

WHAT KIND OF WORLD

Words and Music

Jim Parker (2006)

What Kind of World took me several years to write as I had the chord changes bouncing around in my head for a long time before it finally came together into this song. The impetus came from seeing some news footage of a Palestinian father and son caught in a crossfire during an uprising in Lebanon. I think the words are as timely today as ever and probably will be 100 years from now unfortunately.

INTRO

E A B A E

VERSE

E

A

WHEN I WAS A YOUNG BOY AND MY LIFE WAS STILL BRAND NEW

B

A

E

THE WORLD SEEMED LIKE A PERFECT PLACE TO ME

E

A

NOW THAT I AM OLDER IT IS CLEAR TO SEE

B

A

E

A WORLD OF PEACE IS JUST THE STUFF OF CHILDISH DREAMS

B/A

A

FOR EVERY MOMENT SOMEONE'S PICKING UP A GUN

B/A

F#MIN

C#MIN

B

AND I CAN'T BUT WONDER WHAT WE'VE DONE

CHORUS

E

AMAJ9/E

WHAT KIND OF WORLD ARE WE LIVING IN?

E

AMAJ9/E

WHAT KIND OF WORLD, WHEN THERE ARE SO MANY CRYING

E

AMAJ9/E

WHAT KIND OF WORLD DO YOU THINK IT TAKES?

B

F#MIN

BSUS B

TO MAKE A WORLD THAT IS FOR ALL.

E

WHAT KIND OF WORLD

AMAJ9/E

WHAT KIND OF WORLD

B/E AMAJ9/E E

WHAT KIND OF WORLD

2ND VERSE

FROM FAR AWAY THE WORLD MUST SEEM SO PEACEFUL AND SERENE

A PERFECT PARADISE JUST FLOATING BY

BUT DOWN HERE ON THE GROUND THERE'S LITTLE PARADISE TO FIND

WHEN THE BULLETS AND THE ROCKETS START TO FLY

AND TELL ME WHAT IS ALL THIS FIGHTING REALLY FOR?

RELIGION, POWER, MONEY

ALL LEAD US TO WAR

(CHORUS)

BRIDGE

C

AH AH AH AH

D

AH AH AH AH AH

C

AH AH AH AH

D

AH AH AH AH

B

AH

TAG

HOW MANY TEARS MUST BE SHED BEFORE THE DAY

WE WON'T HAVE TO SHAKE OUR HEADS AND SAY

(CHORUS)

FOREVERLAND

Words and Music

Jim Parker (2017)

This is a piano song I had started to write around 2015 and had recorded on an old cassette (yes cassette) recorder. When I was going through my old tapes a few years later I came upon it and decided to finish it. I wrote it as I recorded and shot the video in Florida in 2018. In the song, the narrator is clearly missing someone who is lost to them and the only way they can escape the pain is to be with them in an imaginary world.

VERSE

C F#MIN C

HERE, IN THIS LONELY ROOM

F#MIN EMIN

I SIT AMONGST THE GLOOM

F GSUS G

I SEE NO ONE

C F#MIN C

BUT THERE'S A PLACE THAT I CAN GO

F#MIN EMIN

A WORLD ONLY I KNOW

F GSUS G

I JUST, CLOSE MY EYES

THEN I'M IN...

CHORUS

F G

FOREVERLAND

F G

FOREVERLAND

EMIN F

WHERE YOU ARE ALWAYS NEAR

EMIN F

AND I CAN HAVE YOU HERE

F/G G FMIN C

BESIDE ME, IN FOREVERLAND

2ND VERSE

INTRO

D EMIN9 D EMIN9

VERSE

D

OVER BEERS, TEARS IN YOUR EYES

EMIN9

YOU SAY YOU'RE HAVING TROUBLED TIMES

D

A7SUS A

AND YOUR LIFE IS RIGHT OFF TRACK

YOU'RE FINDING IT HARD TO RISE ABOVE

ALL OF THIS ENDLESS PUSH AND SHOVE

AND YOU THINK...MAYBE YOU'VE CRACKED.

