



Terry Kitchen
Lost Songs

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In early 2020, award-winning Boston contemporary folk singer/songwriter **Terry Kitchen's** CD ***Next Time We Meet*** was at #5 on the national Folk-DJ chart, with its single "Party on the Roof" #4 on the song chart. Then came covid – Kitchen's tour was cancelled, and he was home with time on his hands. First he completed a long-simmering short story collection, ***Coping Mechanisms***. Then he picked up his guitar and found himself rediscovering songs he'd written along the way, that hadn't fit whatever project he was doing at the time. The result is ***Lost Songs***, a generous sixteen-song collection of new recordings of unreleased songs from all phases of Kitchen's career, including some brand new ones.

While centered around Kitchen's intimate vocals and supple acoustic guitar playing, ***Lost Songs*** also features a talented array of guest performers, many recorded on Kitchen's Boston patio, with mic cables running out the window of Kitchen's home studio. Players include Jackie Damsky (violin, "The Morning After The Night Before"), Norman Zocher (pedal steel, "Here's to Us"), and, from Kitchen's '80s band Loose Ties, Barry Singer on piano and saxophone. Singers include Sarah Telford ("She Never Looks Out the Window"), Deede Bergeron ("The Way of the World"), Brian Middleton ("Opposite Day," "Ex-Girlfriend Weekend") and, notably, Rebecca Lynch, who takes the lead on the jazz/blues torch ballad "Brand New Laces (Same Old Shoes)." Kitchen himself adds electric guitar ("Nickel Bag," a wry comment on white privilege), mandolin, bass and melodica. The result is a rich listening journey, from heartfelt romance ("Here's to Us") and misty nostalgia ("Thirty-One Flavors") to gritty realism ("Hard Time for Love") and stark post-mortems ("No Heroic Measures"), incorporating bluegrass, '60s folk-rock, acoustic swing, and even a polka, all delivered with Kitchen's keen eye for detail and ear for concise storytelling.

Called "one of New England's best songwriters" by ***The Boston Globe***, Terry Kitchen has been performing on New England and national folk stages since the 1990s. His songs have won the USA and Mid-Atlantic song contests, been runner-up in the John Lennon song contest and have appeared in numerous films. ***Lost Songs***, Kitchen's 13th solo album, follows 2020's ***Next Time We Meet***, 2019's ***Rubies in the Dust***, 2017's ***The Quiet Places*** and 2015's ***The Post-American Century***. His novel ***Next Big Thing***, set in the Boston music scene, was published in 2013.

About the SONGS on Terry Kitchen's *Lost Songs*

1. Opposite Day (3:41) There was a kids' TV show called *You Can't Do That on Television* with a great segment called 'Opposite Day.' Apply the same formula to my love life at the time and you get a happy ending... With Brian Middleton on harmony.

2. Here's to Us (4:26) I got invited to perform at my college on reunion weekend, so I wrote this song about getting older. It came out like a Valentine's Day love song. With Norman Zocher on pedal steel and Sarah Telford on harmony.

3. Nickel Bag (4:37) White, middle-class privilege isn't always obvious. It's every 'lucky' break that might not be given to a person of color. Here's one story...

4. She Never Looks Out the Window (3:46) A lot of life is wondering what might have been. And then writing songs about it. With Sarah Telford on harmony.

5. The Morning After (The Night Before) (3:21) You know it's time to move on when your mojo stops working on yourself. With Jackie Damsky on violin.

6. Hard Time for Love (3:25) We expect love to save us, no matter what. That's an awful lot to expect, especially from a year like this one.

7. Walk Around the Block (3:34) A simple, uncynical song about wonder. I just have to remember to take my own advice. With Sarah Telford on harmony.

8. The Way of the World (3:37) We have been trying to cope with the passage of time since the beginning of, well, time. You'd think we'd have it figured out by now. With Deede Bergeron on harmony.

9. The Nederland Waltz (3:51) I played the Telluride Bluegrass Festival a few years back, then visited friends in Nederland. Oh, I thought – so that's where all the hippies went. With Brian Middleton on harmony.

10. Brand New Laces (Same Old Shoes) (4:25) I got asked to do instrumental music for a documentary, *Glory Days*, about a Boston labor strike in the '50s where Duke Ellington came and gave a benefit concert. I added lyrics and got this torch song. With lead vocal by Rebecca Lynch (my Occidental College singing partner), and Barry Singer (from my '80s band Loose Ties) on piano and saxophone.

11. You and Me and the Kama Sutra (2:54) What can you do when it's snowing and the lights go out? A gentle reminder all entertainment is not technology-dependent.

12. Don't Kick the Cat (2:20) I lived in Cleveland for my junior high years, where with its huge Eastern European population polkas were always in the air. So it's inevitable I'd write one.

13. Thirty-One Flavors (4:50) For anyone my age, travel meant Howard Johnson's, and HoJo's meant ice cream. Just my luck they folded before buying the rights to this waltz.

14. Ex-Girlfriend Weekend (2:28) Not being a country singer, I don't have any ex-wives, so I have to make do with ex-girlfriends. They can be great friends since they know you so well, but it can be an awkward transition. With Brian Middleton on harmony.

15. Jack and Jill and Mary and Me (4:28) Back in sixth grade, my first girlfriend left me for my best friend, who was admittedly better looking and more athletic. I hear it can happen to grown-ups too...

16. No Heroic Measures (3:43) My father had a very close call, and spent eight months in the hospital recovering. When he was finally able to eat solid food again, he lifted his spoon and, before taking his first bite, said, now watch me choke and die. Mom was not amused, but I was.