



Terry Kitchen
WE ALL DREAM

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Award-winning Boston singer/songwriter **Terry Kitchen**'s new album **We All Dream** comes at the time we need it most. His first album of new material since 2020's **Next Time We Meet**, the album is spare and pared down to essentials – a voice, a guitar, a story, a glimmer of hope. From the title song's hard-won folk wisdom –

*we get up and try again, reaching further than we've been
crazy as it seems we change the world when we all dream*

to the scheme-gone-wrong bluegrass saga of "**Crane's Ledge**" –

one false step and you're over the edge

to the rock-bottom blues fatalism of "**Mona Lisa Blue**" –

I don't need no fentanyl, I don't need no gun

As long as my last hundred still buys an hour of fun with you...

Kitchen's characters live in the real world, with all its overwhelming challenges and constant disappointments. And yet, they keep getting up and coming back for more.

While centered around Kitchen's intimate vocals and supple guitar playing, **We All Dream** features talented guests, each adding their special color to Kitchen's sonic sketches. Seth Connelly adds back porch Dobro to "**Loretta's Icebox**" (dedicated to country singer Loretta Lynn); Jackie Damsky plays keening violin on "**If You Want Me to Write You a Song**"; and Eric Kilburn (mandolin) and Don Barry (upright bass) give "Crane's Ledge" its vintage bluegrass groove. Rebecca Lynch and Bob Vivona lend their voices to "**Rain Rain Rain**" and the title track, Louise Coombe joins in on "Loretta's Icebox", and Susan Levine of the Lied-To's sings on "Crane's Ledge." Michael Holland contributes the duet vocal on "**Time of the Season**," a slinky acoustic take on the Zombies' '60s classic. Kitchen also plays electric guitar ("**The Pros and Cons of Being Mine**" and "**Twice as Old as Jesus**"), bass and keyboards.

The voices and instruments add lustre, but keep the focus squarely where it belongs: on Kitchen's razor-sharp songwriting. Whether reaching for the sky or gazing into a mirror darkly, Kitchen's songs always go just a little farther than one expects, creating a mood where nothing is assumed and every sliver of daylight matters.

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. **We All Dream** follows 2021's **Lost Songs** (#13 on Folk-DJ), 2020's **Next Time We Meet** (#5 on Folk-DJ), 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 and his short story collection **Coping Mechanisms** appeared in 2020.

About the SONGS on Terry Kitchen's *WE ALL DREAM*

1. Rain Rain Rain (3:20) No doubt the planet's weather is getting more and more extreme. While dealing with the harsh realities, we also need to keep our spirits up and make our own sunshine. With Rebecca Lynch and Bob Vivona on harmony.

2. Loretta's Icebox (3:39) Country star Loretta Lynn had a cabin on her property where she did her songwriting. When she passed, they found a thousand unfinished songs – in the icebox. With Louise Coombe on harmony and Seth Connelly on Dobro.

3. We All Dream (4:02) It's easy to forget that all the big ideas that change the world start as a little idea in someone's head. With Rebecca Lynch and Bob Vivona on harmony (and Terry on melodica).

4. The Pros and Cons of Being Mine (3:28) All successful romantic relationships have to survive the transition from fantasy to reality. Maybe it's better to lead with the reality, so there's less distance to fall. With Terry on lead guitar.

5. Crane's Ledge (5:05) Crane Ledge Woods is the largest undeveloped urban wild in Boston, with a beautiful exposed rocky cliff. We're hoping it stays that way, so I thought it needed a legend. With Susan Levine (of the Lied-To's) on harmony, Eric Kilburn on mandolin and Don Barry on upright bass.

6. Time of the Season (3:46) The original Zombies recording was the coolest song on the radio in 1969. Kitchen's unplugged cover moves it from the nightclub to the bedroom. With Michael Holland on harmony.

7. Twice as Old as Jesus (3:31) For all its challenges, getting older is a privilege not everyone gets to enjoy. A case in point. With Terry on lead guitar.

8. If You Want Me to Write You a Song (All You Have to Do Is Break My Heart) (4:03) Songwriters often get asked, could you write a song about this, or that. The answer is yes, but why bother, unless it's something, or someone, you really care about. With Jackie Damsky on violin.

9. Older Than Yesterday (2:09) As stated before, growing old is a privilege not everyone gets to enjoy. A horrific example, which happens way too often, is when young life is snatched by a preventable act of violence. Written after the school shooting in Uvalde, Texas.

10. Thunder Without Rain (3:02) Thunderstorms can be frightening for a kid. But rain is part of the deal, and eventually when the sun comes out, the rain has softened the soil and made everything clean and green. Take away the rain, and all you have left is the terror of the thunder. Like in combat. Written for the Forever War veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan.

11. Mona Lisa Blue (3:27) When confidence is fleeting, it's easy, and perhaps necessary, to reach for whatever boosts it, however temporarily or artificially. Like trying to write a Canned Heat-style blues in a David Crosby folk tuning.

12. Do You Hear What I Hear (3:22) Though framed as a Christmas carol, "Do You Hear" was actually written as a prayer for peace after the brink-of-nuclear-war Cuban Missile Crisis in the early 1960s. Recalls Terry, "My late sister Amy and I loved the song as kids, and I often find myself playing the melody as I warm up on guitar. We should all take time to listen to the sky, and the animals."