

## SHAWN PHILLIPS – TRANSCENDENCE LYRICS

### Take It Easy

He came here out of nowhere  
The man without a name  
He brought no sense of vision  
From a vast and empty plain  
And all the darkness in her life  
Simply cease to be  
He took the place of a sentiment  
He came up with the key  
Now you stand there in the doorway  
Silently you cry for help  
You, you in your long and yellow nightgown  
And your cast and rattled self  
I see a woman of life's charades  
Looking at me  
I see the questions in your eyes  
How do you want to be  
You want to be like anyone else that's trying so  
Hard in search  
For themselves to be free  
Take it easy  
And we can make it, we can do anything in this  
World if we only try  
Get the prize  
For free  
Take it easy  
And we can make it

Now the clouds are around the mountains  
In a mantle like a velvet shroud  
The mimosa is about to flower  
And he is not so very proud  
But life is good and life is cruel  
It's always been the same  
And if we can we will make it through  
And look out at the rain  
Even to the call of the mind's demise  
The problem remains as to who gets the prize for free  
Take it easy

### I'm An American Child (On A Nuclear Pile)

I was born in Fort Worth, Texas with a silver spoon  
The war was rollin,' and the deaths were tollin' and Crosby crooned  
The year was '43, I started learnin' how to be and I was on my way  
Partisans in Italy were fighting Mussolini's team and making hay  
Then another two years of people shedding tears and it had all begun  
This bludgeon of insanity, power into vanity, to make the sun  
I started comprehending the beginning of the ending of the human race  
Now all I want to do is stop the follow-through I want to save my face

Chorus:

'Cause I'm an American child on a nuclear pile  
I been pampered, I been hampered, now I'm slandered, yeah!

Children of the twenty-first haven't got sense enough to raise their minds  
Too busy gettin' crazy, or learnin' to be lazy, or tryin' to find  
A way of bein' funny so to make a lot of money off another man's spine  
Capitalist prigs and communist pigs, well you are all so fine  
Always hypocritical, I think you're hypothetical, I will not climb  
Cannot get in here, can't get out of there and there is no more time  
And like the man said it's a pity he is dead, that all the world's a stage  
So if you want to keep it for the next performance, you had better rage

Chorus

Now I got a feelin' that what we're really needin' is a lot of love  
And the little man to say he can, regardless of the master plan or velvet glove  
Stand up his integrity, and fight the things that he can see are oh so wrong  
There is a good solution, and it's not a revolution, and it won't take long  
Let loose that want to fight go slobber through the night with their neutron bombs  
There is more creation in the face of devastation, there are just more slums  
And if you want utopia, you cannot have myopia, it must be clear  
And a little isolation, so to prop a falling nation, from its only fear

Implications

She brought me love like no one else has ever  
Brought me through these many years,  
She made me sound and took me 'round in ever upward swirling chandeliers

At the pain of an ending is like a cauldron seething in fire,  
For no one else could ever take me higher  
The roses sent were never meant as offerings of peace for all the tears,  
Nor solace for the years alone

I cannot bring myself to voice my fears  
Oh, but life you are sacred, you are the only the we bear,  
You are adamant implication that we care  
The winds of life have brought me strife, I must face up to what  
I think is real, and if she wants to go to him I will not hold her back from what she feels  
Ah the love gives me courage, it stops the pain and heals me inside,  
My very soul is a thing I cannot hide  
The windows in her eyes are dark  
The stars are never there as they appeared and gone is all the joy for me  
She's found another man and I am here

Ah the pain of an ending is like a cauldron seething fire,  
For no one else could ever take me higher  
In the sky to the blue of God's eye where the winds begin to blow  
And the earth is brown and green and gold  
With the universe above and I must not lose my love,  
No I must not lose my love again

