

Composed with
Additional Music
and Lyrics
by
Peter Link

Goin' Home

On Heaven and Beyond

Vocal Arrangements by **Margaret Dorn**

CD and Digi-Book Design by **Sara Gray**

Mastering by **Phil Klum Mastering, NYC**

Executive Producers

Carley and **Bob Stone**

Dustin Link and **Wanda Peters**

Produced and Orchestrated by **Peter Link**

Link Recording Studios, NYC

Liner Notes from the Composer

I woke up one morning and realized that my past, on Planet Earth, was probably longer than my future – that there was more time that lay behind than what lies ahead. But then again I believe deeply in life eternal. So what's to worry?

Just what is it that goes on? What stays behind? Where do I go from here? Heaven knows...

I probably won't figure it out while treading down this earthly road, but for the past year or so, working on this CD, I've given it a lot of thought. I've considered ideas drawn from a number of sources, but learned while trying to figure it all out, that I might as well try to embrace the rainbow.

This one thing I do know, however: The purpose of this album is to open our eyes to the timelessness of our future. After all, isn't that what the basis of Heaven is all about? Moving on. No endings – only new beginnings.

We all deal with this transition every day, no matter how old we are, whether it's regarding ourselves, our family and friends, or the peoples of the world. Yet most of us ignore it or run from it out of fear. I have chosen to face it head on over these last months and have found a tremendous sense of life in the endeavor. Thus the music, and also the energies of a perfectly wonderful group of performers who have all been deeply touched by the project.

The contemplation of this inevitable transition has turned out to be a joyful exploration and appreciation of life.

Here you'll find sadness, joy, humor, celebration and, of course, the mystical. Dive into it all with great abandon. The rewards of the music and lyrics and energies of the performers are great and simply full of life – just as it should be.

This album is a gift to the world from literally hundreds of people who have supported it from its inception. I am eternally grateful to each of you for your prayers, your good thoughts and your donations of time, money, and enlightened creativity. I am blessed by this endeavor.

Choir

Angela Clemmons	Soprano
Margaret Dorn	Soprano
Vaneese Thomas	Soprano / Alto
Jenny Burton	Alto
Catherine Russell	Alto
Keith Fluitt	Tenor
Darryl Tookes	Tenor
John James	Baritone
Kevin Osborne	Bass Baritone

with special guests

Julia Wade	Soprano
Tom Tipton	Baritone
Peter Link	Baritone
Barry Danielian	Trumpet

Goin' Home

- 1.** Goin' Home
Choir w/ Darryl Tookes and Angela Clemmons
- 2.** To My Father's House
Choir with Jenny Burton and Cat Russell
- 3.** Heaven
Jenny Burton with Choir
- 4.** I Ain't Gonna Grieve My Lord No More/
I Got A Robe
Peter Link, Jenny Burton with Men's Choir
- 5.** There's A Mountain In My Way
Quartet: Kevin Osborne, Darryl Tookes, Cat Russell, Margaret Dorn with Jenny Burton
- 6.** Embrace The Rainbow
Men's Quartet with Peter Link
- 7.** I Can't Go Home
Peter Link
- 8.** We Fix It
Cat Russell with Choir
- 9.** What Could Have Been
Peter Link
- 10.** In Dat Great Gittin' Up Mornin'
Choir, Jenny Burton and Barry Danielian
- 11.** Goin' Home
Tom Tipton
- 12.** When The Saints Go Marchin' In
Julia Wade, Men's Choir with Jenny Burton and John James
- 13.** Come To Me As A Bird
Julia Wade

*By and by
When the morning comes
When the saints of God are gathered home
We'll tell the story
Of how we've overcome
For we'll understand it better by and by
Well, I want to be in that number
When the saints go marchin' in*

Insight

All Insights are written by Peter Link.

Margaret Dorn did all the vocal arrangements on this CD and is a master at a capella arranging. Her eight-voice ensemble, The Accidentals, were the 1995 National Champions of the Harmony Sweepstakes, and have won countless awards for a capella groups the world over. So turning to her to arrange this opening song on the CD was the easiest of choices. For me, she fulfilled all expectations with this gorgeous melody originally composed by Antonin Dvořák for his Symphony No. 9. My one direction to her was, "I see this song coming out of the mist."

Goin' Home opening

Music and Lyrics by Antonin Dvořák and V. Labenske

Choir

Darryl Tookes and Angela Clemmons

Goin' home
Goin' home
I'm a goin' home
Quiet like
Some still day
I'm jes' goin' home
It's not far
Jes' close by
Through an open door
Work all done
Care laid by
Goin' to fear no more

Mother's there 'spectin' me
Father's waitin' too
Lots o' folk
Gathered there
All the friends I knew
Goin' home
Goin' home
I'm jus' goin' home

"God exists in eternity.

*The only point where eternity
meets time is in the present.*

*The present is the only
time there is."*

- Marianne Williamson



Angela Clemmons

*has sung with such stars as Celine Dion, Cyndi Lauper,
Donald Fagan (of Steely Dan), Jewel, Vanessa Williams
and George Benson. She also performed in the
Elton John/Tim Rice Broadway musical Aida.*

Insight for "To My Father's House"

I originally fell in love with this next song recorded in the early 70's by The Edwin Hawkins Singers on the album that also contained their hit song "Oh Happy Day" that sold more than 7 million copies worldwide, and won for Edwin Hawkins his first Grammy. Back then we all fell in love with the infectious joy of "Oh Happy Day", but what really stuck with me over the years has been the spirit of "My Father's House". It seemed natural to re-record it for this project. Being in the studio with both Cat and Jenny when they recorded their solo work was simply a divine experience.

*"My sheep listen to my voice;
I know them, and they follow me.
I give them eternal life, and they
shall never perish; no one
can snatch them out
of my hand."*

– Jesus Christ



Keith Fluff

has performed in support of Ashford & Simpson, Patti Austin, and The Pet Shop Boys to name a few, and has recorded on numerous CD's. He also completed a run in the Broadway musical Hot Feet.

To My Father's House

Edwin and Walter Hawkins • Additional Lyrics by Peter Link

Choir

Jenny Burton and Catherine Russell

Come and go with me
To my Father's house
To my Father's house
Come and go with me
To my Father's house
To my Father's house

There'll be no cryin' there
There'll be no dyin' there
Come and go with me
To my Father's house
To my Father's house

In my Father's house
There are so many mansions
there
Built not for the few
But built for all the world
to share
I'm goin' to prepare
A place for you
And where I go
You can go there too
Come and go with me
To my Father's house
To my Father's house

Come and go with me
To my Father's house
To my Father's house
Come and go with me
To my Father's house
To my Father's house
There'll be no cryin' there
There'll be no dyin' there
Come and go with me
To my Father's house

In my Father's house
There's joy that is waiting there
Waiting there for you
Light and laughter everywhere
I'll check right in
At the holy gate
Saint Peter's a-waitin'
So doncha be late
Now c'mon and go with me
To my Father's house
To my Father's house
Come and go with me
To my Father's house
To my Father's house
Come and go with me



“The “kingdom of Heaven” is a condition of the heart—not something that comes “upon the earth” or “after death.”

