside me

Take me in your arms and hide me

This lovely morning time

(Chorus 1) JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS)

A new day has begun

We will chase the sun

The sun will warm your eyes

The sun is very wise

The sun is very wise

JOE (SINGS)

(Verse 2)

Morning time

The sun awakes

Paints the sunrise in a morning haze

Hmm Hmm

Morning time

And hand in hand

We walk the beaches through the summer days

Morning time

I'll find a thousand ways to love you

As the sun sails high above you

All the dreams I dream are of you

This lovely morning time

(Chorus 2)

A new day has begun

We will chase the sun

The sun will warm your eyes

The sun is sweet surprise

The sun is sweet surprise

(INSTRUMENTAL RELEASE)

JOE AND SALLY

(Verse 3)
Morning time
The day begins
Bringing the dreams of a new born day
Hmm Hmm
Morning time
If we get lost the sun will show the way

Morning time
We will spend the day pretending
That this day is never ending
While our hearts are gently blending
This lovely morning time

Finale
Morning Time
Hmm Hmm
Morning Time
Hmm Hmm
Morning time

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS AND PERFORMER BOWS)

Sally and I had some very good years. I had my day job and I wrote my songs and I got some gigs on the side. I could hardly stand not playing my guitar every day. I needed music and words to explore where I was going and what I was thinking. I could hardly have a fault that Sally didn't overlook. The day job and the gigs didn't exactly put us in the money, but that was OK with her.

FADE TO DARK

(END OF ACT 1 SCENE 3)

□ **ACT 1 SCENE 4** **SONG: SING ME A SONG**

(LIGHTING)

JOE
(JOE STANDS AT CENTER STAGE)

SIENNA
(ENTERS ROOM, SITS ON THE BED)

JOE
(STANDS AT CENTER STAGE)

(SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

Sally knew something was happening. I was breaking her heart. I've asked myself how I allowed myself to be in love with two women at the same time. I loved Sally. I believe I love her now, after all these years and heartaches. We were young together. First love and youth can happen only once.

I was playing a gig one night. It was noisy and we tried playing anything and everything, but nobody was listening. There were too many guys trying to pick up too few pretty ladies. I could never work that hard to get the attention of a girl in a bar or maybe I just didn't have the skill to do it.

Sienna and I caught each other's eyes across the room. We made love with our eyes throughout the night. Somebody once said "What we love in someone else is what we don't have or can't find in ourselves." If you love someone more than they love you, they will always be in a superior position. Sienna was both of those things to me.

JOE
(ENTERS THE ROOM WITH SIENNA)

SIENNA
What time will we meet for dinner?

JOE
We'll have to put it off.

SIENNA
Why?

JOE
Please don't ask me why.

SIENNA
I don't want to hear myself say, "I knew what I was getting into." Damn it! I just said it. We are in a permanent state of everything being temporary.

JOE
I don't want to hurt anyone.

SIENNA
What you're doing Joe, is hurting everyone.

JOE
I know. I'm good at that.

SIENNA SINGS
(SING ME A SONG)

(Verse 1)
Sing me a song
Sing me to sleep
Sing your song gentle
Sing your song sweet
I know you must go
'Cause it's getting late
Please don't you leave me
Don't you leave me awake

JOE (SINGS)
(Verse 2)
I'll sing you a song
I'll sing you to sleep
My song will be gentle
My song will be sweet
I don't want to go

But it's getting late
Love I won't leave you
I won't leave you awake

SIENNA

(Verse 3)

I give all my love
And get half of your life
You say that you love me
And go off in the night
You lay in some bed
Where you don't want to be
You dream in the night
While you're thinking 'bout me

JOE

(Verse 4)

I'll give all my love
Someday all my life
When I learn how to give
You love without strife
Then I'll lie in your bed
Where I want to be
I'll stay warm in your arms
While you make love to me

SIENNA

(Verse 5)

I cry in the night
I wish you were there
I see your face in the ceiling
I talk to the chair
I wake with the sun
'Cause the night is too long
I still hear the echo
Of the sound of your song

(Verse 6)

I cry in the night
And I wish I was there
To be your face in the ceiling
To sit in your chair
I wake with the sun
'Cause the night is too long
I want to rush to your arms
And sing you my song

(Release 1)

Stay here by my side SIENNA

I'll stay here by your side JOE

In my arms you'll hide SIENNA

In your arms I'll hide JOE

JOE AND SIENNA
My love is like an ocean

A thousand miles wide

Listen to what I say JOE

I'll listen to what you say SIENNA

I know we'll find a way JOE

I hope we'll find a way SIENNA

JOE AND SIENNA
Then I'll sing my song to you
I'll sing it every day

(Verse 7)
I'll sing you a song
I'll sing you to sleep
My song will be gentle
My song will be sweet
I'll give all my love
For the rest of my life
I'll sing you my song
And (you'll) be my wife
 (I'll)

(Finale)
Hmm Hmm Hmm Hmm
Hmm Hmm Hmm Hmm
My song will be gentle
My song will be sweet

JOE AND SIENNA (KISS)
 (AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMERS BOW)

JOE
(SIENNA EXITS THE BEDROOM)
(JOE WALKS THROUGH MUSICAL DOOR)

FADE TO DARK)

END OF SCENE 1 SCENE 4

□ **ACT 1 SCENE 5 SONG: WHAT GOOD IS MY HEART**

SALLY
(ENTERS ROOM AND SITS)

JOE

(WALKS THROUGH MUSICAL DOOR)
(TO CENTER STAGE, SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

JOE.

When loves goes wrong there can be crying, and then there is more anger, and then there is heartbreak. When there is heartbreak it is usually irreparable. Maybe someone can fix their broken heart, but someone else can try, but they often do not succeed. The only thing left to do is let the ultimate healer, namely time, takes its damn good time to do its job.

(JOE LEAVES THE ROOM)

SALLY (SINGS: WHAT GOOD IS MY HEART)

(Verse 1)

What good is the moon
Might just as well lose it
If lovers can't us it
To make love as it gleams

What good is the sun
Except to be shining
To make silver linings
With its beautiful beams

What good are the stars
Except lovers rather
Have stars to gather
In wishes and dreams

(Release 1)

What good is my heart
Unless it's the one
To give you the stars, moon and sun
If not I want none
What good is my heart.

What good is my heart

MUSICAL RELEASE

(Verse 2)

What good are the stars
Except lovers rather
Have stars to gather
In wishes and dreams

(Release 2)

What good is my heart
Unless it's the one
To give you the stars moon and sun
If not, I want none
What good is my heart.
What good is my heart
What good is my heart

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMER BOWS)

(FADE TO DARK)

END OF ACT 1 SCENE 5

□ACT 1 SCENE 6 SONG: SALLY SWEET SWEET SALLY

(LIGHTING)

SALLY

(SITS IN TABLE ROOM)

JOE

(CENTER STAGE, SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

There's a special pain and loneliness that a woman feels when she knows her man is not being true. Woman always know, sometimes in silence and sometimes in anger. Sally's choice was silence. When I went out that door every morning she didn't know which "Joe" was coming home at night. She would wait by the door---literally. We had good years and good times, but something made me dissatisfied. Not with Sally. I was dissatisfied with myself.

JOE

(ENTERS TABLE ROOM)

SALLY

You know Joe, I thought we would always be happy. When we found out we couldn't have children, I was so damned self-centered, I thought to myself, who cares because now I have you all to myself.

JOE

Sally, I still love you.

SALLY

(CRIES)

Don't you dare say that to me. Don't you walk out that door with an "I love you" on your lips.

JOE

(EXITS THE ROOM,

(GOES THROUGH MUSICAL DOOR

TO CENTER STAGE)

JOE

(SINGS "SALLY SWEET SWEET SALLY"

(Verse 1)

Sally sweet sweet Sally
I see the sadness in your eyes
I see the longing in your eyes
You wonder how I know
But don't you realize
I can look into your heart

Sally sweet sweet Sally
I'll hurt you when I leave
But I'll hurt you if I stay
I'd be gentle with my words
But I don't know what to say
Words can only break your heart

(Release 1)
I would love you
But I haven't got time
I'm rushing to some place
I'll never find
Oh how I'd love you
If you were mine
I'd fill your life with love
And make you love the life you live

(Verse 2)
Sally sweet sweet Sally
I hope you find your dream
I hope you find the place
Where there's someone you can love
Who'll put sunshine on your face
With a love to fill your heart
Sally sweet sweet Sally
Sally sweet sweet Sally

JOE

(PLAYS INSTRUMENTAL ON GUITAR)

(Release 1)
I would love you
But I haven't got time
I'm rushing to some place
I'll never find
Oh how I'd love you
If you were mine
I'd fill your life with love
And make you love the life you live

(Verse 3)
Sally sweet sweet Sally
I hope you find your dream
I hope you find the place
Where there's someone you can love
Who'll put sunshine on your face
And a love to fill your heart

Sally sweet sweet Sally
Sally sweet sweet Sally
Sally sweet sweet Sally
Sally sweet sweet Sally

SALLY
(EXITS ROOM)
(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMERS BOWS)

END OF ACT 1 SCENE 6

□ ACT 1 SCENE 7 SONG: YOU ARE COLORS

(LIGHTING)

SIENNA
(ENTERS ROOM)

JOE

(CENTER STAGE, SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

Sienna was happy. I'd play my gigs and she usually came with me. Sometimes I think she came because that's how we met and she wanted to be sure I wouldn't become a traveling man again. I had my day jobs and my night time gigs. Sienna's mother was an artist and it was her idea to give her that name. They considered Azul which is blue in Spanish. They considered Bianca which is white in Italian. They ended up with Sienna.

JOE

(ENTERS TABLE ROOM, KISSES SIENNA)

Hi.

SIENNA

(EXCITED AND EAGER, HOLDS A POEM)

I wrote this yesterday. I awoke from a nap and the poem, (HESITATES) well it was just there.

JOE

It just popped out of your head?

SIENNA

It was an inexplicable poetic gift.

JOE

They say Robert Frost would carry a poem around in his head for days, before putting it on paper.

SIENNA

Robert who?

JOE

(LAUGHS)

Very funny!

SIENNA

(SITS ON CHAIR, READS POEM)

Ask me to stop breathing
To stop biting my nails
At a very special nail biting times
Ask me to stop
Remembering how sweet
Chocolate tastes or the excitement of
Forsythia blooming in early spring or
To stop recollecting childhood winters
When snow was whiter and deeper.

Ask me to stop
Letting poems fill my head
Or whistle tunes
With long forgotten words
Or remember the taste
Of cherries picked
From childhood trees.

But do not
Please do not ask me to stop crawling
Under the warm blanket
Of your passion
Succor your splendid lies
Fall prey to your unfathomable seduction
Don't ask me to stop loving you

JOE

(KISSES SIENNA)

It's beautiful. Thank you. One of the definitions of poetry is that it's supposed to stir and arouse the emotions of the listener. Consider me stirred and aroused.

SIENNA

Thanks for stirring me to write it. (GRABS JOE)

Talking about the arousal. Seduce me! Please seduce me.

JOE

(LAUGHS)

I'm not a bionic guy that just turns on for an impetuous arousal.

