Bernd's Songbook - the acoustic songs -

lyrics and chords to 29 songs by Bernd Harmsen

Bernd's Songbook - the acoustic songs -

There are two versions of my Songbook:

1. THE songbook (words, notes, chords)

2. Just lyrics and chords

Then there are additional files and resources:

My **Demos** (zip file containing MP3 files):

Stripped down recordings of the songs as described in the PDFs. Originally I intended to only indicate the chord changes, but I found that for several songs the rhythmical strumming I normally do or instrumental breaks to me seemed essential ("shall I live", "Spartacus", "Gilgamesh"), for others it was the intros ("Cassandra", "Siddhartha"). The melodies of (the choruses of) two songs ("no more", "people live, people die") are actually based on guitar riffs, so it would be inappropriate to omit them in the demos.

The music (zip file containing MP3 files):

Mostly live recordings from my rehearsals or my former YouTube series "Folk Bernd live at home". Then there are older home studio recordings that use additional instrumental tracks (like a 6-string guitar – I play a 12-string on my acoustic songs – or MIDI instruments). Such recordings are tagged as "original versions". They sometimes also have differing lyrics (or contain mistakes!). For example, the first version of "summer night" was much longer than the live version because without the piano and flute interludes the song would have become rather boring.

All files can be downloaded from my Home Page: https://bernd-harmsen.com (look under "Songbook"), the PDF files can also be found on the Internet Archive.

Most of the accompanying music (and more) are also on a **YouTube** Playlist: https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLx2122zl99u34e2S1ve85hXESurN7wIIG

Bernd Harmsen, April 2025

Bernd's Songbook

- lyrics and chords -

Content:

Bellie

by the seven seas

Cassandra

close your eyes

cold as the mountains

don't be late

doomsday morn

Europa

farewell

Ganymede

Gilgamesh

glad that you're here

here's to all things living

I'm leaving

Joy

leaving traces

means so much

Mr. D., I won't dance with you today

no more

pardon me, Melanie

peaceful times

people live, people die

shall I live

Siddhartha

silence is all

Spartacus

spring

summer night

Vanity

All songs (words and music) are written by me, except "farewell" (music by Martin Götz)

Bernd Harmsen, April 2025

Should you perform my songs publicly don't forget to hand in the set list.

You find their data on the ISWC network, my IP creator number is 00673391327

capo: 2

flirting with the dark side

C C
the last hangman's history

Dm Dm
chasing apparitions

A# An
and your girl friend's mystery

Chorus:

I hate to listen to your Mom weep

D Em
'cause I cannot hold back my tears

G Em
still standing as the phone beeps

G D Am
it does hit home to lose your peers

you and I were good friends

C
C
just for a short period

Dm
Dm
we were full of mischief

A#
Am
nonsense in the myriads

Chorus

Bridge:

F Em Dm G

and I think about the time you'll never have
F Em Dm

and I think about the chances that you've missed
C Em G D

never decide what cannot be reversed
C Em G
in spite of your emotional abyss
F Em Dm G
hard to grasp that I won't see you again
F Em Dm

boisterous, prankish, and good fun
C Em G D

no fooling 'round, I'll never hear you laugh again
C Em G Am
I miss our talks and I miss your puns

