

Wheelchair Man

I am a man
Who cannot stand
To watch the golden ladies shuffle by
To their cars the envy of my eye
On their way to tighten silver curls
Drawing straws for carpool with the girls

I am a man who cannot stand
Waiting in the wet and bitter cold
Not even a Purple Heart to hold
What if I were not to catch their fall
Propped up on four wheels against the wall

I am a man
I cannot stand
Ladders I will never get to climb
Corporate or just to pass the time
Dreaming days to forge a golden gate
Bridges only birds can navigate

Soaring like a Phoenix
Diving like a swan
As vultures anticipate the gone

I am a man
Who cannot stand
To circumvent my placement in the line
Effective meds are getting hard to find
Like our heroes' heroine combined
Risking life and limb 'to save my mind'

I am a man
Who will not ever stand
While insult mocking injury's disdain
Weathered tape for glasses broken frames
Slice existing festered-blistered pain
And still I sit so still in freezing rain

Please, please, please do not stare

It's best for me if you are unaware

I am a man

I will never stand

PM ride gets later all the time

As her age and memory collide

While I remain the apple of her eye

The only man who never said, 'goodbye'

Funny that I couldn't if I tried

Murphy's Law

You laugh in my face
Like a slamming door
Through the mist of your breath
I am drenched
And wade back for more
And I call you out
But in a moment's time
You throw me under the bus
And then you pick me up
You're so wrong for me
When you close your eyes
I will follow suit
Like a loyal pet
I hang on your every word
And your mind's in tact
No one more clever yet
While your memory selects
To cover up your debts
You're so wrong...

Every man of whom I've been
Wishes he were you
I don't believe you when
You say you wish you were too
And you make up new laws
So you'll never belong
When you're really not that tough
She was right
You're wrong
So wrong for me

But I hear you cry
In the middle of the night
And people wonder why
I can't leave you behind

And as you choose to fall short
I've dreamt that I was less than me
And I design your excuse with care

For what you ain't done yet
This batch has worked before
No, this spell it ain't new
Romeo, this ain't your fault
Dear God, I asked you to
And I'm back on your bull
Riding high on number 99
Hoping this rodeo's our last
For the hundredth time
You're so wrong for me

Did You Feel That

You're trouble at best
With your eyes on my chest
Like I'm standing undressed
I'm trying to act unimpressed

Your face is so clear
Though it's so dark in here
With your tongue in my ear
Is that your tongue in my ear?

Did you feel that?

And you've got some stones
To corner me all alone
You come in close
Brush up on my shaking bones

Like I've seen a ghost
But I feel your toes
Where the hell are my clothes
Where the hell are my clothes?

Did you feel that?

I'm caving in
I'm craving sin
Hey, where've you been?

You come from behind
Wrap my wrists in twine
I'd return in kind
But as it stands, I'm in a bind

Your blanket of breath
La petite death
They say I'm obsessed
Clearly I am obsessed

Did you feel that?

Save the Rain

I want to keep you from harm
I want to keep you from harm
I want to keep you from harm
Keep you from harm

From the wind
From the lies
From the truth
My own disguise

From the road
From the air
From this cruel
Open World

Save the Rain
Save the Rain
Oh Rain
Oh Rain
I love you
I love you
My God
My Love

I want to keep you from harm

F U

Jolene ain't got nothin on you
I'm tired of pretending that it isn't true
You're lurking in shadows of smoke and dark hues
You want what's not yours

I've had friends far sicker than you
And learned shocking tricks from the best whores I knew
I heard you were born in 1982
I'm ten years wiser

F U

You're packing heat in the soles of your shoe
I'll nail you right down with my feminist views
Motives so illegal that I could sue
You can't have what's not yours

You sit in your car
In the front of our house
And you've hired a hit man
But he is my cousin
He offered to 'off you'
I declined politely
So you better run
Karma's coming to get ya

F U

I take good care of him and he does me too
I'm sure you could have any man that you chose
I see you are clever, but I'm clever too
Here's your exception

You count on him slipping up out of my view
Ripened and ready seduction ensues
Your chest propped up high and your eyes are bright blue...
...wait, they are brown now

Have you quite nothing better to do

For years your eyes have been set on my Boo
Devious and shameless, but I always knew
Time to screw off now

I find you backstage
In stilletos and stockings
And you pretend that
It was me
That you came for
I give you a hug
Cuz I feel sorry for ya
And you try to bite me
But I'm made of nickel
I toss you a fiver
Said, "get the hell outta here-
Cops on their way
And they hail from Chicago"

F U

Boomerang

Oh Daddy, I hate to disappoint you
Oh Daddy, I hate to break your heart
Take another minute with the paper and reread the review
Shot a boomerang in the rain never knowing it gone back
on you

So Daddy how's the weather way up there?
I hear it's warmer and it's brighter you can taste the cleaner air
I swear, I promise not to lean on your shadow for too long
Shot a boomerang in the rain never knowing it knew right
from wrong

And I want love, but they say love
Is thicker than water
But I don't buy it
So man up, boy
Man up, boy - you little boy

So Daddy, what's the point of this conversation
You never really coulda sincerely thought you'd
See my point of view
I know you've got an education of the highest of degrees
Until a boomerang from your hand swung around and dropped you to your knees..

