

Terry Kitchen
First Album (Remastered)
30th Anniversary Edition

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Recorded by Steve Friedman at Melville Park Studio, Hyde Park, MA (1991).

Remastered by Terry Kitchen at Ro's House, Roslindale, MA (2021).

Cover photo by Linda Holt.

Terry Kitchen acoustic, electric and 12-string guitars, vocal
Brice Buchanan electric guitar (1, 9), harmony vocal (1, 3, 5, 7, 9)
Barry Singer harmony vocal (1, 3, 5, 7, 9)
Leslie Sterling harmony vocal (2, 6, 7, 9)
Mckinley Black harmony vocal (4)
Bill Kuhlman harmony vocal (8)
Holly Gettings mandolin, harmony vocal (11)
Mike Ball upright bass (1, 7, 11)
Bill Morrison upright bass (2, 8)
Jennifer Shader upright bass (3, 4, 5, 6, 9)
Page Hundemer electric fretless bass (10)
Laura Wood percussion (4, 5, 6, 7, 10)
Laurie Goldsmith conga (2)
Steve Hurl conga (6)
Chris Peeler drums (1, 8, 9)
Matt Darriau soprano sax (2)
Sharrhan Williamson flute (4)
Geoff Poister violin (3, 9)
Sandi-Jo Malmon cello (10)
Jack Paradis harmonica (8, 12)

1. Property 4:57

Old stray tomcat asleep in my yard
It seems he lives pretty hard
But he's got a story to tell for every scar
There at the window my cat answers his cry
I've got the door open wide

But she looks at the couch and her milk dish and stays inside

Property can get to be a habit
that's harder and harder to break
You see something nice, why not have it at its price
But oh don't think that's all you pay
Seems the more you get the less you give away

I can't even count all the keys on my neighbor's ring
He'd lock a kite to its string
There's too many strangers too close to his favorite things
Just like a jailer making his rounds
The shades all come down
Got to bury himself with his treasure to feel safe and sound

Property...

You ever stop to wonder what you're worth
Some folks check their wills or check their purse
But oh darlin' you can't figure it out alone
It's all you share not all you own

There's a whole lot of places where I want to go
in no particular row
I just put up my sail and I guess I just let the winds blow
But there's a few hundred albums, my cat and my car
and six or seven guitars
It takes some choosing yeah to follow your star

Property...

2. The Favor

Got a friend near the end of his days already
Had a lover the glow was slow and steady
Once she test her wings
It was just one of those things
It was hardly a crime but he never forgave her
Now he's just killing time til time returns the favor

See the girl with the world right there in her pocket
Had the key to a treasure but she'd not unlock it
She'd been schooled in how not to lose it
She mostly learned she could never use it
She had diamonds every size every flavor
But she's just killing time til time returns the favor

What if the promised land's right where you stand?
Ain't you got one work to say before you fade away?

Seems the kids back in town settle down in the same spot
Got their own special corner, they're born right onto their grave plot

If the jobs hold out they're fine
Safe inside that county line
Every Sunday the chimes ring in the Savior
As they're just killing time til time returns the favor
They're just killing time til time returns the favor

3. Some Things Are Worth Saving

There was nothing my best friend's father would not save
Their house was an ark waiting for a rainy day
We tried to clean out the basement so our band could set up
But his dad fought for every last piece of junk

Some things are worth saving
Like the Earth, the sky and the sea
Some things are worth saving
Like the spark between you and me, you and me

I've never owned a camera, don't think I ever will
I hate to stop a moment, force a moment to sit still
I'd like to think this theory somehow unties me
Let my senses sense where home is, let my memory surprise me

But some things are worth saving...

