

IMPROVISED WISDOM

LYRICS BY JON GARVEY

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TODAY

By Jon Garvey ©1980

Woke up today
I couldn't say
Why things seem different in some kind of way
Just buying some tea
And what do I see
A pretty girl smiles, and she's smiling at me
 I've got a strange kind of feeling today
 Seems that the world wants to love me today

The houses all glow
Why is it so?
Why do the people stare, I want to know?
Is it my clothes
The shape of my nose
Rings on my fingers or corns on my toes?
 I'm in a weird kind of dreamworld today
 Seems all the world wants to love me today

Oh, oh, I've got music in my ears!
Can't you hear it too? It rings so clear

Digging the ground
Dossing around
Cleaning the windows or walking the hound
Filling in forms
Mowing the lawn
I feel like a baby that's newly been born
 There's never been such a day as today
 I want to smile on the whole world today

Hey! Hey! I've got Jesus in my heart
Oh, oh I can make a brand new start

Woke up today
I couldn't say
Why things seem different in some kind of way
I can't eat my meals, nothing seems real
I'm walking in heaven with wings on my heels
 I've got a strange kind of feeling today
 Seems that the world wants to love me today

I'M DOING FINE

By Jon Garvey ©1983

Somewhere in England at the end of the day
You know you're bound to find me singing away
Yes I've troubles, ah but when I'm in time
I'm doing fine

Once 'pon a time I couldn't say what I believed
Found it so hard to wear my heart on my sleeve
Now I've got my feelings sorted out into rhyme
I'm doing fine

Where does it come from, and where does it go?
Just know the music is starting to flow
Nothing above me, and nothing below
And I can fly!

Tried to restrain it, oh but what can I do?
All of those sounds just keep a'coming on through
If I hear music at the end of the line
I'm doing fine

THIS IS THE NIGHT

By Jon Garvey ©1984

Look all around you
What do you see?
The world we've all lived for
Slides into the sea
The horsemen are riding
The trumpet sounds clear
The people look skyward
Their hearts full of fear
This is the night
This is the night
This is the night
Come on with the day!

Armies of evil
Gathered for war
The weapons are pounding
But I hear them no more
This is the night...

These are the last days
Of which you've been told
Soon comes the founding
Of the City of Gold
This is the night...

THE HILLS OF JERUSALEM

by Jon Garvey © 1986

Come with me and stand on the hills of Jerusalem
Where the cold April sun gives no warmth to the day
Come with me and stand at the foot of a scaffold
Where my Love has been taken away.

Come see as they curse him and charge him with evil
That man who, of all men, had never done wrong
Come see as they mock him, and beat him, and scourge him
Who formed the whole world with his song.

Come see as they hammer the cruel iron through him
But love, and not nails, is what holds him on high
Come see as the darkness of sin rests upon him
And, cut off from his God, watch him die.

Come with me and stand on the hills of Jerusalem
Where Christ gave his heart's blood to make all things new
Come with me and stand where the whole world is standing
And know that he he did it for you.

THROUGH THE DEEP WATERS

By Jon Garvey ©1976

Child, you are young
Your complexion is frail
Believing that sunshine will be your only companion
No, through the deep waters he asks you to go
Beaten and broken, downhearted and low
Through the deep waters he asks you to go

Gethsemane, Golgotha
Brought the Christ low
"Let this cup pass from me," the Father says "No"
"Through the deep waters I ask you to go"
Beaten and broken, downhearted and low
Through the deep waters he asks you to go

Suffering and trials
Sometimes seem all I know
Alone in this ravening world
Faith my last smouldering glow
Drowned in deep waters, now, how can I go?

