



**SUBVERT
THE
DOMINANT
PARADIGM**

IMAGINE

VERSUS

FREE DUMB

BY ATTILA THE POET

Imagine vs Free Dumb

"Every time we witness an injustice and do not act, we train our character to be passive in its presence and thereby eventually lose all ability to defend ourselves and those we love. In a modern economy it is impossible to seal oneself off from injustice." ~Julian Assange

Imagine what our country and what our planet could have become today if we did truly seek to become a more peaceful and just society. That would necessitate a fundamental shift in how society actually acts towards each other. And having a government and population that actually wants to put the well-being of people first and foremost. And would require common decency and an understanding that we cannot continue to harm people, or harm the environment, no matter how much money it makes. It's not morality that is lacking, it is an ethical backbone.

Free Dumb or Freedom? Which do we have? How did we get to this point where we act in a self-destructive manner that harms people and planet? Something has to change. Might help if leaders spoke in the language of peace and understanding and addressed injustices. Free Dumb is the ability to simultaneously believe that you and your country are exceptional; while intentionally ignoring the harm caused to people and planet as it carries out predatory unjust social policies that include wars and environmental damage, eventually harming the country itself.

This collection of songs were written over the last 20 years. The song lyrics are adapted here into poem form.

These songs were written after a lifetime of seeing wars and injustices continue. My view is that the ruling class's quest for obscene profit is the main source of much of the institutional injustice and harm that is inflicted on people and planet. Something has to change. What kind of world are we leaving to future generations? If there is a chance to change the world for the better, why wouldn't we try?

"Simply put, the wealthy few invest heavily in shaping laws that strive to place unlimited private property and corporate expansion above and beyond all else, including the lives of people, the health of communities, protections of what we own in common, the capacity of society to function as a democracy, and the stability of the living biosphere itself." Ralph Nader (*Breaking Through Power*, 2016)

Free Dumb by Attila Gyenis

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IMAGINE BY JOHN LENNON AND YOKO ONO

IMAGINE THERE'S NO HEAVEN
IT'S EASY IF YOU TRY
NO HELL BELOW US
ABOVE US ONLY SKY

IMAGINE ALL THE PEOPLE
LIVING FOR TODAY

IMAGINE THERE'S NO COUNTRIES
IT ISN'T HARD TO DO
NOTHING TO KILL OR DIE FOR
AND NO RELIGION TOO

IMAGINE ALL THE PEOPLE
LIVING LIFE IN PEACE

YOU MAY SAY I'M A DREAMER
BUT I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE
I HOPE SOMEDAY YOU'LL JOIN US
AND THE WORLD WILL BE AS ONE

IMAGINE NO POSSESSIONS
I WONDER IF YOU CAN
NO NEED FOR GREED OR HUNGER
A BROTHERHOOD OF MAN

IMAGINE ALL THE PEOPLE
SHARING ALL THE WORLD

YOU MAY SAY I'M A DREAMER
BUT I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE
I HOPE SOMEDAY YOU'LL JOIN US
AND THE WORLD WILL LIVE AS ONE



Free Dumb

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All Grown Up (I Tried My Best)

When you look at the world, what do you see
Is it beauty and love, people living free
Is this a place where you'd like to be?
And keep things the same for eternity

Or do you notice there are serious wrongs
And they have been going on, much much too long
And even though these things don't happen to you
You feel the need for something to do

I tried the best, the best that I can
I found that I failed, again and again
Is there an answer, is there a way
Is there something that helps, something I can say

People will point and laugh when you're falling down
But they'll bow down to you if you wear a crown
They blame the poor man as the rich steal it away
Does it make any sense to you when people act that way

I can't say I tried with all of my might
To take some of the wrongs and make some of them right
Though it kept me from sleeping at night in my bed
The most I would do were just thoughts in my head

When I was young I thought there was a way
To take all of the wrongs and make them all okay
I thought that was something we all wanted too
But some who you trust are lying to you

I tried the best, the best that I can
I found that I failed, again and again
Is there an answer, is there a way
Is there something that helps, something I can say

Or will everything we have just fade away.



