



Robin O'Brien *The Empty Bowl*

1. Deep Blue

Thank you for today
Sleep pulls me back the other way
Sleeping. . . Dreaming. . .
Dreaming wants to be your lover
Dreaming of you, Deep Blue

I give it all under the wire
Against the wall that catches fire
Floating. . . Reaching. . .
Unwinding and reaching over
Dreaming of day. Floating away

I might fall but you will catch me all
You cup me collect and the truth is inside it
I call your spirit from the wine
Day comes up brighter, and fine, and full.

2. Gold

Gold stands in a column this winter
by my right shoulder.
You are the young one beside me, I am older.
If time can break the spell
it's something I've never known.
We'll call on the Wise One
The Wise One will carry the gold.

I hear the column calling from heaven to earth.
But I must refuse her to obey my birth.
This is the light that explores the empty bowl.
My fear is it will find me all alone in the world.

I have a gift for the giver it weighs like a stone.
It sings forever and looks through the bone.
I will catch you there as we fall into her hole.
We'll call on the Wise One.
The Wise One will carry the gold.

3. The Lavender Sky

I only know how I feel
This is how I feel
I know only what I'm feeling.
Essences of Real: saffron and lemon peel.

Eye of the hurricane rain and thunder
I used to love you, now I'm afraid
That I still love you as I stand under
The lavender sky.

I dream you're walking through time
You're just outside my door
The breeze electric running through my hair
I can't hear or see you I can feel you there.

I call your name out, my cry
at the edges of itself
curls the explode inside out
I stand in silence but
this waiting is loud clear
Purple sky. No cloud.

4. Anime

Grief is a glove
These leather fingers
never touch my love
Autumn rain falls on my window
Calling my name, "Anime"

Faith makes a wall that retraces a mountain
Long passed her standing alone
I dream that there's a wall
I'm climbing in the rain
it falls away. I fall in
I fall in love without you baby

I'll tell you a truth:
Love is a story
writ without proof
Far and away as the world's ending
Calling my name, "Anime"

Stories arise to realize a mountain
Words that my breath hold deep
I breath out and I breathe in
There's a wall I'm climbing
In the rain it falls away I fall in
I fall in love without you baby.

5. Water Street

Gloria and me leave the Café
I feel we might run into you
I sense some magic in the day, and I'm hoping.

The sky is clear and high as I have ever seen
I tip my hat to the masts in the harbor
Above the clouds my heart flies open.

The bells of Saint Vincent
ring twelve in the distance
And I can see you, gradually . . .

It's always, always Water Street
Petaluma, and me.
California, really.

I can see you.

6. Stranger

I wait for you because I love you
I can see the trees down from the mountain
and breathing's easier for me
I have rested here so long.

Stranger, know this.
Stranger, no.
Stranger, take this.
Stranger, yes.

I will stand. Here's my hand if you can't reach
Standing long means nothing
when our hands finally meet.
And I wait for you.

So many years. So many words
Words without meaning.
Now I say: "No one crosses this mountain pass
without your hand"

7. The Weave

The weave that holds me in time
is wearing thin.
The leaves under the water
asking me to begin.
To hold this, one more time.
To hold this, one more time.
To hold this.

8. There's Somebody **Else** in My Soul

These sounds (these hands)
Am I not alone?
Is there someone in the house?
Is anybody home?
There's somebody else in my soul.

9. Kathy

Hush little baby, take my hand.
These are the fingers that calm the wind.
Hush baby, I'll guarantee
There's not a charmer that isn't under me.

Kathy, the other heart of me
Does she love enough
to make the blind one see?
All eternity I was on my head,
you simply said
I made her understand.

When you fly across the ocean
She will cry instead of me
When you fly home to England
Kathy will be so lonely

Wake up, oh no don't go
She says you can't give up
but I don't know
When the babies cry on my shoulder
the ladies sigh and I get old.

10. Suffering

I get in a mindless fight night after night
Downtown in the basement the madman cries He hollers like a child
who hasn't seen the light in days
And all the comfort he dreams of
dreams of your face
I'm suffering.

Call a doctor. I have to call him
Can he save me? Can he understand me?
It's only my head at night
Waving out from my dream
And everything has fallen into the stream
And I am underfed.
I am greedy
I'm suffering.

My my my.
Castles in the sky
Cross my heart and I hope to die.

11. Sad Songs

So I walk away. You wouldn't look at me
I'm pretending conversation with my own
somebody on the telephone
But there's no one to call, and I drive home.

No more sad songs for nobody

I'm alright, it doesn't feel that way
Could you give me the time of day?
I never cried so hard and true in my life
for someone I never knew
You never wanted me to.
This one's for you.

12. Foolsgold

Foolsgold, reflections in his hair
We stop for dinner there and order a plate.
You eat. I'm not hungry, I'm angry. I'm played.
I'm too late.

You're right, the train's not leaving
it doesn't stop here anymore.
And everybody's sleeping on the station floor.
All night the station master's bell
rings a warning.

Fool, it's petty madness it's passé
It's yesterday, I won't feed it.
Oh, but this big river winds its way
through my own waterway
Can you feel it?

Someday I'll cry rain into
the fields of my broken heart
my teacher tells me only time
changes all the rivers of this world
Dreaming the dawn in
Dreaming fool
Foolsgold



Robin O'Brien wrote and sang these songs, played guitar and bass, and created various vocal sounds. George Reisch played guitar, bass, accordion, percussion, and programmed drums and orchestration. Steve Ziesche played drums on Deep Blue, Lavender sky, There's Somebody Else in my Soul, Kathy, Suffering, and Sad Songs. Lindsay Grey played cello on Stranger and The Weave. Don Campau played guitar on Gold and Sad Songs. Mark Benanti played guitar on The Lavender Sky. Tommy Auerbach wrote the bassline on Water Street. Nikos Eliot played guitar on Kathy. Al Tillman played harmonica and Gary Hardcastle played his blue telecaster on Suffering. Melissa Marceleno played drums on Foolsgold.

We thank them all.

Recorded by Robin O'Brien and John Grunewald in Santa Rosa, California and by George Reisch in Laporte, Indiana. Preproduction by John Grunewald. Produced by George Reisch. Mastered by Jeff Lipton at Peerless Mastering, Boston, MA. Assistant Mastering Engineer: Maria Rice. Photography, video, and artwork design by George Reisch and Mike Olson.

For more music by Robin O'Brien visit www.luxotone.com or listen to Radio Luxotone and Radio Luxotone's Hypnotique.

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