JOE

(PIANO PLAYS RIFF FROM "YOU ARE COLORS")

SIENNA

(CHOREOGRAPHY FOR DANCE)

(WHILE JOE SINGS)

JOE

(SINGS YOU ARE COLORS)

(Verses 1)

You are colors
You are pink and blue
You are brown and orange
Yellow green purple sienna too

(Verse 2)

There's a pallet in my soul
From which I find
I paint your lovely face

On a canvas in my mind

(Verse 3)

You're a meadow
You're a summer scene
You are winters white
Autumns gold
And springtime's green

(Release 1)

You color all my life
So bright and new
I can see it in your eyes
You are color wise
And you color all my life
And I love you

JOE

PLAYS INSTRUMENTAL RELEASE)

JOE

(Verse 4)

You are colors
You're the oceans blue
You are rainbow-ed skies
Silver moons and sunsets too

(Verse 5)

There's a pallet in my soul
From which I find
I paint your lovely face
On a canvas in my mind

(Verse 6)

You're a meadow
You're a summer scene
You are winters white
Autumn's gold
And spring times green

(Verse 7)

You color all my life
So bright and new
I can see it in your eyes
You are color wise
And you color all my life
And I love you

(Finale)

You are colors
You are colors
You are colors

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMERS BOW)

(SIENNA EXITS)

END OF ACT 1 SCENE 7

□ **ACT 1 SCENE 8 SONG: ONE MORE SUMMER**

(JOE GOES THROUGH MUSICAL DOORS)

SIENNA

(ENTERS BEDROOM)

(STANDS AND STARES OUT THE WINDOW)

JOE

(CENTER STAGE, SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

It was our second year together and our second summer together. Life was good, but I was getting restless. I have an ill functioning recessive gene someplace that can be traced to some caveman. This was a caveman who liked hunting dinosaurs by himself and always wondered if there were more or different dinosaurs over the next hill or across the next valley. When I get that feeling I kind of get quiet and withdrawn. There was no harshness between us, only this feeling that I was a lonely free flowing iceberg with no purpose to my existence except trying to find the open sea. In the open sea I wouldn't have to deal with the other icebergs.

JOE

(SINGS ONE CHORUS OF "SOMEWHERE IN THE
CORNER OF MY MIND")

(PLAYS GUITAR WITH NO BAND)

(Chorus)

Somewhere in the corner of my mind

There's a dream that I can't seem to find

Every time I find a home

Something tells me I must roam

Sometimes I think my heart is just too blind
To find

The dream in the corner of my mind

The dream in the corner of my mind

The dream in the corner of my mind.

JOE

(ENTERS BEDROOM)

(APPROACHES SIENNA)

One day I approached Sienna as she stood at the window. I was very close and as she turned there were tears on her cheeks. Some were dry and some were wet. I tried to touch her tears to wipe them away, she put up her hand. She said, "The summer has gone too quickly, much too quickly."

JOE

(MOVES ASIDE)

SIENNA SINGS

(SONG: ONE MORE SUMMER)

(Chorus 1)

Don't you leave me
Not if you love me
Until you give me
One more summer

(Verse 1)

In our secret summer place
Let the sunlight warm your face
And warm our summer rendezvous
One more summer
Even sweeter than the past one
Only say it's not the last one
Make our summer dreams come true

(Chorus 2)

Don't you leave me
Not if you love me
Until you give me
One more autumn

(Verse 2)

Watch the autumn paint, the leaves
See the Autumn dreams it weaves
As it turns the greens to gold
One more autumn
One that's filled with love and laughter
That will last us even after
The autumn turns to cold

(Chorus 3)

Don't you leave me
Not if you love me
Until you give me
One more winter

(Verse 3)

Sitting quiet with a fire
That warms our hearts and our desire
We won't care if winter's long
One more winter
Will take us to the springtime
Where we shall find the sunshine
And the whippoorwill's sweet song

(Chorus)

Don't you leave me
Not if you love me
Until you give me
One more Springtime

(Verse 4)

With warm days and daffodils
Walk hand in hand on springtime hills
Our love will blossom warm and new
One more springtime
When we shall be together
May our springtime last forever
And our springtime dreams come true

Don't you leave me
Not if you love me
Until you give me

(Finale)
One more autumn
One more winter
One more springtime

One more summer
One more summer
One more summer

SIENNA

(EXITS BEDROOM)
(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMERS BOW))
(FADE TO DARK)

(END OF ACT 1 SCENE 8

□ACT 1 SCENE 9 SONG: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE

(LIGHTS UP)
(JOE GOES THROUGH THE MUSICAL DOOR)

JOE

(CENTER STAGE
(SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

I needed more time for me to work things out until we got to one more summer. Either an actual summer or the proverbial summer she spoke of. Sienna took a job in a home working with kids. She was good at it. I didn't want a day job where I had to work with a lot of people or do a lot of talking. I got a truck driver job doing one day hauls. I liked being in the truck and being alone. I got a few gigs and I wrote some songs. Sienna got to where I never wanted her to be. It is said that the one who loves the most feels the hurt the most when a love goes wrong. Sienna got hurt.

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

(SINGS "WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE")

(Chorus 1)
Where do we go from here Girl
Where do we go from here
I share your room
I share your bed
But we are miles apart
Where do we go from here girl
Each day it breaks my heart
To make believe
That we believe
We'll find another start.

(Verse 1) JOE

Remember I'd come running home
You'd be waiting at the stair
Now I find I'm walking slow
Don't care if I get there
We had secrets that we shared
They were ours and life was fine
Now there's secrets we can't share
Yours are yours and mine are mine

(Chorus 2) JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS)

Where do we go from here Girl
Where do we go from here
I share your room
I share your bed
But we are miles apart
Where do we go from here girl
Each day it breaks my heart
To make believe
That we believe
We'll find another start.

(Verse 2) JOE

We used to talk endlessly
Of our dreams and fantasies
We'd talk through tears and laughter
How sweet those memories

And now we speak in silence
With a few words in between
The words between are silent too
And we wonder what that means

(Chorus 3) JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

Where do we go from here Girl
Where do we go from here
I share your room
I share your bed
But we are miles apart
Where do we go from here girl
Each day it breaks my heart
To make believe
That we believe
We'll find another start.

(Verse 3) JOE

I listened for your silence
As it thundered in my heart
I tried to share all of our dreams
But they quickly fell apart

I saw foot prints on the road
From horizon to the shore
You must find another road
And maybe find another door.

(Chorus 4) JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

Where do we go from here Girl
Where do we go from here
I share your room
I share your bed
But we are miles apart
Where do we go from here
Each day it breaks my heart
To make believe
That we believe
We'll find another start.

(Finale) JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

Where do we go from here Girl
Where do we go from here Girl

SIENNA

(EXITS ROOM)

(AUDIENCE APPLAUD PERFORMERS BOW)

END OF ACT 1 SCENE 9

□ACT 1 SCENE 10 SONG; TEARS AND BEERS AND WASTED YEARS

(LIGHTING)

JOE

(ENTERS THE MUSICAL DOOR)

JOE

(CENTER STAGE, SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

I began to drink a little too much. But a good case of heartbreak fueled by alcohol is sometimes good preparation for writing songs. But I wouldn't recommend it. You don't have to live the words to write a good song, but sometimes it helps. I was pushing the truck one day and listening to a Country station that played every Country song about drinking. It went on for hours. I sat in a smelly and dirty hotel that night and wrote this song.

JOE

(SINGS; TEARS AND BEERS AND WASTED YEARS")

(Chorus 1

Tears and beers and wasted years

Won't bring her back to me
Schemes and dreams and farewell scenes
Live in my memory
Lies goodbyes and tearful eyes
Recall the misery
Tears and beers and wasted years
Won't bring her back to me

(Verse 1)

I remember my tears were flowing
As she walked out that door
I was cryin' I was hurtin'
Like I never hurt before

I did some pinin' and some drinkin'
Saw sadness everywhere
And when my heart was gonna break
I'll drink me one more beer

(Chorus 2)

Tears and beers and wasted years
Won't bring her back to me
Mad and sad for good and bad
Were with me constantly
Pain and rain it was a shame
It was insanity
Tears and beers and wasted years
Won't bring her back to me

(Verse 2)

In all my dreams she'd never leave me
Those dreams never came out right
Had trouble gettin' through the days
More trouble through the night

I would always dream about her
When I woke she wasn't there
I'd sit alone and think about her
Drown my dreams inside my beer

(Chorus 3)

Tears and beers and wasted years
Won't bring her back to me
Pine and whine all of the time
For somethin' that can't be

Grope and cope when there's no hope
It's just stupidity
Tears and beers and wasted years
Won't bring her back to me

(Release)
Only thing better than one beer
Is another beer I'm sure
Drinking' don't make dreams come true
So I tell myself once more
Tears and beers and wasted years
Won't bring her back to me
Tears and beers and wasted years
Won't bring her back to me

JOE

(SPEAKS NAMES OF BEERS)
Makes no difference if the beer is

Bud Even Heineken
Becks Michelob
Busch Miller
Carlsberg Milwaukee
Catamount Molson
Coors Red Brick
Corona Red Rooster
Dogwood Sam Adams
Fosters Schlitz
Heck even Yuengling

(Coda)
Tears and beers and wasted years
Won't bring her back to me
No Tears and beers and wasted years
Won't bring her back to me
(SPOKEN)
I'll drink to that

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS AND PERFORMER BOWS)

END OF ACT 1 SCENE 10

□ **ACT 1 SCENE 11 SONG: 4GIV ME I LUV U**

(LIGHTING)
JOE WALKS THROUGH THE MUSICAL DOOR)
(CENTER STAGE, SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

I had met Emily when I was living in Austin. I was playing gigs and doing some truck driving. We became an item quickly and I moved in with her. I was hauling car parts from Austin to outside Detroit with a few days turn around. I came home one day....

(ENTERS THE ROOM TABLE ROOM)

(EMILY SITS AT THE TABLE)

EMILY

How is my big bad truck driver?

(RESISTS KISS FROM JOE)

JOE

Something tells me, really tells me, something is wrong.

EMILY

How could you have possibly guessed that?

JOE

Years of insight and experience. Years of disappointing other people and disappointing myself.

EMILY

You never told me you had two cell phones

JOE

I do, but what's the problem.

EMILY

Well I found this one in one of your denim shirts. It was way back in your closet.
(LAUGHS) But I found it.

JOE

You must have been looking, Girl. Why were you looking in my closet?

EMILY

Joe, darlin' why didn't you turn off the phone?

JOE

(LAUGHS)

You got me. You got me good.

EMILY

(LIGHTHEARTED AND FIRM, NO VISIBLE ANGER)

Joe you know there are a lot of things I'm really good at. I will list only a few of them. I make a fantastic lasagna! I am gorgeous, even if you don't agree, I think I am. I am great in bed. I make a lot more money than you do. In fact, I lied to you about how much I make so I wouldn't get stuck with all of the bills. And I'm really great at packing. I actually jammed all of your clothes and your crap into one suitcase and three cardboard boxes which are in the garage.

(LEADS JOE TO THE DOOR)

Darlin,' please don't bother calling and definitely don't send me a Tweet. It would trigger such bad memories.