Sheer Genius

Who is the genius, and who is the dummy
and can you tell me who is running the country

Who is the genius, who is the fool
who is allowing these people to rule

There are screams in the air
that things are not fair
and people scared if things go on
it's more than we can bear

It seems that we should understand
you can't fix things by war
if the problem that has caused it
is the one thing we ignore

We say we want answers
but don't ask for peace
when our pocket's full of dollar bills
it puts our mind at ease

We all go along
worse than sheep to a slaughter
trading blood for more money
as we turn on our brother

The incompetence of leaders
continues unchallenged
as nothing gets reported
that might upset the balance

There is a solution
in front of your eyes
start asking some questions
stop believing the lies

You need to stand up for others
and fight for your right
and act with your courage
and not with your might

You need to think with your brain
and feel with your heart
search for the truth
and that is a start

Who is the genius, and who is the dummy
and can you tell me who is running the country

Who is the genius, who is the fool
who is allowing, these people to rule.



Destiny's Child

She thought it was her destiny
 To live her life as she had dreamed
 By fourteen knew that she would be
 A movie star, a beauty queen

At seventeen she learned the way
 How love and sex both sting with pain
 Knew that something had to change
 But worried that they'd stay the same

Destiny's Child

She wants her dreams to come true

Wants all the same thing as you

Wants happiness if she can

Destiny's Child will arrive

At eighteen moved away for school
 It's when she vowed to be no one's fool
 She had more lovers than she cared to know
 It's when she started acting cruel

By twenty one she had gotten bored
 Love and hate had merged into one
 And even though she tried real hard
 She found that she could blame no one

At twenty two she found a man
 Loved him, then she had a plan
 To be married by twenty three
 Him and Her, Baby, make three

At twenty four she learned again
 That you cannot depend on man
 It was hard to make the break
 But when she did, she dreamed again

At twenty nine she figured out
 That love is what it's all about
 Love yourself, love one another
 Treat everyone like sister/brother

At thirty she was on her way
 Living her dream every day
 At forty she kept going strong
 It seemed that she could do no wrong

What she learned about her dreams
 Is that dreaming is important
 That is where desires live
 That sometimes lie dormant

And what she learned about destiny
 Is it wasn't set in stone
 To live your life with love, not fear
 Is up to you alone

Destiny's Child

She wants her dreams to come true

Wants all the same thing as you

Wants happiness if she can

...Destiny's Child has arrived.



Close Your Eyes

If you see a dog that's lost
that wanders by on streets forgotten
homeless, aimless, thirsty, hungry
but too dumb to go a knocking

Close your eyes

And if there's a baby hungry
and the parent's always angry
hits the child and takes a drink
the baby's crying, the diaper stinks

Close your eyes

In the woods you hear a tree
that has been cut and now is falling
Planet Earth and trees are crying
but it's not your name its calling

Close your eyes

You build a gun and make some money
Cigarettes, you know what's funny
when you see the damage done
you still say that you hurt no one

Close your eyes

Drill for oil in the Arctic
a little spill, don't need to hide it
wash on shore, sometimes for miles
see the dead birds make small piles

Close your eyes

Go to war, take drastic measures
must protect our precious treasures
send our children, fill the need
and though you know that some will bleed

Close your eyes

Build a bomb, we need protection
sell it off, there's no connection
build another, sell that too
and if it were to drop on you

Close your eyes

Close your eyes.



Don't Trust the Government

Don't trust the government

They lie and cheat to gain control
 Power and corruption is their goal
 Everybody stand in line
 Smile while they rob us blind
Don't you believe them

Don't trust the government

They send our troops to die for oil
 Call it defending American soil
 Doesn't matter what they say
 They're all liars anyway
Don't you believe them

Don't trust the government

Around the world we flex our might
 Never asking if it's right
 Doesn't matter who's in control
 They're all crooks, we all know
Don't you believe them

Don't trust the government

Don't trust your high school teacher
 Don't trust your Sunday preacher
 Don't trust the newspaper
 Or credit cards where you pay later
 Don't trust the television
 Don't trust its fearful mission
 Don't trust no corporation
 Don't trust the fast food nation
 Don't trust no GMO
 Don't trust your HMO
 Don't trust talk radio
 They only think they know
 Don't trust the FDA
 DOD or DEA
 Don't trust the NSA
 FBI or CIA

Don't trust Republicans

Don't trust the Democrats

Don't trust your Congressman

Don't trust your Senator

Don't trust your President

Don't trust the government

We hold these truths to be self evident that all men
 are created equal.