Chorus

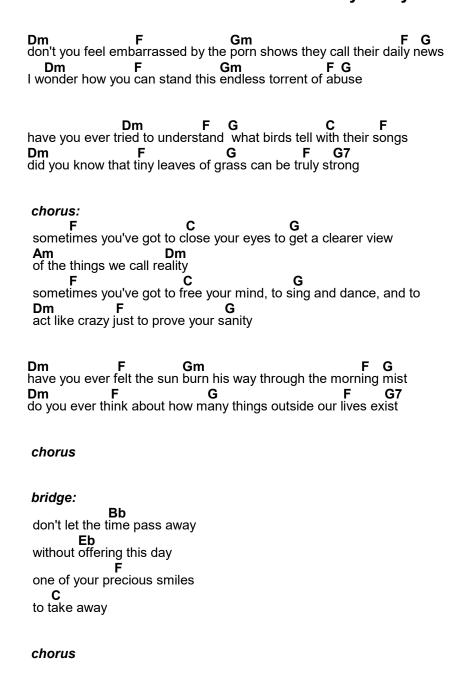
by the seven seas



Cassandra

DC
D C Apollo fell in love with you G D and to win you over D C endowed you with your special gift,
G D the art of prophesy
D
D C but he got enraged when you refused G D and cursed you that in future D C you always would be disbelieved G D in spite of what you'd see
D C
chorus Bb C G such bitter fate to see the truth Bb Dm when no-one will believe you Bb C G be it the curse or just your youth Bb F G your gift quite without use
instr. D C D C D Bb C
p C you see the future clear as day G D everything that's coming D C the downfall of your native land G D yet nothing you could do
D
D C maybe someday you'll find a way G D someone to do the drumming D C
communicate what is at hand G D
and get the message through
D C
chorus
instr. D C D C D Bb F G
chorus
D C Bb

close your eyes



cold as the mountains

Capo: 2

Am
she takes her time
Dm
she ain't no fool
Em
she gets me hot
A#
she plays it cool
C
D
and she knows what she wants

CD

chorus

C G cold as the mountains that reach for the sky F C G tall as the small man asserting his claim C G sharp as a gambler who wins without fight F C G calm as the hunter when he's taking aim C G she's as cold as the mountains

CG

Am
she can be harsh
Dm
she can be tough
Em
when in the wrong
A#
she lies and bluffs
C
D
like she fights for her life

CD

chorus

C fierce as a cornered and desperate rat

F C G
deluded as someone who can't stand the truth
C G
frantic as thieves who've been caught in the act
F C G
mean as a liar who needs an excuse
C G
she's as mean as a liar

CG

Am Dm Em A# C D C D

Am
she's a strong-willed
Dm
pig-headed beast
Em
she's ill-suited
A#
for poor old me
C D
I can't stand up to her

C D

chorus

CG

don't be late

E E7#9 A E E E7#9 A E E7#9 A E you are not quite sure E7#9 A E you feel inscure E7#9 A E things may need more thought E7#9 A D so I will have to wait Baby, take your time but don't be late B7 E you need to unwind E7#9 A E and make up your mind E7#9 A E cut the Gordian knot E7#9 A D and stop to hesitate Baby, take your time **E** but don't be late D girl, make up your mind and don't be late D Baby, read the sign and don't be late B7 E Baby, I'm a man E7#9 A E I've done what I can E7#9 A E I want to be your lover E7#9 A D and not just your mate girl, make up your mind and don't be late

B7 EE

doomsday morn

C G all's been said that was to say Dm Am
the colours all have turned to grey G F the new day arrives stillborn
C E 'cause today is doomsday morn
C G fears are weighing heavily Dm Am of looming possibilities G F of dashed hopes and shattered dreams C E the will to live has run out of steam
chorus Am Am and we prey to our Gods Dm Dm with their thousand names Bb we are so shaken Am Am we've stopped playing games Em Dm many wish that they were never born F E 'cause today is doomsday morn
C G we've laid waste to fertile lands Dm Am our industry got out of hand G F all countries now are paralized C E no options left to euphemize
chorus
chorus
and we prey to the God Dm Dm
with his thousand names Bb
we are so shaken Am Am
we've stopped playing games Em Dm
many wish that they were never born
F E 'cause today is doomsday morn

