

# Waiting for the Renaissance

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

The King of Hearts fancies raspberry tarts  
The May Queen may or may not  
The jester pesters the court alchemist  
To conjure gold from an old apricot  
The young prince plays with his soldiers of tin  
With the princess and her dolls all laughing at him  
The whole kingdom rests on the head of a pin  
To wait for the Renaissance to begin

# My Dog Likes Me

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

Verse 1. I'm a self-absorbed guy  
Stuck in my head most of the time  
And I have got my dark side  
When I don't wanna talk  
I come off as unkind  
Now I've scared all my best friends away  
And my poor wife can see that I've had a bad day  
When that low self esteem gets me down  
There's someone I count on to turn it around

Chorus: My dog likes me  
My dog likes me  
So whenever the mood strikes me  
We'll take a nice little walk  
Maybe just around the block  
My dog respects me  
When the rest of the world rejects me  
I know it may seem unlikely  
But my dog likes me  
Yes, he does!

Verse 2. I'm unpopular at work  
Those office soap operas just leave me so cold  
To my co-workers, I'm a jerk  
Who's trying too hard and looking too old  
I fight the traffic back to my front door  
And who should be waiting to greet me once more?

(Chorus)

Coda: When things go wrong he sticks right by me  
Been with me so long, I don't take that lightly (No I don't)  
I'm so lucky my little puppy likes me  
My dog likes me  
Yes, he does!

# Little Wars

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

- Verse 1. I never meant to be ungrateful  
You gave me what you had  
I just wanted more  
But why must we declare this hateful  
Little War?  
Weren't we on the same side?  
Isn't it insane to fight?
- Verse 2. I know we've always had our battles  
Now it's hard to call a truce  
While the cannon roars  
And soldiers need their swords to rattle  
In little wars  
Keep your eye on victory  
And our love will soon be history
- Bridge: No Purple Heart can ever replace the real thing  
The glories of war will fade long before  
I lose this feeling
- Coda: Maybe we could both surrender  
Before we enter this little war  
Weren't we on the same side?

# The Whaler

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

Verse 1. I'm a no good drunken whaler from Nantucket  
I've sailed the seven seas  
And I've docked in many ports of angels  
That weren't very heavenly  
I've met a million people from all over  
From Greenland to the Keys  
And from Canada to England  
There are few much better than me

Chorus: Ah, but you are like the albatross  
Dancin' in the sky  
Who leaves the murky brine to toss  
As she flys so high  
I'm sending you this bit of change  
The little I have saved  
Buy yourself a ribbon  
(1) And I'll get back to see you some day  
(2) And I'll hope to see you before I see my grave

Verse 2. It's a lonely, cold and wet world to be born in  
And a whaler's life is hell  
And especially since yesterday  
I've not been feelin' too well  
We hit a storm just off the coast of Finland  
I caught my death of cold  
I've been whaling now for seven years  
And I'm feelin' much too old

(Chorus)

Yes, you are like the albatross  
Away across the sea  
Here's a prayer from a whaler:  
Please remember me

# Sweet Jesus, Goodbye

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

Verse 1. Back in those distant childhood days  
I was a god fearing good boy  
And I offered the lord my praise  
I chased after phony peace of mind  
Temptations kept piling up  
Till I decided to break all ten commandments  
At one time

Chorus 1: And with that first taste of freedom  
The angels fell out of the sky  
The day I broke up with the virgin Mary  
The moment I told Sweet Jesus  
Goodbye

Verse 2. I threw out my bible and rosary beads  
I swore I'd find the so called road to hell  
And see where it really leads  
If god made these women and drugs and booze  
If he'll be hangin' round my death bed  
In a couple of years  
He can do with me what he choose

Chorus 2: Yes, with that first taste of freedom  
The angels fell out of the sky  
The day I broke up with the virgin Mary  
The moment I told Sweet Jesus goodbye  
(I had to give him the slip 'cause he just wasn't hip  
I had to give him the slip 'cause he just wasn't hip  
Anymore)

Coda: No good shepherd ever gave me his sweater  
No forgiver ever made me feel better  
Never had one prayer answered  
So I gave up my wondering why  
Sweet Jesus, goodbye

# Litho Girl

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

Verse 1. My TV set just won't relate to me  
It doesn't even try  
And laryngitis got my telephone  
It's another Friday night  
Good thing I've made friends with the girls in magazines  
And images projected onto movie screens