(WAVES TO JOE)

Goodbye, you little Tweeter.

EMILY

(EXITS THE ROOM)

JOE

(WALKS THRU MUSICAL DOOR)

Emily was right throwing me out. But, there ought to be privacy laws to protect philanders like me from getting caught. You've got to find the up side to every down side. And when things go very right or go very wrong, I usually find the opportunity to write a song about it. Unfortunately, she didn't forgive me like in the song I wrote.

This song is a little dated because it refers to Twitter and to Tweets which is now called X. And the song it talks about tweets and that reference ain't used any more. I could have changed the lyrics on the song, but I like Twitter and Tweets and left the song just the way it was when I wrote it. Just a few years ago. I got to write a pretty good song, but lost a pretty good gal. Take a listen.

JOE

(SINGS: "4GIVE ME I LUV U)

JOE (SINGS)

(Verse 1)

I've been driving day and night
I'm five hundred miles away
Hopin' that you read my tweet
'Cause I've got some things to say

One more stop to get some gas
And the next tank I'll be home
So I've sent my hurtin' little tweet
'Cause I'd cry if I used the phone

(Chorus 1) JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS)

I don't need all one hundred forty
Just to tweet what I need to do
Don't be bitter
Believe my twitter
Forever I'll be true

Those tweets that you found on my phone darlin'
Were never meant for you
You know I've cheated
And now I've tweeted
Honey 4GIV ME I LUV U

(Verse 2) JOE

The internet is humming
'Bout my cheatin' and my lies
I sent this tweet a hundred times
While the tears are in my eyes

☐ **ACT 1 SCENE 12** **SONGS: I'M A BETTER LOVER**
THINGS REALLY COULD BE WORSE

(JOE WALKS THROUGH THE MUSICAL DOOR)

(SITS ON STOOL)

JOE

Nashville was my next stop. Nashville has been the place where Country music has been happening in a big way for many years. Figured I'd try Nashville and see if I could sell my songs. The problem was there were ten thousand guys dressed better than me and looking better and writing better songs. I found a way to get into a recording studio by taking a job as a janitor. I saw some of those ten thousand guys better than me and heard a lot of good music. I once heard that Kris Kristofferson started in Nashville as a janitor. I heard that story years later. I ain't no Kris Kristofferson.

(UP FROM STOOL, GRABS AND PUSHES BROOM
AND STARTS SWEEPING THE FLOOR)

COUNTRY PERFORMER

(YOUNG MAN, DRESSED VERY COUNTRY WEARS
,WESTERN HAT,
ENTERS STAGE LEFT, CARRIES A GUITAR,
CARRIES SOME SHEET MUSIC)

Hey George, can you hear me.

AUDIO ENGINEER (VOICE OVER)

I got you loud and clear.

COUNTRY PERFORMER

Let's do a sound check and give me some reverb.

AUDIO ENGINEER

OK! How's that.

COUNTRY PERFORMER.
(PLAYS GUITAR STRUMS GUITAR)
(SINGS A FEW LINES FROM A SONG)

I'm a better lover
because I once loved you.

We loved many years ago
Now a pleasant memory

AUDIO ENGINEER

Sounds good. Reverb OK?

COUNTRY PERFORMER

Yea! The bands not here for a while and just want to warm up a little.
(LOOKS AT MUSIC PAGES ON MUSIC STAND,
SEES JOE SWEEPING)

Hey, Brother, can you pick a guitar a little.

JOE

(JOE WALKS OVER, THEY SHAKE HANDS)

I sure can!

COUNTRY PERFORMER

(LAUGHS)

I took a job as a security guard in a Memphis studio year ago, just to get near the people who were doing what I wanted to do. Did you know that down the street Kris Christopherson started as a janitor a bunch of years ago?

JOE

Yes, I heard the story.

COUNTRY PERFORMER
(PLAYS GUITAR A LITTLE,
PUTS SHEET MUSIC ON THE MUSIC STAND)

Can you play a little bass guitar?

(BEFORE JOE ANSWERS)

Sure, you can. Just follow along.

You know the Nashville chord method?

JOE

I sure do.

(PICKS UP GUITAR)

COUNTRY PERFORMER

Take a look and join me on the chorus.

(COUNTRY PERFORMER AND JOE SINGS
"I'M A BETTER LOVER")

(Chorus 1)

I'm a better lover

Because you once loved me

We loved many years ago

Now a pleasant memory

There's a lovin' spot inside my heart

Where you will always be

But now I love another

And I'm a better lover

Because you once loved me

COUNTRY PERFORMER

(Verse 1)

Out of mind and out of sight

But you're still inside my heart

That sweet love that once was ours

Now a distant glowing spark

I have heard a song we knew

When I hear the sweet refrain

I recall the love we had

Those memories return again

(COUNTRY PERFORMER AND JOE)
(LOOKS AT MUSIC ON MUSIC STAND)

COUNTRY SINGER AND JOE
(Chorus 2)

I'm a better lover
Because you once loved me
We loved many years ago
Now a pleasant memory
There's a lovin' spot inside my heart
Where you will always be
But now I love another
And I'm a better lover
Because you once loved me

(Verse 2) COUNTRY SINGER

It's been said each love we know
Can make the heart much smarter
I'm sure since our love has past
I've tried a little harder

Sometimes in a distant dream
Your face sometimes appears
There's a smile inside my heart
Though we've parted all these years

(Chorus) COUNTRY SINGER AND JOE

I'm a better lover
Because you once loved me
We loved many years ago
Now a pleasant memory
There's a lovin' spot inside my heart
Where you will always be
But now I love another
And I'm a better lover
Because you once loved me

(Release)

Thank you for the love you gave
Perhaps it always was your plan
It's taken me all these years
Now I really understand

(Chorus 4) COUNTRY SINGER AND JOE

I'm a better lover
Because you once loved me
We loved many years ago
Now a pleasant memory
There's a lovin' spot inside my heart
Where you will always be
But now I love another
And I'm a better lover
Because you once loved me

(Finale)
But now I love another
And I'm a better lover
Because you once loved me

COUNTRY SINGER AND JOE
(SHAKE HANDS)

COUNTRY PERFORMER
Brother, you play good guitar. And you sing damn good too. You got any songs with you?

JOE
I write songs a little. Matter fact more than a little.
(PULLS OUT PAGE FROM POCKET,
PUTS IT ON MUSIC STAND)
Here's the lyrics and the chords. You want to try it.

COUNTRY PERFORMER
Sure thing.

JOE AND COUNTRY SINGER
(SING "THINGS REALLY COULD BE WORSE")

JOE AND COUNTRY PERFROMER
(Chorus 1)
If I didn't have bad luck
I'd have no luck at all
All my dreams are fallin' short
But I'm still standin' tall
Things are gettin' really bad
I got the devil's curse
I do the best I could
But things aren't goin' good
Thank god
Things really could be worse

(Verse 1) JOE SINGS

The cat had a litter
The second one this year
The 'frigerator's broke
I just ran out of beer

There's a leak in the roof
The seventh leak this month
In the attic somethin's dead
I think it's a skunk

My lady friend took off
With my money and my wine
That's really nothing new
It's was her fourteenth time

Parked my truck in Walmart
Came out it had a dent
My credit card is maxed
And I can't pay the rent

JOE AND COUNTRY PERFORMER
(Chorus 2)
If I didn't have bad luck
I'd have no luck at all
All my dreams are fallin' short
But I'm still standin' tall

Things are gettin' really bad
I got the devil's curse
I do the best I could
Though things aren't goin' good
Thank god
Things really could be worse

JOE
(Verse 2)
Unemployment is runnin' out
Every dime I got is spent
I don't have a dollar % RECORD AGAIN
Don't even have a sent %RECORD AGAIN

Met a girl in a bar
Her looks were out of sight
Then took a closer look

She was a transvestite

Chronic case of hiccups
Just could not talk or speak
Got a case of shingles
Drove me crazy for a week

My friend sent a check to me
Having friends really counts
When I received the check
I cashed it and it bounced

JOE AND COUNTRY PERFORMER
(Chorus 3)

If I didn't have bad luck
I'd have no luck at all
All my dreams are fallin' short
But I'm still standin' tall

Things are gettin' really bad
I got the devil's curse
I do the best I could
But things aren't goin' good
Thank god
(instrumental hook and title)
Things really could be worse

JOE
(Verse 3)

Alimony's over due
She called two times today
TV's disconnected
Another rainy day

Most days can't stay awake
At night I just can't sleep
Chronic insomniac
Got Bunyan's on my feet

Ev'ry job I ever had
Got hired and got fired
My car ran out of gas
My license just expired

Just ran out of food stamps
Got to wait another week

Havin' trouble smilin'
Just lost my two front teeth

(Release)
Like the bible says
The poor will inherit the earth
Waitin' to inherit my fare share
In the meantime I don't care
Things really could be worse

JOE AND COUNTRY PERFORMER
(Chorus 4)
If I didn't have bad luck
I'd have no luck at all
All my dreams are fallin' short
But I'm still standin' tall

Things are gettin' really bad
I got the devil's curse
I do the best I could
But things aren't goin' good
Thank god
Things really could be worse

JOE
(Coda)
If you got a minute
I want to tell you about this guy I know
That really really has more problems than me
Things really could have more problems than me
Yes, things really could be worse

(Spoken)
I guess I don't have it that bad after all.

(JOE AND COUNTRY PERFORMER HUG)n h
(COUNTRY PERFORMER EXITS)

(FADE TO DARK)

(END OF ACT 1 SCENE 12)

□ **ACT 1 SCENE 13 SONG: ACCORDING TO THE GOSPEL**
JESUS I AIN'T GOIN'

(LIGHTING)

(JOE WALKS THROUGH MUSICAL DOOR)

JOE

(ENTERS CENTER STAGE)

Well, I spent some time Alabama. There was a factory making fertilizer and I'd lug fertilizer up North and end up back in Alabama. I found a little church in town or I should say the church found me. I could hear the singing a block away. God must love those Baptists, because they sure in hell can sing. Now Catholics don't sing so well in church. They got great ceremonies but not so good music. Just one of those religious things.

You know, the secret of a good sermon is to have a great beginning and a great ending and as little talk as possible in between. The Sunday school teacher told the children to be very quiet when they entered the church and asked the children if they knew why they have to be quiet in church. A little boy yelled out, "Yes, because lotsa people are sleeping." God knows, that a Good God loves the sleepers even though they aren't as involved as they should be.

I met a gal named Mary and she wanted to baptize me again and save my soul. I told her I was baptized, but agreed my soul needed saving. I didn't think Jesus had the patience to have me getting baptized and start all over again. That's assuming he is keeping score. Mary played the organ at the church and we would jam when the church was empty. Mary inspired me to write a gospel song and we would sing it together, the three of us: Jesus and Joseph and Mary.

MARY

(ENTERS CENTER STAGE)

Joe I have some great news. Reverend Carmichael wants you to sing your new song. Let's Practice it now. Oh everybody is going to love it.