- Friedrich Nietzsche

Jenny Burton

*has had a long and varied career as a superb vocalist working successfully in Dance Music, R&B, Gospel and Inspirational Music. She has to her credits as well two gold records and four top ten dance hits. **The Jenny Burton Experience**, an award winning Inspirational group, ran for seven years to sold out standing room only audiences in New York City.*

Insight for “Heaven”

“Heaven” was the first song I wrote for the project. For me, it defined the project and became the central core from which I worked. Whenever I would find myself wandering away from the creative arc of the project, I would simply go back and re-read or listen to this song and it would always get me back on track. Jenny, as always, brings all her depth and commitment to the performance of this song and simply knocks me out every time I hear it.

Heaven

Music & Lyrics by Peter Link

Jenny Burfon and Choir

I don't believe in Heaven
As a place up in the sky
A place where all the angels sit
As the clouds go passin' by

I don't believe in Heaven
Dressed in white and gold
A city in a world up stairs
Where all of our wings unfold
And a God sits upon his throne

I see it more as a state of mind
Since my body gets left behind
I see it more
As an open door
To a life of another kind

I don't believe in Heaven
As a place this side of Hell
A place where all the good folks go
A place where the spirits dwell
An' ol' Peter a-rings dem bells

I see it more as a holy space
A place to pause a spiritual base
I see it more as an open door
To a kind of a quiet grace

And when all is said and done
I think that Heaven
Like Earth
Is what we make it
It's a moment in the sun
It's a cleansing time

In a state of grace
It's a place where laughter reigns
Oh it's Heaven
Heaven
It's Heaven
Oh it's Heaven

Now I believe in Heaven
As a place where I belong
A state of grace a joyful space
A place I can sing my song

I'll be livin' high in this state of mind
Free from the earth
And the ties that bind
I'll walk right through
That old open door
To a life of another kind

And when all is said and done
I think that Heaven
Like earth
Is what we make it
It's a moment in the sun
It's a cleansing time
In a state of grace
It's a place where laughter reigns
Oh it's Heaven
Heaven
It's Heaven
Oh it's Heaven
It's Heaven
Yeah it's Heaven
Oooooohh
It's Heaven!

Insight

for "I Ain't Gonna Grieve My Lord No More/I Got A Robe"

Here's a medley of two other songs that I've known and sung since childhood. Some may even know these as camp songs, but they are both firmly lodged in the tradition of the great American Gospel/Spiritual song-book. I took the liberties of adding additional lyrics to "I Ain't Gonna Grieve My Lord No More" and had a few totally silly moments writing them. Over the years I've actually mustered up the courage to sing on the same recording with Jenny Burton occasionally. She certainly can spice up a recording!

As a child, I never knew what the title meant, but singing the song this past year in the studio, I finally figured it out and towards the end of the song you'll hear me discovering the meaning and shouting out the revelation.

Peter Link

(composer/lyricist/orchestrator/record producer/performer) is the creative director of Watchfire Music, an Inspirational record company and on-line store – watchfiremusic.com. As a composer he won the NY Drama Desk Award for his musical, Salvation, out of which came his first Gold Record, If You Let Me Make Love To You, Then Why Can't I Touch You?, which sold over two million records.

He is a two-time Tony Award Nominee on Broadway for his musical scores of Joseph Papp's Much Ado About Nothing and Neil Simon's The Good Doctor.

*He composed, produced and directed **The Jenny Burton Experience**. The group swept all the major NYC cabaret awards for Best Vocal Group including Entertainers of the Year. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Link*



I Ain't Gonna Grieve My Lord No More / I Got A Robe

Traditional: Additional Music and Lyrics by Peter Link

Peter Link, Jenny Burfon & Men's Choir

Oh you can't get to Heaven
On roller skates
'Cause you'll roll right by
Them pearly gates
Oh you can't get to Heaven
On roller skates
'Cause you'll roll right by
Them pearly gates
I ain't gonna grieve my Lord no more

No an' don't try goin' by rollerblades
Cuz ya' can't roll over dem barricades

Oh you can't get to Heaven
In a skin tight dress
Cuz the curves you got
Mean less and less
Oh you can't get to Heaven
In a skin tight dress
Cuz the curves you got
Mean less and less
I ain't a-gonna grieve my Lord no more

Oh, you can't get to Heaven in a fancy suit
Cuz the Lord upstairs don't give a hoot
But I got a robe
You got a robe
All God's children got a robe
When I get to Heaven
Gonna put on my robe
I'm gonna shout all over God's Heaven

Heav'n Heav'n
Ev'rybody talkin' 'bout Heav'n ain't goin' there
Heav'n, Heav'n
Gonna shout all over God's Heaven

Oh you can't get to Heaven
In yer ol' man's car
'Cause the dang ol' thang
Won't go that far

Oh you can't get to Heaven
In yer ol' man's car
'Cause the dang ol' thang
It won't go that far I ain't a-gonna grieve my
Lord no more

An' you can't get to Heaven in a limousine
'cause the Lord don't sell no gasoline

No you can't get to Heaven with a lot of cash
Cuz it only goes right in the trash

An' you can't get to Heaven in a Cadillac
Cuz they'll laugh ya' down
And send you back

But I got shoes
You got shoes
All God's children got shoes
When I get to Heaven
Gonna put on my shoes
I'm gonna walk all over God's Heaven

Heav'n Heav'n
Ev'rybody talkin' 'bout Heav'n
Ain't goin' there
Heav'n, Heav'n
Gonna shout all over God's Heaven

Oh you can't get to Heaven
With a mortal sin
Cuz the Lord don't 'low
No sneakin' in

Oh you can't get to Heaven
With a mortal sin
Cuz the Lord don't 'low
No sneakin' in
I ain't a-gonna grieve my Lord no more

An' ya' cain't get to Heaven
If ya' never try
An' ya' only start
Jes' before ya' die
But if you get to Heaven
Before I do
Jus' bore a hole
An' pull me through

I ain't gonna grieve my Lord no more
I ain't gonna grieve my Lord no more
I ain't a-gonna grieve my Lord no more

That's right! Don't be givin' him no
more grief!

I ain't a-gonna grieve
My Lord!

Insight

for "There's A Mountain In My Way "

This human experience is such a clash of conflicts. Sometimes I actually think I'm getting somewhere and then along comes another collision, another matter moment, another trial from which to learn. Sometimes I think that's what life on Planet Earth is all about – a great exercise in getting' over the materialistic hump. And then, of course, sometimes the hump becomes a mountain.