Deede and me, I don't know what we're gonna do
She needs to be a mother and she needs to be a mother soon
I need to finish my book, I need to finish my song
I don't need another family where I don't belong

But some things are worth saving
Like the love between you and me
You and me

4. Stonecutter

There once was a stonecutter who lived by the mountain
He worked cutting stone for the village each day
He made what he needed, there was nothing that he wanted
and the spirit of the mountain made sure he was safe

Then one day down the road came a prince's procession
and the villagers bowed to the prince as he passed
And the stonecutter grew ashamed of his lack of possessions
and he prayed to the spirit to grant what he asked

He prayed ah, ah, ah, ah
I'd be the prince and rule all that I see
And not just to be
Just a stonecutter

And he woke up a prince in a dazzling palace

with beautiful gardens that stretched on and on
But the hot sun beat down and his gardens all wilted
and he said though I am rich it's the sun that is strong

He said ah, ah, ah, ah
I'd be the sun and rule all that I see
And not just to be
Just a stonecutter

And he rose as the sun and he never stopped shining
til all of the land was left barren and brown
But in blew a storm cloud that blocked all his blinding
He said I shine like a jewel but the storm wears the crown

He cried ah, ah, ah, ah
I'd be the storm and rule all that I see
And not just to be
Just a stonecutter

And then he was the storm, reigning terror and violence
His thunder and his lightning made everyone run
But the mountain was stoic, just sat there in silence
He said the storm has many powers, but the mountain has won

He cried ah, ah, ah, ah
I'd be the mountain, rule all that I see
And not just to be
Just a stonecutter

And the spirit of the mountain said, it's the last wish I can grant you
For if you are the mountain I've nowhere to reside
But he made him the mountain and there was nothing that he wanted
Til the day he felt a pain cut in to his side
And there was a stonecutter chipping away at his side

He cried ah, ah, ah, ah
If only I could be
Just a stonecutter

5. Fall Like a Rock

She's gonna fall like a rock when she falls in love
It's gonna be something to see
She's gonna fall like a rock when she falls in love
I just wish that it was me
I hope that he deserves it, doesn't throw her love away
I hope he knows I'd love to take his place

She's gonna fall like a rock when she falls in love
It's gonna be front page news
She's had a few close calls but no not love
She's got a heart she's never used

That heart's about to beat now for some new kid in town
It won't be me, I've always been around

I'm a friend (I'm like a brother)
A confidant
What more could I want
But in the end (I want to love her)
What's done is done
It's chemistry, biology, chronology and gravity

That make her fall like a rock...

7. Turn Your Head Around

Remember walking off the train for college
No one at school knew who you're supposed to be
You lied a little right at first
But no one thought the worse
'cause you made it the truth eventually

So turn your head around, turn your head around
Don't look at what you've lost but what you've found
Turn your head around, turn your head around
Don't look at where you've been but where you're bound

Remember talking all night long to strangers
When the sun came up maybe they were friends
The sun still comes up every day
Some people still got lots to say
If you'd let yourself listen to more than your own sad surrender

Why choose the sadness of the orphan with no place to call home
You used to wish to be the gypsy
Free to follow all the lines across your palm

So turn your head around

8. Tender Lee

Who's in the shadow, I can hardly see
Mary Ann's kid sister, think her name is Lee
Back in the corner lookin' awful fearful
She'd blend in to the wall but the paper's too cheerful

Look and see, you've got the key
Just learn to turn it
Tender Lee

You're lookin' kinda scared that people won't like you
Well they may got teeth but they ain't gonna bite you
You're cuter than me and you're just as smart
With the right warm spaces down in your heart

Look and see...

Now you dance with me and you dance just fine
Just keep on dancing with the next in line
Kick off your shoes, don't skip a song
'cause you know the band don't play that long

Look and see...

9. That's the Way

I could always depend on my family and friends
I could stand on them like a ladder
But the ladder's just split right down the middle
Every last rung has shattered
Now I'm standing on air
Landing scarred and scared
I guess the taller you stand the harder you stumble
That's the way my life crumbles

I once had a girl, guess I made her my world
It was feeling like it'd last forever
She never explained why her heart up and changed
Guess she found someone she liked better
We were perfect she said
Now I won't let it go to my head
Love can lift or love can humble
That's the way my life crumbles

It used to be such a small world
I held it in the palm of my hand
Now this world's getting bigger
and it's slipping through my fingers
like grains of sand
like grains of sand

I could always count on a certain amount
of fun from just being clever
But school's almost out and I'm thinking about
This real life that I'm at the edge of
Where my heart needs to touch
Clever doesn't count for much
I'm still making games out of names and numbers
That's the way my life crumbles
I guess the taller you stand the harder you stumble
That's the way my life crumbles

10. Pray for Rachel

Who can say how it started
Who can say how it ends

But there's something inside Rachel's body
God didn't intend

A cell started going crazy
and put the rest in peril
Now inside a battle's raging
down to the marrow

I don't pray for my lover
She doesn't seem to need it
I don't pray for myself
What God would believe it
I don't pray for the rain
I am not a farmer
I pray for Rachel
that nothing will harm her

Six long months of chemo
Six weeks radiation
The powers of positive thinking
and visualization
Rachel's using her time
to learn about life and love
I've been too busy using up mine
to learn very much

I don't pray for my lover...