JOE AND MARY

(SING: HALLELUJAH JESUS)

(JOE PLAYS GUITAR)

MARY PLAYS THE TAMBOURINE)

(Chorus 1)

Hallelujah Jesus

Take us by the hand

Hallelujah Jesus

Help us understand

Hallelujah Jesus

Your blessings you bestow

Hallelujah Jesus

Hallelujah Jesus

The Gospel tells us so

JOE

(Verse 1)

According to the Gospel

Jesus walked on water

He walked out to the boats

And calmed the raging sea

According to the Gospel

Jesus preached to many

He fed the multitudes

With loaves of two or three

JOE AND MARY

(Chorus 2)

Hallelujah Jesus
Take us by the hand
Hallelujah Jesus
Help us understand
Hallelujah Jesus
Your blessings you bestow
Hallelujah Jesus
Hallelujah Jesus
The Gospel tells us so

JOE

(Verse 2)

According to the Gospel
Jesus walked the desert
He prayed for forty nights
With God he was alone

According to the Gospel
Jesus lived among us
He was resurrected
To his heavenly throne

JOE AND MARY AND BACKUP SINGERS

(Chorus 3)

Hallelujah Jesus
Take us by the hand
Hallelujah Jesus
Help us understand
Hallelujah Jesus
Your blessings you bestow
Hallelujah Jesus
Hallelujah Jesus
The Gospel tells us so

(Verse 3) JOE

According to the Gospel
Jesus' twelve Apostles
Shared in his last supper
Partook of bread and wine

According to the Gospel
Jesus told them always
Eat and drink my body
Do it for all time.

(Chorus 4) JOE AND MARY AND BACKUP SINGERS

Hallelujah Jesus
Take us by the hand
Hallelujah Jesus
Help us understand
Hallelujah Jesus
Your blessings you bestow
Hallelujah Jesus
Hallelujah Jesus
The Gospel tells us so

JOE

(Verse 5)

According to the Gospel
Jesus loved the sickly

He preached the word of God
He fed the sick and poor

According to the Gospel
Jesus preached of lovin’
And to love your neighbor
To everyone be kind

JOE AND MARY AND BACKUP SINGERS

Hallelujah Jesus
Take us by the hand
Hallelujah Jesus
Help us understand
Hallelujah Jesus
Your blessings you bestow
Hallelujah Jesus
Hallelujah Jesus
The Gospel tells us so

JOE

(Verse 6)
According to the Gospel
Jesus loved the sinners
Lazarus was risen
He cured sick and blind

According to the Gospel
Jesus spoke of Heaven
And to love your neighbor
To everyone be kind

JOE AND MARY AND BACKUP SINGERS

(Chorus 6)
Hallelujah Jesus
Take us by the hand
Hallelujah Jesus
Help us understand
Hallelujah Jesus
Your blessings you bestow
Hallelujah Jesus
Hallelujah Jesus
The Gospel tells us so

(Chorus 7)

Hallelujah Jesus
Take us by the hand
Hallelujah Jesus
Help us understand
Hallelujah Jesus
Your blessings you bestow
Hallelujah Jesus
Hallelujah Jesus
The Gospel tells us so

(Coda)

The Gospel tells us so
The Gospel tells us so

JOE

You know Mary I get kind of concerned about all this Heaven and Hell stuff. And preacher Reverend Carmichael can scare the death out a person.

MARY

Joe, if you live a good Christian life and say your prayers and read the bible, there is nothing else to do . Jesus will understand that we all fall away some time, but he will forgive you

JOE

But I ain't anxious to deal with Heaven and Hell at this time.

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS AND MARY

(SINGS "JESUS I AIN'T GOIN")

(Chorus 1)

Jesus I ain't goin'

Though my love for you is growin'

I'm too busy livin'

I can wait for heaven

Based on what I've heard

You got the final word

I need more time to chase some dreams

Life goes by too fast it seems

I hope that you are knowin'

Jesus I ain't goin'

JOE

(Verse 1)

I have walked some lonely roads

Too many turns too many bends

As I got a little older

I even lost a few old friends

Not lookin' back to yesterdays

Can't fast forward to tomorrow

I want a lot more of todays

Take the good times and the sorrow

I missed some Sunday morning prayers

I still get down upon my knees

You get tired of all my failin's

Listening to my cryin' pleas

Listening to my cryin' pleas

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS AND MARY

(Chorus 2)

Jesus I ain't goin'
Though my love for you is growin'
I'm too busy livin'
I can wait for heaven
Based on what I've heard 5
You got the final word
I need more time to chase some dreams
Life goes by too fast it seems
So I hope that you are knowin'
Jesus I ain't goin'

JOE
(Verse 2)
With me you ain't missin' nothin'
Make room for a fallen angel
Don't think I'm ready to join you
Tryin' to find another angle

Now my friv'lous youth is spent
Tell the truth I'm often lost
When it comes to tellin' the truth
I often have my fingers crossed

I just need a lot more time
To find my road and find my way
When I feel that I am ready
I'll send an email on the way
I'll send an email on the way

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS AND MARY
(Chorus 3)
Jesus I ain't goin'
Though my love for you is growin'
I'm too busy livin'
I can wait for heaven
Based on what I've heard
You got the final word
I need more time to chase some dreams
Life goes by too fast it seems
So I hope that you are knowin'
Jesus I ain't goin'

JOE

(Release 1)

I hope some good lovin' angels
Are still watching out for me
With a whole lotta patience
While I'm resistin' eternity

I know there's a time to stay
And there is a time to go
I think I'll know the time
When I do I'll let you know

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS AND MARY
(Chorus 4)

Jesus I ain't goin'
Though my love for you is growin'
I'm too busy livin'
I can wait for heaven
Based on what I've heard
You got the final word
I need more time to chase some dreams
Life goes by too fast it seems
So I hope that you are knowin'
Jesus I ain't goin'

JOE (HALF SPOKEN)
(Release 2)

Maybe we can talk
And work somethin' out
Because I just ain't ready
I got too much to do
Life is hard and then you're gone
I don't mind hard
But I do mind being gone
So in the mean time

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS AND MARY
(Chorus 5)

Jesus I ain't goin'
Though my love for you is growin'
I'm too busy livin'
I can wait for heaven
Based on what I've heard
You got the final word
I need more time to chase some dreams
Life goes by too fast it seems
So I hope that you are knowin'

Jesus I ain't goin'

JOE (SPOKEN)

I think I'll stick around a little longer

I'll get outa here when I'm good and ready

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMERS BOW)

JOE

Well, Mary and me lasted as long as there was fertilizer to haul from Alabama. And when the fertilizer ran out, I left that sweet lady behind. You heard the beginning and some of the middle of the story of my life. If you don't decide to come back, well then God Bless. But really hope we will see you all for the second act. My behavior doesn't really improve that much, but I hope you find my story interesting. Who knows, I may even find redemption. See you later.

(JOE WALKS THROUGH MUSICAL DOOR)

(MARY EXITS)

(FADE TO DARK)

END OF ACT 1 SCENE 12

(END OF ACT 1)

INTERMISSION

□ACT 2 SCENE 0 OVERTURE ACT 2

(FADE TO DARK)

(LIGHTS UP)

BAND PERFORMS THE ENCORE

(SPECIAL LIGHTING)

(PARTS OF VARIOUS SONGS)

SONG SOMEWHERE IN THE CORNER OF MY MIND

WHO HAD A BETTER TIME

THE SUN WILL LIGHT YOUR EYES

MY OLD AGE AND MY OLD DREAMS

YOU'VE GOT TO KNOW

MUSICAL DOORS

(LIGHTING)

END OF ACT 2 SCENE 0

**□ACT 2 SCENE 1 SONGS: WHO HAD A BETTER TIME THAN
US**

(LIGHTS UP)

(JOE WALKS THROUGH THE MUSICAL DOOR)

(ENTERS ROOM)

JOE

(SINGS A FEW VERSES FROM “MUSICAL DOORS”)
(PLAYS GUITAR ONLY)

I have lived my life
Some doors I have closed
Others I’ve opened
Wondering and hopin’
I’d find some new roads

You reap what you sow
You toil every day
Ignoring some voices
Making your choices
While making your way

My life is a house
With musical doors
You get trapped between
The ceilings and floors

Now I can’t go home
No one’s there any more
I’ll just have to find
My musical door

My life is musical doors
My life is musical doors
My life is musical doors

JOE (SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

You heard part of the story of my life and you can see I’m struggling with that Musical Door. I had been in this town in Pennsylvania for a few weeks. I took a job on a horse farm. Shoveling horse shit can be very rewarding. The horses appreciate your efforts and it’s also great for clearing out your sinuses. I think God gave horses a large dose of superiority genes. I like horses because of the way they treat each other. Very respectful. They know the Golden Rule. They look at each other square in the eye and don’t try to eat the other guys hay. The world would be a better place if we all did that. We should be more like horses.

I met Ellie at the horse farm. I stayed about a year and then the restlessness began. Ellie and I were good friends, but the kind that sleep together. And sometimes she would disappear for a few days and maybe even a week, and I would never ask “where” and she never offered an explanation. We both had our ways. Kind of more alike and that may have kept us together for a while.

ELLIE

(ENTERS ROOM)

Hi!

(JOE KISSES ELLIE)

ELLIE

Hi! Did you hear what Boston Brown did over the weekend?

JOE

Yes, I did.

ELLIE

(LAUGHS)

It's all because of the way you take care of him and for that matter all of the horses.

JOE

(LAUGHS)

So, Boston Brown won a stakes race and nobody even took a chance on him.

ELLIE

He's going to run some good races. Just wait and see.

JOE

I guess I have to give him special room service now. There's something we need to discuss.

ELLIE

Is it a serious topic or is it more like let's go to Wal-Mart today or do you want to go to the movies?

JOE

It's not Wal-Mart and it's not the movies.

ELLIE

Wait! Don't say a word.

(REACHES INTO PURSE, PULLS A PIECE OF PAPER)

HANDS IT TO JOE)

Please read this.

JOE

(READS PAPER, LAUGHS)

How did you know?

ELLIE

(LAUGHS)

Read the date I wrote that. It's on top.

JOE

About two months ago.

ELLIE

(PUMPS POWER FIST OF SUCCESS)

Yes!

(KISSES JOE)

Can I read people's minds or can I not?

JOE

You knew it was time for me to move on.

ELLIE

Why did you stay so long? some good gigs at the Bowling Alley. I liked the horses.

(LAUGHS) And you were kind good to be with.

ELLIE

It was a good fling for both of us.

JOE

You knew it was time.

ELLIE

I care for you, Joe. You WIL always be special to me. I admire your talent and you're great in bed....

JOE

Don't embarrass me.

ELLIE

(LAUGHS)

OK, most of the time you're great in bed. (LAUGHS) I've had better.

(LAUGHS) There's someplace you have to be and it's not here.

