

JOE GRUSHECKY – TRUE COMPANION

A Long Way To Go

I just bought an electric guitar
From a Sear's department store
I got it with the money that I saved up
Delivering papers door to door
Now the Stones are playing in Pittsburgh
Mom and Dad said they'd give me a ride
I got to take my little brother
Make sure he never leaves my side
Dad says I've got to go to college
But I want to rock and roll
Well I'm only 17
I got a long long way to go

I'm teaching in an institution
Playing the bars around town at night
I just sent out a demo recording
Hey man this time the band played the songs just right
When a call came down from Cleveland
It was Big Steve on the line
He said I love the way you Mama Loochie
Just sign on the dotted line
Time to quit the day job
I'm lucky I can rock and roll
Well I'm only 27
I got a long long way to go

It's all right there's still time
Even if we get a little older
It's all right there's still time
Even if we get a little older
It's all right
There's still time

I'm living in the suburbs
Had a good time but got out alive
Well my boy just got a new Fender
And my little girl's learning to drive
Yogi said it ain't over 'til it's over
And I can't hear that fat lady sing
I just move a little slower
When my alarm clock starts to ring
I got to go to work this morning
I still wanna rock and roll
Hell I'm only in my fifties
And I got a long long way to go

A SHOT OF SALVATION

SURROUNDED BY LIES SEARCHING FOR THE TRUTH
I STAND ACCUSED WITHOUT ANY PROOF
HANGIN' ON BY THE SKIN OF MY TEETH
COUNTING ON LOVE PRAYING FOR PEACE

TELL ME WHY CAN'T I
GET A SHOT OF SALVATION

WE GOT MONEY FOR GUNS NOTHING FOR BOOKS
GETTING RIPPED OFF BY CORPORATE CROOKS
TOO MANY KIDS LEFT ALL ALONE AT NIGHT
SLIPPING INTO DARKNESS AWAY FROM THE LIGHT

TELL ME WHY CAN'T I
GET A SHOT OF SALVATION
SWEET SALVATION

I'M SHAKE SHAKE SHAKIN'
ALL SHOOK UP
THINGS ARE GETTING UGLY
TIMES ARE GETTING TOUGH
THAT'S WHY I NEED A SHOT OF SALVATION

I'M SHAKE SHAKE SHAKIN'
ALL SHOOK UP
THINGS ARE GETTING UGLY
THINGS ARE GETTING TOUGH
THAT'S WHY I NEED A SHOT OF SALVATION

TOO MANY SONGS NOT ENOUGH SOUL
EVERYBODY'S IN A HURRY WITH NO PLACE TO GO
THERE'S TOO MUCH IGNORANCE TOO MUCH FEAR
TOO MANY CRIES FOR HELP THAT NO ONE WILL EVER HEAR

TELL ME WHY CAN'T I
GET A SHOT OF SALVATION
SWEET SALVATION

STRANGE DAYS

If only I would have known
Maybe I would have changed my look
Changed the color of my hair
Someday I'm going to write a book
And tell the whole world out there
About a mighty man they have overlooked
And spread my philosophy
Hey man it ain't what you eat it's who's the cook

These are strange days
The more things change
The more they stay the same
Take these blues away
I pray that tomorrow's a better day

Maybe I should get something pierced
I bet it hurts but it sure looks fierce
And I'm just trying not to get crushed
Lately I think too much
About all my wasted time
And all the friends that I left behind
And all the little girls I once knew
Who liked to kiss and let me touch

These are strange days
The more things change
The more they stay the same
Take these blues away
I pray that tomorrow's a better day

Getting shut out
I feel frustrated
All the things I like
Are so outdated
The world is flying by too fast
Seems like nothing's ever built to last

Well I took my problems to the board of education
They Said we can't help you now son
Because we're going on vacation
And unless you can grease the wheel
We don't really care about how you feel
You see it's all about who you know
And if you are having trouble letting go

Well then mister you're just shit out of luck
Cause we don't really give a

These are strange days
The more things change
The more they stay the same
Take these blues away
I pray that tomorrow's a better day

True Companion

So many years spent waiting
So many years just holding fast
To find I've been forgotten
How much longer can I last
Some nights when I'm out there singing
I feel like a stranger in this town
My regret's a lone companion
As this world keeps turning 'round

My Daddy he's a good man
He worked hard all his life
And all that really mattered
Was his family and his wife
He's on the front porch strumming
His guitar on a summer night
He is my true companion
He gave me this life

He is my true companion
He will always be my friend
Until the last man left standing
Well he'll be there to the end

Well my baby she was praying
That our day would finally come
And that the light would break through
And the clouds release the sun
I can hear her softly sighing
In our bedroom late at night
She is my true companion
With her I share my life

She is my true companion
She will always be my friend
Until the last man left standing
Well she'll be there to the end

They are my true companions
They will always be my friends
Until the last man left standing
They will be there to the end
They will be there to the end
They will be there to the end

She's A Big Girl Now

Ginny was married and had a kid by eighteen
Little Mikey came along when she was nineteen
By twenty-two she felt like a hundred years old
Well her husband he never did talk much
Pushed her around and roughed her up
His hands were as hard as his heart was cold
Ginny finally had enough
She put a little money away
He came home one day and the kids were gone
Ginny had run away

She's a big girl now she's a big girl now
She's a big girl now don't tell her what to do
She's a big girl now she's a big girl now
She's a big girl now don't depend on you

Ginny made her way up to boston
Got her first job in a supermarket
She worked ten hours a day
Ringing up groceries on a check out line
She put her kids in a good little day care
Hell anything's better than being on welfare
She was always tired but otherwise doing just fine
She liked being out on her own
Ginny had ambition to burn
She started reading everything she could B find
There was so much that she wanted to learn

