

## *Amo, Amas, Amateur. -- Hannes -- Love, etc.*

Most of my writing for many years now has been for some “project” or another. I decided to go back and pick up my favorite songs that don’t have any particular home. The songs sort of arranged themselves into two piles.

**etc.** These songs are about anything except the romantic condition.

**1. Mending Together.** *For Padre Sharp and Earth Day.* [1995]

**2. Day by Day** *My attempt at a child’s-eye view of the world. I wrote this for Trevor who, at age 11, did the definitive version. I was delighted that Sue Harris recorded it for her album “Where Have I Been All My Life.”* [1992]

**3. Cool Breeze.** *For Brienne-- still the coolest breeze and still lucky that her name really is not Breeze.* [1983/2001]

**4. Hard Times** *It’s a little after lunch in the Garden when God breaks some bad news. I think this is my favorite story of all time: Eve opts for knowledge and choice while Adam rises to the occasion with, “She made me do it!”* [1977]

**5. Streamliner**<sup>1</sup> *Small town blues from Ragnar. This song suddenly morphed during recording as I was trying to learn DADGAD tuning. I don’t know why the two songs I wound up doing with single guitar accompaniment both feature Ragnar’s lyrics.* [1974]

**6. What A Life.** *For David Wo. I wrote this for ‘Grimm Memorial’ a summer children’s workshop at Theater Works about 1993. My first experience of writing on demand and on deadline.* [1993]

**Love.** Something like the story of a romance. You know, boy meets girl ...

**7. Waiting For Someone** [1997]

**8. When You’re Lucky** [1982]

**9. Wherever She Goes**<sup>2</sup> [1972]

**10. Five’ll Get You Ten** [1969]

**11. Look Back Again** [1972]

**12. Anna Marie** [1993]

**13. That Time**<sup>3</sup> [1982]

**14. Angelita** [1983]

**15. Get Out!**<sup>4</sup> [1974] ... and so it goes on.

All music and lyrics by Hannes Kvaran, except

<sup>1</sup> Lyrics by Ragnar Kvaran

<sup>2</sup> Music & lyrics with Ken Morris.

<sup>3</sup> Music & Lyrics by Ragnar Kvaran

<sup>4</sup> Lyrics with Ragnar Kvaran

Dates on songs are approximate/impressionistic.

The recording was done at home, mostly in the back bedroom (aka “the shrine”) on a ZOOM MRS 1044 eight-track hard disk recorder. I did all the singing and playing. Ain’t technology grand!

Thanks to the Raving Folk Dogs (Keith, Kyle and Sue) for making the majority (2/3 in fact) of these songs (#1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15) a part of the repertoire, no doubt saving at least a few of them from being forgotten altogether.

## Mending Together

The wind doesn't know and the smoke doesn't care  
Tainted rain will fall where circumstance demands  
The breeze will blow from here to there  
And pay no heed at all to mankind's commands

*One world that's all we get.  
One world so don't forget  
All together now, and not alone  
Mending together what we've broken on our own*

The final effect falls far from the cause  
We may fret and fuss and turn away from what  
we see  
Fools reject nature's laws  
The problem is us, and the solution so must be

Into the light, dismayed we find  
Damage is revealed and no one will confess  
Out of sight may be out of mind  
But a problem concealed is a problem  
nonetheless

## Day By Day

Silence does not come to me easily  
I did not learn to speak  
To spend my life in being quiet  
"Hands to yourself." That's the last thing I want to hear  
When I see something new  
I must touch it, feel it, taste it, try it.

*Day by day I learn more about the world around me  
Moment by moment always something to astound me  
When I ask you, "Why and what and who and when  
and how"  
I will learn by the answers that you give.  
'Till day by day I learn more about the world in which I  
live.*

Must I always be on my best behavior?  
Heaven knows that I  
Sometimes see the risks but I will take them  
So let me run, I will trip and sometimes I'll fall  
But even when I do  
These are my mistakes and I will make them.

Weren't you once a child,  
Weren't you quite like me, and  
Has it been so long  
Could it be somehow you don't remember?  
But as for me, well I know that I won't forget this  
Any more than I  
Could forget the spring in cold December.

