

TALES OF MYSTERY AND IMAGINATION - EDGAR ALLAN POE

The Alan Parsons Project

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A DREAM WITHIN A DREAM (*Instrumental*)

(1987 version)

"For my own part, I have never had a thought which I could not set down in words, with even more distinctness than that which I conceived it.

There is however a class of fancies, of exquisite delicacy, which are not thoughts, and to which, as yet, I have found it absolutely impossible to adapt to language. These fancies arise in the soul (alas, how rarely!) only at epochs of most intense tranquility - when the bodily and mental health are in perfection - and at those mere points of time where the confines of the waking world blend with the world of dreams.

And so I captured this fancy, where all that we see or seem is but a dream within a dream."

THE RAVEN

The clock struck midnight
And through my sleeping
I heard a tapping at my door
I looked but nothing
Lay in the darkness
And so I turned inside once more

To my amazement
There stood a raven
Whose shadow hung above my door
Then through the silence
It spoke the one word
That I shall hear for evermore

Nevermore
Thus quoth the raven, nevermore

And still the raven
Remains in my room
No matter how much I implore
No words can soothe him
No prayer remove him
And I must hear for evermore

Quoth the raven, nevermore
Thus quoth the raven
Nevermore

Quoth the raven, nevermore
Thus quoth the raven
Nevermore

Nevermore, nevermore, nevermore, never
Nevermore, nevermore, never
Nevermore, nevermore, never

Nevermore, nevermore, nevermore, never
Nevermore, nevermore, never
Nevermore, nevermore

Nevermore

THE TELL-TALE HEART

You should have seen him
Lying alone in helpless silence in the night
You should have seen him
You would have seen his eye reflecting in the light

So for the old man
Ashes to ashes, earth to earth and dust to dust
No one will see me
No one with guilt to share, no secret soul to trust

And he won't be found at all
Not a trace to mark his fall
Nor a stain upon the wall

Louder and louder
Till I could tell the sound was not within my ears
You should have seen me
You would have seen my eyes grow white and cold with fear

Heard all the things in Heaven and Earth
I've seen many things in Hell
But his vulture's eye of a cold pale blue
Is the eye of the Devil himself

Take me away now
But let the silence drown the beating of his heart
I can't go on, Let me flee from this guilty secret that I carry
Please, set me free now!

THE CASK OF AMONTILLADO

By the last breath of the four winds that blow
I'll have revenge upon Fortunato
Smile in his face I'll say 'come let us go
I've a cask of Amontillado'

Sheltered inside from the cold of the snow
Follow me now to the vault down below
Drinking the wine as we laugh at the time
Which is passing incredibly slow

(What are these chains that are binding my arms)
Part of you dies each passing day
(Say it's a game and I'll come to no harm)
You'll feel your life slipping away

You who are rich and whose troubles are few
May come around to see my point of view
What price the Crown of a King on his throne
When you're chained in the dark all alone

(Spare me my life only name your reward)
Part of you dies each brick I lay
(Bring back some light in the name of the Lord)
You'll feel your mind slipping away

DOCTOR TARR AND PROFESSOR FETHER

(Just what you need to make you feel better)
(Just what you need to make you feel)
(Just what you need to make you feel better)
(Just what you need to make you feel)

At the far end of your tether
And your thoughts won't fit together
So you sleep light or whatever
And the night goes on forever

Then your mind change like the weather
You're in need of Doctor Tarr and Professor Fether

(Just what you need to make you feel better ...)

Even clouds seem bright and breezy
'Cause the livin' is free and easy
See the rat race in a new way
Like you're walkin' up to a new day
It's a wise thing if you're clever
Take a lead from Doctor Tarr and Professor Fether

Find the end of a rainbow
Fly wherever the winds blow
Laugh at life like a sideshow
Just what you need to make you feel better

(Just what you need to make you feel better ...)

Satisfaction altogether
Guaranteed by Doctor Tarr and Professor Fether

Find the end of a rainbow
Fly wherever the winds blow
Laugh at life like a sideshow
Just what you need to make you feel better

Don't stop bringin' the girls round
Don't start havin' a showdown
Keep on handin' the jug round
All that you need is wine and good company
(Just what you need to make you feel better ...)

THE FALL OF THE HOUSE OF USHER (*Instrumental*)

(1987 version)

"Shadows of shadows passing. It is now 1831, and as always, I am absorbed with a delicate thought. It is how poetry has indefinite sensations, to which end music is an essential, since the comprehension of sweet sound is our most indefinite conception. Music, when combined with a pleasurable idea, is poetry; music, without the idea, is simply music. Without music, or an intriguing idea, color becomes pallor, man becomes carcass, home becomes catacomb, and the dead are, but for a moment, motionless ... "

TO ONE IN PARADISE

If I could see the sky above
And my mind could be set free
As wild white horses reached the shore
I'd stand alone and oversee

And if the bush before me burns
Should I turn my eyes away
And still the voices I can hear (I'd say)
As clear to me as light of day (come from Paradise)

I believed in my dreams
Nothing could change my mind (Nothing could change my mind)
Now I know what they mean
How could I be so blind

Cold sands of time
(Winds that blow as cold as ice
Sounds that come in the night)
Shall hide what is left of me
(Come from Paradise)

I've been through times when no one cared
(Words that were mine)
I've seen clouds in empty skies
(Clouds in empty skies)
When one kind word meant more to me
(Shall last as a memory)
Than all the love in Paradise

I believed in my dreams
Nothing could change my mind

(Nothing can save me)
(Nothing can save me)
(Nothing can save me now)
Till I found what they mean
Nothing can save me now

*"And all my days are trances, And all my nightly dreams
Are where thy dark eye glances, And where thy footstep gleams--
In what ethereal dances, By what eternal streams."*

EDGAR (bonus track on deluxe edition)

When I was a lad they used to tell me
All about the Boogie Man
And wouldn't Mother Mary let me believe in goblins
If I was a good boy I'd get a penny
Save it up to buy a violin
If I was a bad boy, nobody'd see, but he can

Look, there's someone at the window!
Nothing child, I can't see him
Look! He's coming through the window!
Nothing child, it can't be him

Three little choir boys walked through the graveyard
Imitating every colleague
Prowling around in search of a ghost or goblin
One held the bell, one held the candle
One who had the book was me
Under the moon we conquered the demon, didn't we?

Look, there's someone at the window!
Nothing child, I can't see him
Look! He's coming through the window!
Nothing child, it can't be him

Edgar by name, Edgar by nature
Apple of an evil eye
Frightened of lightning, frightened of night and goblins
Why did the children have to be told
That if you dare tell a lie
Wolfman and Dracula gonna drink you dry

Look, there's someone at the window!
Nothing child, I can't see him
Look! He's coming through the window!
Nothing child, it can't be him