JOE AND ELLIE

(SING "WHO HAD A BETTER TIME THAN US")

JOE

(Verse 1)

Who had a better time than us ---Girl

Who ever thought we'd fly so high

It couldn't last forever

And forever is today

We had our good and bad times

I don't regret one day

ELLIE

(Verse 2)

Who had a better time than us---Boy

We had our share of memories

We shared some love and laughter

We had our share of tears

They sweetened all our memories
As we looked back through the years

JOE
(INSTRUMENTAL JOE ON GUITAR)

JOE AND ELLIE
(Verse 3)
Who had a better time than us – {Girl} {Boy}
We found a lovely song to sing
We never looked for love
But look what love did bring
So it didn't last a lifetime
We had one heck of a fling

(Release)
Who had a better time than us- {Girl} {Boy}
A better time was never had
Who made that sunshine shine
Who sweetened all the wine
Who made me feel so fine
Who had a better time
Who had a better time
Who had a better time than us

JOE AND ELLIE
(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMERS BOW)

END OF ACT 2 SCENE 1)
□ACT 2 SCENE 2 SONG: THE SUN WILL LIGHT YOUR EYES

JOE
(JOE WALKS THROUGH THE MUSICAL DOOR)

SANDRA
(ENTERS BEDROOM AND SITS)

JOE
(ENTERS CENTER STAGE))

Sandra was young and vivacious and rich. It was family money. She didn't flaunt her money, but she knew how to use it. I admit that I got used to being with her and a life style I could never afford. She kind of cared for me, but then she got tired of me and she left me when her ex-husband returned to her life. I guess she fell in love with him again. Who am I to ruin a good marriage. She loved being romanced so I romanced her. I have to admit she probably treated me like a plaything. But it was good duty so I played the game. I have a kind of fascination with the sun. Somehow lyrics creep into my songs and the sun becomes a metaphor for good times and good days. I think that big old sun has a lot better things to do than to watch out for me.

JOE
(WALKS OVER TO SANDRA)

(GUITAR PLAYS ‘THE SUN WILL LIGHT YOUR EYES’)

SANDRA
(HUMS THE MELODY)

I love that melody.

JOE
What do you like about it?

SANDRA
It makes me happy. It makes me romantic. Tell me a beautiful lie and tell me that you wrote the song for me and not one of your other lovers.

JOE
(HOLDS HAND UP AND CROSSES HIS FINGERS)
I wrote the song for you and only for you.

SANDRA
(LAUGHS)
You could have at least tried to make believe it was true

JOE
(LAUGHS)
You can’t deal with the truth. Whatever you want to believe is the truth.

SANDRA
You probably have a whole bunch of songs and you just pull out your little bag of tricks and say “I just wrote this song for you.”

JOE
How’d you know? In fact, I have a song for girls with one or two syllables in their names and another with three syllables. Here is the one syllables song. It’s called “DA Is the Wind.”

JOE SINGS
(“BETTY IS THE WIND”)
(PLAYS GUITAR)

Gail is the wind
Gail is the sun
Gail is a carousel ride
She’s the prize that I won
Gail is wise
Just look in her eyes.
Her eyes are windows
To see for ever more.
Etcetera, etcetera, etcetera

SANDRA
I love the etcetera. It has so much emotion and warmth in it.

JOE SINGS

(PLAYS GUITAR)

("GAIL IS THE WIND")

Gail is the wind
Gail is the sun
Gail is a carousel ride
She's the prize that I won

SANDRA

(*INTERRUPTS*)

You made your point. You're a musical charlatan.

JOE

I can't spend all my musical energy writing new songs for every girl.

SANDRA

(GOES TO THE WINDOW)

Don't you just love being here in the islands?

JOE

There are no bad days here.

JOE

(PLAYS GUITAR INSTRUMENTAL)

SANDRA

(SINGS "THE SUN WILL LIGHT YOUR EYES")

(Verse 1)

The dawn will come the sun will rise
To light the earth and light your eyes
You're in my arms
To greet the day
We'll linger there
Then find our share
Of love and play
The sun will light your eyes

(Release 1)

You are my life
You are the one
You light my life

We'll find the sun
You brought me light
When there was none
You light my life
We'll find the sun

SANDRA

(Verse 2)

The sun will ride across the skies
To warm the earth and warm your eyes
We'll chase the sun
And we'll pretend
In love's foolish way
That this day

Will never end
The sun will warm your eyes

(Release 2)
You are my life
You are the one
You light my life
We'll find the sun
You brought me light
When there was none
You light my life
We'll find the sun

JOE AND SANDRA

(Verse 3)
The sun will set with sweet surprise
To end the day and close your eyes
You're in my arms
As the day begun
For love and sleep
Until we greet
The morning sun

The sun will close your eyes
The sun will light your eyes
The sun will warm your eyes

The sun is very wise
The sun is very wise
The sun is very wise

JOE

(PLAYS GUITAR INSTRUMENTAL)

JOE AND SANDRA

(Verse 4)
The sun will make a new surprise
To end the day and close your eyes
You're in my arms
As the day begun
For love and sleep
Until we greet
The morning sun

(Finale)
The sun will close your eyes
The sun will light your eyes
The sun will warm your eyes

The sun is sweet surprise
The sun is very wise
The sun is very wise

(AUDIENCE APPLAUD PERFORMERS BOW

(FADE TO DARK)

END OF ACT 2 SCENE 2

□ **ACT 2 SCENE 3 SONG: YOU'VE GOT TO KNOW**

(LIGHTING UP)

JOE

(WALKS THROUGH THE MUSICAL DOOR)

ENTERS A RADIO STATION STUDIO)

I've been on the giving side of loneliness and I have been on the receiving side of loneliness. Like the commandment says, it's better to give than to receive, and I think I gave more loneliness than I received. Loneliness is the pain of being alone. Solitude is the joy of being alone. I live somewhere between the two.

I have always struggled between those two ideas. Sometimes I think I'll end up as an old man living by himself with a cat, a guitar, a subscription to National Geographic, and a bad case of arthritis. The nice thing about loneliness, is that it's something you can do by yourself. You don't need any help. I never left or lost a woman that didn't make me feel lonely for some time after I moved on. Moving on is my modus operandi.

I ended up for a few months in a small town in Louisiana. I met a little gal named Jody one night when I was doing a gig at a local bar. She got right up on the stage and sang an old Patsy Cline song. She sang Willie song Crazy." Wow, she was good. She asked me if I'd write a song for her. Her Uncle ran the local country radio station. She said we could do the song live on the station, maybe between a commercial and a Willie Nelson song.

JODY

(ENTERS THE RADIO STATION ROOM)

Joe I really love the song. Nobody has ever written a song for me before.

JOE

It's real nice of your Uncle Jethro giving us a chance to perform on his radio station.

JODY

It's W-K-O-R-N. We grow a lot of corn around here and Uncle Jethro picked those call letters when he started the station. I really enjoyed our rehearsal last night.
(GIVES JOE A HUG) And so glad you could stay over.

JOE

I can stay over again, if you'd like. I'm usually only away two or three nights when I truck stuff down to New Orleans.

JODY

Will you write another song for me?

JOE

Do I have to write a song every time I stay over?

JODY

I think we can work things out. *(LAUGHS)*

UNCLE JETHRO VOICE OVER

Hey, you guys, get ready. After I finish playing this last Blake Shelton song, I'll give you guys a count down and an intro and then you go do your songs. Y'all do a good job now.

JODY
Thank you, Uncle Jethro.

UNCLE JETHRO VOICE OVER
Eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one.
Now ladies and gentleman, we have a little surprise for you today. We have a new duo called Joe and Jody, singing an original duet song written by Joe and it's a live performance. . It's got the feel of Old Country. Just like you listeners like it and its live. So, take a break from what you're doing and take a good listen. You can pick that corn later. Now here's Joe and Jody.

JOE AND JODY
(SING "YOU'VE GOT TO KNOW")

(Verses 1) JODY

You've got to know
How much I love you
You fill up all my life

You've got to know JOE
When my life goes wrong
You make everything all right

You've got to know JODY
That when we're sleeping
I'm so glad you're laying near

You've got to know JOE
When you lie beside me
I love to smell your hair

You've got to know JODY
I'll always be happy
Walking with you in the rain

You've got to know JOE
When I'm hearing music
It always sings your name

You've got to know JODY
That there's a good life
Because you belong to me

You've got to know JOE
That I am your lover
And I will always be

(Release 1)

Hey baby

I'm tellin' you so

JODY

You've got to know you've got to know

Hey darlin' JOE

Our love will grow

You've got to know

You've got to know

Hey lover JOE AND JODY

I'm tellin' you so

You've got to know JOE

you've got to know

You and I will always belong

All the season that come along

Makes our love better and better

You've got to know

You've got to know

We belong together

(Verses 2) JODY

You've got to know

I'll never doubt you

See the love inside my eyes

You've got to know JOE

Your love lives in my heart

You know my heart is wise

You've got to know JODY

Each time I see your face

There's a smile inside my heart

You've got to know JOE

Our hearts will beat as one

We'll never be apart

You've got to know JODY

That if I were a queen

Then you would be my king

You've got to know JOE
The way you fill my life
You are my everything

You've got to know JOE AND JODY
That every song I sing
I'm singin' just for you

You've got to know
That all the dreams I dream
Are dreams you make come true

(Chorus 2)

Hey baby JOE
I'm tellin' you so

JODY
You've got to know you've got to know
Hey darlin'
Our love will grow

JOE
You've got to know you've got to know

JOE AND JODY
Hey lover
I'm tellin' you so
You've got to know you've got to know

JOE AND JODY
You and I will always belong
All the season that come along
Makes our love better and better
You've got to know
You've got to know
We belong together

JOE AND JODY
(Finale)

You've got to know JOE

Hey baby I know JODY

You've got to know

Hey we've got to know JOE

You've got to know JOE AND JODY

I love you so
You've got to know

UNCLE JETHRO VOICE OVER
Thanks so much Joe and Jody. Pretty song. I got to get back to the latest CD by your favorite and mine. Old Willie Nelson!

JOE
Thanks for the radio time, Uncle Jethro.

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMERS BOW)

END OF ACT 2 SCENE 3

□ ACT 2 SCENE 4 SONG: I'M A TRUCKER

(JOE GOES THROUGH THE MUSICAL DOOR)

JOE
(CENTER STAGE)
(SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

Truckers are the last of the American cowboys. There is some of the same independence and loneliness and drifting that defines them both. Moving that truck is like moving a herd of cattle across the range to the next water hole. If you're going to be a musician you got to have a day job. Trucking' gave me an opportunity to go to a lot of places and at the same time go nowhere. You get to see a lot of things and actually you see nothing. What you see is gas stations, bill boards, towns flying by, sleeping in the cab because it's cleaner than most of the hotels you can afford, and bad eating places, and hardly having a friend.

There's a lot of folklore about being a truck driver. I wrote this song trying to find some of the truth and some of the stereotype about it. Did you hear about the truck driver whose rig got stuck under a bridge? A cop shows up and walks up to the cab and says, "You're stuck huh?" Truck driver says "Hell no! I was delivering this bridge and ran out of gas."

A truck driver sees a police car following him with his lights blazing, so he speeds up and finally the police car, pulls alongside and forces him off the road. The policeman comes out of his car and says "What the hell were you doing pulling away from me," and the truck driver says, "Well a few months ago I was on a one month gig on my truck going across country and while I was a policeman took off with my wife. "So, what the hell does that have to do with it?" says the policeman. The trucker replies, "I thought you were the same cop, and you were bringing her back." So much for truck driver jokes.