That they are endowed by their creator, with certain
 unalienable rights to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of
 Happiness.

That to secure these rights, governments are formed,
 but whenever any form of government becomes de-
 structive, it is the Right of the People, it is their Duty
 To throw off such government.

Don't trust the government

Don't trust the government

Don't trust the government

Don't trust the government

Just ask an Indian!

Question Everything!



(by Attila Gyenis and Ted McNamee)

Heaven on Earth

If you want to get to the promised land?
 Just give out, sometimes, a helping hand
 If you want to get to sleep at night?
 Just start doing what you know is right

Temptation Temptation, led them astray
 They had thought they had found an easier way
 They were caught in the sun that burned holes in their eyes
 And the horses they rode were all riddled with lies

Lies are not truer if they're shouted
 Truth is the Truth no doubt about it
 Lead me to a better path,
 better than the one I had
 I don't need god or religion
 I just need a better vision

Frustration Frustration, carried the day
 They were stuck in the past, but living today
 They lacked truth and a vision, but had money to burn
 And messengers sent, would not ever return

Temptation Temptation, led them astray
 But they realized too late, that they had lost their way
 They were angrier, angrier, angrier still
 They looked not for an answer, but for something to kill

Lies are not truer if they're shouted
 Truth is the Truth no doubt about it
 Lead me to a better path,
 better than the one I had
 I don't need god or religion
 I just need a better vision



How Much Longer

How much longer will it take?
 Before we get it right
 With all the things we say and do
 How can we sleep at night

The lies, the cries, the poor, the war
 It's simple to ignore
 You can wait, but it'll be too late
 When they come kick down your door

How much longer will it be?
 Till you open up your eyes
 It's beyond ridiculous
 If you're still fooled by their lies

The mistake is thinking that they care
 And somehow they will change
 Now hope's become the opium
 As we keep drinking koolade.

Round and round and round and round
 And round and round we go
 And in the end, don't act surprised
 Cause everybody knows

How much longer will you wait?
 You're a witness to a crime
 Silence is complicity
 And we're running out of time

If you think there's something wrong
 You need to make a stand
 It's people who are suffering
 And they sure could use a hand

How much longer can this go on?
 It's been going on too long
 It's intentional this misery
 We all know right from wrong

We all know right from wrong.



Just Say No to Monsanto

There's a dirty little secret that you may not know

It's hidden in your food, It's called GMO

What are you going to do the save your food

Just say NO to Monsanto

What can you do help the earth

Just say NO to Monsanto

How do you keep your baby safe

Just say NO to Monsanto

What can you do against corporate greed

Just say NO to Monsanto

What are you going to say to your congressmen

Just say NO to Monsanto

What are you going to say to Monsanto

Just say NO to Monsanto

Just say NO to Monsanto.



King and Queen of Fools

You will be never be the one
You will never be the way
You're full of broken promises
Push hate and fear each day

Though your followers still listen
And think that you're on top
Some people are now waking up
To work to make you stop

You will never be the one
You will never be the way
Your tarnished gold won't save you
No matter who you pay

Your enemy is kindness
And compassion is the tool
That will shine the light to show
You're an ordinary fool

You think if you divide the world
Into us and them
That people will not realize
You're a fox guarding the hen

You're a selfish greedy person
You will never be the way
You're a Grinch who has never learned
That kindness is the way

You think money is so wonderful
As you keep dropping the bomb
You must have missed the memo
'Do no harm'

You will be never be the one
You will never be the way
And just like all the other fools
One day you'll fade away



The Painted Bird

If there's a way, that I could invent myself
who would I be, where would I go

If there's a way, that I could be different
could I be happy, who would I know

Would I be a rich man living in Cleveland
or lying on a beach with my snow white tan

Or living out in Idaho, doing what I don't know
or friends with Joe DiMaggio, and Marilyn Monroe

Would I be the King of France,
or a big time winner, I'll take a chance

Would I be a Kennedy or friends with old Neal Cassady
Or live down in a railroad car drinking at the corner bar

Would I be a poor man living down in Mexico
And think of places I have been and where I'd like to go

Would I be a little boy, full of ice cream, full of joy
Or would I be a wise old man, happy with my life

I took a walk,
and found that I'm about to...