Europa

```
C F C when a wondrous milk-white bull caught your eye
so gentle, so great, and not at all shy
F
C F G C caressing his flanks, his fur - so light
C F C pastoral peace under blue skies
C F G C you dared to mount him, you wanted a ride
and feel his strength between your thighs
Am
chorus
   Bb
 Europa
 so easy to fall in love with your
Bb G charm, your beauty, your youth
 Am
   Bb
 Europa
 so confident, so self-assured
once the beloved one of Zeus
F
C F G U the bull slowly wandered toward the sea
C F C jumped into the waves, a beast full of zest
you felt no fear, you did not plead
you were headed for Crete, far in the west
C F C you gave in to him, half victim, half bride
C he made you Crete's queen, guarding you from above
while you fondly remembered the ride
Am
chorus
C
when you will have got on in years
```

Dm
and you'll have reached quite different spheres
G
you'll still look beautiful and young
Am
and you will speak in many tongues
Dm
while men enjoy your subtle charm
F C
the God's protecting you from harm

G

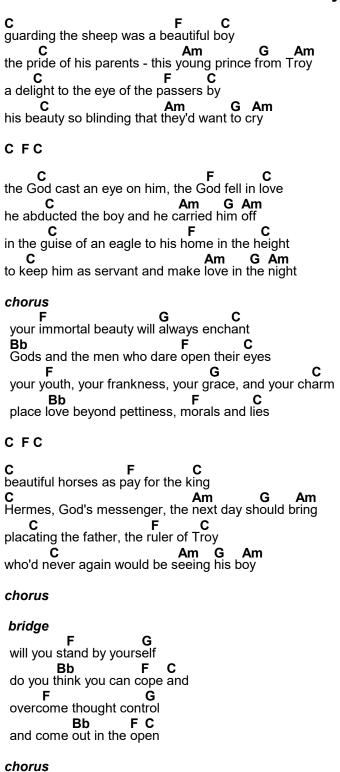
chorus

CFGC

farewell

```
the shadows grow longer
     F C G
the sun's on the decline
the sky will be bur-ur-ur-ning
C F and the Gods will resign
F G C Am C I am so tired now
C F but I'm still feeling fine
chorus
keep my memory
F G C Am farewell, farewell, my lover farewell
                                Am C
 and think kindly of me
C and I gather my friends
F C G reach for my wife's hand
F G C Am C the time we have sha-ha-ha-hared
has been incredibly grand
F G C Am my long years' companions and mates
C F everything has to end
chorus
bridge
Eb I will move towards the light
 Cm 'cause I have ceased to fight
        Fm
 since quite a while
Bb but if you note my smile
 you will know that I am glad
        Cm
 'cause I have had
     Fm
 the best of times
      Bb
 one could expect
 'cause I've known you
chorus
F G C Am farewell, farewell, you loved ones farewell G F
 keep my memory
F G C Am farewell, my lover farewell
 and think kindly of me
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Ganymede



Capo: 2

intro

let your gaze wander

from the top of the wall

over blooming lands

G G courtyards, fountains, and ffower beds

C let your thoughts wander

and make sure to recall

Am the time of glory and

the great king of kings, called Gilgamesh

C Em bitter complaints 'bout the tyrannical king

G Am who claimed for himself the right of the first night

C Em and tried the young men's strength in the ring

G Am had reached the Gods who considered the plight

F C the Gods decided to send him a friend

equal in strength and equal in force

to share adventures, to share ideas

and in the long term alter his course

C Em against all advice, in search of personal fame

G Am Gilgamesh one day decided to kill

C Em Humbaba, the dragon, who guarded the wood

G Am - he was the king and would get his will

F C though a sense of foreboding weighed the friends down

A# Dm overcoming their fear they fought side by side

F they showed no mercy, they slew the beast

A# Dm so that their glory would shine far and wide

C Em Ishdar, the goddess, fell in love with the king

G Am but rejecting her offer he brought on her revenge

she sent the Bull of Heaven to lay waste to the land

G Am but the mighty, fierce beast was overcome by the friends

F C the Gods resolved that the friend had to die

A# Dm their punishment should hurt the king as well **F** who stayed with his friend till the body decayed **A#** Dm no sacrifice could make the Gods lift their spell C Em to avoid the fate of the friend he had lost on a quest to find immortality

C