JOE
(SINGS; "I'M A TRUCKER")

(Chorus 1)
You gotta know I am a trucker
And my life is truckin'
And my home's the good ole USA
I've been lost
And I've been bossed
But this rig is mine to stay

Lost in life but on the roads
I always find my way
When I feel the feeling comin'
That I need a little lovin'
I always seem to find a place to stay
'Cause I'm a trucker
I'm gonna do some truckin'

(Verse 1)

I once had a little home
Was white and manufactured
I also had a wife
That marriage soon got fractured

She wanted me to be at home
And hang around that place
But a home outside my truck
Don't give too much space

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

(Chorus 2)

You gotta know I am a trucker
And my life is truckin'
And my home's the good ole USA
I've been lost
And I've been bossed
But this rig is mine to stay
Lost in life but on the roads
I always find my way
When I feel the feeling comin'
That I need a little lovin'
I always seem to find a place to stay
'Cause I'm a trucker
I'm gonna do some truckin'

JOE

(Verse 2)

I've ate at every diner
From Miami to LA
Every waitress knows my name
And a few have made my day

I've been everywhere it seems
There's no place that I ain't been
Park my truck and drop a load
Then I'm on that road again

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

(Chorus 3)

You gotta know I am a trucker
And my life is truckin'
And my home's the good ole USA
I've been lost
And I've been bossed
But this rig is mine to stay
Lost in life but on the roads
I always find my way

When I feel the feeling comin'
That I need a little lovin'
I always seem to find /a place to stay
'Cause I'm a trucker
I'm gonna do some truckin'

JOE

(Release)
Make some stops and find some love
I'm a trucker through and through
Yes my life is truckin'
And truckin's what I do
Yes truckin's what I do

(Verse 3)

Got my dog by right by my side
The best friend you'll ever meet
In the cab he found some lipstick
Was constipated for a week

I have left some broken hearts
That's just what truckers do
Gals should know that I can't stay
Because I'm just truckin' through

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

(Chorus 4)
You gotta know I am a trucker
And my life is truckin'
And my home's the good ole USA
I've been lost
And I've been bossed
But this rig is mine to stay
Lost in life but on the roads
I always find my way
When I feel the feeling comin'
That I need a little lovin'
I always seem to find a place to stay
'Cause I'm a trucker
I'm gonna do some truckin'

JOE

(Finale)
Yea
I'm a trucker
And I'm gonna do some truckin'

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMER BOWS)

(FADE TO DARK)

END OF ACT 2 SCENE 4

□ **ACT 2 SCENE 5 SONG: YOU EVEN HAD TO BREAK MY HEART**

(LIGHTING)

MANDY

(WALKS THROUGH THE MUSICAL DOORS)

JOE

(CENTER STAGE, SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

Mandy was as tough as they come. I was living outside Memphis and had a day job working in a factory and doing gigs at local joints. Mandy always took the high ground in controlling me and what I did. In the vernacular we would call her a ball buster. But as the saying goes, everything in life that doesn't kill you makes you stronger.

She provided opportunity to write a song that is an anthem to all those Gals out there that like to bust them. She's not as bad as the gal in the song, but she sure in hell was the inspiration for the song. I'm certain all you guys in the audience have the rare distinction of not having a lady who has ever busted them. Certainly, not the lady you're with tonight. Just look her in the eye right now and say "you ain't a ball buster dear." I could ask for a show of hands, but it would create a great air turbulence. Take a listen!

JOE

(SINGS; " YOU EVEN HAD TO BREAK MY HEART"

(Chorus 1)

You broke my wishes
You broke some dishes
You broke every vow you made
You broke the rules
Broke the family jewels
Breakin' s your stock in trade

You broke my dreams
You broke my schemes
We had our breakin' and brawls
While you were breakin'
And I was achin'
You even tried to break my heart/balls
It asen't accidental
You weren't very gentle
You had me climbing the walls
You even tried to break my heart/balls

*(MANDY ENCOURAGES AUDIENCE TO SING
BALLS")*

(Verse 1)

Don't know why you just hate me
Don't respect just what I am
Tried to emasculate me
Make me feel less than a man

You tried hard to do a gotcha
Gonna need more than two hands
You know I'm gonna watcha
I'm no ordinary man

Chorus 2

You broke my wishes
You broke some dishes
You broke every vow you made

You broke the rules
Broke the family jewels
Breakin' s your stock in trade

You broke my dreams
You broke my schemes
We had our breakin' and brawls
While you were breakin'
And I was achin'
You even tried to break my heart/balls
Wasn't accidental
You weren't very gentle
You had me climbing the walls
You even tried to break my heart/balls

(MANDY ENCOURAGES AUDIENCE TO
SING "BALLS")

JOE
(Verse 2)
I been beat and black and blued
You hurt me there's no doubt
I'm a man that's been abused
But I'm not down and out

You tried to decimate me
Better dead than being alive
Your gonna try to bait me
But Baby I will survive

JOE SINGS
(Chorus 3)
You broke my wishes
You broke some dishes
You broke every vow you made
You broke the rules
Broke the family jewels
Breakin' s your stock in trade

You broke my dreams
You broke my schemes
We had our breakin' and brawls
While you were breakin'
And I was achin'
You even tried to break my heart/balls
It asen't accidental
You weren't very gentle
You had me climbing the walls
You even tried to break my heart/balls

(MANDY ENCOURAGES AUDIENCE TO SING
BALLS")

MANDY SPEAKING
Let me give you another point of view

MANDY SINGS

(Verse 3)

I like breakin' what you got
It's just a woman's thing
You're lucky you ain't been shot
Because shootin' is my thing

I know that I bought you pain
But at least you're not dead
So I'll tell you once again
Better listen to what I've said

(Chorus 4) JOE

You broke my wishes
You broke some dishes
You broke every vow you made
You broke the rules
Broke the family jewels
Breakin' s your stock in trade

You broke my dreams
You broke my schemes
We had our breakin' and brawls
While you were breakin'
And I was achin'
You even tried to break my heart
It asen't accidental
You weren't very gentle
You had me climbing the walls
You even tried to break my heart/balls

(MANDY ENCOURAGES AUDIENCE TO SING
BALLS")

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMERS BOW)

(FADE TO DARK)

**END OF ACT 2 SCENE 5 □ ACT 2 SCENE 6 SONG: THE LATEST GREATEST
SMART PHONE**

(LIGHTING)

JOE WALKS THROUGH MUSICAL DOORS)

JOE

(CENTER STAGE)

There are over millions of apps on the iPhone. They got Apps for finding the nearest Starbucks and playing golf courses and recipes and parking your car and whatever. I always wondered if somebody was designing an App to help keep your lady friend happy when she's not happy with you. Going to need a powerful computer to do that. Maybe use Artificial Intelligence. Don't think they will find a computer powerful enough to figure out what a women is thinking. (HESITATES) For the ladies that are getting a little haughty about what I just said. I was just kidding. I figured those smart phones are an opportunity to write a song. Take a listen.

JOE

(SINGS; "THE LATEST GREATEST SMARTPHONE"

(Chorus 1)

The latest greatest smart phone

Is smart as it can be

With all its tricks

It cannot fix

That you are gone from me

That latest greatest smart phone

Is really very smart

Gotta million apps

But there's no app

To mend my broken heart

(Verse 1)

I got tons of photos of you

That I look at all day long

When my smart phone starts to ring

It plays our fav'rite song

I can travel anywhere

Find directions to your home

But you're not sleeping by my side

I'm sleeping with my phone

(Chorus 2) JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

The latest greatest smart phone

Is smart as it can be

With all its tricks

It cannot fix

That you are gone from me

That latest greatest smart phone

Is really very smart

Gotta million apps

But there's no app

That will mend my broken heart

JOE

(Verse 2)

I get the latest updates

On my greatest smartest phone

If the smart phone was so smart

It would bring you right back home

Sent a bunch of texts and tweets

Begging emails all the time

Hope you'll listen with your heart
And text me that you're mine

(Chorus 3) JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

The latest greatest smart phone
Is smart as it can be
With all its tricks
It cannot fix
That you are gone from me

That latest greatest smart phone
Is really very smart
Gotta million apps
But there's no app
That will mend my broken heart

(Release)
Don't know
If the OS is at
Point two point three or four
All I know is
My smart phone and me
Miss you more and more

(PHONE RINGING WITH THE MELODY OF "LOVE
ME TENDER")
(NOTE: PUBLIC DOMAIN FOLK SONG MELODY)

(Spoken)
Hello!
Baby is that you?
Oh my god!!!
What app did you use?
And it was free?

(Chorus 4)
The latest greatest smart phone
Is smart as it can be
It's found an app
And brought you back
You'll soon be here with me

That latest greatest smart phone
Is really very smart
Now you're back
You found the app
To mend my broken heart

That latest greatest smart phone
Has brought you back to me

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMER BOWS)

(FADE TO DARK)

END OF ACT 2 SCENE 6

□ **ACT 2 SCENE 7 SONG: I LET YOU DOWN**

(LIGHTS UP)

(JOE WALKS THROUGH MUSICAL DOORS)

JOE

(CENTER STAGE, SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

What have I learned from all the years and all the woman and all the songs and the occasional self-inflicted damage to myself? Not enough to change my ways as you can see from my story. I just keep doing the same thing over and over again. It's been a challenge for me to love and be loved unconditionally. Some men have a hell of a lot of faults and a woman will facilitate finding out what those faults are.

I wrote this song for every girl I have ever left or if she left me. Sometimes for reasons I knew and sometimes just carelessly following my inclination to move on to another town and another job and another relationship. All you good Ladies if you are here in the Audience. Remember I did love you once.

JOE

(SINGS "I LET YOU DOWN")

(Verse 1)

I was foolish with my words
Even though I loved you so
You would think I wouldn't do
Foolish things to make you go

We'd wake up in the morning
I just loved to smell your hair
I'm drinkin' last nights' coffee
Talkin' to an empty chair

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

(Chorus 1)

I let you down
I let you down
I really loved you so
I found you in the springtime
Lost you in the early snow

I let you down
I let you down
That song I wrote for you
The words I sang were false
I let you down that's true

(Verse 2) JOE

Even went to church today

Hopin' Jesus find the time
To look inside my hurtin' heart
Though I'm not the prayin' kind

My daddy once had told me
Respect a woman like your mom
Didn't listen to what he said
Now I look and you are gone

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

(Chorus 3)

I let you down
I let you down
I really loved you so
I found you in the springtime
Lost you in the early snow

I let you down
I let you down
That song I wrote for you
The words I sang were false
I let you down that's true

(Verse 3) JOE

The songs that I wrote for you
Say what I feel inside my heart
But I did not live those words
That I sang with my guitar

I need more than memories
All I need is one more start
Dyin' s not a choice for me
But livin' is so damned hard

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

(Chorus 4)

I let you down
I let you down
I really loved you so
I found you in the springtime
Lost you in the early snow

I let you down
I let you down
That song I wrote for you

The words I sang were false
I let you down that's true

JOE
(Finale)
I let you down
I let you down
If I say it one more time
Will the echo of the words
Ever gonna' change your mind

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS
I let you down
I let you down
I let you down that's true

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMER BOWS)

END OF ACT 2 SCENE 7

□ **ACT 2 SCENE 8** SONG: ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN TO A MAN HAS
HAPPENED TO ME

(LIGHTS UP)
(JOE WALKS THROUGH MUSICAL DOOR)

All you good people I know, and I hope, I am not the self-centered guy I sometimes appear to be in all these relationships and songs I write. Well, if you believe that, and I hope you do, then you're going to wonder after hearing this song.

