



Old Enough To Know

He thinks he's a man but he's only a child He rakes up the leaves then jumps in the pile Lives in the clouds but still needs a stool to reach the sink

He speaks like a sage but can't spell his name He cries when he's hurt then shows no shame Plays with a sword but still lets his sister paint him pink

Don't let him ask why Santa wears Boots identical to Daddy's pair He writes letters to the North Pole I'll tell him when he's old enough to know

When he's heard every tale I can create
When he's seen every shape the clouds can make
Caught every fish in the deep blue sea
Maybe then

Don't let him ask why people die Why they cheat and steal, why they lie He still believes in hearts of gold I'll tell him when he's old enough to know

He thinks he's a man but he's only a child He rakes up the leaves then jumps in the pile Lives in the clouds but still needs a stool to reach the sink

When he's tried every ice cream cone When he's thrown every single stone Maybe then he'll be old enough to know

Inspiration: Emily, Iris, Noah, Daniel, and all the rest



The Lovers Of Lough Key

Do you remember how we both came to lie right here Look up at the lover's knot and it will all be clear Waiting for wind to rest Waiting for snow to melt Throughout it all two trees Have held I missed you at our meeting place; I searched the woods in vain Your father he had locked you in and said that you'd remain He left you no way out So you refused to eat

No force can break What we've got Life is fragile Love is not

Just sleep

Every night, across the lough, I swam the icy mile
To where your father buried you out on this distant isle
One day my breath drew short
My fever, it grew high
I knew it was my turn
To die

Don't blame yourself, my love

No force can break What we've got Life is fragile Love is not

I felt so safe
At last I lay beside you
In this grave
Two trees would grow
Their limbs would join together
And not let go

No force can break What we've got Life is fragile Love is not

Inspiration: The tragic lovers Una MacDermott and Thomas MacCostello of Lough Key, County Roscommon, Ireland



Pure As The Driven Snow

His name is Adam He wants a wife To lay below him And give him life This is less than half I will be much more than that

My name is Lilith His chosen one I am a bird who Flies near the sun When, he rides my wing I will explain everything

Spring sun melts the snow Then streams start to flow He is a glacier I'm a river below We make an ocean Pure as the driven snow

Her name is Eve and She's just a girl Who doesn't know the Ways of the world Eve believes it when He tells her that winter won't end Spring sun melts the snow Then streams start to flow He is a glacier I'm a river below We make an ocean Pure as the driven snow

Frozen blue
Muddy brown
When the rain pours down
His are blue
Mine are brown
When the rain pours down

He is a glacier I'm a river below We make an ocean Pure as the driven snow

Inspiration: Queen Medbh and her husband Aillil from the great Irish epic, The Táin Bó Cuailnge





Which Wind

Lion roar Nettle sting Oil of musk Royal king I rip your sail Mighty northern gale

Kitten purr Soft caress Potpourri Seductress I soothe your skin Tender southern wind

Which wind is it that blows in me? What am I to expect? Which wind is it that prevailed when I took my first breath? North, south, east, or west?

Coyote call Woolen itch Frankincense Alchemist I steal your hat Sneaky eastern draft Banshee moan Graveyard chill Musty book Oracle I stir tea leaves Ancient western breeze

Which wind is it that blows in me? What am I to expect? Which wind is it that prevailed when I took my first breath? North, south, east, or west?

Oh the chaos, it would end if I could only stop the wind Oh the center, I would find if I could only stop my mind If the wrinkle left the lake I could see my own face If the chime I could bear my own sigh

Which wind is it that blows in me? What am I to expect? Which wind is it that prevailed when I took my first breath? North, south, east, or west?

Inspiration: Walking the strand at Keem Bay, Achill Island, County Mayo, Ireland



Last Boat Out

I don't ever want to be the last boat out I don't ever want to be the boat without one behind Fishermen say it's an omen

All I know for sure is no one's that brave

Lash our boats together and we'll ride the seventh wave On the path the sun has laid Wave goodbye to land there's a seagull at the bow Time to pull up anchor now

I don't ever want to be the last to die I don't ever want to be the one surviving apart Seeing you like this is lonely Pray I wake to find it's only a dream

Lash our boats together and we'll ride the seventh wave
On the path the sun has laid
Wave goodbye to land there's a dolphin at the stern
It's the point of no return