A portrait of Margaret Dorn, a woman with short red hair, smiling, wearing a blue top. The portrait is set against a soft, circular vignette.

Margaret Dorn

(Vocal arranger and performer) has sung with many artists, including Celine Dion, Bette Midler, Jennifer Lopez, Carly Simon, Lionel Ritchie, Donald Fagen, Michael Bolton, Boz Scaggs, Willie Nelson, Barry Manilow, Michael McDonald, Garth Brooks, and Diana Ross.

There's A Mountain In My Way

Music and Lyrics by Peter Link

Quartet with Jenny Burton

Margaret Dorn, Catherine Russell, Darryl Tookes & Kevin Osborne

I got my eye on Heaven
I'll be goin' some day
But every time I turn around
There's a mountain in my way

I'm tryin' to find my Heaven
But much to my dismay
Ev'ry time I'm homeward bound
There's a mountain in my way

I can't go under
Can't go around
Got to climb up over
To the holy ground
An' I can't turn back
Can't go astray
And there's a mountain in my way

It's the age-old story
Of how we overcome
Talkin' 'bout the quest
For fame and glory
An' how I gotta get me some

You see I love the things
Of this existence
Far too much
I've no resistance
An' the road it stretches
Such a distance
There's a mountain in my way
Oh!

Yes it's
The age-old story
Of how we overcome
Talkin' 'bout the quest
For fame and glory
I thought I hadda get me some

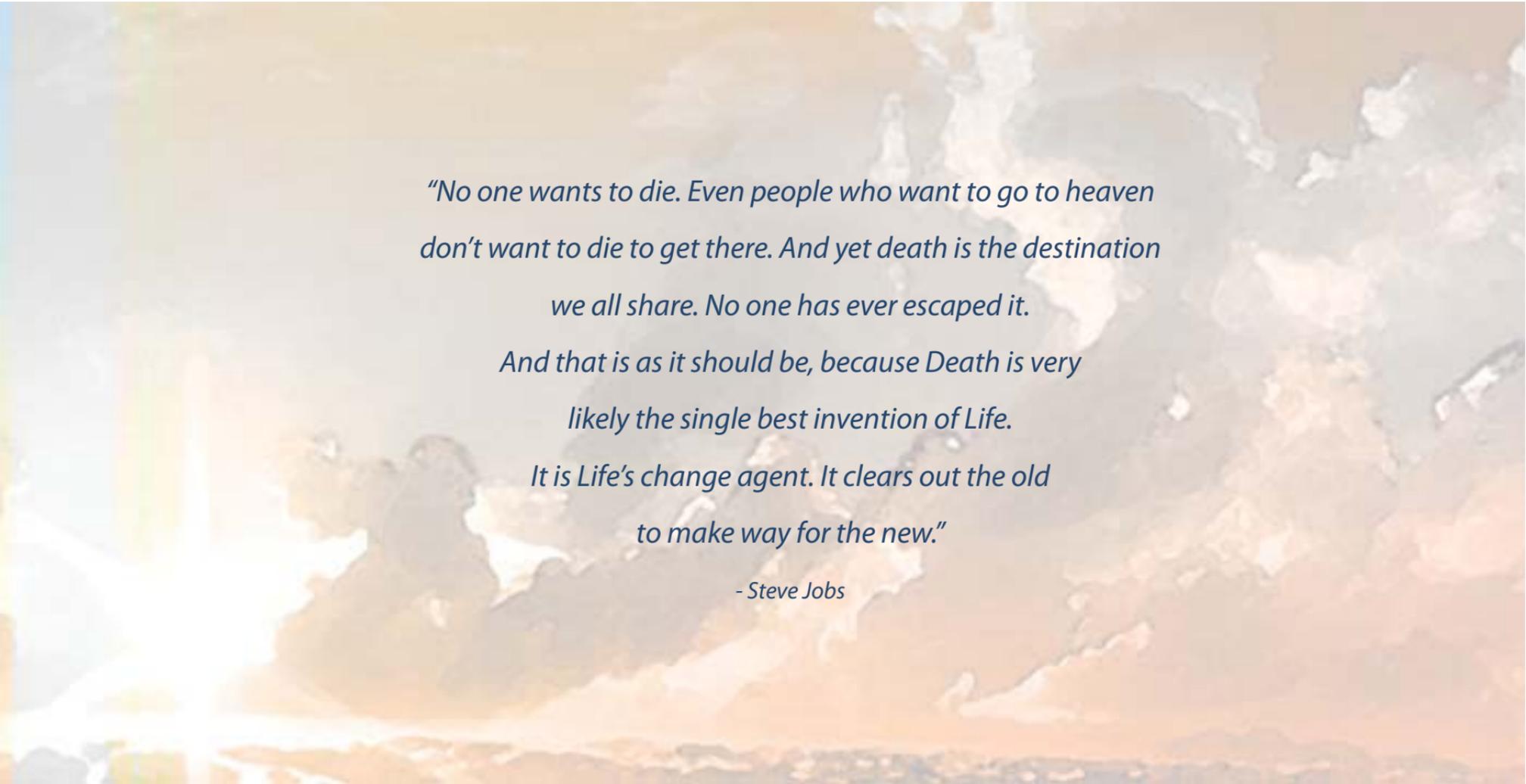
You see I love this world
I love the action
Much too much
To my distraction
That's right!
We talkin' 'bout satisfaction
An' the thirst won't go away

I got my eye on Heaven
I'll be goin' some day
But every time I turn around
There's a mountain in my way

Well I can't see leavin' the life I've led
An' I can't see nothin' of the road ahead
An' I know there's a-comin'
The judgment day
But the thirst won't go away

So pardon all my palpitation
I can't stand such anticipation
Got a hundred pounds of frustration
There's a mountain in my way

Now by and by
When the morning comes
When the saints of God are gathered
home
We'll tell the story
Of how we've overcome
For we'll understand it better by and by



“No one wants to die. Even people who want to go to heaven don’t want to die to get there. And yet death is the destination we all share. No one has ever escaped it. And that is as it should be, because Death is very likely the single best invention of Life. It is Life’s change agent. It clears out the old to make way for the new.”

- Steve Jobs

Embrace The Rainbow

Music by Peter Link
Lyrics written and adapted by Peter Link

Men's Quartet and Peter Link

At the last trumpet
In the twinkling of an eye
 In a flash
 In a flash
 In a flash
We shall all be changed

Oh that I could tell the story
Of how we overcome
Might as well try to embrace the rainbow

"If we don't know life, how can we know death?"

- Confucius

Darryl Tookes

Credits include the Grammy Award-winning "West Side Story" CD and Great Performance television special with Leonard Bernstein; "A Soulful Messiah" with Quincy Jones; The Radio City Music Hall performance of "Man In The Mirror" with Michael Jackson; and a multiple Grammy winning recording – "Brand New Day" – and tour with Sting.