I kind of dwell on the idea that I am some sort of Superman that jumps over build buildings and stops trains and really does it all. You have to remember that I am a songwriter trying to tell stories. Listen to this story.

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS
(Chorus 1)
I have been well traveled
And I have done it all
I just keep gettin' up
Every time I seem to fall

I'm really very happy
As happy as i can be
'cause anything can happen to a man
Has happened to me

JOE SINGS

(Verse 1)

I been hired

I been fired

I been tired

Been inspired

I been wired

I been mired

I been mired

Been retired

I been mated

I been fated

I been jaded

And berated

I been hated

I been dated

I been traded

Been inflated

Now let me tell you a little more

What's happened to me

(Verse 2)

Been delighted

I been incited

Been invited

Been excited

I been blighted

Undecided

I have tried it

I been cited

Been elated

I been graded

Infatuated

I been mated

I been baited

Insinuated

I been hated

Been paraded

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

(Chorus 2)

I have been well traveled

And I have done it all

I just keep gettin' up

Every time I seem to fall

I'm really very happy

As happy as I can be

'cause anything can happen to a man

Has happened to me

JOE SINGS

(Verse 3)

I been gifted

I been shifted

I been lifted

I been grifted

Been committed

I been fitted

Been dim witted

I been scripted

Been restricted

Been assisted

Been inflicted

Been resisted

Been tight fisted

I been listed

I been shifted

I been lifted

Gotta tell you just one more time

What's happened to me

(Verse 4)

I been looted

I been hooted

Been unsuited

Been uprooted

I been tooted

I been muted

Been polluted

I been booted

I been wild

I been mild

Been defiled

I been styled

Been reviled

Been beguiled

I been filed

Been exiled

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

(Chorus 3)

Any place anyone can go

Is a place that I have been

Did my share of real good deeds
And I committed every sin

I have traveled many roads
And sometimes I was the first
Drank every drink a man can drink
To quench my endless thirst

I been up and I been down
Every place that you can be
If I ain't done it ain't been done
By nobody else but me

I've tried everything that I could
And some things I tried a lot
Tried somethings I'm glad I did
And a few things I should have not

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS
(Chorus 4)

I have been well traveled
And I have done it all
I just keep gettin' up
Every time i seem to fall

I'm really very happy
As happy as I can be
'cause anything can happen to a man
Has happened to me

(Verse 5)
Been convicted
Been restricted
Been unlisted
Been unscripted

I been shifted
Been addicted
I been sifted
Been uplifted

I been guilted
I been tilted
I been wilted
I been jilted

I been filtered
I been stilted
I been kilted

I been quilted

Just hold on while I tell you
What else has happened to me

(Verse 6)

I been wild
I been mild
Been defiled
I been styled

Been reviled
Been beguiled
I been filed
Been exiled

I been fitted
Been outwitted
I been bidden
I been smitten

I been pitted
I been kidded
I been ridded
Yes i did it

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

(Chorus 5)

I have been well traveled
And I have done it all
I just keep gettin' up
Every time i seem to fall

I'm really very happy
As happy as I can be
'cause anything can happen to a man
Has happened to me

JOE SINGS

(Finale)

I have tried every thing
And I'm still standing tall
Really gonna try like hell
To show that I've done it all

Anything can happen to a man
Has happened to me
Yea yea yea

Anything can happen to a man
Has happened to me
Yea yea yea

Anything can happen to a man
Has happened to me

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMER BOWS)

END OF ACT 2 SCENE 8

□ACT 2 SCENE 9 SONG: NOWHERE

I somehow ended up in Phoenix. A friend told me about a band that was looking for a guitarist. They called themselves the Roamin” Rabble. The interview was me playing a couple of cover songs and I was hired on the spot. We played every bowling alley, bar, joint, Church hall, gyms and I can go on. We lived on the road and nobody in the band had a home with an address. My band skills got a lot better and back my back got sore sitting in a six person van pulling a trailer with our instruments.

I wrote a song called “Nowhere,” because that’s where we went over the year on the road.
Take a listen.

(Chorus 1)

Take a plane in sun or rain to nowhere
Do my gigs and sing my songs
And make the young girls cry
Take a bus with no fuss to nowhere
Gonna play all those cities
Before the day we die

Take a train and ride the main to nowhere
Talk to fans and strangers
Who want to be our friend
Take the car drive it far to nowhere
Don’t know how the music started
Don’t know when it will end

(Verse 1)

Wake up in a motel room
And wonder where I am
Sing those songs a thousand times
We’re on the road again

Been everywhere and nowhere
The road is a lonely place
My old guitar’s so weary
The world’s running out of space

(Chorus 2)

Take a plane in sun or rain to nowhere

Do my gigs and sing my songs
And make the young girls cry
Take a bus with no fuss to nowhere
Gonna play all those cities
Before the day we die

Take a train ride the main to nowhere
Talk to fans and strangers
Who want to be our friend
Take the car drive it far to nowhere
Don't know how the music started
Don't know when it will end

(Verse 2)

If you ask us where we been
I hardly know what to say
At night our name's up in lights
But not shining bright at day

Test the sound and test the lights
The routine repeats repeats
Check that were selling tickets
Got to fill up all those seats

(Release)

Nowhere is a lonely place
But nowhere is my home
Talking to an empty chair
And sleeping with my phone
In every room to nowhere
I'll always be alone
I'll always be alone

(Chorus 3)

Take a plane in sun or rain to nowhere
Do my gigs and sing my songs
And make the young girls cry
Take a bus with no fuss to nowhere
Gonna play all those cities
Before the day we die

Take a train ride the main to nowhere
Talk to fans and strangers
Who want to be our friend
Take the car drive it far to nowhere

Don't know how the music started
Don't know when it will end

(Finale)

So grab your old guitar
And come along with me
Nowhere is the next town
That you're never gonna be

Take a plane in sun or rain to nowhere
Take a bus with no fuss to nowhere
Take a train ride the main to nowhere
Take a car drive it far to nowhere

(CROWD APPLAUDS PERFORMER BOWS)

(FADE TO DARK)

END OF ACT 2 SCENE 9

□ **ACT 2 SCENE 10** **SONG; JESUS AND EARNHARDT AND PETTY BY HIS SIDE**

(LIGHTING)

JOE WALKS THROUGH MUSICAL DOORS)

JOE

(CENTER STAGE)

Well, Folks my travels continued and I ended up in Daytona. The biggest damned race track you have ever scene. That's where NASCAR started. I worked in the garage but I did not get near these racing cars. You had to know what you are doing to do that. I did some gigs on Main Street and US 1 and that's where I met Cindy.

CINDY

(ENTERS CENTER STAGE)

Joe those songs you sing are really good. I been here three nights in a row and listened and they are really good.

JOE

Appreciate that Cindy, Do you know somebody that wants to listen to my songs.

CINDY

(LAUGHS) No I don't know anybody. But I do know good music.

JOE

I'll drink to that.

CINDY

Did you ever think of writing a song about racing. Hell, you work at the track and you

must have absorbed some ideas about racing.

JOE

Pushing a broom is not very inspiring.

CINDY

You should be writing a song about racing. Hardly anybody does. (HESITATES)

By the way Joe, I can't sleep with you tonight,

JOE

Ok if you want a break after three great weeks.

CINDY

Joe, my husband is back in town.

JOE

You never told me you had a husband.

CINDY

(KISSES JOE)

You never asked. (HESITATES) Joe, I got to go. And remember to write that song.

(EXITS)

JOE

(TALKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

Well, I stayed in Daytona for a few more months. One day I got an idea for a racing song, and spent twenty-four hours without sleeping to finish it. Take a listen.

JOE SINGS

Verse 1

He started drivin' dirt tracks

Seems like a hundred years ago

He knew he'd be drivin' Nascar

Because his Jesus told him so

Drove Daytona and Talladega

He haunted all the local joints

Drove all the tracks both long and short

He' was tryin' to earn some points

Jesus is watching every turn

And Earnhardt is givin' a hand

Petty's helpin' him guide that wheel they're gonna help the best they
can

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

Chorus 1

Always trying to get that pole
It's his passion and his pride
The moment that race'll start
Gonna push the engine hard
He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

He's chasin' every car he sees
They can run but they can't hide
Never knows how it all goes
But deep in his heart he knows
He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

He's gonna burn lotsa rubber
Gonna give that car a ride
He is young but he is wise
And gettin' some good advice
He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

JOE

Verse 2

He drives hard and hits the pit
For changin' tires and gas
Gets on that track and rides again
He's gonna catch'em gonna pass

There's a pretty girl in the stands
He's racing for her lovin' heart
She makes him always do his best
She knows winnin' is so hard

He loves the smell of gasoline
And rubber on the track
When someone's draftin' too dang close
He knows Jesus will watch his back

JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

Chorus 2

Always trying to get that pole
It's his passion and his pride
The moment the race'll start
Gonna push the engine hard
He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

He's chasin' every car he sees
They can run but they can't hide

Never knows how it all goes
But deep in his heart he knows
He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

He's gonna burn lotsa rubber
Gonna give that car a ride
He is young but he is wise
And gettin' some good advice
He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

JOE

Verse 3

He knows with every turn he makes
He's goin' back to where he start
Gonna try to win every race
Gotta be tough gotta be smart

He's gotta keep those tires cool
And got to stretch that gas
Some hotshot's ridin' on his tail
Earnhardt would never let'em pass

He's chasin' every checkered flag
Chasin's never gonna end
Like Petty he'll just keep on tryin'
Then gonna chase that flag again

Chorus 3 JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

Always trying to get that pole
It's his passion and his pride
The moment that race'll start
Gonna push the engine hard
He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

He's chasin' every car he sees
They can run but they can't hide
Never knows how it all goes
But deep in his heart he knows
He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

He's gonna burn lotsa rubber
Gonna give that car a ride
He is young but he is wise
And gettin' some good advice
He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

JOE

Verse 4

And when that race is goin' bad
When he is stuck inside the pack
Jesus puts his arm around him
Earnhardt and Petty watch his back

Petty tells him to use his head
So he can work into the lead
Sometimes you win because your smart
And sometimes because of speed

And when he sees that checkered flag
Nothin's gonna cut him down
Gotta make that winner's circle
"cause he just love to hear the crowd

Chorus 4 JOE AND BACKUP SINGERS

Always trying to get that pole
It's his passion and his pride
The moment the race'll start
Gonna push the engine hard
He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

He's chasin' every car he sees
They can run but they can't hide
Never knows how it all goes
But deep in his heart he knows
He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

He's gonna burn lotsa rubber
Gonna give that car a ride
He is young but he is wise
And gettin' some good advice
He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

JOE

Finale

They can run but they can't hide
Gonna give that car a ride
'cause

He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side
He's got Jesus & Earnhardt & Petty by his side

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMER BOWS)

(FADE TO DARK)

END OF ACT 2 SCENE 10

□ ACT 2 SCENE 11 SONG: MY OLD AGE AND MY OLD DREAMS

(LIGHTING)

JOE

(CENTER STAGE, SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)

Willie Nelson has always been my favorite. He always will be. He is the epitome of the cliché definition of country music which is “three cords and tell the truth.” And it just so happens that Willie coined that phrase. Just listen to his songs and you know that man did a lot of living. He's like a really good wine, he just gets better with the years. He's like an old oak tree, just getting taller and bigger.