## Cool Breeze

Nobody likes tornadoes, hurricanes and such  
When those big winds start to blow,  
Too much is just too much.  
Some like snow and some like rain,  
But everybody agrees  
Down here in the desert heat  
There's nothing like a cool breeze

*Cool breeze -- light and easy*  
*Cool breeze -- enough to let you know*  
*Cool breeze -- you're in the presence of a force*  
*of nature*  
*So you better keep it cool and slow*

And if leave your windows open  
Who know what the breeze blows in  
Might be poetry might be sky-blue ribbons,  
A new dog now and again  
And who would have thought  
That I would ever get caught  
And knocked down to my knees  
By a cool breeze  
By a cool breeze  
By a cool breeze

## Hard Times

"Oh, my children, Adam and Eve,  
I really wish you hadn't done that.  
Look at everything I gave you  
And now I've got take it back  
A curse on you for what you've seen  
I'll show you nightmares spun from dreams  
You don't know what you just threw away.  
The bad news starts today.  
With a thing called

*Hard times coming your way.*  
*Hard times coming your way*  
*Hard times, coming your way*

Eve, now doesn't the world look strange  
Full of things you never even dreamed of  
For your insight you'll be damned  
By a thing called love  
Love of life will cause you pain,  
Love of love keep you in chains  
Lady, here's what's in store for you,  
Heartbreak, pain and nothing more for you.  
Nothing more than

*Hard times coming your way.*  
*Hard times coming your way*  
*No rest in your life*  
*You're a mother and a wife with hard times*

Adam I don't want to do this  
But you put me in a bad position  
The last step brought you just too close,  
And I don't like competition.  
So for you it's sweat and greed,  
Scratching for things you'll think you need.  
Adam, son, things won't go well for you,  
Space was made today in Hell for you.  
For you and those

*Hard times coming your way.*  
*Hard times coming your way*  
*No peace in your life,*  
*You'll work and you'll die -- hard times.*

Oh, you two now don't you see, the serpent didn't lie.  
But he forgot to mention there's nothing for free  
And there's more to being a god than meets the eye.  
There's a thing called

*Hard times coming my way.*  
*Hard times coming my way*  
*You're not the only ones who have*  
*Hard times coming your way*

## **Streamliner**

(Lyrics by Ragnar Kvaran)

Last night in town there was no one else around  
Except for Lonesome Luke and a bottle of wine  
Crashed out on the ground  
I heard the moan of the lonesome Santa Fe  
Crying, "Streamliner, please take me away."

Henry's drug store locked up its doors  
There was no reason to stay any more  
Old Mr. Henry caught a plane out today  
Calling, "Jetliner, please take me away."

That Streamliner pulls in right on time  
This has got to be the loneliest town on the line  
I guess pretty soon  
They won't even make the call  
When that happens,  
The rust and the dust they get it all.

What's there to see tonight on TV  
Something else about somewhere else, sounds  
good to me  
Here I was born, and it kills me to say  
Streamliner, please take me away  
Jetliner, please take me away  
Somebody, please take me away

## **What A Life**

Well I left California in 1968  
A sailor sailing west through the Golden Gate  
A man in my prime,  
I was headed for the time of my life  
There was just one part that just about broke my heart  
Leaving behind a baby and a wife

*Oh what a life I've been living  
Palm trees, sea breezes, ocean foam  
Oh what a life I left when I started to roam  
And oh what a life I plan to lead  
Now that I'm home*

It was three days out of port when the first storm hit  
The sky turned dark and the ocean threw a fit  
There down below  
I was rocked by the blow of every wave.  
And I don't understand but I woke up on the sand  
Why was I the one fate chose to save?

It was twenty five years under clear Pacific skies  
Until one day six guys with suites and ties  
Showed up at my beach,  
One half a million each they said they'd pay  
Now my little port, is a new Club Med resort  
And I'm back here, living in the USA

## Waiting For Someone

*Waiting for someone to come my way  
Keeping my eyes open every day  
I only hope I'll know her when she comes  
I don't want to feel I'm wasting my life  
Waiting for someone*

In the back of my mind  
I can see her face  
Inside my head  
The sound of her voice plays  
And it starts quietly, and then it gets stronger  
It says I can, "Hold on, hold on, just a little bit longer."