She's a big girl now she's a big girl now
She's a big girl now don't tell her what to do
She's a big girl now she's a big girl now
She's a big girl now don't depend on you

She worked that line week after week
And there was always this one guy who stopped to speak
She started looking forward to seeing him
Caught herself staring at his eyes
Then one dreary Monday
He stopped by and asked her out on a Sunday
Ginny laughed a little bit but then she said alright
She got a baby sitter for the kids
And he came by to pick her up
For the first time in along time she felt beautiful
And that in itself was just enough

She's a big girl now she's a big girl now
She's a big girl now don't tell her what to do
She's a big girl now she's a big girl now
She's a big girl now don't depend on you
She's a big girl now she's a big girl now
You look great tonight Ginny

Count On You

Well the heart goes directly to the mind
And the mind goes directly to the eyes
And the eyes are windows to the soul
And your eyes they are shining bright
Like diamond beacons in the night
And when I look in those eyes baby then I know

I can count on you every day
Count on you every way
Count on you I can count on you

There are times when I get a little lost
There are times when I cannot pay the cost
There are times when I don't know which way to go
You sit my down and whisper in my ear
Though sometimes I don't want to hear
But you tell me what I need to know

I can count on you every day
Count on you every way
Count on you I can count on you

It's another week and we've been working hard
Don't cut the grass let's forget about the yard
And just relax on Sunday afternoon
The kids are gone and we're here all alone
We got some time until they get back home
I can't wait until I get my hands on you

I can count on you every day
Count on you every way
Count on you I can count on you

What Gives

I was looking at your picture
The one where you cut off all your curls
You always were complicated
But you always were my girl
Never thought that you would ever leave me
I never thought you'd really go
The older that I get
Seems like the less I really know

What gives Tell me now
What gives Help me out
What gives I want to know
I want to know I want to know
What gives

Well I'm stuck here in this traffic
Just waitin' for the week to end
Ever since you went away
Seems like I lost my only friend
And there's nothing I want to be
Nowhere I want to go
Seems like the more that I see
Well the less I really know

What gives Tell me now
What gives Help me out
What gives I want to know
I want to know I want to know
What gives

My daddy always told me
He said son you gotta live your life without regrets
But daddy I wanna know
Is this as good as it's going to get
Maybe I just got to learn
To sit back and let it all flow
Seems that the harder that I try
The less I really know

What gives Tell me now
What gives Help me out
What gives I want to know
I want to know I want to know
What gives

A Silver Spoon

He's sitting in an easy chair ranting and raving
About all the politicians and how much he hates them
Worked hard all his life, sacrificed, and saved
To see his nest egg go down the drain

Well my Daddy wasn't born with a silver spoon
Well my Daddy wasn't born with a silver spoon
He's all balled up
He got the rich man blues
Got the rich man blues

We can't afford the house we can't afford the heat
We can't afford the shoes on his feet
We can't pay the electric can't pay the rent
Won't you help me out now Mr. President

Well my Daddy wasn't born with a silver spoon
Well my Daddy wasn't born with a silver spoon
He's all balled up
He got the rich man blues
Got the rich man blues

He said son when I was just a boy
I found a union man dead on the tracks
And someday I'd like to pay
All those son of a bitches back

Well the price of oil the price of meat
The price of water the price of wheat
The price of cable the price of gas
Well they can all kiss my ass

Well my Daddy wasn't born with a silver spoon
Well my Daddy wasn't born with a silver spoon
He's all balled up
He got the rich man blues

The Shape I'm In

Responsibility, respectability, accountability
Is killing me
Well it ain't a crime to dream of a time
When I was young and foolish and fancy free
I hate my job the boss is a jerk
And all I ever do is work work work work
The walls are closin' in The bills pilin' up
When will it end I've had enough

No phones no clocks
Don't ask I won't talk
No fun no sin
It's just the shape i am in
Don't drink don't smoke
Don't laugh it's no joke
There's no chance I can't win
It's just the shape I am in

Meetings and CEOs ripped off by HMOs
Can't get on the radio
It's making me mean
High speed connections fear of infections
I'm tired of rejections
What's wrong with me
It makes a dull boy all work and no play
Just grinding it out day after day
The walls closin' in The bills pilin' up
When will it end I've had enough

No phones no clocks
Don't ask I won't talk
No fun no sin
It's just the shape i am in
Don't drink don't smoke
Don't laugh it's no joke
There's no chance I can't win
It's just the shape I am in

Call Him

When I feel I can't go on
I'm reaching down the end of my rope
I'm restless and confused
And I've given up on hope
Got to call him call Him
I sit and wonder why
Nothing ever seems to go right
I'm slipping into darkness
I'm searching for the light
Got to call Him call Him

Well I get up in the morning
And I do it all again
And I never tell nobody
About all the pain I'm in
Well I keep it deep inside me
I can taste it in the air
My motor's always running
I ain't going nowhere
Got to call Him call Him

And He will answer
And He will hear
And He will help me
He will I swear
Got to call Him call Him

Well this night I'm all alone
Don't want to face tomorrow by myself
My time is running out
Is there no one who can help
Got to call Him call Him
Then I reach out and try to touch you
But I stumble then I fall
Will anyone be there to catch me
Will there be anyone here at all
Got to call Him Call Him

And He will answer
And He will hear
And He will help me
He will I swear
And He will listen
He will He will come through
And He will show me
He'll show me what I must do
Got to call Him
Got to call Him
Got to call Him