

## Title Page

Tumbleweed: an erratic journey through life.

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## A Struggle Within

A struggle within  
The hardest fight  
Close confines  
The furthest reach

Screams of anguish  
Torn away flesh  
Heart stops  
Someone reach in

Time an enemy  
Solitude a sin  
Come in  
Save my soul

Love is a fragile thing

Love is a fragile thing  
Fine and delicate like a spider's web  
Easily broken by strong wind or passer-by  
Yet those in love are like the spider  
No matter how often the web breaks  
The spider re-builds  
Such is the way with those in true love

The Earth has quakes that devastate  
Fires and floods scar the world  
Volcanoes erupt and stain the land  
Mankind pollutes everything at hand  
From tiny seeds little shoots grow  
Mother Nature fights to re-build  
Such is the way with those in true love

The man loves his woman  
They may well fight every day  
The woman loves her man  
Even if he does not get it every day  
Moments of thoughtfulness and tenderness  
Time taken to make repairs  
Such is the way with those in true love

What would I like to change

What would I like to change?

Change to world?

Change my job?

Change my company?

Change me?

What would I like to keep?

Keep this world?

Keep this job?

Keep this company?

Keep me?

To change or to keep; is there a difference?

If you keep something healthy doesn't it change every day?

If you lose something unimportant, you don't look?

Surely by doing nothing I both keep and change?

So do I do nothing?

To keep or change is in the priority.

The priority is happiness.

Happiness is necessary, even if only occasional.

To change or keep is not the question.

But what is the priority!

You make life's journey alone

You make life's journey alone, though others accompany you they are not with you  
People wash up on your shore, their winds blow across you, but they too are alone  
Waves of love, sadness, joy, pain, and torment can be shared on everyone's beach  
Yet it's an illusion that such love, sadness, joy, pain are shared, as they are not  
A problem shared is not a burden halved if the concerns are only your own  
Words of comfort, tales from the wise, only offer a temporary reprieve  
Such expressions only serve to comfort the giver, as they too are alone  
Moments of reprieve, where someone is worse off than they are quickly gone  
No matter how much shared pain, love, sadness, and joy you journey alone  
You arrived in the world alone, you will leave the world alone  
No matter what you want to believe, no one really cares  
Everything they do for you is self-gratification, self-comfort, their moment away  
Anything to take them away from their own solitude  
Everyone ultimately journeys alone

Lost

Eyes of passion mixed with a hurricane of life  
Figure to die for and a smouldering heart  
Ripped and torn, battered, and bruised  
Hungry for a new start, scarred by the past  
Longing for a hero, rejecting everyone  
Looking for life, yet living it hard  
Sweet passion, sweet life, a rose amongst thistles  
Lost without your light

## Darkness a way of life

Darkness a way of life, feeling and fumbling around  
In the sky occasional pin pricks of light, but I'm on the ground  
Many roads can be found, many junctions abound  
I travel with a vengeance, not knowing where I'm bound

Fellow travellers on my path, some silly buggers going the wrong way  
No one understands me, but I know I'm making headway  
Roads become tracks, then a bloody big motorway  
I'll push and I'll fight, every single day

Been there and seen that, earned my badge at that  
Always moving and staying ahead, I haven't picked up any fat  
Stayed here and laid there, somewhere I lost my hat  
Getting very tired, perhaps it's time I sat

Shit! I didn't see that, now everything's damage  
Without this and that, how am I going to manage  
Nothing works anymore; perhaps I can find a garage  
Still it's dark and there's many roads, I'll try and flag a carriage

Nothing passes by; funny it was there when I didn't need it  
Now it's dark and quiet, totally alone I now sit  
Life's thoughts weigh in and out, tempting me to quit  
I think about it, and then decide I'm not putting up with this shit

I reach into my bag of tricks, forgotten on my many trips  
A pair of wings and a bright light, a song upon my lips  
Heavy at first I flap and turn, then life nips  
Armed afresh and ready for battle, I leave behind my many chips

Feeling light and carrying my torch, I begin again  
Better for my lesson, a painful bargain  
The future's bright and I can see the lights, greater height I will gain  
This time I know the rules and I know the way, but I expect there will still be pain

## Gone Now

Gone now and somewhere else  
No point in chasing, you know that  
Let it go, don't even think of it coming back  
Leave it be, the cage door was always open  
The cage door is still open  
It may come back  
It may do the chasing  
Not be somewhere else  
Leave it free to choose  
You wouldn't want your cage door closed

Hello my friend

Hello my friend, you warm my heart  
I long for your talk and your touch  
I wish we never had to part  
I miss you so much

Friendship is special and real friends rare  
We share laughs and tales  
We have our time together while others are there  
Our friendship will not fail

We will tell each other of our lives  
Our phones link our moments  
Each understands the other's drives  
We know the other's torments

Friendship is a loving bond  
But I really want my lover!

