

KÎYÂNAW

Cree | kee-yaa-now
Us, We

"We are a family. We choose to do our best to be kind to one another, to respect ourselves and each other, to nourish our child, to protect him, to help him cultivate his cultural identity as well as the confidence to stand tall. And we know that we cannot do this alone; that it takes a community to help a family succeed. We acknowledge Canada's dark history, and we choose to move forward, to create a future in which our child can not only live safely, but where he can feel that he belongs, and is recognized for the gift that he is. *Kîyânaw* is an album of hope and gratitude for the world that we live in. We believe that music heals, and that stories, both personal and political, have the power to transform our world-views and the attitudes we have toward each other; which in turn helps our family thrive. With this album, we encourage the reclamation of each other's respective cultures while choosing to be stronger, together.

Thank you to our family, our friends, and to everyone who had a part in the creation of this album. Thank you to the community of people who support our music and our family. We are grateful."

- *NADIA & JASON BURNSTICK*

"If my step father George was the one who brought us home, then Uncle Dean was the one who made it precious. I dedicate this project to you both, for showing me what it means to be a good father and a better person in life. Love you and miss you dearly."

- *JASON*

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PAY NO MIND

Spread across the papers
Lit across the screens
They say there's something comin'
I say it's always been
I say it's always been

Blood lined in hatred
A past of regrets
They say there's something brewin'
I say put your fears to rest
I say put your fears to rest

'Cause it all comes back, all comes back to you
'Cause it all comes back, all comes back to you

Every tide is changing
Days have come and gone
Let's fill the space between us
Sing a different song
Sing a different song

'Cause it all comes back, all comes back to you
'Cause it all comes back, all comes back to you

Spread across the papers
Lit across the screens
They say there's something comin'
I say it's always been
I say it's always been

'Cause it all comes back, all comes back to you
'Cause it all comes back, all comes back to you
'Cause it all comes back, all comes back to you
'Cause it all comes back, all comes back to you

EVERY ROAD

I take the time to listen
I leave with no regrets
From prairie skies to city lights
Whisper things I can't forget
But you're always here
To hear me calling out your name

*Every road is leading me this way
and I will never be the same*

All the nights that took me
And storms that blew our way
They cleared a path between us
We forgave each other's ways
At the end of our days
Never forget what we became

*Every road is leading me this way
and I will never be the same*

Troubled times and wonder
Stories true to me
Let go the broken pieces
Become who I will be
When there's no one here
I hear you calling out my name

*Every road is leading me this way
and I will never be the same
Every road is leading me this way
and I will never be the same*



MYSELF

Sisters, please forgive me
You know this road's been long and hard
And Brothers, please believe me
You know, there's nothing more I can do
No, there's nothing more I can do

All these times and change
Still wound up just the same
What can we do?
You know I'm by your side
We tried and tried and tried
Through these days, these days of blue

Blinded, I'm twisted in my mind
I shake the whole night through and through
Cause lover, I need you for tonight
You know there's some things I just can't do

I can't make no sense of where I am
Or where I need to be
But I'll find my way tonight
'Cause when you're gone
for far too long
I can't seem to ease my mind
I can't seem to ease my mind

Mother, you know I love you
You know there's nothing I wouldn't do
And Father, it's time you stepped aside
Cause I'm broke and I am through

Dogma run is over now
I'll have my way tonight
'Cause I ain't nobody's fool
Preaching time
Has walked the line
Of what I know not to be true
Of what I know not to be true

SOME KIND OF HELL

There's no lie that can save you from yourself
We're no better now. Now, you need to go.

When all my, all my will is gone...
When all my, all my days are done...

No light shed can cover all you've told
Now there's no life, your luck has all run cold

When all my, all my will is gone...
When all my, all my days are done...

***Then the rains come down over some kind of hell
Then the rains come down over some kind of hell***

I raise my hands to all who gave the most
I pray, from the cries of a child to their last ghost

When all my, all my will is gone...
When all my, all my days are done...

Oh!

***Then the rains come down over some kind of hell
Then the rains come down over some kind of hell
Then the rains come down over...***



HOME

Light my heart, pull me in tight
Board this train, sit by my side
Whisper tails
And sing to the humming of the rails
We drift away
From every ordinary day

*With you I'm home
Doesn't matter the road
Doesn't matter the route, the unknown
With you, I'm home*

From city streets to prairie land
From laughs to tears, you understand
When I'm in my head
You never leave anything unsaid

*With you I'm home
Doesn't matter the road
Doesn't matter the route, the unknown
With you, I'm home*

When the shade is drawn
On our magic-hour sun
I'll still love you
'til my day is done
I'll still love you
'til my day is done

MOTHER FATHER

Father Thunder rolls
Mother Nature soars
I braid your hair
Weaving earth and air

The wind rises
Carries smoke to Heaven
Calling rain and rivers
To cleanse this land

*Father Father help us
Brave the night
'Til day breaks to light
Mother Mother guide us
Through the tide
We will not divide*