I fall from you
Your tree
Your grace
Your truth

Hey Daddy, how's your pitiful condition?
I hear your audience is thinning and reception falling through
I know you've given all you gotta shorting everyone but you
But the boomerang from your hand swung around and slit my heart in two

Flesh and Blood

Big swollen thumb
Pressing you down
Pushing you right smack back dab where you came from
The low side of town

You're taking in water
Won't whittle no oar
When you come home in pieces
From fighting our dirty-ass wars

Won't help you up, brother
No, I won't help another
On the off-sided chance you might hold tight
And pull me under

They won't love you
They won't feed you
And you'd better believe they won't be
Caught dead trying to teach you

Shame on them
Shame on you
Shame on them
Shame on you
Shame on me

We are succeeding
Of greed, lust and impeding
And of clouding and fogging the lines of what
We need for breathing

Food's all been tainted
Schools shutting down
And it looks like the Koch brothers
Are the last ones alive in this town

They won't love you

They won't feed you
And they don't benefit from the prospect
Of trying to teach you

Shame on them
Shame on you
Shame on them
Shame on you
Shame on me

My legs have failed me
I'm drowning in tears
I'm watching our babies die
On the tv

If I loved my baby
I'd tell her why, maybe
As a mother, I'm slightly resentful of a damn
Cartoon mouse

I won't pull the trigger
But in case a 'person'
Is caught up in my crib
I've a .44 mag with a spinner

It's easy to swallow
That 'you' ain't my problem
But it is, hers and his, them and we
Bred this filthy conundrum

We should love you
We should feed you
And we sure as hell know damn well
We're all better off if we teach you

Shame on...

Hey you, get under my thumb
Flesh and blood...

Coffee Cup

I wake up tired
And kick you once
Trying to rip the covers off my worn out but..
I woke you up
You stare me down
And you kick me back and we crack up

I wrap up tight
Walk on my toes
This floor is colder on my feet
Than those of eskimos
Strike up the stove
Start a list
As you whip me round and dip me down
With the deepest kiss

You met your match
I'm fired up
There's no telling what might happen
By the time I reach the bottom of my coffee cup
I'm fired up
I love ya

I crack an egg
You crack a beer
Just like anyone of any day it brings me fear
I say a prayer
As you curse God
I don't know who the hell I'm praying to
But why the hell not

You met your match I'm fired up...

And you'll hate me by noon
And you'll tell me that soon
I'll you'll be gone

You raise a fist
I raise you five

You take one more swipe
And claw the air and take your last dive
I pick you up by your hair
You say we'd both be better off
If I leave you there
But I'm on fire
You met your match
I can't turn my back on my almost less than better half
I won't give up
Don't you give in
Let's stare into each others eyes and rediscover who it is we believe in

What's a little darkness in the light of day
If you can't beat 'em you can join 'em
That's a heavy price I'll pay

I check my list
I check it three more times
I don't know what else I am missing
And I'm about to lose my mind
But I'm fired up
Not giving in
Let's sink into each other's arms and rediscover
Who it is we believe in

Pauper Sky

Everything is a little out of control
My broken wing, my empty heart and soul
The birds won't sing and the bells won't toll for me

Even the sun doesn't seem as bright
You're on the run every day and night
And I'm the one who isn't feeling right today

How I wish that for just one time
I could sail - I could soar and fly
So far away
And I'd be so high
In a pauper's sky with you

And the trees stand so statuesque
I'm on my knees and I can't catch my breath
Like some disease - cuz I feel like death right now.

All I can do is to hope and pray
I make it through to a brand new day
And the dream of you to keep the ghosts at bay for a while

Here I am and I just can't sleep
I'm near the end, I'm in way too deep
Do broken people mend, or do they just creep along

One false start swings like a pendulum
I'm not that smart but I'm not that dumb
Oh my heart, beats like a heavy drum tonight

Feels like years since you've gone
Through all the fears and they break like dawn
In my ears, it's your favorite song that plays, and plays and plays

I Wanna Die In My Sleep

It was one of those sweet sticky late afternoons
Back in the summer of '83
I was late coming home from the lake
I swear I couldn't hear my mom screaming at the top of her lungs for me

I was deaf and I was frozen fixed on the vision
Of you wedged inside that tire swing
And you swore you could go even higher
Just to ensure your audience would never leave

Now ten years have swung on by
And we both soared even higher
From the day you side-saddled me upon that tire swing
To the day you swore you'd plant on my left hand
A big fat wedding ring

Through the braces and the prom
You never swung with another heart
And as mine grew and as young as I was
I knew
I would never last one single day without you

I wanna die in my sleep
Dreaming while you're next to me
Of love we gave
And love we made
Under a tire swing

We built our castle with our own bare hands
And we replanted that childhood tree
And we farmed and nurtured our loving souls
In fields as far as our eyes could see

We lived off these gardens of a love that was
So rare and true
And with each harvest we grew
And each child we bore
Proved my life was to be lived for you

Now ten years have grown on by
And we've both grown even higher
From the day I fell in love with you under that tire swing
To the day you swore your soul
On that big fat wedding ring

Through the seasons and life altering storms
You never thought of another heart
And as ours melted together and we rivaled the weather
I knew
I could never take one single breath
Without you

I wanna die in my sleep
So I'll never know how it feels
To take in air
Of complete despair
To be darker than death
Without you there

So Lord, please take me
Let them burry me under his tree

That day you took me for a long walk through our fields of
Starry, starry love
And told me a tale that I knew just couldn't be true
Because, you see, doctors - they are wrong each and every day
So I wouldn't listen - you couldn't make me listen- to a damn thing you'd say

So 10 months just flew on by
And I refuse to say goodbye...

I'm lost and bewildered from a lack of nutrition
Since they took you from me
And I am deaf and I am frozen with the vision of you
Wedged inside that tire swing
I beg of God to take me with you

Please let me die in my sleep
Waking with him next to me
So the love we gave

And the love we made
Grows under that tire swing