...leap into a dream
can't fall off a mountain
it's never as it seems
drink from the fountain
don't always be on guard
put away the sorrow
reach deep within your heart
and your mind will follow



Plastic Steel

I hear babies talk into the wind
wondering how it had been
was it always this warm
or only since they were born
and with the plastic steel that surrounds them now
had there really once been fields to plow
war and crime and dirty air
was it really always here

It's not confusion that's leading me nowhere
It's not intention that's making me go there
It's not obligation that's making me stay
It's the things that are wrong, for so long,
and you don't care

Is there a reason why I'm born now
you want me to live but can you tell me how
you call this place home sweet home
but to me it's more like ancient Rome

Burning down
burning up
I don't think I can keep this up

It's not confusion that's leading me nowhere
It's not intention that's making me go there
It's not obligation that's making me stay
It's the things that are wrong, for so long

and you don't care.



She Was Everybody's Dream

She was everybody's dream
 She smiled everywhere she went
 All the young dudes deluded themselves
 They thought she smiled just for them
 Even old men who had lost their drive
 Were caught up in the game
 She had an air of such innocence
 That no one was held to blame

She walked around town in a frilly dress
 White sandals on her feet
 Chance encounters were intentional
 As people poured out on the streets
 A word, a laugh, a smile, a hope
 Was really all they sought
 The people were mostly courteous
 Over her they rarely fought

But all was not good in the hood
 There was petty jealousy
 It came to town the usual way
 Religious hypocrisy
 The preacher man, with wife in tow
 Thought he should make a stand
 Judged the girl with her frilly dress
 Was a plague upon the land

The preacher man had a godly plan
 That every Sunday he would carry out
 From his pulpit with his arms raised high
 Dire warnings he would shout
 'Whores and demons walk our streets
 With sandals on their feet,
 It's not the path for god fearing men
 Listen and take heed.'

She was everybody's dream
 But then she moved away
 A year went by and people wondered
 Was she married, dead or gay
 The town did change, but not for better
 The Children no longer played
 But every Sunday the church was filled...

...For Her return they prayed.



situation political:

there is a situation political
 if it wasn't so deceitful and harmful it would be comical
 evidently, we ignore the things we do as a people
 that are despicable
 as we treat each other in ways that are harmful
 in the worst way imaginable

if we had a legal system that was just,
 then these acts would be tried as criminal
 and if the mainstream media did their job
 they would not make these crimes seem trivial
 imagine,
 if society held politicians and business people accountable
 for crimes they commit against humanity and planet
 that are undeniable

the problems facing us century after century are generational
 the solutions are not theoretical, sensational, or magical

the answers are workable, reachable, and practical
 requires truth, intention, and to act in a manner that is ethical

do we have to be stuck in the same downward cycle,
 or is there another path possible?
 not saying everything is terrible,
 just saying too much is unacceptable

unfortunately some people think the situation is not improvable
 and there are more than a few who are profiting,
 their predatory actions are intentional

wanting peace shouldn't seem so radical
 just asking to see if these issues are resolvable
 I'm not intent on being cynical or being skeptical
 but isn't questioning better than being gullible?

because when too many people allow themselves to be led
 by making decisions based only on emotions
 instead of also using their head
 the outcome will be inevitable
 the result will be detrimental

dreams and desires will no longer be reachable
 words, art, and music will no longer be poetical
 our wishes and needs will be unfulfillable

all because the planet on which we are raising our children
 and our children's children,
 and everything we know and love
 has become unsustainable.

this is not acceptable.

there is another path
 where peace and justice are sustainable
 one where 'equality for all' is attainable
 who knows what would happen
 if we focused on the imaginable
 if we started acting with kindness,
 thinking anything is obtainable
 to have liberty and justice for all
 in a manner sane and functional
 with the idea that Peace Joy and Health for all
 is desirable (and possible).

to have this happen in my lifetime would be fantastical
 then my desires would no longer be hypothetical

that is my situation political:



Give this World a Chance

Can someone tell me why?
Anger drives such violence

It's not that I deny
The situation of hopelessness

It only seems unfair
That we are caught so unaware

I ask you all to pause
And maybe give this world a chance

Can someone tell me where?
I could find this so called paradise

I don't believe in their truth
But don't believe it could all be lies

It's somewhere in between
What we call this right and wrong

I'll take my time and wait
Only hope it doesn't take too long

Can someone tell me how?
I'm supposed to understand

When people only preach
But don't give out a helping hand

It's not that I deny
The situation of hopelessness

It only seems unfair
That we are caught so unaware

Can someone tell me who?
Has the right to correct it all

With one swift wave of hand
Squeeze the trigger let the hammer fall

I ask you all to pause
And maybe give this world a chance

I ask you all to pause...