I can't say how it started
but I can pray how it ends
There's something inside Rachel's body
God didn't intend

11. Deep Like a Well

Tell me, what is there to do
when you've lost hold of all that's holding you
Tell me, where is there to go
when you're lost from the only place you know
to call home

Say farewell
to a time and a place you loved well
Move along
Time will tell
There's a strength hidden deep
like a well

Tell me, what is there to say
when your sweet words make her turn away
Tell me, what is there to love
when you hate yourself for all the things you've done

to bring this on

Say farewell
to a life and a face you loved well
Move along
Time will tell
There's a strength hidden deep
like a well

The wind that feeds the fire also blows the smoke away
And the seeds that are survivors
send roots down to reach the water in the ground not far away
Not far away

Say farewell...

12. Take Me Blues

I've had a lifetime
and I lived it good
This world treats me better
than maybe it should
My land was green, Lord
and my woman was kind
But that's all passed by me
and left me behind

Say la la la
Say la la lo
Say la la la la
Say lo

Now I'm getting restless
and it's time I moved on
I won't find no peace, Lord
til after I'm gone
So Lord take me quickly
Lord take me slow
but Lord take me easy
so I won't mind to go

Say la la la
Say la la lo
Say la la la la
Say lo

Blues and Grace (Remastered)

- 13. Blues and Grace 2:49
- 14. Respecting Pleasure 2:49
- 15. Homesick Angel 3:22
- 16. Love May Be Leaving Us a Warning 2:36

17. The Angry Years 3:36
18. Fix My Bike 3:02
19. Arm of a Starfish 3:40
20. Just Can't Seem to Give Up on the Diamond 3:55
21. Vodka for Crying (Wine to Make Love) 3:14
22. The Darwin Stomp 3:23

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Recorded by Coleman Rogers at Wellspring Studio, Newton, MA (1993).
Remastered by Terry Kitchen at Ro's House, Roslindale, MA (2021).

Terry Kitchen acoustic and electric guitars, keyboards, harmonica (18), vocal
John Styklunas electric upright bass
Chris Peeler brushes
Brice Buchanan harmony vocal (13, 15, 19)
Barry Singer harmony vocal (13, 15, 19)
Barbara Kessler harmony vocal (16, 21)
Abigail Aronson harmony vocal (19)
Annie Raines harmonica (13)
Matt Mauch Dobro (14, 17)
Orrin Star mandolin (15)
Norman Zocher electric guitar (19)
Geoff Bartley harmonica (20, 21)

13. Blues and Grace 2:55

Every time my feet get weary
and my tongue gets tight from thirst
I call out for Jesus
but the Devil gets there first
I don't claim to be Samson
with faith the strength of ten
I can count the times I've said no on one hand
but that thirst comes back, that thirst comes back again

Deliver me from evil and grant me peace
I'm ready to rise up to a better place
Blues and grace, blues and grace

Now the Devil he don't bother
to tempt me much no more
I guess I'm no challenge
I confess I feel ignored
But one time I held heaven
if I was smart enough to choose it
Love is just one more test
Are we strong enough, strong enough to lose it

Deliver me from evil and grant me peace...

14. Respecting Pleasure 2:49

You know me
I always have to follow every tear drop's tracks til I understand its sources
Yeah you know me
And now I want to figure out what holds us back from laying down our crosses

Sadness commands respect
It stabs with every breath too deep to measure
But now you stand before a man respecting pleasure

I know you
You always laugh and joke about the hearts that you broke
Back when there were hearts worth breaking
Yeah I know you
You say love's just a spoke in a wheel but you don't seem to love
this road you're taking

Sadness commands respect...

