

## Grand Bargain

America held hostage day one  
A lot of folks woke up without power this morning  
It's every man for himself  
And every woman at 70% of the going rate

In the land of the free market  
And the home of the wage slave  
It's not the robots you need to worry about  
It's the corporate human

I am a paid enemy of the state  
Guilty in an attempt to educate  
To teach is to leech to sell divine  
The business of America is business

This is a company town  
A 21st Century Pullman  
16 tons or 64bits it's all the same

Kleptocracy  
Rule by thieves  
To use the mechanism of government  
To enrich oneself  
At the expense of the greater good

The 6 billion dollar man will be our savior  
Greed is God  
Starve the Beast  
Deregulate  
Let's see if that puts food on your plate

## Hippie Hills

Second grade, late for class  
Parking lot, ambulance  
Principal, crowd of kids  
Broken arms, broken skin

That's the day that Simon fell off the swingset  
He's OK, cause he fell on top of Judy

Double dare on the hill  
Are you a Jack or a Jill  
Building speed, hit the ramp  
Catch some air before the crash

Hippy Hills can only be reached on two wheels  
That's where I destroyed a brand new Stingray  
Breaking glass underneath the overpass  
Trading cards, iron ons and GT skateboards

The best years of our lives  
Back in better times  
A perfect summer world  
Perfect boys and girls

The way things never were  
Your memories all are blurred  
Locked up in a room  
From August until June

Feeling lost in the park  
Sun is down, getting dark  
We're your friends, where're your friends?  
All alone, ditched again

Hippy Hills was buried by a subdivision  
All the kids are inside plugged into their systems  
My hometown is a well-maintained corporate theme park  
Yesterday, only looks good from a distance

I'm going home  
The best years of our lives / the way things never were

## **Lucky Ones**

Trying to find the past in the mask in front of me  
The hair and eyes don't match but there's a trace left underneath  
I always thought you were the lucky one  
You always got the best of me

The halo made of gold above your head has turned to lead  
I missed out on the crash but I still see it in your face  
I always thought you were the lucky one  
But now I see that it was me

Time has passed, we've evened out  
There's nothing left to shout about  
And now I see we're both the lucky ones  
We lost it all but still survived

Trying to find a path through the past in front of me

## World's Insane

I see a burning cross held aloft by a man of God  
And it shakes my faith in the whole human race

I see a looming cloud shining bright like a dying star  
Am I alone in this? Or do you see it too?

Is it too late  
For us to change  
Well I'm afraid  
Our world's insane

I hear my neighbor speak in the voice of conspiracy  
Should I stay and fight or just let it be?

We're living at the mercy of a doomsday cargo cult  
We are desperately in need of a responsible adult

It's getting strange  
We're out of place  
The rules have changed  
This world's insane

We are standing upright in a world turned upside down  
We have got to stick together  
We have got to hold our ground

Their perspective was infected by a virus going round  
There's nothing wrong with me  
There's nothing wrong with you

But they're deranged  
They have no shame  
We cannot wait  
For them to change  
They can't be saved

## Devil and the Gun

He comes to work or church or school  
He gets a pass cause he looks like you  
Then he takes everyone away  
Leaves us here to pick up the change

Find a quiet place  
For the ones you love  
There's no escape  
From the devil with the gun

He visits you in your darkest hour  
Selling suicide disguised as power  
Tells you freedom has a price  
You have no choice, you have to buy

A man is at the door  
And there's nowhere left to run  
You can't ignore  
The devil with the gun

He comes to town bearing thoughts and prayers  
Sends our children over there  
They take out all our enemies  
And leaves a hole in the family

This is how they become  
The devils with the guns  
How we become  
The devils with the guns  
We have become  
The devils with the guns  
We all become  
The devils with the guns

## Better Than Nothing

I'm not a loser  
But I never win  
You call me a slacker  
But I never had a chance  
My failure is fueling your success

I gave you my body  
The best years of my life  
I saved all my pennies  
But I can't buy back the time

