

Stranger Things

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Verse 1 We met cute some time ago at Area 51
I was a mechanic repairing a UFO
My shift had just begun
She was an alien life form recently escaped from the deep freeze
She handed me a wrench and a little pink pill and whispered,
“Here, try one of these”
It was love at first sight but try as I might
I still can’t comprehend
How the beautiful thing we came to share
Could come to such an end

Chorus I guess stranger things have happened
Stranger things have happened
But I still fail to see why these things happened
The way they happened to me

Verse 2 So we flew out across the desert
On her neon dragonfly
In a room in Vegas I wore my best dress shirt
And a Liberace tie
When she emerged from the bath
A dark silhouette against the dazzling lights of the strip
She slipped into a liquid mercury gown
And I nearly lost my grip
It was a fabulous night but try as I might
I still can’t comprehend
How the beautiful thing we came to share
Could come to such an end

(Chorus)

Coda It all had gone so smoothly
But it was just too good to last
Her lover from another world suddenly appeared
To pull her back into the past
I guess stranger things have happened
Stranger things have happened

Personal Ad

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Grim Reaper seeks curious mortal
For brief, discreet fling
Join me for moonlight walks by the River Styx
We'll click if that's your thing

I like rainy funerals, nasty accidents,
Classic dust to dust
You like Edgar Allen Poe, Gothic fashion
Basic black's a must

If you enjoy stopping on train tracks
And then to relax,
Maybe playing with a gun
Then we share a sense of humor
And a special kind of fun

So contact me ASAP
You know you know my number
And if our love is meant to be
We'll cuddle till we slumber

Let's cuddle till we slumber

Jennifer's Room

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Verse 1 There's an old piano in Jennifer's room
That's where I thought I'd be playing this tune
But time and circumstance got in the way somehow
And came between us like a cloud across the moon
Ending my stay in Jennifer's room

Verse 2 A cat naps in the window of Jennifer's room
Sunlight fading in the late afternoon
It seems so much the same
Nothing has changed really
Except that a man who isn't me will be there soon
Holding the key to Jennifer's room

Bridge In the grand scheme of things
Does it matter who she loves?
And why am I clinging to this recurring dream
Of the two of us
And what might have been?

Coda Time and circumstance got in the way somehow
And came between us like a cloud across the moon
I know I can break the spell
I'll find me a lover somewhere
But someday in someone's eyes
I'll see her there
Leading me upstairs to Jennifer's room
To Jennifer's room

The Sole Reason

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Verse 1 You're the sole reason my soul has survived
Through a cold and desperate season
You kept it alive
On the road that you showed me
I found my way here
I'm delivered from the storm
I've never seen the sky so clear

Verse 2 I thought the world was unsafe
Until you gave me faith
You said, "Embrace it
And you'll surely make it a better place"
Now I'm certain all that hurtin'
Was nothin' but a crutch from the start
Your the sole reason
I finally got in touch with my heart

Bridge I don't need nobody telling me how to live
With you I know I'll get by
I just need some practice learning to give
And once I've got it down
I'm spreadin' that lesson around
All over town

Coda I should have seen you comin'
You took me by surprise
Your the sole reason
I'm on my way to paradise

I was lost and alone in the night
Now the sun has never shown so bright
My life was pain and near catastrophe
Now change has come at last for me
And you're the sole reason

Major Chord

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Verse 1 All the chords I play are dissonant
Since I've been hiding in my room
I'm like some film noir antihero
Destined to meet his doom
I see no one in my mirror now
And the music feels so cold
The past comes through so much clearer somehow
Than anything the future might hold

Chorus 1 Now maybe it's time to try to shake this thing
Clear my mind and waken from this dream
Maybe I'll finally find a major chord
Someone to slide some sunlight underneath my door
What if my life could take an unexpected turn
After all the bridges burned and lessons never learned?
Couldn't it all resolve into a major chord?