Insight for "I Can't Go Home"

Though this transition, when it comes, is fascinating to me. Let's face it. I love my life. Oh it's definitely a roller coaster ride through time and space, but it absolutely is worth the price of admission. I'm in no hurry to leave. I hear a lot of talk these days about the possibilities of life on Earth becoming eternal through artificial intelligence and replacement parts, etc. I'd have to really stop and think about that one if truly presented to me. The idea of living many more years is truly attractive to each of us, I believe – as long as we have our health and live in our right minds. Anyway, right now... I Can't Go Home...



Kevin Osborne

is an amazingly talented singer, trombonist, musical arranger and band-leader, who has performed as an original cast member for the Tony Award winning musical, Movin' Out, on Broadway, and has sung as a backup vocalist with the likes of Billy Joel, Bobby McFerrin, David Bowie, and Carly Simon.

I Can't Go Home

Music & Lyrics by Peter Link

Peter Link

And now I can't go home
No I can't go home
Got too much to do
So I can't go home

There's a song in sight
And there's all this light
Beckoning me still
No I can't go home

There's a reason
I am standing here today
In my skin
I've not honored

Nearly all I could have been
Still I am tryin' to find
Tryin' to find peace of mind

So I just can't go home
No I can't go home
Close that open door
I just can't go home

Let the watch fires burn
Leave no stone unturned
Till I find my stillness
I just can't go home

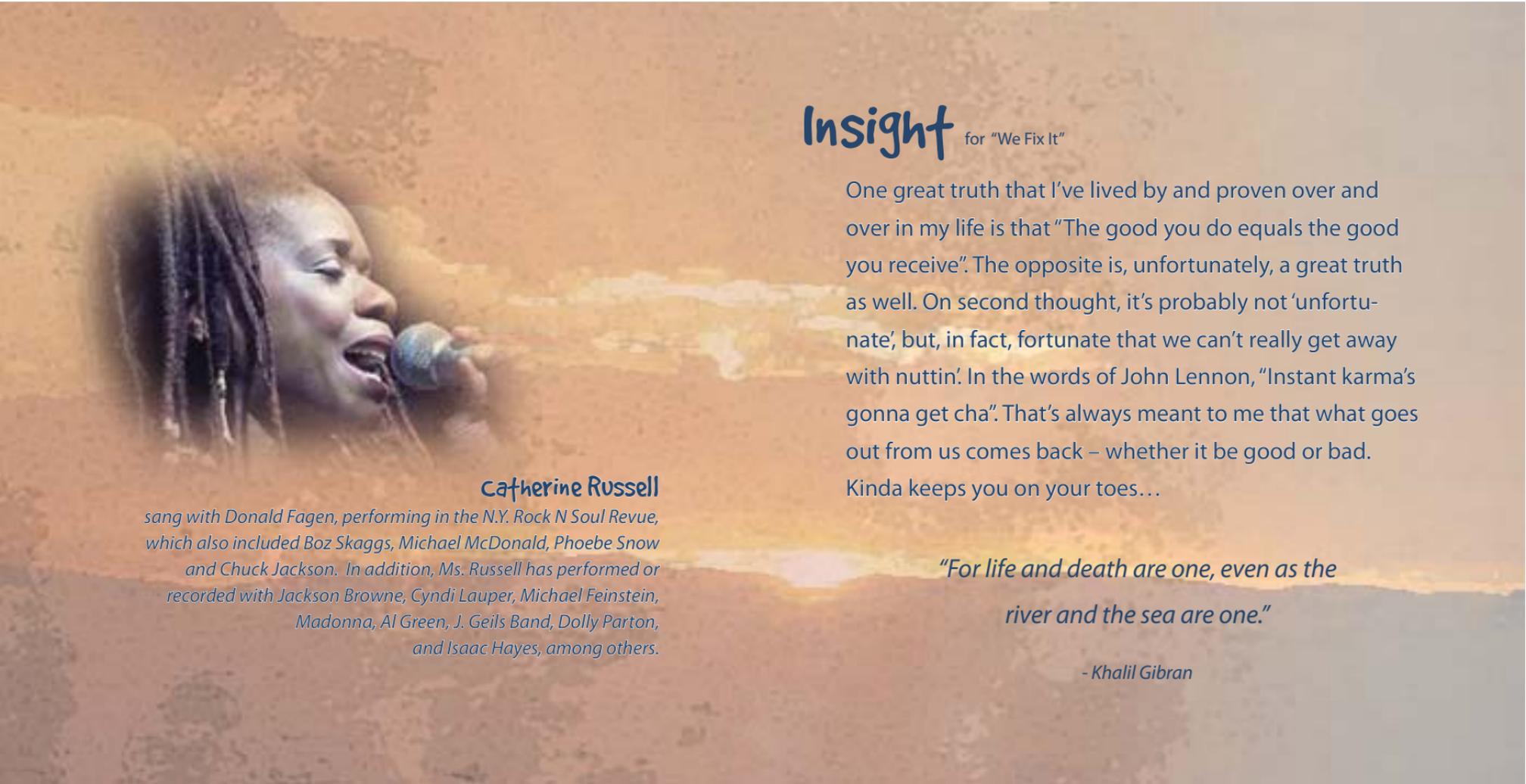
On this passage
Through this strange
 uncharted land
I have come
To the mountain
Back to where I started from
Living from year to year
Wondering why I'm here

And still I can't go home
No I can't go home
There's far to much untold
In this world unknown

Till I'm satisfied
It's a wondrous ride
Far too far to go
Till I go back home
Till the seed is sown
Till the truth be known
I just can't go home

*"I postpone death by living, by suffering, by error,
by risking, by giving, by losing."*

- Anais Nin

A woman with long, dark dreadlocks is shown in profile, singing into a microphone. She is wearing a dark top. The background is a warm, golden sunset over a body of water, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a soft, hazy glow. The overall mood is peaceful and reflective.

Insight

for "We Fix It"

One great truth that I've lived by and proven over and over in my life is that "The good you do equals the good you receive". The opposite is, unfortunately, a great truth as well. On second thought, it's probably not 'unfortunate', but, in fact, fortunate that we can't really get away with nuttin'. In the words of John Lennon, "Instant karma's gonna get cha". That's always meant to me that what goes out from us comes back – whether it be good or bad. Kinda keeps you on your toes...

Catherine Russell

sang with Donald Fagen, performing in the N.Y. Rock N Soul Revue, which also included Boz Skaggs, Michael McDonald, Phoebe Snow and Chuck Jackson. In addition, Ms. Russell has performed or recorded with Jackson Browne, Cyndi Lauper, Michael Feinstein, Madonna, Al Green, J. Geils Band, Dolly Parton, and Isaac Hayes, among others.