A7SUS

A

WELL COME WITH ME LET'S GET OUT IN THE SUN

A7SUS

G/A A

TODAY'S THE DAY THAT BETTER THINGS WILL COME

CHORUS

D EMIN9 GbAUG(no 3) D(add 11) A7SUS

OH OH OH OH OH OH OH OH OH

A7 D

IT'S GREAT TO BE A LIVE

D EMIN9 GbAUG(no 3) D(add 11) A7SUS

OH OH OH OH OH OH OH OH OH

A7 D

IT'S GREAT TO BE A LIVE

2ND VERSE

WELL THE FACTS EMPIRICAL

THAT IT'S ALL A MIRACLE

THAT WE'RE HERE, YOU AND I

AND WHEN YOU TAKE A LOOK AROUND

AT ALL THE WONDER THAT ABOUND
WELL SOMETIMES, IT CAN MAKE YOU CRY
SO MAYBE WE JUST NEED TO LET IT SLIDE
IT'S TIME TO FINALLY ENJOY THE RIDE

(CHORUS)

BRIDGE

G D/F#

AND IN THE END

EMIN7

A7SUS A

YOU'RE GONNA FIND THE HAPPINESS YOU SEEK MY FRIEND

G D/F#

RIGHT NOW, WHILE YOU ARE HERE

A7SUS

TREASURE EVERY MINUTE,

A7SUS

LOVE IT WHILE YOU'RE IN IT

A7SUS

G/A A

CAUSE THINGS AREN'T AS BAD AS YOU FEAR

(CHORUS)

(CHORUS – MODULATE TO E) Note: Using a capo on 2nd fret helps but you have to be quick!

A SIGN

Words and Music

Jim Parker (2016)

A Sign is another song I found while going through my old cassette tapes. I started writing it in February 2013 when the papal conclave in Rome was deliberating on who would be the next Pope and finished it in 2016. It's about how everyone is looking for a meaning in life and the things around them and that sometimes that search can take them to perhaps bizarre places. In the end the narrator is just looking for a sign from his partner that they still love them after some thoughtless act.

INTRO

G D AMIN G D AMIN

VERSE

G D

THE POPE IS DEAD, THE CONCLAVE BEGINS

EMIN

ALL THE FAITHFUL WAIT DOWN IN THE SQUARE

C D

TO SEE WHO'LL CLEANSE THEIR SINS

AND WHEN THE WISE AND LEARNED MEN

HAVE FINALLY AGREED

THE SMOKE WILL TURN FROM BLACK TO WHITE

FOR EVERYONE TO SEE

C

SO, THE POOR AND NEEDY SOULS

D/C

CAST EYES UP TO THE SKY

C

RUB THEIR ROSARIES AND PRAY GOD

D

PICKS A BETTER GUY

CHORUS

G D AMIN

THEY'RE ALL WAITING FOR A SIGN

G D AMIN

THAT EVERYTHING WILL BE JUST FINE

G D AMIN

A CLUE FROM THE DIVINE

C

D

TO HELP THEM MAKE IT THROUGH THESE TROUBLED TIMES

G D AMIN

THEY'RE ALL WAITING FOR A SIGN

2ND VERSE

SOME PEOPLE HOPE THAT ALIENS
WILL COME DOWN FROM OUTER SPACE
BENIGN AND KNOWING CREATURES WHO WILL
HELP CLEAN UP THIS PLACE

OTHERS PRAY FOR JESUS
TO RISE ON UP AGAIN
SEND THE BAD ONES STRAIGHT TO HELL
AND END THE GOOD ONE'S PAIN

AND SO THEY LOOK OUT TO THE STARS FOR LIFE'S TRACE
OR PRAY TO A PIECE OF TOAST
THAT LOOKS LIKE MOTHER MARY'S FACE

(CHORUS)

BRIDGE

EMIN

...FOR A SIGN

C

WAITING FOR A SIGN

AMIN

WAITING FOR A SIGN

Bb

D

WHOA – OH OH

TAG

AND NOW I SIT ACROSS FROM YOU

I SEE YOUR ANGER AND YOUR PAIN

I'M HOPING YOU'LL FORGIVE ME AND YOU'LL

TAKE ME BACK AGAIN

(CHORUS)