Verse 2 I've been trapped inside a minor mode
With my soul set on blue
Busy rereading some old pulp fiction
When I should have been calling you
I can see why you'd be skeptical and sad
If I asked you to relight the spark
After I traded something special that we had
For a lonely life without you in the dark

Chorus 2 So maybe it's time to try to shake this thing
Clear my mind and waken from this dream
Maybe we'll finally find a major chord
Won't you slide your sunlight underneath my door?
What if our lives could take an unexpected turn
After all the bridges burned and lessons never learned?
Couldn't it all resolve into a major chord?
Couldn't it all resolve into a major chord?

Big Business

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Verse 1 Snug inside their pleasure domes
The masters of Metropolis are watching us on TV
They program the blues into our genes
Consumer units, we are the gears that grind
In their machines

Chorus 1 How can we ever get free from the chains of
Big business?
Everybody takes a piece of the action
Big businessmen: Don't take it all
Please leave us a fraction
How can we ever get free from the chains of
Big business?

Verse 2 Computerized executives
Who analyze the universe know what it's worth
In hard cash
They own all the gold and diamond mines
They think of us as only human dollar signs

Chorus 2 How can we ever get free from the chains of
Big business?
Someone up there's making lots of money
Big businessmen
They must be thinking this rat race is funny
How can we ever get free from the chains of
Big business?

Coda Something's gotta give
Something's gotta change
After all the revolutions it stays the same
How can we ever get free from the chains of
Big Business?

Autumn

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Verse 1 These leaves of red and gold
 Will fade as days grow cold
 Unless I press them between some pages
 So that in wintertime
 Their colors still will warm me

Verse 2 This moment we discovered
 The snowflakes too will cover
 Unless I press you to my heart
 So that in wintertime
 Your colors still will warm me

Hot Bath

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Verse 1 Polish off your coffee cup
And scan the morning news
Don't think about it too hard
You'll end up too confused
Later on the freeway
Every headline leaves its mark
Don't you think you'd like to sink into
A hot bath in the dark?

Verse 2 Talk show man's all talked out
There's a wrap-up of the news
Thirty infomercials leave you
Still staring at the tube
Your mind is on tomorrow
You wonder where you'll ever park
Don't you think you'd like to sink into
A hot bath in the dark?
A hot bath in the dark
Sink into a hot bath
Hot bath in the dark

Still In Love

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Verse 1 Every time I try to understand
What makes a woman leave her man
I'm reminded once again that when
It comes to affairs of the heart
I'm lost just like a stranger in a foreign land
Yes, I am, baby

You came on just like some pusher of love
And I fell a slave to your chemistry
Now I guess you left me this cold, cold turkey
To help keep me company
I know you don't believe it, but it's true
I'm still in love with you
I'm still in love with you

Are you really sure we're through?
Think it over now
'Cause I'm still in love with you

Bridge Looking back on those days
It seems like paradise
Well maybe not, but it was pretty nice
And I'll never be convinced that it's too late
To break the ice
That took the place of our love light

Verse 2 I still have got your number in my book
And on the other side of town you've got a picture of me
Yet the reasons that keep us from getting together
Oh, it all remains a mystery
So I play this old piano when I'm blue
And I'm still in love with you
I'm still in love with you
Yes it's true
I'm still in love with you
And only you
I'm still in love with you

The Same Mistakes

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Verse 1 Finding someone so beautiful
That was my first mistake
Falling under her spell
That was the second rule I never meant to break
Error number three was making her believe in me
Four was holding on long after she walked out the door

Chorus Now I'm haunted every night by things I should have gotten right
And the changes I might have made back then
But if I had the chance today to love her any other way
I'd gladly make the same mistakes again
Yeah, I'd gladly make all the same mistakes again

Verse 2 How could I let her get to me?
I swore she never would
First she messed with my mind
And then she tore up my heart like no one ever could
Mistakenly I thought that I could be what I was not
A better man could have talked her out of walkin' out the door

(Chorus)

Coda Nobody's perfect
We all get it wrong sometimes
But looking back tonight
Those things I got wrong
Somehow feel so right