Chorus: Oh, Litho Girl  
You were there  
When all the others turned me down  
Oh, Litho Girl smiles at me  
When none of these women will downtown

Verse 2. When I need someone to believe in me  
I stare into her eyes  
She only needs someone to believe in her  
Then everything's alright  
Some say she isn't worth the page she's printed on  
Perhaps they can explain how she could last this long

(Chorus)

Coda: Though our love is a celebration  
I sometimes feel alone  
I so long for conversation  
And a good hot meal at home

# Learning My Lesson

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

Verse 1. I guess every once in a while a man has to tell those lies  
He knows he cannot tell convincingly  
It's the old worn out ploy about bowling with the boys  
She knows, but she pretends she doesn't see  
So you leave her playing solitaire and head for the bar  
Posing as a swinger on the make  
Wake up with some alcoholic waitress in your car  
And realize you've paid for your mistake  
Then she leaves you with a slap on the face  
And you come home to a cold, empty place

Chorus: So I learn my lesson once again  
I should have known that all along  
She'd turn her love to another man  
And leave me just this song  
I thought I held her in some lover's trance  
I tried romancing with two  
1) And now I find both are gone  
2) Only to find both are gone

Verse 2. Well, I think every once in a while I chose the right thing to do  
We might have been together for too long  
But right now I feel the fool who complains that life's too cruel  
And wonders where his lover could have gone  
I thought that what I needed was a breath of fresh air  
When any breeze came blowin' through the streets  
I cheated her so many times I thought she didn't care  
Now she's left me here to shiver neath the sheets  
A woman's a slave to nobody's bed  
And she likes to use the brains in her head

(Chorus)

Coda: Gone!  
Yes, I learn my lesson once again

# The Typewriter

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

In an old Victorian house at the top of the stair  
A typewriter on a desk gathers dust  
A child's hands--my own--have bent the keys beyond repair  
Still, after all the stairs I've tread  
The desks where I've written and read  
And the keys I have pressed in the years since then  
To the dark at the top of the stair  
My mind returns once again

A distant relative of mine, a young girl born in 1909  
Once sat before that black machine  
And one letter at a time wrote poems of love  
To the fine young man in her dream

My mother once showed me a yellowing page  
With faint gray type in neat, even lines  
And even as a boy at a very young age  
I found beauty in those effortless rhymes

Those nights when the house was shrouded in snow  
I would climb to the old tower room  
Down the hall, the typewriter sat as it had sat  
Untouched in the gathering gloom

Then just as sleep was about to enfold me  
I heard it distinctly  
So boldly I went to the door  
And before proceeding, listened once more

The mechanical, methodical sound was unmistakable  
Till I reached the landing where the typewriter sat  
as it had sat for years  
The dust undisturbed on the keys  
The silence, unbreakable

## The Typewriter (Continued)

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

All of this happened so long ago  
And with so much to learn and to do and to know  
I took the days one at a time  
Till the girl from 1909 very rarely entered my mind

Last night I awoke to a curious sound  
There's no typewriter here, yet it sounded so clear  
That I knew I had finally been found

I must be the man in the dream that she had  
Her love letters have reached me at last  
Now we embrace in a dark time and place  
My future entwined in her past

# My Fantasy of You

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

Verse 1. You left a love letter on my door  
One bright December day  
You'd never used those words before  
Then you threw them all away  
A change of heart came over you  
So as far as I can see  
We both have better things to do  
Than to live a fantasy

Chorus: Now I've been waiting long enough  
On wishes never meant to come true  
The time finally comes to give up  
My fantasy of you

Verse 2. We stood alone in the dark one night  
You sang me a song  
It's only now I'm losing sight  
Of where it all went wrong  
'Cause something really happened then  
At least it did for me  
Now I'll get it through my head again  
Not to live a fantasy

Coda: Yes, I've been waiting long enough  
On wishes never meant to come true  
The time finally comes to give up  
My fantasy  
You know I'm through with waiting  
I've had enough  
We'd best find other dreams to pursue  
The time finally comes to give up my fantasy--  
My fantasy of you

# The Power of a Cat

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

Verse 1. To lose your woman to another man, I can understand  
That change of heart has played a part in history  
Since time began  
I lost my lover in another way that doesn't happen every day  
My rival crossed my path at least a thousand times  
But I was blind  
Now he's made her change her mind