Fm C Em the king set off for places unknown G Am through a lightless tunnel, 'cross the endless sea F C he'd heard of a plant that would grant eternal youth **A#**he found it, he picked it - now he could stop to roam **F**but the snake stole his prize - to shed her skin ever since **A# Dm** he was still empty-handed when he came home bridge C Em he set out for fame, for immortality G Am he won some fights, found and lost a good friend $\ensuremath{\text{\textbf{C}}}$ he came back bare-handed, to his people, his home **G** Am a caring and good king until his end outro let your gaze wander from the top of the wall over blooming lands courtyards, fountains, and flower beds let your thoughts wander and make sure to recall **Am** the time of glory and ${\bf G}$ ${\bf G}$ ${\bf C}$ the great king of kings, called Gilgamesh

glad, that you're here

capo: 2 Dm Am Dm Am Dm Bb F F C C **Dm G** I am past and I am now C Am I feel like I float somehow **Dm G Em** I am six and I am sixty-five СС **Dm G** I am lost and I am found C Am at times I tread on shaky ground **Dm G Am** holding on to my humble life chorus Dm Am glad that you bear with me Dm Am glad that you're here with me Dm Bb **F** glad that you're here FCC **Dm G** I am still the young boy C Am messing 'round with his toy **Dm G Em** at the same time I am your old man СС **Dm G** I am lost and I am found at times I tread on shaky ground G trying to do the best that I can chorus bridge **Bb G** and though I'm smiling for no reason Bb and we are living with no reason **Bb G Dm** still we seem - to get along

chorus

here's to all things living

C G C
the salmon fishing bear
F C F
the roaring lion's might
C F C
the pregnant zebra mare
G C G
the small mosquito's bite
G C
here's to all things living

FCG

the forest, lush and green
FCF
the hunter's sense of smell
CFC
the tortoise beetle's sheen
GCG
the tiny ocean shell
GCC
here's to all things living

FCG

the sharp eyed bird of prey
F C F
the dog's bark at the moon
C F C
the salmon's odyssey
G C G
the first spring flower's bloom
G C
here's to all things living g

FCG CFCGC

C G C
the sly and cunning fox
F C F
the proud eagle's wing
C F C
the old, cart-pulling ox
G C G
the common nettle's sting
G C
here's to all things living

FCGC

tag

the beauty of your eye

G
that beholds my soul

D
the beauty of your mind

G
that beholds my soul

FCGC

I'm leaving

C F G I came here uninvited C F G did not mean to intrude Eb Bb I shared your gathered riches Eb F I shared your drink and food
lift C Bb I'll be gone before long C Bb although I'd like to stay Eb F it is not up to me Eb G when I'll be on my way
chorus C I'm leaving
I'm grateful that you've born with me C I am leaving
F C D what will I leave behind C I'm leaving
F C Bb besides a fading memory C I am leaving F C G a flash inside your mind
C F G I filled the roles provided C F G I did the best I could Eb Bb I brought about some damage Eb F I also did some good
lift
chorus
bridge D G others went this path before C F many more will follow C D it happens every second F G today as tomorrow
chorus
FCG

C
Hey Joy, come and join me
F C G
let's fool around and have some fun
C
it's such a fine day today
F C G
so let's get crazy in the sun

chorus

Bb F C
Joy, when you smile at me I feel so good
Bb F G
Joy, when we're making love I get so high
Bb F C
Joy, when we're talking I feel understood
Bb F G
Joy, when you're with me then I can fly

C
Hey Joy, please stay awhile
F
C
G
you put a smile upon my face
C
you're always carefree as a kid
F
C
G
make my life gather pace

chorus

C
Hey Joy, don't leave me yet

F
C
While you're here the time flies by
C
when you're around I feel so free
F
C
G
all sorrows fade into the sky

chorus

leaving traces

F G