"For life and death are one, even as the river and the sea are one."

- Khalil Gibran

We Fix It

Music and Lyrics by Peter Link

Catherine Russell and Choir

I don't believe that when
we die
All things will be forgiven
I think forgiveness comes
When we fix it

I do believe that when we die
We take our troubles with us
The bad goes with the good
And then we fix it uh huh

Old bad habits
Doin' somebody wrong
Goin' up places
That ya' don't belong

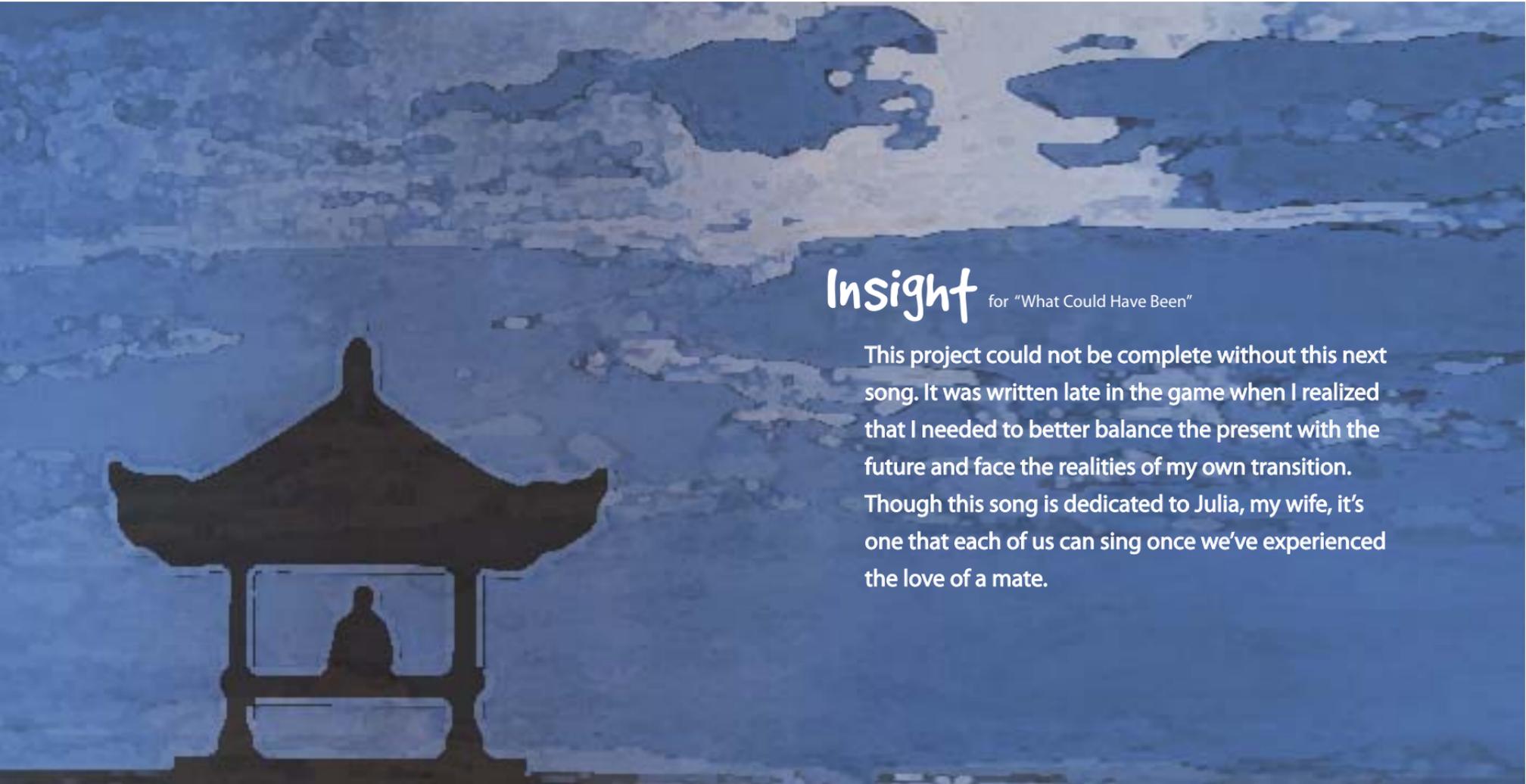
Cheatin' an' stealin'
An' puttin' on airs
Givin' no heed
To yer past affairs
All for the love of money
All for the love of sin
And if you keep on doin' it
Then you can't get in
Yes if ya' keep on doin' it
No you can't get in
So before we get to Heaven
We fix it

I don't believe that when we live
We're free to do whatever
For every broken heart
We fix it

I don't believe that Heaven
means
A clean slate for the living
As each mistake is made
Ya' know we fix it

Showin' no mercy
To the tender few
Holding hatred inside of you
Greed is master
Better watch yo' back
Cuz it gets you nothin' but a
heart attack

All for the love of money
All for the love of sin
And if you keep on doin' it
Then you can't get in
Yes if ya' keep on doin' it
No you can't get in
So before we get to Heaven
We fix it
So before ya' get to Heaven
Just fix it



Insight

for "What Could Have Been"

This project could not be complete without this next song. It was written late in the game when I realized that I needed to better balance the present with the future and face the realities of my own transition. Though this song is dedicated to Julia, my wife, it's one that each of us can sing once we've experienced the love of a mate.