## Eternal Pain

Eternal pain, a broken heart  
Lasting through all time, unable to heal  
The body pretends, the mind locks it out  
Then a quiet moment causes a tear to fall

One moment, a solitary second  
Eons of pain, never to fade  
The body relives the time, the mind remembers  
Then a moment is gone and a smile struggles

A feeling never lost, a broken heart  
A willingness to die, not wanting to live  
The body weakens, the mind weeps  
Just a matter of time until the next moment

All I can see is you

I have nothing left that is mine; you have taken it all away.  
Now I have everything, the moon, the stars, the sunlight, and rain.  
I feel all the pain, I wonder at all the joy you give me each day.  
I'm all confused, battered and bruised but healed again when I see your face.

I wonder why I can't see the sky, the day or night.  
There's nothing there for me to like or dislike.  
I'm lost, I'm sad, I'm happy, I'm glad.  
I see it all; but still I'm blind because all I can see is you.

You torment me and cause me pain when you're near me.  
No light or glow can show my way.  
With wonder and shame you overpowered me.  
Yet I'm always in awe when you stay.

I wonder why I can't see the sky, the day or night.  
There's nothing there for me to like or dislike.  
I'm lost, I'm sad, I'm happy, I'm glad.  
I see it all; but still I'm blind because all I can see is you.

## Fun

Bored! About to call it a day and submit to life  
Unchallenged and far too tired to chase the uncertain  
Certain that all I have left is far more strife  
Time to end another chapter and draw the curtain

Then what do you know fun walks right into me  
A beautiful thing has suddenly changed my outlook  
No promises made and fun will leave me you will see  
But without condition all my doubts fun has shook

Now even when the fun ends I have a new way  
Much the same a childhood my values restored  
From the safe and comfort I must once again stray  
This time I must really try not to get bored!

One last time

Don't know if I have it left in me to fight this last fight  
Don't know if I can make the last long stand  
There is something in me that says I just might  
Though in truth I think this time I would need a hand

So much for my way with my own version of honour and pride  
I faced all those things that scared and worried me  
Not really sure if I have truly enjoyed the ride  
Stood my ground and took my falls and occasionally let things be

I think I'm too tired now and dare I say too old  
I've lost that edge that confidence and arrogant self  
The thought of one more go at it all makes me feel cold  
It all seems too hard too long a task not enough time left so put me on the shelf

That last try really left me battered and weak  
Broke my heart once too many in that last round  
This time out I feel far too humble and meek  
Perhaps now I should just go to ground

Still too stubborn to ask for a helping hand  
Even when I think of all that's positive I'm still quite down  
My own version of pride and honour not now so grand  
I never have been able to hold onto that crown

So what's left for me now that I know I'm beat  
Made up my own mind that I should just quit  
Stay well out of the heat  
Just sit

Nothing left inside to lift me up  
Everything spent  
In a dump  
Need a new scent

It would need to be heaven sent!

(Hope she's pretty – he he!)

Always me against the world

Always me against the world, why?  
Work, pleasure or play I stand alone  
Always a loner, ever since the start  
No lasting person or pet in my life  
I stay alone and like my own company  
We are all good together without another  
I work alone, even in a busy space  
I naturally oppose the other, isolated  
I have few and fleeting allies  
Always the underdog, fighting up hill  
Never selfish and always helpful  
Somehow I always seem to intimidate  
No ones' opinion of me ever the same  
More dislike than like  
Yet no one really knows me  
I have no trust of others, life's lessons  
Reach out or wait?  
I think I'll wait; I'm happy and relaxed  
Others are stressed and pressured  
Those I have are close and caring  
I've achieved and seen much  
Held and loved much  
Experienced to the max  
Now I should step back  
Roll more with the punches and build reserve  
I know there are more knocks to come  
Be prepared!