```
\ensuremath{\text{\textbf{C}}} we speak their law, we use their words
although their buildings crumble
C G their ancient roads still lead the way
F G on which we walk and stumble
whole nations speak a language
that very much is theirs
much more than we may think
Bb G we are the Romans' heirs
chorus
 F G C they've left their traces
 over many places
 unfazed by different cultures, different races
 F G C they've left their traces
C G a Facebook page, a mail account
that have been left deserted
C unanswered posts on several boards
F G that look like ill concerted
a man who once was bustling
Bb F thriving, vivid, blithe
silenced now forever
in his prime of life
chorus
              G
 he's leaving traces
 over many places
 postings, pictures, thoughts in hyperspaces
 he's leaving traces
C G a proud old man, a baby boy
his long-awaited grandson
C G descendant, heir to a long line
F G who will in the long run
Bb F set up his separate family
Bb F pass on his genes and name
Bb F maybe eventually
```

Bb G
he'll even come to fame

chorus
F G C
to leave his traces
F G C
over many places
Bb F
the ancestry is showing in their faces
F G C
they're leaving traces

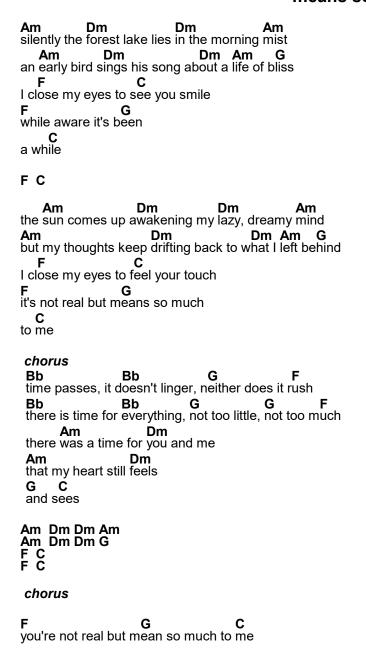
bridge
D G
we're here on earth for a short visit
D G
we're doing well to make the most of it
F C G
bringing forth human achievments
F G
so future generations benefit

chorus
F G C
we're leaving traces
F G C
all over the places

Bb F intended, unintended, in all cases

F G C we're leaving traces

means so much



Mr. D., I won't dance with you today