Lady In Violet

She's a lady in violet

She is inviolate

All alone

And no one can touch her 'cause I am not much of a rolling stone

When she walks down the street all the people she meets are just totally

Blown away by the fact that she puts on no act, she is on her own

When she stands by the sea I can hardly believe

There's a distant shore

'Cause she captures my own vision in a one way collision

Like a nova's born

The dignified lady that makes me so crazy at home

She is in white today, she takes away the grey from the clouds

And she weaves and she sways as she goes on her way and she parts the crowds

But a woman that's beautiful cannot be dutiful in her love

There's too many factions and lighting reactions the curing of

And I made the mistake of just letting her take my heart all the way

And now I must suffer the way she is tougher with me today

The dignified lady that makes me so crazy

That magical lady that makes me so hazy at home

But time passes easily, but stops when she looks at me moving slow

Like a bird on the wind and a flimsical whim she's too much to know

But she is destructive and almost reluctant to save her soul

And she goes toward her end in a state of chagrin though it's not her goal

Though she knows that I love her she cannot recover from all I've done

And he's in the middle and I am a riddle to ponder on

The dignified lady that makes me so crazy at home

But when she comes back to me after she's had her spree I will know

She'll come to my arms and I'll succumb to her charms like the falling snow

And I'll drink her nectar and never neglect her as long as I live

And all I can do is just hope that she's through and she wants to give

Now I wait for the day she will come up to me and say I love you

Then I'll break down and cry, then I will laugh at the sky

And I will know it's true

The dignified lady that makes me so crazy

That magical lady that makes me so hazy

The beautiful lady that makes me so crazy at home

Good Evening Madam

Good evening madam you take me by surprise

'Cause it's been a long time since I've looked into your eyes

Good evening madam and where would you like to go

To the bottom of the ocean or up into the mountain snow

I'll take you places that you have never been

Places in the world that few men have ever seen

'Cause now that you're with me I do believe we can begin again

Keepin' on living and knowing that there is no end

Good evening are you living in a state of grace?

And now that I leave you, you know where I will be  
And I can only hope that one day we'll be free  
May God be with you in everything you may intend  
Keepin' on living and knowing that thee is no end

Lament Pour L'Enfant Mort

All I wanted was to hear him say  
Will you tell me why there's light in the day?  
Will you bring me to the why of things?  
Will you tell me why the bumblebee stings?  
To watch him grow into a man if he can  
He never saw the people laughing gay  
He never felt the way that man betrays  
He never saw the countless stars above  
He never felt what it is to love  
He never smiled inside of him  
He never climbed up to the highest limb  
He never felt the strength of God inside  
He never came into our lives  
The child has died  
And it would have been a little girl

I would have given her the whole wide world  
She would have taken all her mother's grace  
And all the beauty that is in her face  
And all the fire that's in her eyes  
The child has died

And we who live 'tween sea and sky  
We laugh at life and then it makes us cry  
We hold ourselves in high esteem  
We're not as fine as we may seem  
We'll never match the flower's bloom  
We'll never stop the waning moon  
But if we don't believe in love  
Then we can say good-bye  
For we will die  
But life goes on all its days  
And we may separate and go our ways  
We have to learn to smile again  
'Cause if you don't it is the very end  
We have the love inside  
It's hard to hide  
The months have passed and it's still hard to be  
We have to get back to that harmony  
Accept the things we cannot change  
And realize that life is strange  
And love again with all our heart  
Or be alone and walk into the dark

We musn't let our minds take us away, we have to learn what is the way

### Julia's Letters

Julia writes me letters  
Julia writes of life  
Julia's joy cuts through her words like a surgeon's gleaming knife  
Julia's got two babies  
And another one is on the way  
She is another one that works so hard just to keep on from day to day  
Julia's got a new old house  
It's bigger than the one before  
James is working in a flour shop  
He's learning how to make the dough  
Julia tends the babies  
Sometimes she is alone  
She's just waiting for the day to end when her man'll be coming home  
Julia is the power  
Julia is the world  
Julia keeps the harmony  
And the next ought to be a girl  
A little girl for the balance

A woman for a lonely man  
Perfection in the form of a consciousness and a presence for an empty land  
And Julia tries  
And Julia cries  
Julia writes me of her hopes inside  
And Julia seems  
To hold her dreams  
Till they are real  
Enough to feel  
And when they come  
They're like the sun  
The warmth and light  
And all is right

Chorus:  
Oh Julia, James....Jesus, and Joaquin

### Motes Of Dust

Motes of dust fly through the air they're dancing in his vacant stare  
The hollows in his cheeks are haunted shadows  
And down below the sea is strong, the wind it whips itself a froth  
A storm is coming on, let's hope it passes  
But storms will come with squalling rain and lightning hurled in screaming pain  
The night becomes like mind left standing helpless  
But thunder dies away in time to leave the silence so sublime  
And once again the need for light is urgent

Though even in the center stage  
A paler light doth he make rage

Than those who live their lives in poorest splendor  
And diamonds yet festoon the trees  
If you but have the eyes to see  
To share it with the ones that you are loving  
To cast your force into the land in hopes that you can make a plan  
To live, let others live and not regret it  
And love is peace and God is war  
You've seen it all go down before  
And more's the shame to stand by while it's happening  
For we are like the storms at sea  
A moment's life like lightning be  
Ourselves our only slaves  
And only masters

#### Ease Your Mind

Ease your mind  
And leave your troubled heart behind you  
Take your time  
And I love you  
Ease your mind  
And leave your cares and the world behind you  
Life can be unkind  
And I love you  
We're living now  
Our life begins  
You know you're always living in my mind  
And I love you  
Ease your mind  
And I love you  
Ease your mind  
And I love you