In life we share a single sheet
One shroud is all we'll need in sleep
Please don't leave
Me here

Lash our boats together and we'll ride the seventh wave On the path the sun has laid Wave goodbye to land there's a dolphin at the stern It's the point of no return Inspiration: "Three boats were lashed together when leaving a harbour because it was unlucky to be the third boat out." Superstitions of the Irish Country People by Padraic O'Farrell



Relativity

I loved you like the ancient soul mate of a redwood I thought that we'd last for at least a thousand years I saw our life unfold from new moon to crescent And the sun sprint across the sphere Inspiration: "When a man sits with a pretty girl for an hour it seems like a minute. But let him sit on a hot stove for a minute—it's longer than an hour. That's relativity!"

Albert Einstein

We were both riding, on the same light beam Traveling at different speeds With a watch in your hand wishing time would pass It barely crept along With my head in your lap thinking time would last I was wrong

You loved me like the vernal soul mate of a mayfly Born in the springtime you knew nothing of the fall You saw the moon as having only the one face And the sun never move at all

We were both riding, on the same light beam Traveling at different speeds With a watch in your hand wishing time would pass It barely crept along With my head in your lap thinking time would last I was wrong

It took no time to grow apart A relative shift of heart

I loved you like the ancient soul mate of a redwood





Worry Doll

She's nothin' very showy, a handmade toy
Who stands one inch in height
Made from bits of cloth, her bed is a box
Below your pillow at night
I found her in your pocket, you couldn't sweet talk it
I knew you were in love
It came as such a blow, what I need to know
Is why I'm not enough

Talk to me in the dark, tell me what made life hard I will take it away I know you're aching so and you need a soft place to fall Let me be your worry doll

Nothin' that you say, could drive me away I stand firmly by you Made of flesh and bone, a better touchstone I am constant and true

Talk to me in the dark, tell me what made life hard I will take it away I know you're aching so and you need a soft place to fall Let me be your worry doll Inspiration: "There is a legend among the highland Indian villages of Guatemala: If you have a problem, then share it with a Worry Doll before going to bed. Place the doll under your pillow while you sleep and the doll will take your worries away." Directions enclosed with a Worry Doll



Three Sisters

Three sisters oversee our Life, death, and birth Out of the ether they weave Air, fire, water, earth Thread of the universe

The youngest was born with a spindle in her hand She gathers each thread of human life Some are rough, some are smooth There's no telling what may happen as The wheel of fortune moves

Three sisters oversee our Life, death, and birth Out of the ether they weave Air, fire, water, earth Thread of the universe

The middle one was born with a ruler in her hand She measures each thread of human life Some are short, some are long There's no getting back in line if The wheel of fortune's wrong

Three sisters oversee our Life, death, and birth Out of the ether they weave Air, fire, water, earth Thread of the universe They watch as souls ride 'round on The wheel they spin Each three-and-one-half turns a Serpent sheds his skin Moon grows full again

The oldest was born with a scissor in her hand She severs each thread of human life Some are slow, some are fast There's no turning back around once The wheel of fortune's passed

Three sisters oversee our Life, death, and birth Out of the ether they weave Air, fire, water, earth Thread of the universe

Inspiration: The Three Winds or Moirai, daughters of Mother Night: waxing Clotho, the spinner (birth); full Lachesis, the measurer (life); waning Atropis, the cutter (death)



Fisherman's Tear

I'm a starving skeleton, undersea Waiting like a sunken chest, patiently Somersaults in sand for a thousand years I will be revived by a fisherman's tear

I have taken many hooks to the top When they see the tangled mess they have caught Overboard I go 'cause I cause them fear I will know it's you by the fisherman's tear

So slow, so slowly you'll reach out to pull in my line So swift, so swiftly I'll fill out with love and be fine

We will sleep in fishing nets beneath the moon Dance upon the wooden decks of your ballroom I won't need champagne or a gondolier I will quench my thirst with my fisherman's tear

Inspiration: The Inuit story 'Skeleton Woman,' as told by Clarissa Pinkola Estes in her book-that-made-a-difference-to-me, Women Who Run with the Wolves



Gold Dust Kid

When you were young you stuck gum on a stick Below the drain gate that's where you fished Fishing for coins you caught three golden chains I was so proud I gave you this name You'll always be my Gold Dust Kid