Yet from my life
From his Gospel I know
Through all he leads so gently to streams of greater glory
Though through the deep waters he'll ask you to go
Beaten and broken, downhearted and low
Through the deep waters he asks you to go
Trusting in him only, though your blood flow
Through the deep waters he asks you to go

ALL I CHOOSE

By Jon Garvey © 2002

Dozin' at the close of a perfect day
I can't believe it
I can't believe it
Oh the very air takes my breath away
I can't believe this evening with you
I can't believe it's true

Maybe we went out for a walk somewhere
I can't remember
It was a different land
The sun is gone, only love is real
I can't believe this evening with you
I can't believe it's true

I had no load to shoulder
The summer carried me home
Now I have you
And that's all I choose to know

Tell me what you'd like and I'll make it so
A coffee maybe
A smile if you'd prefer
Your very eyes take my sight away
I can't believe this evening with you
I can't believe it's true

Tonight will last forever
Your love has carried me home

Now I have you
And that's all I choose to see

Tell me what you'd like and I'll make it so
A coffee maybe
The world if you'd prefer
Your very soul takes my heart away
I can't believe this evening with you
I can't believe it's true

EVERY ONE A MASTERPIECE

By Jon Garvey ©1980

I was filled with self-pity
But you said when you came
"Things would be different
If only they weren't the same."
Oh, oh, Things would be different
If only they weren't the same

It's true what you told me
I don't find it odd
"Each sky's a masterpiece
Painted by God"
Oh, oh, Each sky's a masterpiece
Painted by God

Improvised wisdom, the things people say
Die on their lips but will not fade away

The last thing I heard from you
stuck in my brain
"Have a nice life
If we don't meet again"
Oh, oh, Have a nice life
If we don't meet again

JAY

By Jon Garvey ©1975

Jay reposes sadly
In his favourite east chair
The songs he writes say what he likes
But no-one else would dare
To share his wild and roving mind
Through all the worlds he's made
They'll only go to where they know
That they won't be afraid
*Jay you've got to trade your dreams for truth
And if you're striving
Jay you've got to seek your future too
You know you have
'Cause that's what life is for*

Please believe it's true
If you are searching you will find
But don't you go and leave the doors
You think you've seen behind
Men will let their souls be sold
So they won't have to change
But moving on is just as wrong
When truth says to remain
Jay...

HOSEA'S SONG

by Jon Garvey ©1982

Don't know how much further I can go
Don't you realise you hurt me so
When you run me down to everyone you see
You tell your friends I treat you badly
Tell them 'bout the love you've never had
But I'd give me life to win your love for me
Time after time
All I've done is sit here cryin'
Thinking of those other loves you try to hide

I just can't believe a thing you say
All you tell is lies from day to day
It's as if it's just your way to bring me down
You act as if I'm cheating too
Like I'm trying to keep something from you
But you know I'd never think of fooling round

Time after time
All I've done is sit here cryin'
Thinking just what it might be you're trying to prove
Deep in my heart
Something's tearing me apart
Trying to hide the pain inside gets harder and hard and ...

I just can't believe a thing you say
(How much further can you go)
All you tell is lies from day to day
(After she has hurt you so?)
It's as if it's just your way to make me blue
(Deep inside you know she's never going to change her ways)
But I wish you could believe me
(How much longer can you say)
In spite of all the lies you weave
(That your love will find a way?)
That I never could conceive if leaving you
(Inside you know she's leaving you)

SPRING BELOW, SKY ABOVE

By Jon Garvey ©1980

In the time of the year
When the sky is bright and clear
Spring below, sky above
Young man's heart is filled with love

Says come to me, come to me
Come and I will make you free
Now don't you fret, don't you frown
I will never let you down
Spring below, sky above
Young man's heart is filled with love

Come to me, come to me
Sing your perfect harmony
Sing your song in my ear
You have nothing more to fear
Spring below...

THE ROGUE OF BALLAGHADERREEN

Jon Garvey © 2002

*Dedicated to my grandfather, the infamous and elusive Ralph Augustus
Beresford*

THE VEGETABLE MAN

By Jon Garvey ©1980

The Vegetable Man
Is a law unto himself
With his lentils in the oven
And his vitamins on the shelf
He sips his herbal ginseng tea
To keep his system tunes
Which gives him herbal diarrhoea
To last the afternoon

*But the Vegetable man
He is not to be decried
It's you who hide your abattoirs
But purchase what has died
It's you who shrink from bloodshed
But murder just the same
O it's not the Vegetable Man
Who needs to be defamed*

The Vegetable Man
Has a heart that never fails
He saves his shrimps and scampi up
And feeds them to the whales
His hearth is always welcome
And he keeps an open door
But if you light your ciggy up
He'll nail you to the floor