I crashed my luck upon the shoals
Lost my love but found my soul
It's just a faint flickering luster
Craving all the joy this world can muster

You know me
I always have to follow every tear drop's tracks til I understand its sources
Yeah I know you
And if you let me in I'll take your hand like a friend
and not stirrup wild horses

Sadness commands respect...

15. Homesick Angel

Old Jack Fleming always brought a bottle when he came to stay
He lived up in Canada, knew my father from the war
And when they drank he put my dad away

Old Jack, he was famous
He helped build the bridge on the River Kwai
A prisoner in a jungle halfway around the world
He got sick there and Jack Fleming almost died
Dreaming of the wings of a

Homesick angel, see how your children roam
Homesick angel, take these homesick children home
Take these homesick children home

Old Jack told stories that could raise every hair on your head
My sister and me had nightmares for weeks
of ghost soldiers kneeling by our beds
Praying for the wings of a

Homesick angel...

There's no fifth of Scotch from Jack this Christmas
and my sister's been dead longer than she was alive
and Dad won't leave the house now except in case of fire
so we watch a movie, Bridge on the River Kwai
as this drafty old house whispers goodbye

Homesick angel...

("Colonel Bogey March," Kenneth J. Alford, public domain)

16. Love May Be Leaving Us a Warning 2:36

You're the one that I turn to when a feeling's got me down
But this is one that concerns you so I'm all turned around
I don't think I'm mistaken
We don't linger when we're waking in the morning
I can't help believing
Love may be leaving us a warning

You're the one that I talk to when I need to find a smile
But I can't seem to recall you laughing in a while
We don't kiss in the kitchen
We don't lie close and listen when it's storming
I can't help believing
Love may be leaving us a warning

You're the one that I lean on when I'm not sure where I stand
But if it's just me that's leaning we've only half a chance
There's a faint glow I'm getting
But tell me is it setting or is it dawning?
I can't help believing
Love may be leaving us a warning
No I can't help believing
Love may be leaving us a warning

17. The Angry Years 3:36

Her head's like a house full of secret rooms
Lift a candle on the mantle the floor gives way
She falls into the gaps in her memory
The corners are dark but they don't feel safe
And it makes her mad
Knowing someone snatched that sweet sweet light away

I've watched her through the angry years
Seen how it grew, a strength forged in tears
I've held her hand as the door swung open
I've watched her stand to own her fears
Ah these angry years are the first best sign of hoping

Her heart's like the last of the underground
Instructed not to trust 'til her final breath
Or fall into the grasp of the enemy
Every friendly face is a trick or a test
And it makes her mad
Knowing someone scratched that vow into her breast

I've watched her through the angry years
Seen how it grew, a strength forged in tears
I've held her hand as the door swung open
I've watched her stand to own her fears
Ah these angry years are the first best sign of hoping

The hand in the dream
The face in the waking

I've watched her through the angry years
Seen how it grew, a strength forged in tears
I've held her hand as the sky fell open
I've watched her stand to own her fears
Ah these angry years are the first best sign of hoping

18. Fix My Bike 3:02

Lord just get me through tonight
Tomorrow I will fix my bike
And I will ride and I will ride so fast and far
And no one's getting on my handlebars

Lord just let me lose this place
I need to feel the wind across my face
And I will and I will climb right in tenth gear
And fly back down with no brakes and no fear

Tonight I am pent up
Tonight I am fed up
My patience is spent up
I need my life sped up
Tonight I am lightning that's dying to strike
But tomorrow I will fix my bike

Lord just let tomorrow come
As I trace the rubber tread beneath my thumb
And I will pump and I will pump my tires hard
And feel each bump as I shoot on by the cars
Gonna shoot on by like a shoot shoot shooting star

Somebody hand me a socket wrench...

19. Arm of a Starfish 3:40

The aquarium's free every Thursday
It's a good a break as any from the chill of the wind
It's warm and it's dark and they leave you alone
and there's a woman I watch teach the children

Go ahead, she says, stick your hands in the cold salt water
That's a mussel, that's an urchin, that's a sea anemone
Yes a starfish arm will grow back, no just take my word
They've got feeling just like you and me

Oh I wish my heart was like the arm of a starfish
but I think it's gone for good
I need a volunteer to watch over how I'm handled
to explain my strange behaviors
to help this heart grow back if it could

She says life begins in the ocean
We're rocked by the rhythms of the waves and the tide
I think about a starfish holding fast through the storm
and I remember just how hard I tried

She asks are there any questions
Is there room for one more creature found tangled in the net
Would she say here's a human, he's pretty far gone
but we're hoping there's hope for him yet

Oh I wish my heart was like the arm of a starfish...