```
C I can feel your presence
G I know that you've been hanging 'round'
F I rejoice when you're absent
C C G your closeness keeps dragging me down
F how about an agreement, you could
come back in, say, twenty years
F Am right now I'm much too busy
what does it take to make myself clear
Bb I've known you for a while
and I know there's no escape
Bb yet I prefer to carry on
G like I've been doing to date
chorus
C no, Mr. D., I won't dance with you today
C G Mr. D., I won't dance with you today
 no, Mr. D., I won't dance with you today
G
C do I see you falter?
G maybe you'll withdraw for a while
don't worry that you'd lose your face
C C G rest assured I'll let you go in style
lift
chorus
G
lift
I won't bid you welcome
and maybe I never will
it makes no sense if you expect
me to give in and keep still
chorus
```

no more

C G G Am
no more trusting, no more ly-ing
C G G Am
no more longing, no more cry-ing
G D Am C
no more suff'ring, no more feeling
C G G F G no more hurting, no more healing
C G G Am
no more hoping, no more waiting
C G G F G
no more loving, no more hating
G D C D
no more trying no more failing
no more trying, no more failing
no more trying, no more failing
no more trying, no more failing G D C D no more smiling, no more wailing
no more trying, no more failing G D C D no more smiling, no more wailing C G G Am no more running, no more wal-king
no more trying, no more failing G D C D no more smiling, no more wailing C G G AM no more running, no more wal-king C G G F G
no more trying, no more failing G D C D no more smiling, no more wailing C G G AM no more running, no more wal-king C G G F G no more list'ning, no more tal-king
no more trying, no more failing G D C D no more smiling, no more wailing C G G AM no more running, no more wal-king C G G F G no more list'ning, no more tal-king G D AM C
no more trying, no more failing G D C D no more smiling, no more wailing C G G AM no more running, no more wal-king C G G F G no more list'ning, no more tal-king G D AM C no more owning, no more yearning
no more trying, no more failing G D C D no more smiling, no more wailing C G G AM no more running, no more wal-king C G G F G no more list'ning, no more tal-king G D AM C no more owning, no more yearning C G G F G
no more trying, no more failing G D C D no more smiling, no more wailing C G G AM no more running, no more wal-king C G G F G no more list'ning, no more tal-king G D AM C no more owning, no more yearning
no more trying, no more failing G D C D no more smiling, no more wailing C G G Am no more running, no more wal-king C G G F G no more list'ning, no more tal-king G D Am C no more owning, no more yearning C G G F G no more teaching, no more learning C G Am G F G
no more trying, no more failing G D C D no more smiling, no more wailing C G G AM no more running, no more wal-king C G G F G no more list'ning, no more tal-king G D AM C no more owning, no more yearning C G G F G no more teaching, no more learning C G AM G F G no more smirking, no more grinning
no more trying, no more failing G D C D no more smiling, no more wailing C G G Am no more running, no more wal-king C G G F G no more list'ning, no more tal-king G D Am C no more owning, no more yearning C G G F G no more teaching, no more learning C G Am G F G no more smirking, no more grinning C G Am G F G
no more trying, no more failing G D C D no more smiling, no more wailing C G G AM no more running, no more wal-king C G G F G no more list'ning, no more tal-king G D AM C no more owning, no more yearning C G G F G no more teaching, no more learning C G AM G F G no more smirking, no more grinning

C G Am G F G
no more smirking, no more grinning
C G Am G F G
no more gaining, no more win-ning
G D Am C
no more cheering, no more prancing
C G G F G
no more playing, no more dancing
C G Am G F G
no more won'dring, no more caring
C G Am G F C
no more giv-ing, no more sharing

outro
C G Am
G F G
no more breathing
G F G
no more breathing
G F G
no more breathing
G F G

C G Am G F G

C G Am G F G

C G Am G F C

pardon me, Melanie

CCFCDGGAmGC

C D
Melanie, please pardon me
C G C
if I caused you pain
C D
Melanie, please pardon me
C G C
if your pleas were in vain

CCFCDGGAmGC

C D