...And maybe give this world a chance.



Some Things Worth Standing

There is so much to be thankful for
But it doesn't mean we can ignore

The injustice that is in the air
or a government that rules by fear

Or the misery that is on the street
the sick and dying you'll never meet

Every day that I'm alive
I see things for which I am glad
It doesn't mean that I am blind
to things that make people sad

I just wish that there was more
smiles and joy across the land
instead of someone drawing lines
in some other person's sand

There is so much to be thankful for
but it doesn't mean we can ignore

The forces that will hold you down
that take your smile and make a frown

And remember, if you get knocked off your feet
that there are still some things worth standing for

There are still,
some things worth standing for.



Yes Virginia, There Is Television in Heaven

Yes, Virginia there is
television in heaven

And on every street corner
a seven eleven
Virginia don't worry
they allow smoking there
And have plenty of booze
whiskey, champagne and beer

A little child who wants to know
When you're dead where do you go
Is it like the preacher said
Will you be happy when you are dead?

Yes Virginia there is, a place called heaven
Where everyone does what they believe in
You can get all you want, no more waiting in line
And we all have a maid, and the living is divine

You may wonder what heaven is like
Is there plenty to eat, is it safe at night
Will it not be too crowded, have a comfortable bed
Hope they'll have entertainment, to comfort the dead

When you're in heaven, you'll get more than you need
You can take what you want, it's all good indeed
Living the grand life, they say it's the way
Don't come too early, but do plan to stay

Yes, Virginia there is
television in heaven
And on every street corner
a seven eleven
Virginia don't worry
they allow smoking there
And have plenty of booze
whiskey, champagne and beer

[What's not to like?]



Heaven Waits for No One (Original Thought)

If there is something in my head,
Put a bullet there instead

I wish I were braver, I wish I were bold
I wish I would live to be 100 years old
I wish that no one ever died
I wish that no one ever cried
And no one ever felt too bad
And no one ever felt too sad

I don't mind the rain and pain
But tell me why it must remain
Everyday I hear the same
There's someone new that we should blame
There's trouble there in Africa
And Europe isn't better
Every day we invent a way
To make our people deader

Heaven waits for no one.



Just Another TV Rerun

It's another western movie
with a shootout at the end

The Indian and the cowboy
we all know how it went

Some of them were good guys
and some of them were bad

but the one thing you should understand
It was all about the land

Land of the free and home of the brave

If someone disagrees with you
just stick them in a grave

It's liberty we're fighting for

If you get in the way
we'll kick down your door

History repeats itself
but the lesson is never learned

That it's children and the innocent
who wind up getting hurt

And if you ask what are we fighting for
They'll tell you lies, then tell you more

But the one thing you should understand
It was all about the land

It's liberty we're fighting for

If you get in the way
we'll kick down your door

Land of the free and home of the brave

If someone don't agree with you
...just stick them in a grave.



Hope and Pain

All aboard on this ship of fools
with no destination
When you wished upon a star
should have used imagination

And thought of where you'd like to be
and do things more than just for show
It could have all turned out much better
you can't say we didn't know

I'm waiting at the station gate
waiting, waiting for the train
I'm waiting even though it looks like rain
I'm waiting even though it might bring pain
And though I want to go I still remain
Waiting at the station for the train

It's not time to say good night
it's not time to go to sleep
Think about the things you said
and promises you meant to keep

There were choices that we made
to be rich instead of happy
You always knew that it would cost you
when you put your faith in money

I think ahead there is trouble
I think ahead there is some pain
Some might say it is confusing
but I think it's pretty plain

On this path that we are going
at the end what will remain
With all the dollars that are stolen
and lives extinguished just for gain

You may think it's not your doing
you may say you're not to blame
But in the end it doesn't matter
we're all caught here just the same

I'm waiting at the station gate
waiting, waiting for the train
I'm waiting even though it looks like rain
I'm waiting even though it might bring pain
And though I want to go
I still remain

Waiting at the station for the train.