What Could Have Been

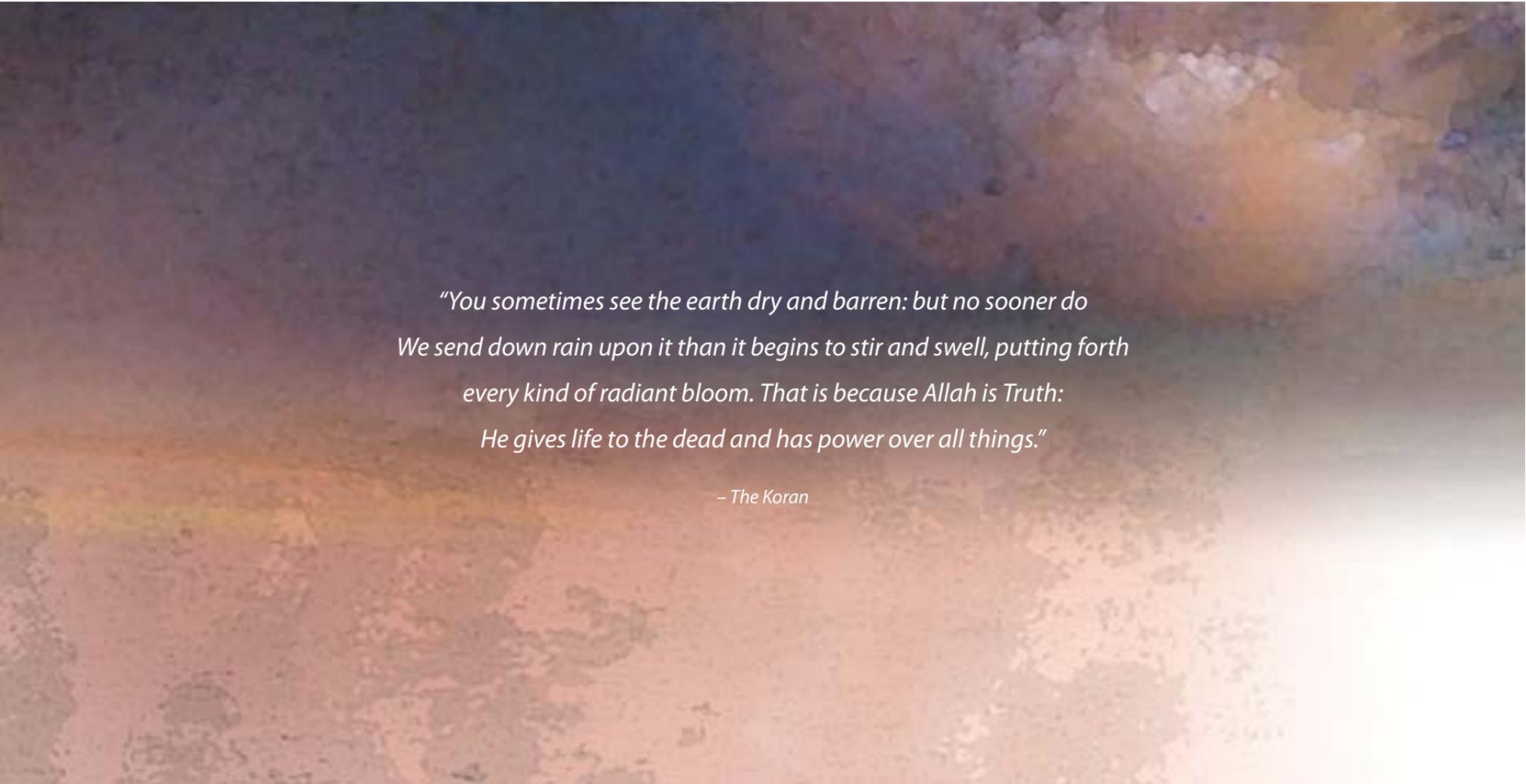
Music and Lyrics by Peter Link

Peter Link

I'll always miss what could have been
And all the things that might have been
When I am gone from here
If looking back upon this life
Is possible beyond this life
The one thing that I fear
Is missing you
And missing us
And all the joys gone up in smoke
Yes the one thing that I fear
Is missing all the years ahead
And all the things that could have been
When things come to an end

I've no regrets of days gone by
I've let live the life I've led
My one regret is missing you
And the things that lie ahead
Another night sleeping next to you
Your crooked smile and yes your tears
The primitive and complex of you
The cavity and convex of you
I've loved so all these years
When I am gone and brood upon
What few men comprehend
I'll question then what could have been
And just why it had to end



The background of the image is a photograph of a desert landscape. The top half shows a clear, deep blue sky. The bottom half shows a vast, flat desert floor with a mix of light brown and tan colors, suggesting sand and sparse vegetation. A bright, glowing horizon line separates the sky from the ground, creating a strong contrast and a sense of depth.

*“You sometimes see the earth dry and barren: but no sooner do
We send down rain upon it than it begins to stir and swell, putting forth
every kind of radiant bloom. That is because Allah is Truth:
He gives life to the dead and has power over all things.”*

– The Koran

Insight

for "In Dat Great Gittin' Up Morning"

I've always said that the real star of this CD is the choir. They are, without a doubt, the driving force behind most every song and, of course, a very central force in most Gospel music. Here I'm fortunate to be able to work with some of the best vocalists on the planet. Living in NYC offers me this real possibility every time I compose a new song. It's a songwriter's dream. And it's in this climactic moment of the album that they really get a chance to show their stuff. The session that day, working with this group of hugely talented people was one I shall always remember for what they each brought to the music.

Also my session with trumpeter, Barry Danielian was an absolute joy – a visit from Louis, and Gabriel and all them horn blowin' folks up beyond them pearly gates. When given the choice back in the third grade, I opted for the trumpet to play in the school band. It was never mastered, but carried proudly back and forth to school for several years even when we did not have band practice. So to work with this master in this studio was a childhood dream come true.

This song, for me, has it all – the positivity, the hope, the drive, the divine energies and the apocalyptic imagery. It was simply one of my favorite songs to explore and develop in my life. Enjoy!

In Dat Great Gittin' Up Morning

James W. Johnson & J. Rosamond Johnson • Additional Lyrics by Peter Link

Choir and Barry Danielian

I'm gonna tell you
'bout de comin' of de judgment
Fare you well, fare you well
I'm gonna tell you
'bout de comin' of de judgment
Fare you well, fare you well

Better get ready
For the great hereafter
Fare you well, fare you well
Got to get ready
For a brand new chapter
Fare you well, fare you well

Dere's a better day a-comin'
Fare you well, fare you well
Yeah de judgment day's a-comin'
Fare you well, fare you well

So de Lord he speaks to Gabriel
Fare you well, fare you well
He say blow yo' trumpet Gabriel
Fare you well, fare you well

In dat great gittin' up mornin'
Fare you well, fare you well
In dat great gittin' up mornin'
Fare you well, fare you well

Now take down de silvah trumpet
Fare you well, fare you well
Blow that trumpet, Gabriel
Fare you well, fare you well

Lord, how loud shall I blow it
Fare you well, fare you well
Loud as seven peals of thunder
Fare you well, fare you well

Now blow it right, calm an' easy
Fare you well
Then wake de livin' nations
Fare you well, fare you well

In dat great gittin' up mornin'
Fare you well, fare you well
In dat great gittin' up mornin'
Fare you well, fare you well

Trumpet solo

Den you'll see de coffin bustin'
Fare you well, fare you well
See de dry bones come a-creepin'
Fare you well, fare you well

Den you'll see de worl' in fiah
Fare you well, fare you well
See de moon a-bleedin'
Fare you well, fare you well

Can't you see de stars a-fallin'
Fare you well, fare you well
See de elements a-meltin'
Fare you well, fare you well

In dat great gittin' up mornin'
Fare you well, fare you well
In dat great gittin' up mornin'
Fare you well, fare you well

Hear de rumblin' of de thunder
Fare you well, fare you well
And de earth shall reel an' totter
Fare you well, fare you well

Den you'll see de people risin'
Fare you well, fare you well
Den you'll see de righteous marchin'
Fare you well, fare you well

An' de saints goin' on before dem
Fare you well, fare you well
See dem marchin' home to Heaven
Fare you well, fare you well

In dat great gittin' up mornin'
Fare you well, fare you well
In dat great gittin' up mornin'
Fare you well, fare you well

"there's a hell of a good universe next door; let's go."

