

The Yawpers *Human Question*

Credits

Produced by The Yawpers
All songs written and performed by The Yawpers
Published by The Yawpers, LLC

The Yawpers are:
Nate Cook – vocals, guitar
Jesse Parmet – guitar, vocals
Alex Koshak – drums, vocals

Additional performances by Alex Hall:
Wurlitzer on “Earn Your Heaven”
Piano on “Carry Me”
Vibraphone on “Can’t Wait”
Vibraphone on “Vibraphone”

Engineered by Alex Hall
Mixed by Alex Hall and The Yawpers

Recorded at Electrical Audio in Chicago, IL
Additional recording and mixing at Reliable Recorders in Chicago, IL

Mastered by Jim Wilson Mastering

Album layout and design by Alexandre De Meyer
Album photography by Anthony Nguyen

Lyrics

Child of Mercy

Little child of mercy
I'm living in a quiet room
Blind to every reminder that everything goes to soon
Please wake me up when the night is over
When it's safe to come outside

I'm lying down in my broken home
Like a child again
All I need, everything I own, met every possible end
Little child of mercy

All the shades are drawn
Wires on the walls
All the furniture's gone
Please, give me something that I can believe in
Something that takes it away

I'm lying down in my broken home
Like a child again
All I need, everything I own, every possible friend
Little child of mercy

I guess maybe the angels are deaf
To the wants and needs of the weary
To the chronically bereft
I'm lying down in my broken home
Like a child again
All I need, everything I own, every possible friend

Dancing on my Knees

In the struggle since the altar
The world has taken shape
I've found the words I'm looking for but they came a little late
Could you believe that I haven't stood in years?
I'm on to greener pastures
But my neck is in the weeds
I've taken all the medicine but I've still got your disease
Written out my story
Knowing that when it bleeds it leads
Even on these broken bones I'm dancing on my knees

As focused as a navigator, when he hears the siren's call
Lyrical as a cardinal before the branches
I'm finding out that you can make just what you want

It wasn't what I asked for
But it's exactly what I need
You said there's growth in agony and we finally agree
If nothing really matters
We can finally let it be
Even on these broken bones I'm dancing on my knees

Human Question

The beauty of desperation
On a neutral ground
With the signs of every nation
Where the body is bound
Can there ever be an answer?
Such an elegant fear
Each conviction feels so fluid
Every effigy fades
No priests, no guides, no fathers
Where the body is laid

What is this human question?
What can we hold up beneath an empty sky
Folding inside a lover's sighs
Sounds that comfort and destroy what we wanted from the noise

Traveling up the mountain
Past the Catherine Wheel
The only children see where
The body's revealed

There is no hesitation
How do we mourn as the silence fills our heads
There's so much time now to forget
Sound that comforts and destroys what we needed from the noise

Man as Ghost

No one else is here, my body has no violence left to give
I'm neighbor with another man who moves where ever I decide to live
She could've known be better, but while she slept I left her for the night
How I look in darkness is what makes me quiet in the light

This is the opposite of vision
A heart carried to the center of something real
Past the victim and the perpetrator, inside a body that needs to heal

I'm a ghost
This is a vicious world of poor design
I'll build one of my own

I'll make Jerusalem, Arcadia, or Meropis
Because I have no home
I've always been a visitor but you were such a quiet place to breathe
I saw you as a vision, where the hungry go to feed
I'm a ghost, in a world of loss
In my memories you're next to me
A limbless jury and my host
I'm finally taking ownership, I'm a better lover as a ghost

Earn Your Heaven

My head is empty
The center cannot hold
I'm studying solitude, and I'm the only one enrolled
My mise en scene, went in front of the court
The coterie deliberated with nothing to report
But every man is a monolith
The shadow is shortest with an audient

Interrogate my future, divorce my pride
Open up my windows, when it rains in side
Who but you could bear your name?
May as well be a beggar, looking for a change of course
Living like a man adjudicating over all the things he's lost

Give a man a future, give a man a past
Or a list of questions, that no one is allowed to ask
You've been the brick, but not the wall
You've been the throat, but not the call

Put the gavel away
Pull the bucket from the well
Too soft to stand up straight, or douse an arid hell
Who but you good bear your name?
You earn your heaven here

Reason to Believe

Been an imposter
But I'm trying real hard
Asking for forgiveness
But I'm doing it wrong
You can take the high road
Or do what you please
But the map is fading
The setting doesn't read
Or maybe I'm living on the ocean
Where the water gets deep
Where the nights get cold
And the days last for weeks

There's nothing even here, child
And that's a relief
So put away your anger
And put away you grief

