



THANK YOU

I didn't think I would be able to make another album; a messy and exhausting divorce journey that led to an arduous graduate school adventure had left me with little money, time, or energy for my artistic projects. When Vanessa met me for tea one cold winter day and proposed she record and produce an album for me, I was stunned. There are no words for what an extraordinary gift this recording has been. Vanessa, I am deeply touched by your generosity and the meticulous and delicate handling of these precious musical ideas. You have given voice to these musical hauntings, calling each exile home to finally integrate, transform, and belong. Karina, Melaine, Naia, and Lucian, you have sung my songs back to me over and over; a living reminder of resilience, hope, and love. Dave, your patience with this process, pride in my work, thoughtful suggestions, and enthusiastic sharing of my accomplishments and progress have held me safe while pushing me ever onward even when it has been challenging.

I have been picked up many times over the last 8 years by my friends, my family, and my community. From side-of-the-road teary calls to a new fridge showing up when I was too poor to buy one, I am immensely grateful for all of you who have held me in my times of need: Adrea, Erin, Gavin & Dawn, Isabel & Jason, Kathleen, Megan & Loni, Mom & Dad, Nana, Peter & Tina, Stephanie, Tamara & Andre.

GHOSTLINES

These ghostlines leading nowhere
To the static in my head
Ghostlines, a fading heat sign
To a heart bled away
Oh I tried to become someone
Who didn't need to cry
Still, I'm drowning in these unseen tears
Shed by ghosts beneath my eyes

I'm living in this ghost town
Of stories long since past
Littered in this ghost town
By an end that moved on
Oh I tried to become your possession
Carried past goodbye
Still, I'm haunted by the unsaid words
Sung extinct before their time
All this phantom time
Shadows of desire
Languishing lines that light leaves behind
Am I your phantom limb left behind?

Remembrance is a specter
Abundance fossilized
A vigil my desert body keeps
In a wake held for your sea
Oh I tried to release my ravaged needs
From the bondage of desire
Still, I'm starving for your shaded kiss

Left parched upon my lips
All this phantom time
Shadows of desire
Languishing lines that light leaves behind
Oh you're my phantom limb left behind
Left behind
All my love left treading numb
Left to search my invisible face in your mirror
Oh, I am here
I'm still here
I'm still here

Call me from these shrouded years
Name the ghost you've denied
The ghost you've denied
The ghost I've become
All this phantom time
Shadows of desire
Languishing lines that light leaves behind
A phantom limb left behind

These ghostlines leading nowhere...

PARIS

In you my time unravels
In you I'm found
Or maybe I'm remembered
In the dance that winds the stillness
Your glance upon this moment
Was weighted by the years
Drown in this desperate silence
By a world that tried to hold you
I see you
Beyond the mask you must wear
Beauty's curse
You shine like those suns
That crest the break of time
Formless waves in the dark

You offered me the pieces
Discarded on the way
Cut from my branches bleeding
In a garden of tangled roses
You spill beyond the edges
Of what is safe to know
I am the wind that follows madly
Deeply your freedom
I see you
Beyond the past you must wear
Beauty's curse
You shine like the suns
That crest the break of time
Formless waves of light

Let the notes between us sing
Oh, let us be who we'd be
Who we'd be without time

Time is a golden apple
A choice without choice
There is no place beyond you
You're the song and you're the singer
I see you
You're the ripples of light
That laugh upon my sea

SECRETS

All of these treacherous beats of my heart
Filling those caverns that long to forget
I cradle your trembling words
So wild within my chest
All of these secrets take refuge in my heart
Shadows seeping through my futile walls
Still living is this tangled shame
Still healing oh my heart is not a weapon
It's not
No, it's not a weapon

Left in those tide pools displaced by time
Orphans of longing, the ghosts of the mind
Tears transmute this harried pain
Like blood within your wine
All of these secrets are tearing you apart
Murmurs slipping from your harrowed heart
Still needing absolution
Still crying oh your heart is not a weapon
It's not
No, it's not a weapon

Rise on these smoke-filled wings this phoenix you hide
Freed from its bony cage, the heart on its pyre
Fly far from these ashy veins
The bitter past to die
All of these secrets, the refugees of time
Heartquakes searching for a reason why
Still longing to protect you
Still loving oh, the heart is not a weapon
It's not
No, it's not a weapon

IMMORTAL

What life is life immortal?
When years are glancing thoughts
And love is naught but ashes
On graves the past has lost
What terrible gods have we become?
Gone from the mirror
Reflection nothing but shadows of
The tumbling wind
Our crumpling tears
The dust of my heart

Lonely like a virus
Caught in blood I just can't sate
Falling, always falling
From that one moment of grace
Oh let me go
Oh let me fall
Oh let me become
The tumbling wind
Your crumpled tears
The dust of your heart

To live beyond the measure
Is worlds I cannot know
No one should live to see
Their ideals turned to stone
Please let return passion to time
Rosy-lipped day, heady desire
If just one moment until
The tumbling wind
Such crumpling tears
Make dust of my heart

The tumbling wind
My crumpled tears
The dust of my heart

CLAY

Clay hands, clay hearts
Fragile in beauty
Clay dreams falling
Falling shards to ground
Oh father, father I tried my best
To make real the life of this flesh
I'm molded and sculpted by you
For this spark, I die
Die over and over again

Clay thoughts, clay fears
Shaped to be brittle
Clay jar filling
Filling with hope to be more
Oh father, father I tried to be
All that you made me to be
I tumble, descending from you
For this spark, I die
Die over and over again