If I had the chance today to love her any other way
I'd gladly make the same mistakes again and again and again
I'd gladly make the same mistakes again and again and again
I'd gladly make all the same mistakes again

Houdini Heart

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Verse 1 My romantic history has been a sideshow at best
And to break the bonds of love has long been my misguided quest
My beautiful assistants through the years
Have all improved the show
And there are one or two that I've regretted letting go

Chorus But my Houdini heart breaks free
Sprung from love through escape artistry
And a cleverly concealed skeleton key
Yes, my Houdini heart throws off
The cruel straightjacket of love's embrace
Where a fine madness fills an empty space
And you seek solace in a gentle face
Yet my Houdini heart always escapes

Verse 2 They've tied me down and locked me up
I've been manacled and chained
Though they buried me alive
I swear, I never once complained
The ladies who have kindly graced this stage
Sometimes left a kiss
Of all the locks I've picked
That one's the hardest to resist

(Chorus)

Coda My Houdini heart...
Always escapes

Mister Crime

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Verse 1 Late at night in your bed
When you're not thinking of anything
His day has just begun
He's a man who has got no doubts about his identity
He knows what he wants
And he gets what he wants with a gun

Chorus 1 Please, Mister Crime, spare my life
Let me off just this one time
Here, Mister Crime, take my watch
And my very last dime
It's the least I could do to help you buy
A bottle of wine

(Go ahead. It's on me)
Now, here's a word of caution to you ladies:

Verse 2 While we all must admit that we do have our little problems
This guy spent ten years in the bin
And he feels it's his job that he scrutinize your innermost secrets, baby
He'd like to get to know you before he does you in

Chorus 2 Please, Mister Crime, spare my life
Let me off just this one time
Here, Mister Crime, take my watch
And my very last dime

Coda So you've got a lock on your door
That's what he uses his laser beam for
If he's not got you before
You know your name's on his clipboard

Mister Crime
Spare my life

Digitally Enhanced Romance

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Verse 1 If I could color correct our cloudy days
 That still remain unclear in retrospect
 I'd start with those insistent blues
 That somehow overwhelmed the other hues
 Selecting all, I'd hit 'delete'
 And so replace the bitter moments with the sweet
 Then when I think of us, the picture that I see will be
 A digitally enhanced romance

Verse 2 That sad vacation to LA
 I'd change the background to a sunlit beach in Monterey
 As for that stoney smile there on my face
 The insincere expression I'd erase
 I'd tweak the levels in your voice
 That time you said
 In me, you'd made the perfect choice
 We came so close. Perhaps our love was meant to be
 A digitally enhanced romance

Coda All this and more I would 'undo'
 If I could just ignore the fact we were untrue
 Then this near-perfect memory at last could be
 A digitally enhanced romance
 Our digitally enhanced romance

Magic Box

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- Verse 1* There at the bar sat the magic man
Who not very long ago had bowed with the most
Impressive grace at the end of his little show
His beautiful mustache had lost its curl
And drooped into his beer
His eyes that in the footlights glowed
Were bleary and unclear
And I had a drink with the wonderful magic man
- Verse 2* “That really was a remarkable trick
Please tell me how it’s done”
He didn’t seem to hear at first
He downed his beer and another one
Then in a voice that still retained the glamour of his show
He said to me with half a smile
“It’s not a trick, you know”
And I had a drink with the wonderful magic man
- Verse 3* “Those volunteers from the audience
You’ll never see again
There’s no trap door or phony floor from beginning to the end
“No trickery at all,” he said
“I wouldn’t put you on
They step inside that magic box and dammit, boy
They’re gone!”
And I had a drink with the wonderful, marvelous, magical
Magic Man
- Verse 4* Well, we sat and drank a little while
I thought about the show and all I’d heard
And then I said
“Well just where did they go?”
Then he said, “I just don’t know
But they’re glad enough to go
I have traveled far and near
And everywhere
They beg of me to make them
Disappear