Perchance to Dream

My life that I'm living
it feels like a dream
And I cannot be sure
if it is as it seems

I'm not scared of shadows
I don't hear the screams
But I want to be sure
that it is just a dream

I shut my eyes

My eyes they are open
and I think that I see
There's a girl or a monster
coming straight at me

I count first to ten
and then to eleven
Is this really hell
or can this be heaven

I shut my eyes

I suddenly wake
in the middle of night
But I cannot remember
if everything's right

Lizards and llamas
And violets and toads
When I dream alone
Almost anything goes

There's a light on the dresser
is it part of a dream?
But I think I'm alone
What the hell does it mean

I shut my eyes

I keep waking from dreaming
and dreaming to sleep
Memories fading
which thoughts will I keep

Is it happy and joyful
carefree and glad?

Or terribly lonely
unhappy and sad

I shut my eyes

Can you tell if the dream
you are dreaming is real
Or the feeling you have
is the way that you feel

Do you like the dreams better
that you think are real
So you go through your life
and you don't have to feel

I shut my eyes

Dream, sleep
I open my eyes
Was it all just a nightmare
or life in disguise?

What did I wake from
or am I asleep
I open my eyes
and fall into the deep

I wake from my dream
and now I'm asleep
And I dream that I'm Dreaming
dreaming of sleep

Sleep sleep
I can't open my eyes
And I cannot be sure
is this truth or a lie

This dream's near the end
or is it beginning
Am I already dead
or did I just start living

I shut my eyes.



The House Is on Fire

A sixteen-year wind blew into town
and what was waiting there
young and old who came to hear
it's time for change we cannot wait
we need to act before it's late

We know in our hearts
that what we do is wrong
We must protect the earth
and stop causing harm

Fire Fire
The house is on fire
It's apparent to many
Situation is dire

Temperature's rising
Politicians just wait
They'll keep feeding the fire
Until it's too late

Fire Fire
The House is on Fire
What should we do?
We must put out the fire

We know we cannot wait
our children are at risk
Extinction raises its head
as we stand on the brink

Fire Fire
The house is on fire
There's no time to wait
The flames getting higher

The House is on Fire
We keep fanning the flames
With plastic and oil
We should be ashamed

Fire Fire
The House is on Fire
What should we do?
We must put out the fire

A sixteen-year old wind
blew into our town
That will, eventually
knock politicians down

The wind was not alone
The young are there to help
And now they spread the word
That change is in the wind

Fire Fire
The house is on fire
What should we do?
We must put out the fire

Our House is on Fire
We keep fanning the flames
Some do it to profit
But this isn't a game

Fire Fire
The House is on Fire
What should we do?
We must put out the fire

What should we do?
We must put out the fire

We need you and me
It's the critical hour

What should we do?

We must put out the fire.



What's Up With That?

What's up with that, do you know where it's at?

What's up, with Donald Trump's hair?
 You'd think that being president, that he would somehow care
 He was busy making money, Atlantic Beach Casino
 All from Mom and Dad, I know, it's their secret place,
 And they had to go

What's up, with the presidents?
 They say they are compassionate, but war was what they meant
 They think themselves as leaders, they think they are so smart
 But others wonder how they live without a brain or a heart

What's up, the polar caps are melting
 Global warming is just a theory, it really isn't happening,
 Sticks and stones can break my bones,
 but fossil fuels can't hurt me
 Baby, you can drive my car,
 Baby, you can drive my SUV

What's up, with those ladies in red hats
 Don't they realize they're starting a new fad
 Laughing and smiling, and sipping their tea
 Red Hat Ladies are the ones for me

What's up, with our dollar bill
 There was a time it ruled supreme, king of the hill
 But it's been worth less than the Euro, and the Canadian dollar
 99 cent America, getting cheaper by the hour

What's up, with that thing called old age
 Running hot, but seething with a cold rage
 No one warned you, your knees are gone, you're getting fat
 Forget your dreams, now it's time to feed your cat

What's up with that?

There are some things that don't make sense
 Better neighbors with a higher fence

People driving bigger cars
 The fascination with movie stars

Tattooed girls who shave their hair
 And they don't mind if people stare

Listening to hip hop
 Can you find an honest cop?