Sometimes I feel  
I've been waiting too long  
Maybe she  
Has already come and gone  
Then I hear that voice and I get a little stronger  
I think I can hold on, hold on  
A little bit longer

How long will I wait for her to come  
Never knowing if she will  
I go to sleep at night worried and wondering  
When I wake up  
I find that I am still ...

## When You're Lucky

Little Linda said to Betty Lou,  
"I'll set you up with Roger if you want me to."  
And Betty said, "Yeah" and then she came home  
crying  
Betty sighed, "That boy was a drag;  
All he really wanted was to wrestle and grab.  
These men are all the same, I wonder why we keep on  
trying."  
And Linda said, "Listen ...

*"Love is a gamble ain't it understood  
You don't always get the hand you hoped you would  
But when you're lucky, hey now, ain't it good  
Tell me when you're lucky ain't it good?"*

Roger, he was talking to his roommate Ron  
"That Betty," he said, "what a teasing one.  
She shows up to meet me in clothes so tight they must  
pinch  
I thought that she was ready, Heaven knows that I was  
Then she starts in to tell me what a good girl does  
My best lines and my best manners  
She wouldn't give an inch, no."  
And Ron said, "Remember ...

Roger and Linda saw each other again.  
They were introduced by some mutual friends  
And Ron and Betty, they've been doing just fine  
It's been some time.  
There's a message to my story there's a point to my  
song  
Keep on looking even when it looks wrong  
Smokey said it best he said,  
"Don't get sold on the very first one."  
Cause they all know now...

## Wherever She Goes

(Music and lyrics with Ken Morris)

Do you know a woman like that  
Have you seen the kind  
She's the one who's always running away  
When you look into her eyes,  
Nothing there but sad surprise  
What did she tell you when you asked her to stay  
She said, "Buddy no way"

*Wherever she goes she knows.  
Wherever she goes she knows  
Wherever she goes she finds,  
She's done nothing but waste her time  
Anything it takes to keep her by herself  
Keep her by herself  
Keep her from herself.*

Do you know a woman like that?  
Have you seen the kind?  
Someone to bend you, burn you  
Crack you like fire and ice.  
No matter how you try to win her  
You take her to a show and out to dinner  
Come the end of the evening  
She'll say that's very nice  
And kiss you good night

*She can't help it she just keeps on moving,  
She's gone too far on late night losing*

How many times have you walked away?  
How many times have you returned?  
Can your heart stand the damage she's done?  
Now you're back here one more time  
One more fool, one more line  
Trying to convince her  
That you really are the only one  
Not some lonely heart on the run.

## Five'll Get You Ten

Billy, look at that woman, walking out on me  
But she'll be back before it's dark  
Just you wait and see  
This is not the first time so I don't worry about it  
anymore  
Five'll get you ten, she'll be back again

Billy, break out the whiskey. Let's have another laugh  
She'll be here to join us  
Before we cut that bottle in half  
What do you know now, the sun's gone down;  
She never stayed away this long before  
Five'll get you eight she's just a little bit late

Yes, you may be right that I was wrong  
You told me it would come to this all along  
But we can do a little test  
We can find out who knows the best.  
My money says she's coming back,  
If you'd care to bet that she won't  
You think maybe she won't?