Chorus 1: Never underestimate the power of a cat  
Once he turns on that charm  
I guess I must have learned too late  
A world of love like that  
Can unravel like a ball of yarn  
With big gray paws, he used to claw me  
Ow! The pain still smarts  
Never underestimate the power of a cat  
To change a woman's heart

Verse 2. I said, "This bed is only meant for two  
Three will never do"  
She told me I was right  
That night she pledged her love to you-know-who  
His diamond collar showed his savoir faire  
How could I compare?  
It's back to beer and pretzels in this lonely bar  
While at home, she likes to feed him caviar

(Chorus)

Coda: Never underestimate the power of a cat  
Once he's got a hold on her, you'll never get her back  
Be wise and realize that the power of a cat  
Will change a woman's heart

# Special Effects Man

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

- Verse 1. There must be a way to get closer to the woman  
I see every night in my dream  
If I stand here in front of this green screen  
Couldn't you drop me right into her scene?  
Can you slim me down and build me up?  
I hope you don't think I'm asking too much  
But I could use a fabulous tan  
Hey, Special Effects Man  
Please do what you can
- Verse 2. With your help, I bet you I could rescue that woman  
From the path of a giant fire ball  
We'll fly over boiling oceans, atomic explosions  
With your magic, I know I won't fall  
When I save the world from the Apocalypse  
I'm sure to win her rapturous kiss  
With motion capture and a full body scan  
Hey, Special Effects Man  
Please do what you can
- Bridge: Special Effects Man  
Special Effects Man  
I don't really think you understand  
Just how much I'm counting on you  
Reality's not working out for me  
This is one fantasy that's got to come true
- Coda: There must be a way to put me and that woman  
In the very same frame tonight  
Hey, Special Effects Man  
You've got to make it right  
Special Effects Man  
Please do what you can

# Her Heart Must Seek the Light

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

Verse 1. Listen to her laugh: she knows the truth  
And though she has every right to cry  
All of your lies have simply amused her  
Oftentimes confused her  
Now she's over that  
Even if she cries, it's not for you  
It's just that the world can be so cold  
And someone once told her to put her faith in summer  
With so much rain and thunder overdue

Chorus: You kept her in the dark and held her in your night  
Even though you know her heart must seek the light  
Even you can see  
For her life to start again  
Your wintertime must end  
And her heart must seek the light

Verse 2. You loved her in your way  
And for a while, she followed your journeys through the snow  
Wherever you'd go, her touch was always warm  
And she weathered every storm  
At least till today  
She should have been the one and only one  
The others were only games you lost  
Consider the cost, and change with the seasons  
She might just find a reason to meet you in the sun

(Chorus)

Coda: So many words she said  
Some are bound to stay in your head  
She may never return  
But anyway, you've learned  
That her heart must seek the light  
And your heart must seek the light

# Many Thanks, Lord Snooty

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

Many thanks, many thanks, Lord Snooty  
For everything you've done  
Some may say you're a cad and a crook  
But in my book, you're number one  
You taught me to lie  
Teach me to cheat  
And together we'll live a life so sweet  
Many thanks, Lord Snooty  
I'm here to share your glory days

Should the New Year catch you unaware  
May your sherry be very rare  
And may you lose nary a hair  
To the silvers and the grays

Many thanks, many thanks, Lord Snooty  
The world's our oyster now  
Let the con begin  
It's a win-win  
If you'll just show me how

# On Again

Words & Music by Pete McCabe

- Verse 1. She finally opens the door, throws her purse on the floor  
And she's in the tub  
All those guys at the club make her laugh, she says  
But she's really cryin' she feels like dyin'  
And after all this time  
You'd think that she wouldn't mind
- Verse 2. The music follows as she scrubs her back  
In the bubblebath, she shuts her eyes  
She's the only one who's tired of her body  
'I just can't see what they see in me  
I'm just a girl'  
And after all this time  
Tryin' to break free  
After all and after all  
She's just where she knew she would be
- Bridge: The band plays on in her bedroom  
As she dries herself in the bathroom  
She thought the night was over
- Chorus: But she's on again  
She's on again  
A smile and a wink will help sell a drink  
To the lonely men  
Yes, she's on again  
On again again
- Coda: She falls into bed and she's dreaming  
The pills and the saxophone screaming  
Spotlight follows wherever she goes  
And she knows that she's on again  
She's on again  
A smile and a wink will help sell a drink to the lonely men  
Yes, she's on again, on again again