## Deep Reflection

A moment of deep reflection  
A time to search my soul  
Seek a greater redemption  
Climb out the deep dark hole

Weigh my dues  
Check my balance  
Examine the subtle hues  
Take more than a glance

Now that's done let's make all the same mistakes again  
Oh what fun there is to be had?

Ego

It needs to grow  
But not run wild  
It feeds the soul  
But can corrupt the mind  
Carefully watched  
Trimmed and pruned  
Shaped and moulded  
It is the greatest boon  
Left to run wild  
Let out of control  
It can destroy lives  
And not only your own  
Teach it humility  
And respectful pride  
Feed it only truth  
Keep it honest and true  
And it will serve you well  
And win your love's heart

## Long Left

In love, words that have long left my lips  
My heart scarred, bruised, and locked away  
I don't remember loving as I should have  
I lost my home and misplaced my heart on my many trips  
So long I have wandered and often I would stray  
Lost my heart and soul because I would misbehave

Now I have hopes and dreams and I can glow  
I have kisses and their absence makes me want to cry  
I stroke a woman that I could love forever  
I could so easily be 'in love' but I can't let it show  
My heart is healed and I can't let anyone know why  
The reason is, I've found a beautiful treasure

One day soon I will again be alone  
My treasure lost or stolen but the memory will stay  
My heart will remain healed: or able to take more pain  
My secret love will give me strength even when gone  
I will no long wander and look to stray  
I will look for love, to be in love again

## A Shell

A shell, a body going through the motions of life  
No heart no soul, and no reason to breath  
Each day, just another extension into the void  
No purpose, no being, just am  
Wasted heart beats, breath polluting the air  
Why stay, why linger in a place of nothing  
A faint hope of something  
A glimmer of love  
A spark of life  
None of these exist, so why be  
Is there a greater purpose  
Why not let go, take the big sleep  
Is it fear  
Is it love  
Is it longing  
None of these bond life to a shell  
So why is the shell still am

## Balance

Good & Evil  
Hot & Cold  
Both fight the same battle  
Each desires to win

Good & Evil  
Hot & Cold  
Fight in the same water  
A balance is achieved

Good & Evil  
Hot & Cold  
Where one enters it dominates  
Where both meet a balance

Good & Evil  
Hot & Cold  
Life offers both  
Self brings the balance

Someone to talk to

Really need someone to talk to  
Really need a friend  
But never, never had one

Poets and song tell of friends  
Moving pictures show them  
Stills portray them

Family pretends  
Blood betrays love  
Love betrays blood

Tried a dog  
Fish  
Cat

Friends don't exist  
Need a shoulder!  
There's always a price

I'll pay  
God! Will I pay  
Regret – maybe tomorrow?

What is its Handle

It's soft and caring  
Cruel and unkind  
Always sharing  
The want of mankind  
It makes us strong  
Brings us to our knees  
We want it all life long  
Demanding high fees  
It's food for the soul  
Devils in the mind  
Makes two people whole  
Bonds it unwinds  
It is the warmest  
As bitter as ice  
The heart of the nest  
Too hot a spice  
It leaves us wanting  
Fills us to overflow  
Devastates without caring  
Provides an inner glow  
It tortures and torments  
Comforts and cares  
Steals our content  
Our burdens it shares  
It offers us heaven  
Blows out like a candle  
And still offers us heaven  
What is its handle.....LOVE

## Miss the highs

Miss the highs & miss the lows  
Loved the rollercoaster, hated the ride  
Miss the ride, hated the ups and downs  
Loved the speed, hated the crashes  
Rushed up to the crashes wanted speed

Found a straight line  
Now I ride the straight line  
Frightened to risk losing what I've got  
Got a lot less than I had when losing didn't matter  
Losing is sore

Loved the down  
Really loved the blues  
Cried!

Squealed at the highs  
Loved the encore  
Cried!

Losing was sometimes the high  
Losing was sometimes the low  
Miss the highs & lows!

Knowing life as I do

Knowing life as I do  
Knowing me as I do  
Knowing the things I can do  
I now know what I must do

Taking only what I need  
Food and water I will need  
Soul and heart I will need  
I now know what I need

So now I step out and open the door  
One foot forward onto a new floor

## Time to Choose

Time to choose between stone and softer  
Should it be cold or warm  
Maybe more vulnerable or more shielded  
Gentler, more open  
Harder, more closed  
Should I share it  
Should I bare it  
Maybe lock it away  
Maybe throw it away  
It's my choice  
It's my heart  
  
– but she hurt it!