Cutting through jungle for treasure chests Repelling shark for galleon wrecks Wrecking your lungs in a sapphire mine I cheered you on for the one big find You'll always be my Gold Dust Kid

If I could go back to the earth Now I see how to end the search Right under your nose There's a ruby in the pocket of your soul

I heard you whispering up to the sky "Orion, my hero, you know I'd die Dying I am to know just how it felt When you received that jewel in your belt" You'll always be my Gold Dust Kid

Inspiration: 21st-century treasure hunters



Tarot Cards

Guide me down the path Guide me down into the valley of travelers To pick my parents and after To be born

Help me through the maze Help me navigate the twisting and turning All the lessons I'm learning On my course

Mother hold my hand We'll walk through this land These are the cards This is the journey These are the steps of life

Hang my ankle up Hang my body upside down from the oak tree Watch the lake rise to drown me Out of sight

Chain me to my demon Chain me up inside his room in the tower Lock me there 'til the hour Lightning strikes Father wave goodbye I know we'll both cry These are the cards This is the journey These are the tears of life

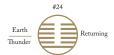
Float me on the tide Float me out onto the sea far from dark fear I've forgotten my nightmare And the storm

Pry my eyes open Pry the nails from the lid on my coffin So I can climb up the mountain And start once more

Lover plant a rose Where we used to go These are the cards This is the journey These are the seeds of life

Inspiration: Trying to find my way out of the huge Halloween corn maze in Petaluma, California





Father Sky

I'm playing gitty-up-horsey On my Grandpa's knee Mother Goose has come to roost Why go to sleep to dream

But Father Sky says I'll tuck you in bed And float you off to sleep Mother Earth turns before I can learn How many jumping sheep I can't resist a spell so sweet

I'm holding my diploma My time card's still brand new The ladder, the loss, the bills, the boss There's always so much left to do

But Father Sky says I'll tuck you in bed And float you off to sleep Mother Earth turns before I can learn How many jumping sheep I can't resist a spell so sweet

I'm rocking in the porch swing A grandchild on my knee Tales to be told of how I grew old It can't be time to leave

But Father Sky says I'll tuck you in bed And float you off to sleep



Inspiration: Orpheus and lullabies

Sláinte Mhaith

He was the water of life Barley, she was his wife Married at last They lived in a cask Let's all sing Sláinte mhaith! Let's all sing Sláinte mhaith!

Fed by his sweet mountain dew Long, her golden hair grew Their children became More of the same Let's all sing Sláinte mhaith! Let's all sing Sláinte mhaith!

His ancestors came from the Nile From ev'ry rank and file Pharaoh and priest Sailor and thief Let's all sing **Sláinte mhaith!** Let's all sing **Sláinte mhaith!**

He was a popular man From Ireland to Japan Better with age Some say a sage Let's all sing Sláinte mhaith! Let's all sing Sláinte mhaith! He raised a glass
Right to the end
Said "Here's to passing
Time with friends
Cane and sit down
Take off your coat
I'll pour a round and
Keep the fire stoked."

The angel of doom came at dawn The ghost in the bottle is gone He said don't despair When she takes her share Let's all sing Sláinte mhaith! Let's all sing Sláinte mhaith!

Inspiration: The angel's share of Irish whiskey—the ten percent that mysteriously evaporates as it matures



Lisa Hake: Vocals, Acoustic Guitar, Banjo-Guitar, Octave Mandolin

James Blennerhassett: Double Bass, Electric Bass, Electric Guitar, Acoustic Guitar, Banjo-Guitar, Keyboards, Recorder, Percussion

Liam Bradley: Drums

Alvin Sweeney: Backing Vocals

All songs written by Lisa Hake

Produced, Recorded, Mixed, and Mastered by James Blennerhassett at

The Dog Haus at Robin Hill, County Roscommon, Ireland

Design by Lisa Hake and Roomthree Design, Dublin

Photograph by Brenda Fitzsimons

Cover image "Four Seasons" by Jacek Yerka, www.yerkaland.com



Thanks a million to those who gave prana to my project

James Blennerhasset, Alvin Sweeney, Steve Seskin and the Thursday Night Songwriters, Steve Baughman, Gerry O'Beirne, Ralph Murphy, Eamonn Coffey, Patricia Murphy, Anne Stewart, Miriam Fox, Carolyn Green, Brian Harten, Keith Johnson, Wallace Bravepaw, and (Ben)²⁵

