

LABOR OF LOVE CD, 2010 by Steve Grimes

1. SLOW DOWN

Note to self

A little tip for you and nobody else
Don't be surprised to see it all
Slipping away, day by day
You know it but you let it go anyway

Look around

Check inside your mind's lost and found
Find the reminder that you left there, somewhere
Back when you lived without a care

Slow down

Don't be in such a hurry for the sundown
There's no need to worry 'bout the rat race
And the breakneck pace
This world is spinning round
Hold on, take a little time before it's all gone
Live it like today could be the last one
Just hold on
Till everything is said and done

Look around

You might be moving fast but you lost ground
Burning through your life in the fast lane
You know it's such a shame
When you finally realize that it's a losing game

Note to self

Got a little favor to ask of you

Don't let the time still in front of you, turn into
All the things you think that you got to do

Hold back
You got the pedal to the metal in the fast track
You try to get it back but it's long gone
Say so long
You can't keep on like you been keepin' on

electric piano, organ : Gilbert Emata
drums : Paul Marchetti
bass : Bob Harrison
tenor sax : John Zangrando
background vocals : Cliff Collins, Caley Conway
electric guitar, vocal : Steve Grimes

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2. PERFECT STRANGER

There's so many people
In this crowded little world
Searching for the perfect love
For the shell with the pearl
Looking everywhere
For the needle in the hay
And waiting while the years
And their chances slip away

Some people spend a lifetime
Falling in and out of love
It's always just a case of
Too much or not enough

And they're always waiting
For some sign from above
But the mind can make you blind
To what the heart's been dreaming of

Then out of the blue
You meet a perfect stranger
Who feels more like a long lost friend
You know right then
That your heart is in danger
You know you might have found
The perfect stranger

They say the way to find
What you're looking for
Just turn away and let it go
And you will find it at your door
But you played this waiting game
So many times before
Like the forest for the trees
You couldn't see it anymore

And out of the blue
You meet a perfect stranger
Who feels more like a long lost friend
You know right then
That your heart is in danger
You know you might have found
Your perfect stranger
You know that you have found
The perfect stranger

CREDITS

acoustic lead guitar : Pat Simmons
harmonica : Norton Buffalo

drums : Kerry Sofaly
bass : Cliff Collins
acoustic guitar, vocal : Steve Grimes

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3. OLINDA NA CHUVA

Portuguese title meaning Olinda in The Rain
(instrumental)

acoustic piano : Sal Godinez
acoustic bass : Bob Harrison
drums, percussion : Paul Marchetti
soprano sax : David Choy
guitar solo : Larry Coryell
nylon string rhythm : Phil Deangelis
nylon string melody : Steve Grimes

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4. THATS NEWS TO ME

There's a whole lot of hype going down
It's all that you hear
If you experience elections
Lasting longer than four years(call the dr.)
It's all a media frenzy
Enough to bring you to tears
They'll mess with your mind

And play on your fears

There's rumors flying, gossip and lying
The news is just show time
OJ's in the big house
Doing time for the crime
They got Tiger up a tree
And the party's just begun
Give the world a sneaky peek
Make a fool of anyone

They call that news
But its a river of blues
I can't handle more scandal
I think I'm about to blow a fuse
I don't buy much of what I hear
Or what I read
'Cause if that's news
Well that's news to me

Everywhere you turn
There's Jesse and Reverend Al
They got a smidgen of religion
They're way holier than thou
The reverends Swaggert and Haggard
With their private girls and boys
Warren Jeff's got ten wives
It's all a bunch of noise

They're just virtue vendors, soul menders
You're damned if you don't or you do
Its all a magic act, and the cards are stacked
However you play you lose
It's all pulp in the papers, and tabloid TV
It's all spurious spin, and pabulum to me

That's not news
They're just streaming the blues
If you tune it all out
Boy you got nothing to lose
It's got little to do with reality
'Cause if that's news, well that's news to me

Don't want to stay at the Paris Hilton,
Or the Brittany Hotel
Don't want to hear a litany
Of all the latest kiss and tell
Publicity hounds
Making the rounds on TV
Dress it up as the news
It's still a pig to me

I need some true news
Not a river of blues
Give me something real
Something I can use
He said mission accomplished
Fait accompli
But if that's news
Well that's news to me

CREDITS

timbales : Paul Marchetti
saxophone : Craig Buhler
percussion and drum loops : Herb Fernandez
drums : Mike Buono
sordu : Kerry Sofaly
slide guitar : Rick Vito
high vocal : Tom Hall
guitars, bass, vocals : Steve Grimes

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5. SHAKEN AND STIRRED

When the mountain starts to rumble
And things begin to fall
The shakin' and tumblin'
Don't worry me at all
But you give me a tremor
With your little game of hearts
My world starts to crumble
Like a house of cards