## Don't Let Anyone

Don't let anyone into your life that has not earned it  
Giving them even limited exposure to your self is dangerous  
It's a hard lesson but listen to one that has learned it  
They may be doing harm for a long time and you would be oblivious

Be guarded, be safe, be overly cautious  
Remain vigilant, remain patient, remain strong  
Once you find out the harm people can do it would make you nauseous  
The damage they will do will last very long

Please listen to me I know what I'm saying  
Pay attention, there are bad people out there looking for you  
You may want love, company, that someone: keep praying  
Do not accept the first one, maybe not even the second one too

Then again, how will you know the good from the bad  
What if the One moves on because you did not try  
Such a missed opportunity would make you sad  
Perhaps it best not to let any of them simply pass by

Grab them, hold them, and just hope you called it right?

## Keep Trying

Keep trying, head held high  
Never let that hope die  
Don't let others tell you that your plans are awry

Failure is simply a step towards success  
Stumbles and falls just part of the creative mess  
Move beyond and ignore the stress

With you head held high you can see far  
With great believe you may dare  
And with persistence you will reach that star

Pride does not always proceed a fall  
Self-belief is not a gift shared by all  
With you head held high, stand tall

Ninety-nine fails, does not tell it as it is  
You can achieve your goal, you can do this  
One day you will achieve your bliss

Push on and believe, keep flying  
Do not let others convince you that you are self-lying  
Head held high, keep trying

## The Past has Passed

The past has passed  
The good times, they did not last  
Most of the time I had a blast  
Not caring what hopes were dashed

Now I miss what I had  
The regrets make me sad  
Was I just being a lad  
Or could I have been a better dad

Today is a new day  
There's still time to find a new way  
It's too late many say  
However, I know I can be a better granddad

## Started Young

Started young and had some fun  
Did it all in a hurry on the run  
Played, fought, and loved under one sun

Mid-life fun became pleasure  
Started to search for treasure  
Started to build a ledger

Late life sought out consolation  
Searched all across the nation  
All with a little less concentration

Life's end found me wanting  
Wondering what I'd been hunting  
Must have been something?

Once I caught a butterfly

Once I caught a butterfly  
Pulled its legs and wings off  
Tried to drown some puppies  
In a sack with some bricks  
Stabbed a man once  
He didn't die  
Now I'm sorry for what I done  
'Cause now I'm gonna die

Fathered a child one time  
Ran out on both of them  
Found an old dear's bag  
Kept what was in it for myself  
Raised my voice to a woman  
Not a gentle touch  
Now I'm sorry for what I done  
'Cause now I'm gonna die

Stole a car  
Robbed a house  
Shot a gun  
Think I missed

The pain's going away  
Heartburn the doctor says  
Strong as an ox I am  
I'll live another day

Sure I'm sorry for what I done  
I'd like to change  
Be a better man  
But I've not the time right now  
Change is hard work  
I am what I am  
Now I might be sorry for what I done  
But there's time before I die

Think a Happy Thought

Think a happy thought  
First love, my last love  
The births of my children  
The smiles of my grandchildren  
The sweetest sex  
The most loving kiss  
A seductive caress  
Ice cream – chocolate  
A drink – a laugh  
Friends and family  
I'm still sad ..... Sorry

## Want to Die

Want to die; find out what's next  
Long to live as I once did  
Life's slow now: easy but hard  
Bitching and moaning: lining ones' own pocket now rules  
I long for life to come take me back  
Love to stand in the morning rain  
Death is an invite: because life needs a piece of my mind

Today I woke up

Today I woke up and realised  
Someone special had entered my life  
Yet I knew I would have to let her go  
It came as such a surprise  
Today she allowed me to understand my strife  
I had to find nowhere to go!

Tomorrow I will wake up and realise  
Someone special did enter my life  
I shouldn't have let her go  
It was no surprise  
Tomorrow I will understand my own strife  
I found somewhere else to go!

Here I go again

Here I go again, first step on the road alone  
Not sure where I'm going but nothing new there  
Had some moments where love held me; but fleeting  
Almost had a few close friends but that avoids me  
Once again my heart must turn to stone  
I must find a new life, a new scent in the air  
Things haven't worked out but no need for a beating  
I think this is my way, this is my life, this is always to be me

## What Now

She haunts my day and every spare moment  
Dark and cold is the trail she leaves  
Stirring up fears and phobias long dormant  
Part of me already grieves

She fills my heart with hope and thoughts of love  
A beautiful future she could be  
On to this path would need just a little shove  
Is she the one that could lead me

Time will tell  
But time is short  
I don't wait well  
Hate dark thoughts

What now!?