Melanie, please pardon me
C G C
if my words were too harsh
C D
Melanie, please pardon me
C G C
if I hit you too hard

chorus

F Am
Melanie, you see
G C
if it wasn't for your stubbornness
Am G C
I'd never have lost control

CCFCDGGAmGC

C D
Melanie, please pardon me
C G C
if I made you cry
C D
Melanie, please pardon me
C G C
if I caused your black eye

CCFCDGGAmGC

C D
Melanie, please pardon me
C G C
if I spilled your blood
C D
Melanie, please pardon me
C G C
if I have stained your rug

chorus

CCFCDGGAmGC

C D
Melanie, please pardon me
C G C
if I smashed your head
C D
Melanie, please pardon me
C G C
if I have struck you dead

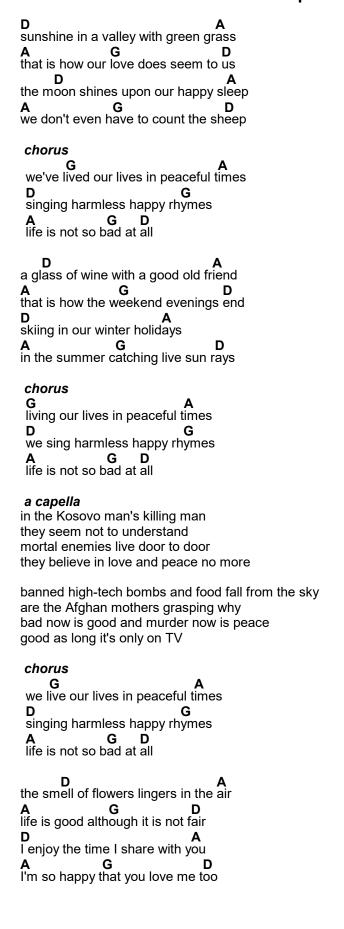
chorus

spoken:

now I gotta wrap you up real nicely

add some more weight to the package and find me some place to dump it fuck, what a mess see what you're doin' to me

peaceful times



Capo: 5

G Em Em people push and shove G C C people kiss and love Em Em people laugh and smile G C C runners run for miles Em Em baby boys are born G C C
bereaved people mourn
D C D C
people live, people die **G** Em Em here a thief is c-aught G CC there a pupil taught G Em Em teachers are laid off G C C travellers take off Em Em people exer-cise G C some are dumb, some wise D C D C people live, people die we are fighting and reconciling oh, we make much ado we are struggling sometimes succeeding and we are coming through G Em Em priests abuse young boys G C C children sing for joy G Em Em my brother takes a swim G C C a gambler grabs his win

G Em Em old friends meet ag-ain G C C I dance in the rain D C D C people live, people die G Em Em here a girl friend beefs G C C there a mother griefs G Em Em while their husbands snore G C C housewives do the chores

Em Em

there an old man dies

G C C here a young girl cries D C D C people live, people die

chorus

chorus

shall I live

C Am

chorus

C Am shall I live as the world's going under C Am shall I live in a future that's void F G while it rains lightning and thunder F G 'til the earth is fin'ly destroyed

Am how come that one single species

Am F
has the power to end it for all

C Em
come over them like some disease

F G
making sure the strongest will fall

chorus

Am in our time we've created great wonders

Am F in our time we've changed the world

C Em the last plague is what we'll come under

F G for the forces that we've unfurled

chorus

bridge

Am
will we be devoured by the darkest night
Gm
will we be blinded by a blazing light
Am
will we be burning in hellish fires
Em
while we choke on our own desires

chorus

C Am shall I live as the world's going under C Am shall I live in a future that's void F G while it rains lightning and thunder F G C 'til the earth is fin'ly destroyed

Siddhartha

Em D Dm G C D Bb **G** D finding the flaw in the wise man's lectures Bb Em how to break the circle of reincarnation **G** D first seemed based on mere conjectures **Bb C** but shall lead to your salvation **G D** a sheltered life when you were younger you've known the Brahman sophistication G D lived with ascetics, bore the hunger and practiced humble contemplation chorus Em listen to the river Em hear its thousand voices $\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{Em} & \mathbf{D} & \mathbf{G} \\ \text{as it roars, as it whispers, or rejoices} \end{array}$ **Dm G** listen to the river tell 'bout a thousand choices $\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{Dm} & \mathbf{G} & \mathbf{C} \\ \text{while it roars, while it whispers, and rejoices} \end{array}$ C D listen to the river **G** you were merchant, you were lover **Bb** Em precious experience that you've acquired **G D** though you lived like undercover **Bb** C you've known passion, you've known desire chorus bridge Am learn from the ferryman C G stay by the river **C G** hear what it delivers who searches he may never find **Bb C** what's beyond his own thoughts

chorus

Bb C things beyond what's being taught

outro
 Am
 D
 C
 D
 G
 become aware of its holy sound on your quest for your own ground

silence is all