- e.e. cummings

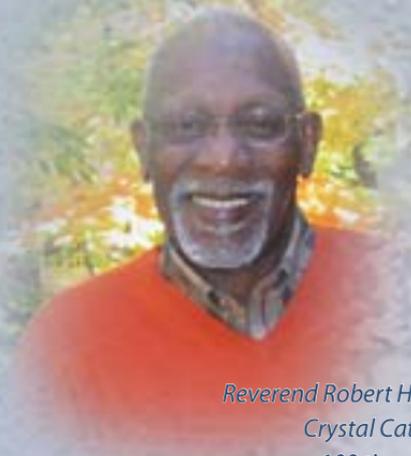
Vaneese Thomas

has worked with an array of internationally known performers including Luciano Pavarotti, Sting, Stevie Wonder, Natalie Cole, B.B. King, Eric Clapton, Luther Vandross, Michael Jackson, Chaka Kahn, Joe Cocker, Celine Dion, Annie Lennox, Patti LaBelle and many others. In 1987 Geffen Records released Vaneese, which included the Top Ten R&B hit, "Let's Talk it Over."



Barry Danielian

enjoys the reputation as one of New York City's most in-demand session players and arrangers, racking up more than 200 recordings with such pop notables as Celine Dion, Paul Simon, Billy Joel, Natalie Cole, and James Taylor, as well as with touring partners Queen Latifah and Tower of Power.



Tom Tipton

served for 29 years as a soloist at Reverend Robert H. Schuler's internationally famous Crystal Cathedral and performed more than 100 times on their nationally broadcast TV "Hour of Power". He has performed at the White House as a guest of President Bill Clinton. He sang at various occasions for Presidents Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan and George Bush Sr.

Insight for "Goin' Home"

I had the great pleasure of producing Tom Tipton's "Best of..." CD several years ago. On it, we decided to add four new songs to his treasure trove of songs from his past albums. This next song was one of them.

Another session I'll never forget is the vocal session that I had with Tom when, at the age of 76, he came in to my studio and sang this song to my orchestration. That day Tom leapt far beyond my imagination in his artistry and totally captured the joys and fears and sorrows of a man facing the end of his life. It is, in every way, our title song.

Goin' Home

Music and Lyrics by Antonin Dvořák and V.Labenske

Tom Tipton

Goin' home
Goin' home
I'm a goin' home
Quiet like
Some still day
I'm jes' goin' home
It's not far
Jes' close by
Through an open door
Work all done
Care laid by
Goin' to fear no more
Mother's there 'spectin' me
Father's waitin' too
Lots o' folk
Gathered there
All the friends I knew
I'm goin'
I'm goin' home
I'm a goin' home
Mornin' star
Lights the way
Res'less dream all done
Shadow's gone

Break o' day
Real life just begun

There's no break
There's no end
Jes' a livin' on
Wide awake
With a smile
Goin' on and on

Goin' home
Goin' home
I'm jes' goin' home
It's not far
Jes' close by
Through an open door

Goin' home
Goin' home
I'm jes' goin' home

*"Death is no more than passing
from one room into another.
But there's a difference for me,
you know. Because in that other
room I shall be able to see."*

- Helen Keller

Insight

for "When The Saints Go Marching In"

Here is a song known by people all over the world. It seemed only right to set this song high in the clouds on Heaven's Highway as the saints from all religions march by arm in arm in oneness. Why not an apocalyptic New Orleans style parade as our Channel 7 girl on the spot reports this mind-blowing event. Stand with her, wave your flags, pick out your favorite Saints and blow them a kiss or two. If you're lucky, you might even get an autograph. Here comes Louis Armstrong leadin' the parade now...



John James

has performed and recorded with some of the music industry's greats such as Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson, Ashford & Simpson, Dr. Maya Angelou, Bette Midler and Patti LaBelle. For six years, John toured and recorded with five-time Grammy Award winning band "TOTO".

When The Saints Go Marching In

Katharine Purvis (Lyrics) and James Milton Black
With Additional Music and Lyrics by Peter Link

Julia Wade, Men's Quartet and Jenny Burfon
Keith Fluffitt, Darryl Tookes, John James and Kevin Osborne

Saints!
Saints are a'comin'

Saints!
Saints are a'comin'

I can see
All the saints from Philippi
All the saints from Ephesus
Saint John The Baptist
Saint John The Divine

All the saints of Buddha
Milarepa the saint of Tibet
Confucian saints and Jewish saints
Arm in arm in line

Mahatma Ghandi
Zhang Zhong Jing
Paramahansa Yogananda
Saint Tukaram and the Muslim saints
All the saints of all mankind

Walkin' in step with Hindu saints
And Taoist saints
And Sufi saints
With Mr. Louis Armstrong on trumpet
Leadin' the way

Walkin' in step with Hindu saints
And Taoist saints
And Sufi saints
With Mr. Louis Armstrong before them
Blowin' his horn
And none get left behind

They are traveling in the footsteps
Of those who've gone before
They will all be reunited
On a new and sunlit shore

There is hope that goes before them
And its banners fill the sky
With a thousand million footsteps
Echoing on high
And oh Lord I want to be in that number
I got to be there

When the...
When the...
When the...
When the...

Oh when the saints go marching in
When the saints go marching in
Oh Lord I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

And when the sun begins to shine
And when the sun begins to shine
Oh Lord I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

Oh on that hallelujah day
On that hallelujah day
Oh Lord I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

And when the revelation comes
When the revelation comes
Oh Lord I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

Oh when the trumpet sounds the call
Oh when Louis Armstrong sounds
that call
Oh Lord I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

Oh when the saints go marching in
Oh when the saints go marching in
Lord how I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

Julia Wade

has performed nationally and internationally in opera, cabaret, concert work, and musical theatre, including The Rome Opera and Carnegie Hall. Julia has five solo inspirational CDs to date: her new CD, Every Day, as well as Story for the Ages, and Upon the Mountain among others. She is Watchfire Music's best-selling recording artist.



Insight for "Come to Me As A Bird"

Tears and hope... A wrenching way to end this CD of joyful celebration, but when I first heard Julie Gold's heart-breakingly beautiful song, I just couldn't resist.

I especially love her lyric, "I can tell you're out there / Staring through my pane". It's a gorgeous and truly original melody that I haven't been able to get out of my consciousness for months now.

Also... How grand it is to have a wife who can sing so hauntingly such a farewell...