I have to leave

I have to leave I have to go  
There is nowhere else I want to be  
Yet I must say goodbye and run  
Far away I must really be

Then and only then can I say hello  
Once I have gone we can be  
So farewell and please don't cry  
I know who I want to be

I will always be here hiding  
But only one can be  
Sometimes I will whisper and you will hear  
But then I will let me be

Once I have gone I will love you  
Then happy we can be  
I love you now too  
But with the other my love will better be

I hope you understand  
I hope you will let me be  
Changing is so very hard  
Yet it must be

You will never know how hard  
You must let me be  
Say goodbye to me  
Then I will be

Please understand  
I love you

## What are Memories

What are memories worth if you can't touch them  
Hold on to them, they are all you've got you are told  
When everything else is gone you still have them  
They may be all that remains when you are old

What are memories worth when they are lost  
You held on to them so long but now the mind has flopped  
They were there before but now they have simply been tossed  
Out of you head they have merely hopped

Now you realise your memories defined your way  
But you no longer have them, you have basically forgot  
You no longer know yourself, find yourself a new every day  
But others remember for you and remind you a lot

Thank you, to those who do this and understand your pain

## Time

There comes a time to say goodbye  
There comes a time to let things lie  
There comes a time when all's gone by  
To say – Here we go again, better luck this time

Pick up the pieces and brush of the dust  
Glad rags on and time to search out the lust  
No need to rush because it doesn't rust  
Let's say – careful this time, don't be rushed

Hoping we're

Hoping we're better than the rest  
Watching the news, seeing the terror  
Hoping we're better than the rest  
Watching friends playing away  
Hoping we're better than the rest  
Racists, hypocrites, aggressors, thieves  
Hoping we're better than the rest  
Unfriendly, short-tempered, stingy  
Hoping we're better than the rest  
Everyone thinks they are better than the rest!  
Who are you, who am I?

## I Must Go

I led a life I must let go  
It was only short but took my soul  
I shared it with a kindred friend  
A friend I must now let go  
The shared emotion filled my soul  
However, I leave to save my friend.

I can't remember a day I didn't feel alone

I can't remember a day I didn't feel alone  
Even in my early days I was an outsider with everyone  
Never lost but never quite accepted  
Tolerated; had a mother's love, but she didn't understand  
Family were just the same as other people but blood related

I can't remember a day I didn't feel alone  
Travelled: saw new people and places but I was still not with anyone  
Although alone I rarely felt dejected  
Had wives, perhaps their love too, but alone I would always stand  
Children too, but miles always kept us separated

I can't remember a day I didn't feel alone  
Had career ups and downs and at times I might have been someone  
Though in traditional roles I always felt rejected  
Even when the best of the best jobs would land  
Caused trouble in a few, left others but I was never berated

I can't remember a day I didn't feel alone  
Now quite often I sit with no one  
I'm passionate about skills that I've not yet perfected  
Comfortable in a situations and places I never planned  
Company can be so far over rated

I can't remember a day I didn't feel alone  
Found the best company; I am that one  
Now doing the things to which I feel connected  
Many hours alone now I will spend  
My own company is now so highly rated

I can't remember a day I didn't want to be alone

## A Single Wish

I've been granted a single wish  
Everything and anything is within my reach  
Life, love, happiness, health, and power  
Fast cars, fast women, and world travel  
The best of everything can be mine  
The woman of my dreams, the life only dreams can long for  
But when faced with the dilemma of this one wish I knew  
I have everything I want, wonderful children and grandchildren  
I've had the love of the most wonderful women  
I've gained the beauty, strength, and appreciation  
that only a broken heart can give  
I've had wealth and poverty  
Slept in the best beds and the worst  
I've travelled and experienced many wonders  
I've had many of those wonderful glory feelings that  
tingle the body from head to toe  
I've had all this and earned it all both good and bad  
So now I know it's not reaching the end of the journey  
But the journey itself that makes life wonderful  
So I don't need the single wish nor  
do I need to keep it for a rainy day  
It's already been granted!

It's hard to do

It's hard to do the job when it goes against your heart

It's hard to live the life when it goes against your heart

It's hard to love them when it goes against your heart

So why don't you follow your heart?