We dance through the water
We'll sing through the winter
Through fire and ice, sun and snow
Our Masterpiece will grow

*Father Father help us
Brave the night
'Til day breaks to light
Mother Mother guide us
Through the tide
We will not divide*

*Father Father help us
Brave the night
'Til day breaks to light
Mother Mother guide us
Through the tide
We will not divide*

ROADS WE CHOOSE

Love is blind and all believing
Your arms are everything to me
The river's high and waters not receding
Your eyes are all I ever see

*All I am is all I'll ever be
When you can make no sense
Of the world gone by
In my heart, it's you I find*

Words so sweet and strong believers
With eyes and words that charm a lie
You're running straight ahead and there's no reason
The truth in hearts will never die

*Oh my friend, is this you in the end
When you can make no sense
of the world gone by
In my heart, it's you I find*

If the road is long and ever giving
On all the roads we ever choose
Then love the gift of life through every season
So many times, we only make due

*All I am is all I'll ever be
When you can make no sense
Of the world gone by
In my heart, it's you I find
In my heart, it's you I find
In my heart, it's you I find*

LOVE GROW COLD

Babe, don't let your love grow cold
You feel like a flame in my soul
You came like a gift I didn't know I had missed
So babe, don't let your love grow cold

Babe, don't let your love grow weak
I'll be all the strength that you need
in a world that's so hard, when we're far apart
So babe, don't let your love grow weak

*'Cause I'll be on a plane
and I'll ease every pain
and I'll always come home to you
Well I'm all on your side
You, I can't deny
I won't let my love grow cold*

Babe, don't ever let doubt in
She's a devil and she'll tear through your skin
It don't matter who's right when we fight
So babe, don't ever let doubt in

*'Cause I'll be on a plane
and I'll ease every pain
and I'll always come home to you
Well I'm all on your side
You, I can't deny
I won't let my love grow cold*

Babe, don't let your love grow cold
Love cuts like a knife, how I know
I will love you today, even more when we're old
So babe, don't let your love grow cold

*'Cause I'll be on a plane
and I'll ease every pain
and I'll always come home to you
Well I'm all on your side
You, I can't deny
I won't let my love grow cold
Please don't let your love grow cold
I won't let my love grow cold*



ON MY GRAVE

You're my burden, the words that fell
You're the lie and the ringing bell
You're the tears each night she wept
You're the ashes in all that's left

You're the hunger, the dying well
You're the silence she knows so well
You're my devil and you're my hell

*Could you hold your head in shame
I can feel the rivers fade
Cut my hair, then mourn my braid
There's an old, old mine on my grave*

You're the hand that's led by fear
A trail of darkness, a storm of tears
Hold her story close to me
Waters calling us sea to sea

*Could you hold your head in shame
I can feel the rivers fade
Cut my hair, then mourn my braid
There's an old, old mine on my grave*

You hold her down, wipe her tears
With a robe as dark as her fears
You scorch the earth, stain the night
But from the blood and ash, she will rise

*Could you hold your head in shame
I can feel the rivers fade
Cut my hair, then mourn my braid
There's an old, old mine on my grave*

*Could you hold your head in shame
I can feel the rivers fade
Cut my hair, then mourn my braid
There's an old, old mine on my grave*

PRAYER

I pray for you at night
as I sing and hold you tight
pray that you will grow into
a man to hold onto
and no matter paths unknown
you'll find shelter from the storm
I pray that you will always have a home

I pray for you at night
as I sing and hold you tight
pray that you will grow into
a man to hold onto
and no matter paths unknown
you'll find shelter from the storm
I pray that you will always have a home

*Hold on to your courage
Hold on to your pride
Hold on to the fire
burning deep inside*

*Hold on to your kindness
Fill your heart with light
Hold on to the river
Let it flow with might*

I pray for you at night
as I sing and hold you tight
pray that you will grow into
a man to hold onto
and no matter paths unknown
you'll find shelter from the storm
I pray that you will always have a home
I pray that you will always have a home



Jason Burnstick: Vocals, Acoustic Guitars, Weissenborn, Percussion, Sampling
Nadia Burnstick: Vocals, Piano

Marie-Josée Dandeneau: Upright Bass (5, 6)
Christian Dugas: Drums (6, 7)
Cody Iwasiuk: Drums (4)
Bruce Jacobs: Bass (7, 8, 9)
David Landreth: Bass (4)
Daniel Roy: Drums (1, 2, 4)
Paul Yee: Bass (1, 2)

All songs written and composed by Nadia & Jason Burnstick.

Produced by Jason & Nadia Burnstick, except Some Kind of Hell, Produced by Jason Burnstick & Murray Pulver.

Recorded at Kiyânaw Studio (Engineer: Jason Burnstick),

Private Ear Studios (Engineers: John Paul Peters, Jad Bantug, and Matt Peters),

Stereobus Recording (Engineer: Paul Yee),

Backbeat Studio (Engineer: Cody Iwasiuk),

and Clear Light Sound (Engineer: Ervin Bartha), Winnipeg, Manitoba.

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