I thought I had
Solid ground beneath my feet
Then the earth starts shaking
And tearin' up the street
Used to be our love was solid as a rock
But that's come and gone
And we can't turn back the clock

You got me rattled - rumbled
Shaken and stirred
Embattled - humbled
I can't find the words
Don't know my own mind
My vision is blurred
I'm rattled - rumbled - shaken and stirred

I always thought
I could weather any storm
I could stand against the wind

Since the day I was born
But baby your cold front
Chills me to the bone
And I shudder and shiver
Like I've never known

You got me rattled – rumbled
shaken and stirred
Embattled – humbled
I can't find the words
Don't know my own mind
My vision is blurred
I'm rattled – rumbled
Shaken and stirred

You got me rattled – shakin' in my boots
You got me rattled – way down to my roots
You got me rattled – I'm stumblin' around
You got me rattled – the sky is tumblin' down
You got me rattled, rumbled, shaken and stirred

(written by Steve Grimes and Rick Ravenscroft)

drums : Bob Jones
bass : Tim Hackbarth
gypsy and slide guitars : Rick Vito
percussion : Paul Marchetti
electric guitar, vocal : Steve Grimes

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6. MOVIN' TO MAUI

We're gonna move over to Maui
Buy some land next door to you
You know we're movin' to Maui
Buy that lot next door to you
We'll cut down all those big trees
Because they just obstruct our view

You know we're movin' upcountry
And buy ten acres next to you
We're gonna move on up to Kula
Build our McMansion next to you
We'll make it look like California
By the time we get through

My wife just got her license
To sell your real estate
And we got tons of money
So we can hardly wait

Till we move to Makena
And make some money off your land
We're gonna a make a dollar profit
For every single grain of sand

You know it just might take some time
To let these people know
That they got something special
But they're moving way too slow

That's why we're movin' to Lahaina
Make it look like Neverland
We're gonna sell it two years later

And make a quick nine hundred grand

Yeah we're moving to your hood
A little change is overdue
The bank account is looking good
We're buying up the avenue
If you don't like our way of living
Then you know what you should do

drums, lead vocal, Telecaster guitar :Bob Jones
bass : Tim Hackbarth
organ : Gilbert Emata
electric guitar : Steve Grimes

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7. TIMELESS LOVE

So easy to touch love
And so hard to hold love
Promises made of
Things better left untold

How could you not see
The way that you owned me
A heart from the start
For you and you only

Why we wander on
Hunting for a heart
A thousand miles gone
But only an inch apart
From timeless love

How empty the night is
Somehow I still hear you
The whisper you made
Your breath in my ear

I'm here but I'm there
So far but I'm near you
Close as the clothes you wear
A heart near enough to hear

And it's just a simple man
Still as the northern star
No complicated plan
And little to understand
Than timeless love

The things you would see
If you could see through me
The things you would know love
If you only knew me.

Percussion: Paul Marchetti
Acoustic guitar and nylon guitar, bass: Steve Grimes

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8. DISTANT STAR

Here in this old familiar place
In this vast and vacant space
Distance measures in the years
Some memories measure in tears

I keep denying that it's true
Convince myself it's all taboo
In the dimension where you hide
Like the dark side of the moon

And in this silent universe
I see, one shining certainty
The brightest star and darkest night
Still fade in early morning light

When time has reached eternity
Then this space will cease to be
However near or far you are
I'll still dream on a distant star

electric lead guitar : Sasha Brusin
saxophone : David Choy
keyboards : Gilbert Emata
bass : Hutch Hutchinson
drums : Josh Greenbaum
electric guitar, vocal : Steve Grimes

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9. WHAT THEY SAY

They say the bird's in the hand
And the cat's in the bag
They say that when he's away
The mice gonna play

And every dog has his day

Just let the sleeping ones lie
He's all bark and no bite
But once bitten twice shy

They say a fool and his money
Like castles made of sand
In the land of milk and honey
Do or don't you'll be damned

They say the best things are free
And what will be is gonna be
Love can't be bought can't be sold
Just 'cause it glitters it ain't gold

They say true love's hard to find
So make hay when it shines
And when the blind lead the blind
Out of sight out of mind

They say you are what you are
Hey, you can't win them all
They say the higher you are
The harder you fall

What it is, what they say
Who is they, anyway
Better to live for today
Than to die by cliché

If you're down, with the spin
Then you'll never win
So don't care, what they say

You got to play your own way

They say all in love is fair
And lightning never strikes twice
Don't take an eye for an eye
Two wrongs don't make a right

They say the luck of the draw
Like a roll of the dice
They say crime doesn't pay
Though every man has his price

They tell you never say die
Until your well runs dry
I'll live to see another day
Before the sweet bye and bye

slide guitar : Rick Vito
acoustic piano : Jon Cleary
bass : Hutch Hutchinson
drums : Josh Greenbaum
electric guitar, vocal : Steve Grimes