He was born in 1933 about the time Franklyn Delano Roosevelt was sworn in for his first term as president. Willie did a lot of living and he has told us about most of it. He wrote a lot of songs. They say over three thousand. And he wrote them all on his guitar called “Trigger.” He and Trigger have written the history of seventy and more years of the story of his life and about our wonderful country and its people.

You know Willie said some cool things. He is a thinker and he is a singer. He is a thinking singer. Let's try out a few of Willie's quotes.

My doctor tells me I should start slowing it down - but there are more old drunks than there are old doctors. So let's all have another round.

Don't try to change anybody. And they should let you be yourself. 'You loved me when you met me, so let's keep going!'

A lot of country music is sad. A lot of art and music comes out of poverty and hard times. It applies to music. Three chords and the truth - that's what a country song is. There is a lot of heartache in the world.

If a song was ever good, it's still good.

So much for Willie's quotes.

I wrote this song for Willie, which is kind of presumptuous of me. It tells Willie's story and I would like to think in a very personal way. I'm not trying to imitate Willie. Nothing worse than a bad imitation of a great singer. But I would like to try to feel the way Willie feels though I'm not anywhere near his age. He's my hero. When I sing this song I imagine sitting in Willie's shoes and the song is autobiographical. Now why would anyone want to be Willie Nelson? The song is called “My Old Age and My Old Dreams.” Listen to the story it tells about Willie and his life

JOE

(SINGS: MY OLD AGE AND MY OLD DREAMS)

(Chorus 1)

My old age and my old dreams
Simply are my fate
Yesterday's old memories
Are on my mind of late
Old age arrived
And I've survived
I wish old age could wait
I do the best I could
I'm usually feeling good
Thank God sometimes I'm feeling great

(Verse 1)

Old oak trees stand very tall
And live a long long time
At the bottom of old kegs
Is the oldest finest wine

I have played a thousand songs
And played a thousand towns
Though my guitar's a little worn
It makes the same sweet sound

Today's the very oldest
That I have ever been
It also is the youngest
That I'll ever be again

I have broken many hearts
I've had my heart broken too
I been foolish now and then
That ain't nothing new

(Chorus 2)

My old age and my old dreams
Simply are my fate
Yesterday's old memories
Are on my mind of late
Old age arrived
And I've survived
I wish old age could wait
I do the best I could
I'm usually feeling good
Thank God sometimes I'm feeling great

(Verse 2)

There's a lot that I recall
And conveniently forget
If I did it all again
Hardly think of a regret

I wrote a thousand songs
Sang them all thousand times
Some were true and some were lies
Don't be fooled because they rhyme

The crowds have all applauded
I always sang the best I can
Just because they know my songs
Don't mean that they know the man

On my cheeks there are some stains
Of tears that burned my eyes
Sometimes I was so foolish
But a few times I was wise

(Chorus 3)

My old age and my old dreams
Simply are my fate
Yesterday's old memories
Are on my mind of late
Old age arrived
And I've survived
I wish old age could wait
I do the best I could
I'm usually feeling good
Thank God sometimes I'm feeling great

(Verse 3)

I have searched some lonely roads
Many years back to the start
Most of what I've searched for
Was hidden deep inside my heart

I have loved a pretty face
Other times I loved the soul
Some women made me half a man
Some women made me whole

If you think that life's a race
You won't find the finish line
When you think the race is won
Got to run it one more time

I have lived among the crowds
People call me on the phone
When the crowds and voices leave
I was sleeping all alone

(Chorus 4)

My old age and my old dreams
Simply are my fate
Yesterday's old memories
Are on my mind of late
Old age arrived
And I've survived
I wish old age could wait
I do the best I could
I'm usually feeling good
Thank God sometimes I'm feeling great

(Verse 4)

Music comes and music goes
Sometimes good and sometimes bad
I am gonna do my thing
Not a prisoner to some fad

I've bared my soul to Jesus
Hopin' he would hear my plea
Tried to pray about the world
And a little less 'bout me

I came I saw and conquered
I just tried to find my way
Tellin' stories with my songs
Just another way to pray

When they design my tombstone
There's a story I can tell
He sang lotta pretty songs
And he raised a little hell

(Chorus 5)

My old age and my old dreams

Simply are my fate
Yesterday's old memories
Are on my mind of late
Old age arrived
And I've survived
I wish old age could wait
I do the best I could
I'm us'ly feeling good
Thank God sometimes I'm feeling great

(Coda)

My old age and my old dreams
Simply are my fate
My old age and my old dreams
Simply are my fate

(SPOKEN)

God Bless you Willie. Write another 3000 songs and live a bunch of years more. And we can always use one more new song from you.

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMER BOWS)

END OF ACT 2 SCENE 11

□ **ACT 2 SCENE 12 SONG: MUSICAL DOORS**

EXCERPTS FROM FIVE SONGS

(WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE
SOMEWHERE IN THE CORNER OF MY MIND
SALLY SWEET SALLY
I LET YOU DOWN
SING ME A SONG)

(JOE WALKS THROUGH THE MUSICAL DOOR)

JOE

(CENTER STAGE, SPEAKS TO AUDIENCE)

As you all now know from my stories, I've been in an out of a few relationships. Maybe all my loves were self-imposed ego trips that became excuses for writing my songs. Maybe the itch I have to move down another road and another town is an itch that I never intend to find or scratch.

I know a guy that had a tick, a good friend. The tick was one of those physical things you do with your body that you can't control. He used to twist his head to the left like this. (TWIST) One day he was at the beach and almost got hit by lightning. It scared the hell out of him and after more than ten years living with that tick, it was gone. But it took a brush with lightening to do it. True story.

I tell that story to make the point that some proverbial lightening may hit me one day and I'll be shocked into ending my wandering tick? Did you expect me to say something philosophically profound? I just thought it was a good story. I love writing songs about loves and my travels and my observations about life. My songs are the story of my life. If we had another day or two to hang out together, I got a lot more songs I could sing for you.

Here's part of a few songs we shared tonight. Songs that tell my story. God Bless you all for your patience and for listening. And I'll bet a lot of you are dying to give me some advice. Listen to the words from some of my songs that kind of tell you why I am still wandering and playing games with my Musical Doors.

(SINGS THE FOLLOWING SONGS ,
WITH HIS GUITAR AND NO BAND)

JOE

(SINGS: ECCERPT FROM "WHERE DO WE GO FROM
HERE")

Where do we go from here girl
Where do we go from here
I share your room
I share your bed
But we are miles apart.

Now how many times have I lived those lyrics?

JOE

You have to ask yourself, what's my problem with time. Where the hell am I rushing to.

JOE
(SINGS:EXCERPT FROM "SALLY SWEET SWEET SALLY")

Sally Sweet Sweet Sally
I would love you
But I haven't got time
I'm rushing to a place I'll never find

JOE
(SINGS :EXCERPT FROM "I LET YOU DOWN")

Let there never be a day
That I don't say I love you
Let there never be a dream
That for you will not come true

(SINGS EXCERPT FROM "SING ME A SONG")

What was my mind when I wrote these lines.

I cry in the night
And wish you were there
To be your face in the ceiling
To sit in your chair

JOE

(WALKS TO THE MUISCAL DOOR,
ATTEMPTS SEVERAL TIMES TO CLOSE IT, DECIDES
TO LEAVE IT OPEN)

I guess I'll just leave that damned door open. You can never tell what will happen. I have lost good women along the way. But I still have my guitar and my songs, and I welcome the opportunity to tell you good people my story about my journey through Musical Doors.

BAND AND BACKUP SINGERS AND

JOE'S LADIES
((SPREAD ACROSS THE STAGE,
JOE IS IN THE CENTER)

JOE

(POINTS TO THE MUSICAL DOORS)

That is the same Musical Door I have been struggling with all my life. As I said earlier, when we first met, every time a door closes, another door opens. I wish that all your Musical Doors bring you joy and B and someone to love and someone who loves you. And I wish you peace. Thanks, you for your kindness and your attention and your applause. God Bless.

JOE (SINGS "MUSICAL DOORS")
(BAND PLAYS)
(EVERY ONE ON STAGE JOINS IN FOR THE
RELEASE)

(Verse 1)

I have lived my life
Some doors I have closed
Others I've opened
Wondering and hopin'
I'd find some new roads

You reap what you sow
You toil every day
Ignoring some voices
Making your choices
While making your way

Comin' and goin'
To back where I start
Just chasing the clock
And doors that I lock
Like strings in a heart

(Release 1)

I went on my ways
Just looking for dreams
Too often I found
Impossible schemes

Life's just like a play
We write all the scenes
We play all the parts
Just searching for dreams

My life is musical doors
My life is musical doors
My life is musical doors

(Verse 2)

It's lonely out there
When you're on your own
Just sleeping around
Then hearing the sound
Of sleeping alone

I've made my own luck
With loves I have found
Loves that were golden
Just couldn't hold'em
Keep moving around

I find a new place
The door opens a crack
I don't like bitchin'
But I get an itchin'
That's calling' me back

(Verse 3)

At the end of the day
You find from the start
That all that you lost
Lived deep in your heart

Life circles around
Like a carousel
You reach for the ring
'Till you hear the bell

My life is musical doors
My life is musical doors
My life is musical doors

(Verse 4)

Some loves I have earned
Others I've taken
A thief in the night
And now out of sight
My dreams forsaken

The winds at my back
And gives me a shove
Sailing the seas

And riding the breeze

Just looking for love

Life's musical doors

New songs being played

The door's revolving'

Life is evolving'

Just like a parade

(Release)

Now I can't go home

No one's there any more

I'll just have to find

My musical doors

Now I can't go home

No one's there any more

I'll just have to find

My musical doors

My life is musical doors

My life is musical doors

My life is musical doors

(Release)

My life is a house

With musical doors

You get trapped between

The ceilings and floors

Now I can't go home

No one's there any more

I'll just have to find

My musical door

My life is musical doors

My life is musical doors

My life is musical doors

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMERS BOW)

JOE

(STANDS CENTER STAGE IN SPOTLIGHT)
(BAND, BACKUP SINGERS, JOE'S LADIES)_

So travel safely and thank you for spending an evening with us.
God Bless you all and take care and remember in your life to stay away from Musical
Doors. And should you bump into me one day, please give me the same advice.
God Bless you all.

(FADE TO DARK)

(LIGHTS UP)

(MUSICAL DOORS)

(AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PERFORMERS BOW)

(PERFORMERS TAKE TURNS BOWING)

END OF ACT 2 SCENE 12

END OF MUSICAL