we're rolling in the hay I know she's far away Am G her eyes aren't looking Bb F C where she is sleeping F Em we dream up awesome plans would see exotic lands Am G though what we are sowing Bb F C we won't be reaping chorus Am caresses unfelt Bb thoughts unthought where she rests Am C Am talents unused Bb deeds undone when she acts Am C F Em she's gliding through my world G F her moves make the air swirl Am G the words I am hearing Bb F C remain unspoken F Em she whispers in my ear I know that she's not here Am the heart I hear beating Bb F C long since was broken chorus Am footpaths untouched **Bb** F landscapes unseen where she walks Am C

Am G wisdom unheard Bb F silence is all **G** when she talks

Am C

F C F F Bb F F/Am C

chorus footpaths ...

Bb F silence is all Am C when she t-alks

Spartacus

Am we broke through your lines
G and taught your legions fear
Dm when you thought us besieged
Am we attacked you from the rear
С
the rural hands we trained
were ready for the battle
to defeat your mighty legions
and chase them just like cattle
Am if it wasn't for betrayal
G you'd never have stood a chance
Dm so you made me their hero
Am when you pierced me with your lance
C the slaves you once abused
G who worked your fields and mines
F have learned there can be freedom
C beyond your en'my lines
Am
now you try humiliating
the proud men they have become
Dm and make an example of
Am who had fought like one
C
tied to their crosses G
soiled, and half-decayed F
there will remain the message C
that they have conveyed
C tied to their crosses G
soiled, and half-decayed
there will remain the message
C that they have conveyed
Am we will break through your lines
G we'll teach your armies fear

Dm when you think us besieged

Am we'll attack you from the rear G Am

spring

GDCG GDCG **D G** it smells like spring **D G** hear the birds sing D G time to spread your wings, D C D take to flight, and move ahead D G D G time to part **D G** it won't be too hard **D G** take up another card D C D venture into foreign lands D G break F C G F leave the sticky ground behind time for the tangle to unwind GDCG GDCG D G see the moon **D G** she might rise too soon **D G** to shine on your tomb D G time to part it won't be too hard **D G** pick a better card **D C D** venture to the promised land D G break leave the sticky ground behind time for the tangle to unwind GDCG GDCG

it feels like spring

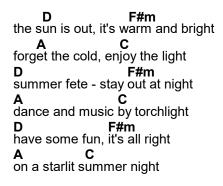
D

G
I hear the birds sing

D G time to spread my wings, D C D take to flight, and move ahead

DG

capo: 2



chorus

D A C
warm summer night
D A G
everything feels all right
D C D
on a warm summer night

D F#m
holidays by the sea
A C
charge you with new energy
D F#m
no time for trouble, here you're free
A C
be who you always want to be
D F#m
lie in the shadow of a tree
A C
that gives you dreams and harmony

chorus

break

G A
lying in your arm
G C
nothing can do me harm
G F G
on a warm summer night

D F#m
lying nude in the spray
A C
on the beach of the cay
D F#m
live your life your own way
A C
never mind what others say
D F#m
what feels good is okay
A C
seize the night, seize the day

chorus

CG C G Vanity, you do look old

G the smooth skin of your youth got definitely stained

G age spots and wrinkles where once proud beauty reigned

C G there's no charm and no grace

F G in your old worn out face

Am G C you've lost your good looks - there is no denying

Am G D7 the time you've wasted is why you should be crying

C Vanity, life can feel cold

C G Vanity, no use for gold

What once seemed important is of no use today

G C Am riches and elegance won't serve you on your way

C G let the past be the past

F G gold and silver won't last

Am G C your heirs may fight over what you will have left them

Am G D7 where you're headed to no-one will care for your gems

C Vanity, you had been told

F C G if you look in the mirror you will spot a disturbing shape **F C G** like a skull grinning at you knowing there's no escape

C G Vanity, you look distraught

G C Am you had all the chances a human life provides

never you seized them, instead you swept them aside

C G you can't call back your youth

F G you can't hold off the truth

Am G a fight against time is lost from the beginning

Am G D7 when the last bell chimes you know there is no winning

but Vanity, you never fought

C G C Vanity

CG

Vanity CG