Oh father, father I'm more than just
Rolled dust, tears of a golem
For knowledge, I slip down
Hollowed casts and break
Clay shame bleeding (Clay shame, clay need)
Clay need heeding (Graceless and dirty)
Clay will numbing (Clay will crumbling)
Clay ties crumbling (Crumbling, dust to mouth)
Oh life of fire, forgive of me (Oh father, father I've bled all
my nails)
This sentient heart (Clawed earth and rusted blood)
Alluvial fire (Scoured by this fire, I'm cracked)
Cracking all that I thought I could be
Know me, father
Love me, father
Break down these chains (Let go of these chains)
That I might die (That die, die over and over again)
Die over and over again (Clay hands, clay heart)
(Fragile in beauty)

FROZEN

Time stood still in our breaking
Shards of shattered will
In our breaking, all was still
So still
In the silence of complacent years
Lays the carnage of winter's tears
In the silence of these cares turned to fears

I sleep with your heart still singing
The blood of my dreams
I can't breathe

Because I'm frozen without you
I whisper to the wind my longing
Find me. Free me. Melt me. Need me.
Hold me. Thrill me.
Breathe, fill me.
Touch me. Heal me.
Sing, move me.
Love me. Call me. Come back to me.

I'm unfilled in my waiting
Empty of you still
I am waiting, heart unfilled
Oh until
In the wasteland of these withered words
Parched and lonely, still unheard
In this wasteland I'm inert
With empty hurt

I wish to ignite rebirthing
The world keeps on turning
Just not me

Because I'm frozen without you
I whisper to the wind my longing
Find me. Free me. Melt me. Need me.
Hold me. Thrill me.
Breathe, fill me.
Touch me. Heal me.
Sing, move me.
Love me. Call me. Come back to me.
Restart my heart
Promise me summer again
Breathe our story into these frozen
Words of mine

Find me. Free me. Melt me. Need me.
Hold me. Thrill me.
Breathe, fill me.
Touch me. Heal me.
Sing, move me.

Bend me. Break me. Map me. Make me.
How I want to be warmed by you
I was yours from the start

Touch me. Heal me.
Sing, move me.
Love me. Call me.
Come back to me.
Come back to me.
Frozen without.

SELKIE

Selkie man with eyes like the sea
Peel your skin for tenuity
Seven tears for seven years
I've cried to bring you to me

Hear the song of the Dan-nan-ron
Heed the call of the deep
Let the pull of the lilting tides
Sing the dark 'o' the sea

Selkie heart that crests with the tides
Crashing surf of your landless cries
I've seven years to tame your tears
To claim your wild-sung moonshine

You have run with the shadow tines
You have swum the seas of many eyes
You have turned salt cheek to the rage of time
And come to wrack beside

Selkie dreams are a dulcet sleep
To you my earthly cares I'll cede
Seven years of spellbound tears
Such enchantments you shall make

Call me home to your Sulle Skerry
Touch my pain with your fears
Change the face of these lonesome years
Recall that sea back to me

Sing the song of seals and sigh
The seafoam sounds of your ancient rhyme
For Selkie tears have brought me here
But love is the skin that binds

HELEN

They called me the torch
And in the minds of men
My beauty was a curse
A wager to be won

So how do the towers of Ilium
Burn so bright?
Burn so bright
A thousand reasons to let you go
Sail on ravenous seas
I'd rather die with a living heart
Than live without
Live without
You seeing me

They deemed me dangerous
Needing to be caged
Held hostage to his greed
But a wild Nemean beast cannot be tamed
I would not be worn
A pelt upon his pride
If only he had seen beyond my face to me

Oh how do the towers of Ilium
Burn so bright?
Burn so bright
A thousand reasons to let you go
Sail on ravenous seas
I'd rather die with a living heart

Than live without
Live without
You seeing me

What choice is there in choice?
When freedom is the game
A rose upon your lips
A brand upon my name
To call the echoing pain
From all-consuming time
What of me remains but the choice made that day

To sail to the towers of Ilium
To burn so bright
Burn so bright
A thousand nights in your ruined arms
I sailed on ravenous seas
A heart escaped from its gilded cage
Won't live without
Live without ever being seen

They called me the torch
And in your eyes alone
The truth of that day
My heart took its choice

AWAY

In the land of the dying sun
The girl, she stands
On the plains of her bloodless heart
She has come undone, the tattered sum
Of this stardust love

Let away be thy name
Cross the sea carried
By the lonesome waves
Of disparity
Away, you are so far away

The words have all been sung
Every sad note wrung
From her storm-cast eyes
She pulls the ship-wrecked tides
With her siren sighs
Of what's left behind

Let away be thy name
Cross the sea carried
By the lonesome waves
Of disparity
Away, you are so far away

Oh so far away
On these yesterdays
She casts her washed up spells
To lay so far away

Let away be thy name
Cross the sea carried
By the lonesome waves
Of disparity
Away, you are so far away
Away, you are so far away

She calls the guarded deep
For the air can't hear
The weight of the words she keeps
She holds the leying lines
Of dissolving time
'til they find again
'til they find again

GOODBYE LULLABY

The past is empty of promising to be more
All our battered wanting
Won't open these sealed doors

The grief was silent
It wasn't this old space
I was the one outgrown
Pushing wings beyond
Beyond this place

Goodbye lullaby
All these years are falling
Falling
Gone and left behind
My lucid becoming
Goodbye lullaby

The words are spilled, seeping forgone
Calling their bones is just a broken song

Today's my chalice
The grail of what can be
So goodbye lullaby
All these years are falling
Falling
So gone, so left behind
Goodbye lullaby

Alchemy's tears are yesterday
Flown away
Cracking within the life held for me
Let this pastiche gone
Open me to more
Oh childhood's over (I am born)
Goodbye lullaby
All these years are falling
Falling
So gone and left behind
My lucid becoming
Goodbye lullaby



Lara

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