WALKABOUT

Music – Jim Parker

Words – Jim Parker, Ellery Ulster,

David McLeod,

Susan Graham Parker (2018)

Every few months I do a song writing workshop with a group of mentally challenged folks near Toronto. They are absolutely wonderful people and I'm consistently amazed at the great stuff we write together. We recently decided to try and write a "Disney" style song and came up with a whole story line to support the song. It is called Walkabout and is set in Australia in the late 1800's. In the story, a young Aboriginal girl is about to go "walkabout" in defiance of her village and family. She is standing on top of a hill looking out to the Outback before she starts her journey while a village elder who supports her quest sings the song to her. There were probably 15 people who were present when this song was written but for legal reasons I can only list the main contributors, one of whom is my wife!

VERSE

A

RIGHT HERE IN THIS MOMENT

F#MIN

YOU'RE STANDING ON THE EDGE

D

YOU CAN VIEW FOREVER

E

BUT NOT THE ROAD AHEAD

AND IF YOU TAKE A LOOK AROUND YOU

WITH EYES THAT REALLY SEE

YOURSELF FOR THE FIRST TIME

AND ALL THAT YOU CAN BE

F#MIN E D

YOUR DESTINY AWAITS

F#MIN E D/E E

ONE STEP IS ALL IT TAKES

CHORUS

A F#MIN D E

NO ONE EVER FOUND THEIR HAPPILY EVER AFTER

A BMIN D E

UNTIL THEY JOURNEYED OUT THERE ON THEIR OWN

A F#MIN D E

AND NO ONE EVER FILLED THEIR SENSE OF LONGING AND OF WONDER

A BMIN D E

BY LIVING OFF OF HOPES AND DREAMS ALONE

D

SO, CROSS YOUR DESERTS, SURF THE SAND

D

FIND A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN LAND

D

D/E E

LIKE ULURU YOU CAN REACH TO TOUCH THE SKY

F#MIN

C#MIN

IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO TALK ABOUT

D

E

A

EACH OF US MUST WALKABOUT SOMETIME

2ND VERSE

WITH AN OPEN SKY ABOVE YOU

AND A VISTA CLEAR AND WIDE

TAKE THE TIME TO LISTEN

THE WIND WILL BE YOUR GUIDE

AND IF YOU TRUST YOUR INTUITION

AND LEAVE YOUR DOUBTS BEHIND

ALL YOU NEED'S INSIDE OF YOU

IT'S THERE FOR YOU TO FIND

SO, FACE YOUR FUTURE IF YOU DARE

IN THE GREAT OUTBACK OUT THERE

(CHORUS)

BRIDGE

F

G

SOMETIMES YOU'RE GOING TO FIND THE GOING ROUGH

F

G

SOMETIMES YOU'LL THINK YOUR BEST IS NOT ENOUGH

F

G

A

BUT SOMETIMES, YOUR BEST WILL BE ALL THAT YOU NEED

JUST A LONELY VIGIL IN THE TWILIGHT

NO END IN SIGHT

CHORUS

AMIN

BMIN

HOW COULD YOU GO AND LEAVE ME ALL ALONE

AMIN

BMIN

NO WAY FORWARD AND NO WAY HOME

C

I LOOKED AROUND AND YOU WERE THERE

B

EMIN(add9) EMIN

I LOOKED AROUND AND YOU HAD GONE AWAY

2nd VERSE

IF I DID HAVE A CRYSTAL BALL

OR SOME GENIE WHO TOLD ALL

I'D ASK TO KNOW

WHERE I SHOULD GO

FOR I WOULD CROSS AN OCEAN

TO FIND A MAGIC POTION

THAT WOULD BRING YOU BACK

TO ME

(CHORUS)

(MIDDLE SECTION IS BASED ON AMIN TO EMIN)

3RD VERSE

SO HERE I STAND FOREVER MORE

A SILHOUETTE UPON THE SHORE

NO DREAMS HAVE I
THEY ALL HAVE DIED
AND THOUGH I MAY WAIT 10,000 YEARS
AND FILL THIS DARK SEA WITH MY TEARS'
I'LL WAIT FOR YOU...WHAT CAN I DO?