Everybody close your mind
 Thinking is the highest crime

And even though things are not fair
 There are some people who just don't care

There are some people who just don't care

What's up with that?



Listen Fred

Listen Fred
you got to shake a leg

You got no time
to drink cheap wine

If you're feeling sad
you got to move your feet

If you're feeling hot
then turn down the heat

Freddie Man, you got to have a plan
to realize when to make a stand

You can't run and hide, there's no free ride
you might get hurt, sometimes you'll cry

Sorry Freddie, we tried to warn you
there is no magic that will fix your head

But listen closely and you will find
if you want an answer, don't close your mind

Fred my brother, here's what was said
open your mind to clear your head

If you want to live, you have to learn to give
gratitude is the greatest gift

Listen Freddie, you must get ready
look in your soul and you might see

You are not trapped by destiny
so make your future, set yourself free

If you feel the notion to smile or laugh
just let it flow, don't let it pass

When you feel the truth
you have to learn to speak

When you feel the music
you have to move your feet

[Freddie man, here's what was said.
Better start living, before you're dead.]



Will the Circle Be Broken?

The king of the hill
 he's sitting there still
 As his general is waiting
 for orders to kill

A doctor is waiting
 to save someone's life
 As the thief in the alley
 waits with a knife

Will the circle be broken?
 Or are we all insane
 Keep repeating the same thing
 But expect things to change

Will the circle be broken
 The injustice must stop
 But it only will happen
 With change at the top

Man on a horse,
 doesn't think of the past
 Man in a spaceship,
 is going down fast

Man in the coal mine,
 carries his scars
 Man in the crosshairs,
 is caught in the fire

Will the circle be broken?
 Or are we all insane
 Keep repeating the same thing
 But expect things to change

You say we made progress
 compared to the past
 You say that the wars
 are a fluke and won't last

Destroying the oceans
 and land and the air
 You say to yourself
 that the world doesn't care

Killing and stealing
 for money and gold
 Did you really believe
 all the lies that you told

Will the circle be broken?
 Or are we all insane
 Keep repeating the same thing
 But expect things to change

When the circle is broken
 The injustice will stop
 But it only will happen
 With change at the top.

Will the circle be broken?
 It's all up to you

It all comes down to
 What you choose to do.



Keep Going (Perseverance)

Put one foot in front of the other
 And then just do it again
 You keep on going and going
 And if you end up where you began

Then you keep going
 And you keep going
 And then we begin

Growing up, didn't realize
 That life is complicated
 There are consequences to bad decisions
 Had to learn not to repeat it

Some say money's the answer
 But that is just a lie
 It just keeps us going in circles
 So we don't even try

If you find yourself in struggle
 With the things that are around you
 Or you feel you're overwhelmed
 By people who surround you

You may think about giving up
 Just want to run away
 Then you realize you can't do that
 Have to face your fears today

There are many people talking
 And lots of them complain
 About how we treat each other
 And the anger and the pain

We can create the world we want
 When we choose love over fear
 But first we have to walk the talk
 And treat each other fair

We have to change, that much is true
 And if you're wondering how
 The first step is to do what's right
 You have to start right now

If you feel you're getting tired
 And you can't take it no more
 Don't give up, the Dalai Lama said
 It's what we're struggling for

If you want to break the cycle
 You will have to make a change
 Can't buy your way to happiness
 And wars are just insane

Many times you'll stumble [and fall]
 And feel that you can't take it
 But if you try, and persevere
 You might eventually make it

So you keep going, and you keep going
 And then we begin.

Put one foot in front of the other
 And then just do it again
 You keep on going and going
 And if you end up where you began

Then you keep going
 And you keep going

And then we begin.



My Friend

Each and every day my friend, I wonder if this is the day
with everything collapsing in, everything coming to an end

And what will be the last words that you say, my friend
and what will be the last words that you hear,

'Pleased to see you, glad I knew you,
sad to know this is the end, my friend'

Every day I hear of people starving on this earth
and everyday I hear of someone, somewhere, giving birth
Everyday I hear people say that they don't want war
and everyday we build another weapon and say we need more

Every day we hear of another politician on the take
and the president's more concerned about the money
that some company should make

Everybody talks about peace, love, and understanding
But words without action, don't mean a thing

Every day we wait and don't work for justice and peace
is another day for the things that we want to be more out of reach

Everybody talks about peace, love, and understanding
But words without action, don't mean a thing.