Come To Me As A Bird

Words and Music By Julie Gold

Julia Wade

Come to me as a bird
I will know it's you
As you hover above the life
we once knew
Though I can't hold you now
I remain undeterred
And I'll know you if you
Come to me as a bird

Come to me as a bird
Dancing in the trees
When the last leaves
of summer
Cast themselves to the breeze
Now the season has changed
Now the mem'ry is blurred
But I'll know you if you
Come to me as a bird
Come to me as a bird
Come to me as a bird
I will know you if you
Come to me as a bird

Singing in my garden
Winging through the rain
I can tell you're out there
Staring through my pane
Come to me as a bird
Keeper of the sky
How I long to go with you
when I see you fly
Once I gave you my heart
Now I give you my word
I will know you if you
Come to me as a bird

Come to me as a bird
Come to me as a bird
I will know you if you
Come to me as a bird



More Wisdom From Great Thinkers

"I existed from all eternity and, behold, I am here; and I shall exist till the end of time, for my being has no end."

- Khalil Gibran

*Because I could not stop for death,
He kindly stopped for me;
The carriage held but just ourselves and immortality."*

- Emily Dickinson

*"Eternity is not something that begins after you're dead.
It is going on all the time. We are in it now."*

- Charlotte Perkins Gilman

"To fear death, gentlemen, is no other than to think oneself wise when one is not, to think one knows what one does not know. No one knows whether death may not be the greatest of all blessings for a man, yet men fear it as if they knew that it is the greatest of evils. And surely it is the most blameworthy ignorance to believe that one knows what one does not know."

- Plato

"In an artist's life, death is perhaps not the most difficult thing."

- Vincent van Gogh

"It's not that I'm afraid to die, I just don't want to be there when it happens."

- Woody Allen

"The first thing which I can record concerning myself is, that I was born. These are wonderful words. This life, to which neither time nor eternity can bring diminution – this everlasting living soul, began. My mind loses itself in these depths."

- Groucho Marx

"Spirit is the real and eternal; matter is the unreal and temporal."

- Mary Baker Eddy

"Fear of death increases in exact proportion to increase in wealth."

- Ernest Hemingway

"Life and death are one thread, the same line viewed from different sides."

- Lao Tzu

"It is impossible to experience one's death objectively and still carry a tune."

- Woody Allen

"I wouldn't mind dying in a plane crash. It'd be a good way to go. I don't want to die in my sleep, or of old age, or OD... I want to feel what it's like. I want to taste it, hear it, smell it. Death is only going to happen to you once; I don't want to miss it."

- Jim Morrison

"Each day is a little life: every waking and rising a little birth, every fresh morning a little youth, every going to rest and sleep a little death."

- Arthur Schopenhauer

"Time is too slow for those who wait, too swift for those who fear, too long for those who grieve, too short for those who rejoice, but for those who love, time is eternity."

- Henry Van Dyke

"Death will be a great relief. No more interviews."

- Katharine Hepburn

"Death and love are the two wings that bear the good man to heaven."

- Michelangelo

"Life and death are important. Don't suffer them in vain."

- Bodhidharma

*"To see a world in a grain of sand and heaven in a wild flower
Hold infinity in the palms of your hand and eternity in an hour."*

- William Blake

*"We do not realize that we are children of eternity.
If we did, then success would be no success,
and failure would be no failure to us."*

- Joseph Barber Lightfoot

"Death is one moment, and life is so many of them."

- Tennessee Williams

*"For death is no more than a turning of us over
from time to eternity."*

- William Penn

*"I have two luxuries to brood over in my walks,
your loveliness and the hour of my death. O that I could have
possession of them both in the same minute."*

- John Keats

*"We are not victims of aging, sickness and death.
These are part of scenery, not the seer, who is immune
to any form of change. This seer is the spirit,
the expression of eternal being."*

- Deepak Chopra

*"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my
life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."*

- Psalm 23:6

*"Death is not an event in life: we do not live to
experience death. If we take eternity to mean not
infinite temporal duration but timelessness, then eternal life
belongs to those who live in the present."*

- Ludwig Wittgenstein

"Death is a natural part of life. Rejoice for those around you who transform into the Force."

- Yoda, Star Wars

"Life is a great sunrise. I do not see why death should not be an even greater one."

- Vladimir Nabokov

"Death is the sound of distant thunder at a picnic."

- W. H. Auden

"Death is a very dull, dreary affair, and my advice to you is to have nothing whatsoever to do with it."

- W. Somerset Maugham

"Death is a stripping away of all that is not you. The secret of life is to "die before you die" — and find that there is no death."

- Eckhart Tolle

"You must live in the present, launch yourself on every wave, find your eternity in each moment."

- Henry David Thoreau

"To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow..."

- William Shakespeare

The following
people gave
and gave
and gave ...

Gerry Bars
Victoria Brademan
Joe Bravaco
Jenny Burton
Osceola Davis
William Downs
Justin Elszasz
Georgia Engel
Patricia Fallon
Carmel Fauci
Gary and Beverly Fulbright
Paul Garman
Julie Gold
Hilda Harris
Karen Hathaway
Marta Heflin
'Femi Sarah Heggie

Richard-Charles Hoh
Carol Hoover
Kathy Horn
Lona Ingwerson
Annie Layman
Susan I. Lindquist
Jack B. Lindsey
Teri Stewart Lindsey
Dustin Link
Jerri Mayer
Lauren McTaggart
Ingrid Michaels
Kate Gibson Oswald
Wanda D. Peters
Dawne Pullman
Ann Relph
Arlie Riggs

Marcello Rollando
Larry Rosler
Steve Siciliano
Beth Schaefer and Lamar Smith
Bob and Carley Stone
George Strong
Vickie Thomas
David Tinsley
Janiva Toler
Geneva Vivino
Julia Wade
Bonnie W. Wade
Judee Wales and Tom Watson
Steep Weiss
Bob Whitmore

Famous Last Words

Henry Ward Beecher, evangelist:

"Now comes the mystery."

*Ludwig van Beethoven, 18th century German composer,
having just been given Last Rites:*

"Friends applaud, the comedy is over."

Alexander Graham Bell:

"So little done, so much to do."

Buddha:

*And now, O priests, I take my leave of you;
all the elements of being are transitory.
Work out your salvation with diligence."*

Noel Coward:

"Good night, my darlings. I'll see you in the morning."

Emily Dickinson, 19th century poet:

"I must go in, the fog is rising."

Thomas Edison, inventor:

"It's very beautiful over there."

Babe Ruth, baseball player:

"I'm going over the valley."

Edmund Gwenn, English stage actor:

"Dying is easy. Comedy is difficult."

*James Madison, U.S. President, after his niece asked
him at breakfast if anything was wrong:*

"Nothing more than a change of mind, my dear."

Steven Jobs:

"Oh wow, oh wow, oh wow."