

Lyrics to the songs
From the George Mann CD
“Into the Fire”

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www.georgemannmusic.com

I Remember Winter

I remember the ice and snow
And the way that it used to be
And I know that I'm not alone
There are others out there like me

Now the sun shines bright but the skies are dry nearly all the time
Dry as far as the eye can see
But I know, but I know this ain't no winter carnival
From sea to rising sea

Now I'm just another old man
Walking through the streets all day
But I remember winter as a season of hope and a season of change

Someone ripped up the ozone hole
Melted down all the polar caps
And I know, and I know that we are such dumb animals
We caused all of that

Now I'm just another old man
Walking through the streets all day
But I remember winter as a season of hope and a season of change

Yeah, I'm just another old man
Walking through the streets all day
But I remember winter as a season of hope and a season of change

I remember the ice and snow
And the way that it used to be
And I know that I'm not alone
There are others out there like me

Yeah, I know that I'm not alone
There are others out there like me

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The Banks Are Made of Marble

(By Les Rice; new verse by George Mann)

I've traveled 'round this country from shore to shining shore
It really made me wonder all the things I heard and saw
I saw the poor dirt farmer plowing sod and loam
And I heard the auction hammer come a-knocking down his home

But the banks are made of marble
With a guard at every door
And the vaults are stuffed with silver
That the farmers sweated for

I saw the seaman standing idly by the shore
I heard the bosses saying, "Got no work for you no more"

But the banks are made of marble
With a guard at every door
And the vaults are stuffed with silver
That the seaman sweated for

I saw the weary miner scrubbing coal dust from his back
I heard his children crying "Got no coal to heat our shack"

But the banks are made of marble
With a guard at every door
And the vaults are stuffed with silver
That the miners sweated for

And I saw the soldiers marching to another foolish war
Thousands dead and billions wasted, and they keep on wasting more
But I've seen my people working throughout this mighty land
And I prayed we'd get together and together make a stand

Then we'll own those banks of marble
And we'll open every door
And we'll share those vaults of silver
That we all have sweated for!

Yeah the banks are made of marble,
With a guard at every door,
And the vaults are stuffed with silver
That we all have sweated for!

I'm Chipping Away at this War

Time just about run out on me a dozen times that I could see
But I'm still standing, yeah, I'm sitting here
I shut my mouth, I did my time, I put my body on the line
Another pawn in this war of fear

I'm chipping away, chipping away, I'm chipping away, chipping away
I'm chipping away at this wall in front of me
I'm chipping away, chipping away, I'm chipping away, chipping away,
I'm chipping away at this wall

My feet are tired, my hands don't work
My mind's a mess, my body hurts
But I'm still standing, now I'm standing here
There's so much to be sorry for, I've seen enough for a hundred wars
But I've seen nothing to justify my being there

I'm chipping away, chipping away, I'm chipping away, chipping away
I'm chipping away at this war inside of me
I'm chipping away, chipping away, I'm chipping away, chipping away,
I'm chipping away at this war

I'm a soldier, I'm a killer
And I'll carry that with me all the way home

Yeah, time just about run out on me but time won't erase memories
Of all the faces in my dreams
And every time that I get scared I curse the men who sent me there
Who never saw the things I've seen

I'm chipping away, chipping away, I'm chipping away, chipping away
I'm chipping away at this war inside of me
I'm chipping away, chipping away, I'm chipping away, chipping away,
I'm chipping away at this war...

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(Maui, HI 2/07)

HE WILL SHINE

He will shine someday
He'll survive and be okay
All your pain, all your tears
Will be repaid over the years

He's alive, now he's a man
And he will do the best he can
He will shine someday
He'll survive and be okay

You have loved and sacrificed
Love demands the highest price
All your tears, all your pain
Will bring you joy once again

He's alive, now he's a man
And he will do the best he can
He will shine someday
He'll survive and be okay

He's alive, now he's a man
And he will do the best he can
He will shine someday
He'll survive and be okay

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(Ukiah, CA 1/14)

This Government of Shame

Oldtimer, I don't know if you will live
To see the end of Bush's reign
But though you know you might not be on board
That ship is gonna sail someday
And I stand in awe of you
And know you'll always point the way