I'm going down to the river
That flows through the valley below
I'm bathing in the frigid waters
Learning things I should never know
I don't have many things, but I've got a reason to believe
That I've got the symptoms, but I'm cured of the disease

I wanna go to Paris
Don't wanna end it all
I want a conversation
To add to my oeuvre
Take me to the school of the Avant Garde
Gonna need a master
To help explain it all

I'm going down to the river
That flows through the valley below
I'm bathing in the frigid waters
Learning things I should never know
I don't have many things, but I've got a reason to believe
That I've got the symptoms, but I'm cured of the disease

Carry Me

You left on a plane
It's true, I'm in so much pain
But it's alright, this moment will carry me
Your face is so cruel
Makes me a waste and a fool
But it's been so nice to see you around
This moment will carry me

Please, I need my lover's hands
To dance on my skin
To harvest my garden
Won't you let me suffer your touch?
You know it doesn't matter much
Whether you wake me
Or remake me
I'll be alright
This moment will carry me

So take me

Or break free
I'll be alright for awhile
This moment will carry me
I don't need an answer
Just your breath to fill up my lungs
I'm clinging to your raft
The only thing I ask
Is save me
From the waves in this sea
Won't you take me into your arms, if only for a moment

And carry me
Lie to me as a little mercy
Lie to me, it's all I need
Tell me you love me, in this moment
And you'll carry me through

Forgiveness Through Pain

Take out your grandmother's China
Bring the old Waterford Crystal down
Bring out your three piece, prepare us a feast
A visitor's coming to town
He knows everyone in your family
They've been acquainted for years
He's never invited, you can't close the door
He's got all of the clout around here
He's out on the prowl for some violence
Looking to cause some pain
So bring out what kills, your liquor and pills
This room needs to be arranged
Bring out your finest champagne
Nothing to lose or to contain
He's not a friend, but he's here until the end
And to teach you forgiveness through pain

He's never wanted for anything
Whatever he needs he takes
He lives on the love you've been burying deep
And then left by the garden gates
So take out all of your money
Call your mother to tell her goodbye
Ask the priest for absolution
Call the police to report a crime
You couldn't blame your caller for trying
And judgement just wouldn't be fair
When it comes to your passenger, what could you ask of him
It always costs too much to care
Bring out your finest champagne
Nothing to lose or to contain

He's not a friend, but he's here until the end
And to teach you forgiveness through pain

His prophecies all speak about you
From his dark bench in the yard
The leaves all fall around him, and he passes without a word
He's a collector of all that you've lost
All the things you've left behind
All of the things that you thought that you'd see
But instead they just rendered you blind
Bring out your finest champagne
Nothing to lose or to contain
He's not a friend, but he's here until the end
And to teach you forgiveness through pain

Can't Wait

Take it as it comes
The orchestra is set up downstairs
There isn't anyone watching down below
And you can see it all
From your perch in the projector room
See the film's distortions as it slows
Every moment where you stood stunned
Where the officials raised their guns
You only get them once before they go

Can I move it back, are all these faces really gone
Should I even ask, these reels are spinning on and on

I've been feeling nothing, so wrap me up around your knees
I've been looking for some comfort in this world that's escaping me
I've been riding these banisters for weeks
I've been chasing you through the dirty sheets
I've been waiting for the lights to go out on me

There's no need for actors
Or tickets at the start of the show
The marquee will remain unchanged as it glows
They'll bring up the spot
And then bring down the snow
Every fear will take the stage, and then disrobe
And your teeth will find each other
And stay locked in a rigid row
The music starts so softly, but it grows

Can I move it back, are all these faces really gone
Should I even ask, these reels are spinning on and on

I've been feeling nothing, so wrap me up around your knees

I've been looking for some comfort in this world that's escaping me
I've been riding these bannisters for weeks
I've been chasing you through the dirty sheets
I've been waiting for a quiet time to leave
I've been waiting for the lights to go out on me
I can't wait

Where the Winters End

May your seasons find their end
May your crowns change on your head
May you learn to walk with the dead,

And feel the living hand in kind

May your mouth find every word
May your ecstasies be heard
May you always continue to burn,

And to warm the ones you need
Take me to the place where the winters stop
We dug with our hands, and buried our love
I know we only left if there for us
But we're getting older

May my voice continue to rise
May my arrow find ever lie
May I never avert my eyes

And find comfort in the dark
Take me to the place where the winters stop
Where I held your hand, and locked away love
It's wet and warm and hidden in the leaves
I know you wouldn't want it left beneath
When we were young, it sheltered my belief
I know we only left it there for us
But we're getting older