Each and every day my friend I wonder
If this is the day that it ends
With everything collapsing in
Everything coming to an end, my friend

Everybody talks about peace, love, and understanding

But unfortunately my friend,
words without action, don't mean a thing.



Living in Peace

What's it going to take
For people to awake
And realize we're off course
And it's a big mistake

When will we be true
To things we need to do
And not sell our self short
The change begins with you

I don't know what you want from me
I don't share your view of destiny

The king has no clothes on, I see through his lies
His actions are clear, there is no disguise
Where money, greed, and selfish deeds, always get reward
Where lies are traded, truths degraded, it can all be bought

I don't want to bleed, I don't feel the need

I'm living in a world where the stealing is easy
And justice, compassion, does not have a chance

I'm living in a world that is run by the greedy
And lies and deceit are just part of the plan

I'm living in a world that is selling its own soul
And its new owners, they don't care at all

I'm living in a world where life has no value
Not the trees or the water or the birds or the poor

I'm living in a world that is breaking its own neck
By killing and cheating and making up wars

I'm living in a world that cannot imagine...

...All of the people,
...Living in Peace

All of the people, Living in Peace

All of the people, Living in Peace

... *Imagine*



Aftersong:

The Song Inside

Listen to your beating heart inside
Put thoughts to words and let it ride
Feel the rhythm that is your life
Take the song you hear, and let it shine

When you start to listen you will hear
Songs of mind and soul that fill the air
Once you begin your song you'll know
Where it will lead you, where you will go

Most of us have a song inside
But some of us try to hide it
There are exceptions to this rule
The dead, the angry, and the fool

Don't be afraid for all to hear
Nothing kills the song more than fear
While there are some who will doubt
Most will smile when you let it out

There is not one song for all to hear
Just share with all, both far and near
Take laughs and smiles and tears and sadness
And make it work against the madness

You will not flounder, you will not fail
Take the song inside and let it sail
There is no wrong, there is no right
Take the song inside, and let it shine.

Shine



*This poem/song is dedicated to my mom, Iren Dekmar Gyenis,
who has a song for every occasion.*

Words are Important

"We are what we pretend to be, so we must be careful about what we pretend to be." ~ *Kurt Vonnegut*

"The time is always right to do what is right."
~ *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

"There is a price to pay for speaking the truth. There is a bigger price for living a lie." ~ *Cornel West*

"A ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are for." ~ *John A. Shedd*

"I think the purpose of life is to be useful, to be responsible, to be honorable, to be compassionate. It is, after all, to matter: to count, to stand for something, to have made some difference that you lived at all." ~ *Leo C. Rosten*

"We look forward to the time when the Power of Love will replace the Love of Power. Then will our world know the blessings of Peace." ~ *William E. Gladstone*

"Our job is nothing less than to Save the World." ~ *Ken Kesey*

"Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending." ~ *Carl Bard*

"The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it." ~ *Michelangelo*

"Nothing happens unless first a dream."
~ *Carl Sandburg*

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."
~ *Mahatma Gandhi*

"I can accept failure, everyone fails at something. But I can't accept not trying." ~ *Michael Jordan*

**There is no peace without justice,
and there is no justice if it is based on lies.
More Peace, Less Hate Attila**

War creates peace like hate creates love. ~ David L. Wilson

That we are to stand by the president, right or wrong, is not only unpatriotic and servile, but is morally treasonable to the American public. ~Theodore Roosevelt

“It is better to vote for what you want and not get it than to vote for what you don't want and get it.” ~ *Eugene Debs*

It's difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends on his not understanding it. ~ Sinclair Lewis

“If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, it expects what never was and never will be.” ~ Thomas Jefferson

The worst crimes were dared by a few, willed by more and tolerated by all. ~Tacitus

“To search for solutions to hunger means to act within the principle that the status of a citizen surpasses that of a mere consumer.”

~ CITY OF BELO HORIZONTE, BRAZIL

The Roots of Violence: Wealth without work, Pleasure without conscience, Knowledge without character, Commerce without morality, Science without humanity, Worship without sacrifice, Politics without principles ~ Mahatma Gandhi