I'm looking for a new direction
I'm hungry for a change
I'm so sick of the world defending
This government of shame

They tell their lies and more people die
But you had their number long ago
And now we're catching up to you
Wheels are turning but they're turning slow

I'm looking for a new direction
I'm hungry for a change
Finally the whole world's rejecting
This government of shame
This government of shame

Oldtimer, I sure hope you're gonna live
To see the end of Bush's reign
Have faith, have love, have patience
It's getting closer every day
And I stand in awe of you
You always point the better way

I'm looking for a new direction
I'm hungry for a change
Finally the whole world's rejecting
This government of shame
This government of shame

I'm looking for a new direction
I'm hungry for a change
Finally the whole world's rejecting
This government of shame....

© 2007 George Mann (9/26)
(For Faith, Utah and Julius)

FORT WORTH BLUES

(by Steve Earle)

In Fort Worth all the neon's burning bright
Pretty lights red and blue
But they'd shut down all the honky-tonks tonight
Say a prayer or two if they only knew

You used to say the highway was your home
But we both know that ain't true
It's just the only place a man can go
When he don't know where he's travelling to

But Colorado's always clean and healing
And Tennessee in Spring is green and cool
It never really was your kind of town
But you went around with the Fort Worth Blues

Somewhere up above the great divide
Where the sky is wide and the clouds are few
A man can see his way clear to the light
Just hold on tight that's all you gotta do

They say Texas weather's always changing
And one thing change'll bring is something new
And Houston really ain't that bad a town
So you hang around with the Fort Worth Blues

There's a full moon over Galway Bay tonight
Silver light over green and blue
And every place I travel through I find
Some kinda sign that you've been through

But Amsterdam was always good for grieving
And London never fails to leave me blue
But Paris never was my kind of town
So I walked around with the Fort Worth Blues

Lonely Old Room

Take a look as she goes by
But try not to stare and try not to cry
Skin and bones are all that she will carry home
A tired shuffle back to a life alone

In a lonely old room at the end of the hall
She's a faded old flower who wanted it all
What was it my sister that messed with your plan?
Was it booze, blow or heroin
Or sex with a man?

She was nice, but way too kind
To count the number of times a man would lie
She saw love in each weed she pulled from the dirt
But all he was looking for was under her skirt

In a lonely old room at the end of the hall
Lives the ghost of a beautiful woman who wanted it all
What was it my sister that messed with your plan?
Was it booze, blow or heroin
Or sex with a man?

So take a walk, nice and slow
You need push yourself just as far as you have to go
I know that your life is almost through
But all the stars above, they shine on you

In a lonely old room at the end of the hall
Lives the ghost of a beautiful woman who wanted it all
What was it my sister that messed with your plan?
Was it booze, blow or heroin
Or sex with a man?

What was it my sister that messed with your plan?
Was it booze, blow or heroin
Or sex with a man?

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If You Ain't Got Old Friends, **You Ain't Got Much**

I'm so glad your number's burned into my memory
And you still answer most times when I call
As time goes by I realize that friends and family
Have got to be the greatest gift of all

We might not have millions and we'll never make TV
But man, it's always good to hear your voice

You might think you're a big star, you might travel the world
You might make lots of money, you might get lots of girls
It's the power of privilege, but it's painted in rust
'Cause if you ain't got old friends, you ain't got much

Now Donald Trump and Paris Hilton certainly are rich
But who would take them in if they were poor?
The bully and the bubblehead, man, what a perfect pitch
Maybe someday he'll make her number four

They might have their millions and they're always on TV
But who can stand to see them anymore?