20. Just Can't Seem to Give Up on the Diamond 3:55

She said we'd be married when the Red Sox won the Series
When the Red Sox won the Series she would be my bride
I should have faced the race was over in fact if not in theory
When at the All-Star break my heart was twenty games behind

It seems like Fenway Park is full of guys like me
Whose future hangs on every long fly ball's trajectory
We're hopeful in the springtime, bitter by the fall
But we just can't seem to give up on the diamond

I said I'd be waiting til the last at-bat's retired
When the last at-bat's retired I'd retire too
Now the dugout's getting swept out and the manager's been fired
And I'm sitting here with Babe Ruth's ghost, yeah he got sold short too

It seems like Fenway Park is full of guys like me
Whose future breaks with every breaking ball's velocity
We're hopeful in the springtime, bitter by the fall
But we just can't seem to give up on the diamond

I am loyal, I am dogged
I believe with all my heart

Each letdown's a complete surprise
I never said I'm smart, no I never said I'm smart

It seems like every stadium is full of guys like me
Whose future hangs on every long fly ball's trajectory
We're hopeful in the springtime, bitter by the fall
But we just can't seem to give up on the diamond
We just can't seem to give up so easily
We just can't seem to give up on the diamond

21. Vodka for Crying (Wine to Make Love) 3:14

I drink vodka for crying, wine to make love
Need a fire in my belly to melt the ice up above
Don't know who slipped this lock on my head and my heart
But a sip on my lips and I feel that key start to jiggle

I guard my tongue like the Tower of London
No stray words can escape that dusty dungeon
Outside is the night with its sky full of stars
Press my soul to the window and I feel those bars start to wiggle

When I drink vodka for crying, wine to make love
Need a fire in my belly to melt the ice up above
Don't know who slipped this lock on my head and my heart
But a sip on my lips and I feel that key start to jiggle

Who would have think I'd have to get myself drunk
To take advantage of you and me all alone
I'd have you think it was all just the drink
And I can manage just fine on my own

Drinking vodka for crying, wine to make love
Need a fire in my belly to melt the ice up above
Don't know who slipped this lock on my head and my heart
But a sip on my lips and I feel that key start to jiggle
Drinking vodka for crying, wine to make love

22. The Darwin Stomp 3:23

We're so smart and they're so dumb
Said the hairless ape to his opposable thumb
Flex that grip now let's go prove it
Let's find a mountain and then let's move it
The birds just chirped and the bees just buzzed
They liked the mountain just where it was
But if man can change it why leave it alone
'cause a rock is not a rock until it is thrown

You're so dumb and I'm so smart
Said the three-lobe brain to the two-bit heart
It's survival of the fittest so you'd best pump faster

There's a great big world for us to master
For what's a beast without a burden
Let's crank the speed the planet's turning
Nothing's broke but we can still fix it
After all it's not a ball til somebody kicks it

Specie order phylum kingdom
See all God's creatures and the smiles they bring him
'cept one bad apple that he never could trust
Who are we to think this world evolves around us?

Was it Charles Darwin who sailed around the world in a Beagle? Or was it Charlie Brown who had the beagle? Maybe Darwin took the train, chooglin' around the globe with his sketch pad in one hand and his box of Good'n'Plentys in the other - no, that was Choo Cho Charlie. I get so confused...

'Cause I'm so dumb but if he's so smart
He's show us the ending not just the start
'Cause a little bit of knowledge is a dangerous thing
On the tongue of some monkey who just learned to sing
The birds still chirp and the bees still buzz
But if we love this earth the way it was
We've got to keep evolving, we better not stop it too soon
'cause it's not a balloon til somebody pops it

Bonus Track:

23. I Will Finish (The Boston Marathon Song) 3:46
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tk guitar, bass, organ, vocal