Billy, the sun is rising; we've been talking all night  
And she isn't home yet. It looks like you were right  
My hopes are now as empty as the bottle lying on the  
floor  
Five'll get you none, looks like she's gone.  
Looks like she's gone

*Now, Billy, I don't know much  
But this I do understand  
You've got to play the cards you're dealt  
And you don't win with a losing hand  
And there comes a time  
When you walk away and you cash it in  
And you say, "All right I lose.  
And you win."*

## Look Back Again

It's been so long, since you've been gone  
This isn't quite what I had in mind  
Time won't rest easy when it's on my hands  
It's been so wrong, since you've been gone  
This isn't quite what I thought I'd find  
Time won't rest easy when it's on my hands

*You can ask any question you want,  
If you don't care what answer you get  
You can do anything you want  
If you ain't done it yet.  
You can turn your back on me,  
But don't expect to see me smiling,  
When you look back again.  
When you look back again*

Just yesterday I heard you say  
Love and life must go on as they are  
Love is better left alone than on my hands  
And anyway, I heard you say,  
"This was never planned to go so far,  
Love is better left alone, so let it go, let it go."

No matter how I try, to keep you from my mind  
Still this burns like fire in my life  
Time and time again, I see your face and then  
All my best intentions they just fly, fly away

## Anna Marie

*Anna Marie how could you do this to me  
When I need you the most you're gone.  
Anna Marie was I really that bad?  
When I thought you cared just a little for me  
Guess I was wrong*

I guess you're right; I kept you by my side  
By keeping you under my thumb  
I guess you're right, I never let you be  
Half of what you could have become  
Can't we work this out somehow?  
I'll treat you better from now on  
Than I have till now

It's no secret that my life's a wreck  
Anna Marie I sure could use a friend  
Isn't there some way you and I  
Maybe start all over again.  
Have you thought this through once or twice?  
You can have your freedom  
But freedom comes with a price.

I was never one for smooth romantic talk  
And I don't have to tell you sometimes I lose control  
And I can never find the words that a man's supposed  
to use  
To apologize  
But I'm trying to change  
Yes I'm trying to change  
And I would ask you to stand by me and beg you to  
wait  
If I didn't know already, it's too late...

## **That Time**

(Music & lyrics by Ragnar Kvaran)

I was the faith of her younger years,  
She was the only voice I could hear  
It all comes to me now  
It never made much sense to me  
To be the slave of a memory  
But it goes that way somehow

*Could we get it right one time?  
Are we helpless; are we blind?  
Could we get it right one time?  
Flying through the night  
Did I almost get it right that time? That time*

Well, we loved both hot and cool,  
I was an on again off again fool  
But the letters sure felt right  
So I ran with the rock and roll  
Any way it would go  
But I missed you most that night

*Did you see that line?  
We had it close that time.*

From the moon on a northern lake  
To the Hamilton heartbreak  
No one's in control  
So I geared up to go it alone,  
She was taking it all back home  
Where did the good times roll?

## **Angelita**

Fancy meeting you here  
Well, I don't come in often  
I was just sitting down sipping a beer  
Then suddenly I saw you walk in  
From the corner of my eye.  
I thought I'd drop over and say, "Hi."

*Hey Angelita, it's good to meet you  
Last time I saw you was I don't know when  
It doesn't seem half as long as it's been  
Hey Angelita, it's good to see you again.*

I've wondered how you felt  
About the thought of us meeting  
But any anxious thoughts are dispelled  
Right now by the way that you're smiling  
Are you happy to see me at last?  
Well I won't even ask.

Can we fix what once fell apart?  
This looks like a pretty good start.

## **Get Out!**

(Lyrics with Ragnar Kvaran)

Making tracks from the motor city  
Running in the dead of night  
We were doing fine till her daddy came home  
And then he gave us an awful fright  
He caught me in the hall pushed me up against the wall  
And I heard him laughing as he watched me fall

*"Get out: get as far as you can  
Get out: I give you one last chance  
Want you to know I'm a sporting man  
But I would really rather knock you down where you  
stand."  
He told me, "Get out,"  
And Lord, you should have seen how I ran.*

Hitch hiking down in Ohio  
Got a ride in a pick up truck  
When we started talking about the president  
Well I just knew I was out of luck  
He did a fast down shift, threw me out into a snow drift  
He said, "We don't need none of your commie  
politics."

I turned around and headed back to Detroit  
To see my lady fair once more  
When I knocked in the middle of the night  
A strange man answered the door  
He was six foot three, looking down at me  
He said, "Brother ain't you got another place you ought  
to be?"