I lost my youth, my heart/soul, my mind  
But you still treat me like a child

*You can be replaced  
You can be retired  
It's better than nothing  
What we give you to survive*

*We gave you cakes and candy  
A circus every night  
And now you want health and welfare?  
This affects/impacts the bottom line*

*Whoever said that life was fair?  
You should be grateful for a share  
People are starving everywhere*

We can be divided  
We can be contained  
But it's all temporary  
There's a price you're gonna pay  
They hold the power  
We have the numbers in this war  
Better than nothing doesn't cut it anymore

## Brand New Country

We're gonna start a brand new country  
Better than the one we've got  
We'll throw out all the politicians  
And rebuild from the bottom up

Everybody will be welcome  
Everyone will have a choice  
We will all work together  
United with a single voice

We'll show these tyrants that  
We can take of ourselves  
We'll be the model  
We'll sow the seeds-- we'll show the world

Why are there so many questions?  
This is harder than I thought  
It's right here in the constitution  
Why can't we all get along?

The system is broken  
It's too complex to understand  
We need a leader  
To bring us together again

I don't like what he's saying  
That woman doesn't speak for me  
I don't agree with your positions  
This doesn't feel like my country

Who are these strangers?  
Who let all these heretics in?  
Where are the heroes?  
And where are the true citizens?  
I think it's time this experiment  
Came to an end

We're gonna start a brand new country  
Built on promises and faith  
We're gonna fill it up with people  
Who think and talk and look the same

## Better Place

All of my friends think you are great  
They think I've made a big mistake  
I don't know who they think they are  
I don't know who they think I am

I'm in a much better place  
Unfriended I've gone face to face  
I see who is real, who's a fake  
I'm in a much better place

Always in touch I need my space  
After 10 years I need a break  
I've lost all sense, I've lost all taste  
My time with you has been a waste

And I love to be alone  
And I need some one on one  
But I can't be in this crowd  
Don't wait up I won't belong

I'm in a much better place  
Unfriended I've gone face to face  
I'm in a much better place  
I see who is real, who's a fake

## Final Offense

A lily white empire built on the backs of stronger men  
Mythologies that hide the broken lives and stolen land

This is your first offense  
Trading bodies for cash  
Three fifths of a man  
This is your first offense

Mothers daughters sisters lovers betrayed by their own sons  
Used for labor and reward in the battles you have won

It's your second offense  
These are the facts  
You had your chance  
It's your second offense

You stripped the soul out of the earth and fouled the bed we share  
You filled the sky with cyanide and left us sucking air  
For your crimes you will be fined with the only life you care  
These are the lessons of Turner, Mother Jones and Robespierre

It's your final offense  
Final offense  
Off with their heads  
It's your final offense

## **Big Surprise**

Losing faith as I stare  
Into this poison heart we share  
We feel the beat everywhere  
But we pretend that we don't care  
We all ignore the warning signs  
We try to hide from the big surprise

We forgive the unforgivable  
As if we're not responsible  
Our history's a pattern of  
Endless circles and broken lines  
And when the darkness comes alive  
We all act like it's a big surprise

Raze a building, write a song  
Waste your breath until it's gone  
Fight the future for as long  
As you have the strength to carry on  
And even though we know it's time  
It always comes as a big surprise

## Safe Tonight

Sifting through a century or more  
Memories are spread across the floor  
Cutting through the layers of sentiment  
Digging deeper than we've ever been

The residue  
A broken shell  
Abandoned well

Saving multiples, collecting dust  
Pulling out the roots and farming rust  
Living out of sight and out of mind  
Boxing up what's left's a losing fight

An empty chair  
A living room  
An open wound

We are in the back seat  
Sleeping soundly through the night  
Buried under blankets  
Dreaming through the snow and ice  
And our mother's singing softly  
In a voice from another life  
You're safe tonight  
Safe tonight

Now we're in the front seat  
Coloring within the lines  
Flying through the darkness  
Til we catch the morning light  
And we know what is coming but  
for now this place is quiet  
We're safe tonight