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10. ONE OF THESE DAYS

It doesn't seem real
It doesn't seem right
Something so big
Could slip right out of sight

A redwood in the wind
That stood so tall
So straight and strong
We thought you'd never fall

You can't stop the storm
Or keep the thunder away
Can't roll back the night
Can't slow the break of day
So easy to say
There weren't enough years

So hard to forget
All the laughter and tears

One of these days
Who knows where, who knows when
One of these days
We'll play those songs again
We'll be there of that you can be sure
We'll be knocking at your door
One of these days

And you lived and loved in a big way
And you played that beat in a big way
And we'll miss you - in a big way

A heart so big
Like a man and a half
A smile like lightning
And a thundering laugh
Like seeds of the weeds
Lost in the wind
Somewhere sometime
We'll find you again

CREDIT

acoustic lead guitar : Steve Stusser
drums : Kerry Sofaly
percussion : Paul Marchetti
bass : Bob Harrison
electric and nylon string guitars, vocal : Steve Grimes

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11. OVER THE WAVES

He was a radio man
And he could talk the talk
But with a dream and little more
He surely walked the walk

He had a plan he had a vision
Of sending music everywhere
This man was truly on a mission
And he put magic in the air

A million tales and vivid stories
Mana'o that he freely gave
And an endless repertory
Beaming over the waves

He was a virtual musician
And the muse was in his heart
To the end a true magician

And the airwaves was his art

The rhythm inside is quiet now
But the beat goes on
And still somehow
His signal is strong
And the song goes on and on
Over the waves
Over the waves

You hear a lot of people talking

About the things they're gonna do
And their grandiose ambitions
After their deal goes through

But the radio man
Could make a dream come true
He got the ship to come in
Before his show was through

Now he's sailing calmer waters
Broadcasting on another phase
I think I hear familiar sounds
Coming over the waves

harmonica : Norton Buffalo
dobro : Rob Ickes
drums : Kerry Sofaly
bass : Cliff Collins
acoustic guitar : Ken Kennell

harmony vocal : Caley Conway
electric guitar, vocal : Steve Grimes

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12. I'M DYING TO KNOW

I'm dying to know
The reason for life
A meaning for all
The struggle and strife
I'm dying to know
If there's life after death
If the party goes on
When I breathe my last breath

And god only knows
But I'm dying to ask
If I can't I take it with me
Can I make it last ?
They say the minute you're born
That's when you start dying
So I'm gonna live now
Or I'm gonna die trying

I'm dying to know
Will I pay when I go
For flying too high
For living too low
Can't figure it out
For the life of me

But I'm dying to know
I'm dying to know

I'm dying to know, about reincarnation
They say we evolve, the next time around
But it's hard to come back
From eternal damnation
If hell is your home, when you're down
You're down

Where is the answer
Why can't I see
The question to be
Or not to be
Why, where and when
And how will I go
For the life of me
I'm dying to know

Ashes to ashes
It's dust to dust
I'll pay when it's over
Pay if I must
No time for faith
And too late for trust
Ah, what the hell

Late last night in a dream I was flying
Took a red eye flight, and flew out of my bed
Easy as a breeze, this thing called dying
Not a care in the world if I wake up dead

But before I go I'm dying to see
A miracle or two appear to me
They say have faith and try not to think
We all believe in something

I believe I'll have another drink

CREDITS

electric guitar, acoustic guitar : Rick Vito
drums : Mike Buono
bass : Bob Harrison
organ : Gilbert Emata
acoustic guitar, vocal : Steve Grimes

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13. OUT OF THE WOODS

Out of the woods, a tune through the trees
A tone from the timbre, a drift in the breeze
The sound of the woods sustains for so long
They say what doesn't kill you
In the end makes you strong

Out of the wood I hold in my hands

Will come songs about lovers
And dreams made of sand
A tune in the making, tall stories to tell
I know some gifted musician
Will tell the tale well

A labor of love I held for so long
That melody now is another man's song
This wood and steel can play the blues
That now I feel I'm lucky to lose

They say wood has a memory

It will soften and bend
And teaches a lesson I learned in the end
No need to hold on to a single regret
I've got things to remember
And things to forget

You can't unbreak what's broken
Or roll back the years
You can't unsay what's spoken, or uncry a tear
And my eyes now open, it all seems so clear
I see the thick and thin I was in, slowly disappear

I'm lucky to love what I held for so long
That melody now is another man's song
She's rosewood and steel, maple and spruce
These blues I feel, I'm lucky to lose

I'm out of the woods, I stand in the clear
When the melody changes, I'll play it by ear
They tell you never look back
But one thing I know
The memories follow wherever I go.

CREDITS

lead acoustic guitar : Barry Flanagan
drums, percussion, 60 grit sandpaper : Paul Marchetti
bass : Bob Harrison
harmony vocal : Caley Conway
acoustic 6 and 12 string guitars, mandolin, vocal : Steve
Grimes

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