You might think you're a big star, you might travel the world
You might make lots of money, you might get lots of girls
It's the power of privilege, but it's painted in rust
'Cause if you ain't got old friends, you ain't got much

You might think you're a big star, you might travel the world
You might make lots of money, you might get lots of girls
It's the power of privilege, but it's painted in rust
'Cause if you ain't got old friends, you ain't got much
'Cause if you ain't got old friends, you ain't got much

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Rest, Papa Rest

Rest, Papa rest, the work is finally done
The whistle and the wind have blown, the moon has chased the sun
The babes are fed, the rent is paid, our union contract's won
So rest tonight, Papa rest

For twenty years you labored in Virginia City's mines
For twenty years you rarely saw the afternoon sunshine
The gold dust bled into your lungs, you said better yours than mine
So rest tonight, Papa rest

God bless the miner's union for the work that they have done
But it's a constant battle to protect what we have won
For the bosses start to thinking they have got us on the run
When we rest, Papa, when we rest

Your fingernails are clean, the boots are off your feet
Coyotes sing a lonely song as you enjoy your sleep
They might have beat your body but your soul they can't defeat
So rest tonight, Papa rest

God bless the miner's union for the work that they have done
But it's a constant battle to protect what we have won
For the bosses start to thinking they have got us on the run
When we rest, Papa, when we rest

So lay down tonight, you needn't have a care
The union that you fought to build is standing tall down there
You saw gold and silver when we didn't have a prayer
So rest tonight, Papa rest

I'll come to you with gratitude for all the years you slaved
I'll come to you with thanks for all the dollars that you saved
And I'll come to you each Sunday to put flowers on your grave
So rest tonight, Papa rest
Rest tonight, Papa rest
Rest tonight, Papa rest

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(Ukiah, CA 4/14)

You Stood in the Fire

You looked like Jesus without the beard
And I thought wouldn't that be so weird
On the rain-swept streets of New York City you stood there
Another lost soul out in the crowd
Of thousands shouting out loud
Trying to stop another march to war and you're getting nowhere

But you stood in the fire and you stood in the rain
You called him a liar— and you weren't afraid

No you are not a material girl
You only want to change the world
But the world seems such a cruel, cruel place at the moment
It's a world of pain, it's a world of hate
There are lots of choices but none of them great
And the balance breaks a bit more toward disappointment

But you stood in the fire and you stood in the rain
You called him a liar— and you weren't afraid

You stood and held your ground
The fire's burning down
But the flames are all around you

I want to live in a world that's free
I want to live in a world at peace
But time's running out and I don't see how we can get there
But when they knock you down my precious friend
You'll get back up and rise again
And you'll fight to win 'til you right the sins of your leaders

'Cause you stood in the fire and you stood in the rain
You called him a liar— and you weren't afraid

You stood and held your ground
The fire's burning down
But the flames are all around you

I know this road is long
You feel you can't go on
But the flames are all around you....

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Pray for Me

I was just 14 when your leaders gave the orders
Your missiles flew, your bombs were dropped, my parents lost two daughters
Now I'm 17, the only one alive
My mother's heart was broken, my father is a martyr who chose suicide

So pray for me as if I were your son
As if I were your daughter, as if I were your only one
Pray for me when the bombs fall from the sky
And your soldiers start their shooting, no
I don't wanna die

Baghdad at night was the prettiest place I'd ever seen
Sure the tyrant ruled over it, but we had eyes and we all could read
Now it lies in ruins, and rubble fills the streets
They rob us in the market and at night there's other gangs of thieves

So pray for me as if I were your son
As if I were your daughter, as if I were your only one
Pray for me when the bombs fall from the sky
And your soldiers start their shooting, no
I don't wanna die

Six thousand miles away, you're warm and safe at home tonight
Your TV screens and magazines don't shed much if any light
With every bomb that falls it gets easier to decide
If I'm with you or against you
Will I one day be a martyr who chose suicide?

So pray for me as if I were your son
As if I were your daughter, as if I were your only one
Pray for me when the bombs fall from the sky
And your soldiers start their shooting, no
I don't wanna die

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There's a Light at the End of the Tunnel

**There's a light at the end of the tunnel
And it shines all over the land
And it's fed by the work of the people
Who'd give their lives to lend a hand**

**All these burdens we have carried
All these losses we have borne
Leave us stronger for the day when we take over
And stronger as we move ourselves along**

**There's a light at the end of the tunnel
And it shines all over the land
And it's fed by the work of the people
Who'd give their lives to take a stand**

**I don't know where I'm going now
And I don't know where we're bound
But I know deep in my heart we'll keep on fighting
'Til we stop this war and turn this world around**

**There's a light at the end of the tunnel
And it shines all over the land
And it's fed by the work of the people
Who'd give their lives to lend a hand**

(Repeat and fade)

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