(CHORUS)

THE NEXT VOICE YOU HEAR

Words and Music

Jim Parker (2006)

This song appeared during a particularly prolific period of writing. I was in a band called "The Genuines" with Artemis Chartier, Heather Sullivan and Ray Gauvin and I was writing a lot of stuff for Arty to sing. This was one of them. It's a song about charity and empathy, something my wife Sue and I both believe in a lot. We recorded it in "B" with Arty singing it (and she did a great job) for an album that never came to be. I always wanted to try my hand at it so for this record I lowered everything a tone and gave it a go. The voices in the middle were students and teachers from Ramer Wood Public School in Markham, Ontario.

INTRO

D/A A D/A A

VERSE

A

YOU ARE LIVING IN YOUR HOME

A

YOU ARE SAFE, YOU ARE WARM

D#MIN7(b5) DMAJ7 A

YOU DON'T WANT FOR ANYTHING AT ALL

A

THEY ARE LIVING IN THE STREET

A

JUNGLES, DESERTS, CITY STREETS

D#MIN7(b5) DMAJ7 A

THEY DON'T HAVE ANYTHING AT ALL

F#MIN E/G# A ESUS E

WHAT'S IT TAKE FOR YOU TO NOTICE?

F#MIN B ESUS E

LISTENING IS A START

CHORUS

D

THE NEXT VOICE YOU HEAR

A

IS CALLING FROM A FAR

BMIN

ACROSS THE WORLD DIVIDE

ESUS E

STRAIGHT TO YOUR HEART

D

THE NEXT VOICE YOU HEAR

A

YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW THEIR NAME

BMIN

NEVER SEEN THEIR FACE

ESUS E

NEVER TOUCHED THEIR SKIN

D

ARE YOU LISTENING?

A

FOR THE NEXT VOICE YOU HEAR

2ND VERSE

YOU ARE LUCKY, THEY ARE NOT
LOOK AT EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT
MAYBE YOU COULD SPARE
A LITTLE MORE
TAKE A MOMENT, STAND SO STILL
STRAIN TO HEAR THE SOUND

(CHORUS)

(MIDDLE SECTION)

THE NEXT VOICE YOU HEAR
IS HUNGRY AND IT'S POOR
IT'S SPEAKING OH SO SOFTLY BUT TOO LOUD TO IGNORE
ARE YOU LISTENING?
FOR THE NEXT VOICE YOU HEAR

TIME STRETCH

Music – Jim Parker (2019)

This is my attempt at a Progressive Rock instrumental. A drummer by nature, I wanted to write something that would be fun to drum to and came up with this. I played all the other instruments as well including the guitar which was really stretching my meagre abilities. I thought about bringing someone else in to play it but decided in the end I could barely pull it off. It's in C and follows a 1, 6min, 4, 4min pattern.

LEMURIA

Words and Music

Jim Parker (2018)

I decided I wanted to write a song about a mystical place ala Shangri-la or Xanadu but realised that a million songs had been written about those places. Upon doing a little internet sleuthing I came upon the legend of Lemuria, a land that was said to have once existed in the Indian Ocean. As it turns out this is a big deal to a lot of folk's but I didn't know that at the time of writing this. The lyrics are pretty self descriptive and are about someone who just wants to escape all the crap that is going on in the world and find somewhere peaceful and quiet to live out their days. The video is a take off of Indiana Jones and was a real laugh to make.

VERSE

C#MIN

A

I AM SHUTTING DOWN MY TWITTER FEED

C#MIN

A

I CAN'T TAKE NO MORE OF WHAT I SEE

G#MIN7

THE WAY THAT THINGS ARE NOW

A

THE WHOLE WORLD SEEMS BENT OUT OF SHAPE

G#MIN7

I DO BELIEVE IT'S TIME

A

B

FOR ME TO MAKE MY ESCAPE

CHORUS

ESUS E AMIN7 BMIN7

LEMURIA! IS CALLING OUT TO ME

ESUS E AMIN7 BMIN7

LEMURIA! SOMEWHERE ACROSS THE SEA

C

D

IN KUMARI KANDAM I WILL STAY

C

A

WITH THE LOTUS BLOSSOMS AND BLUE SKIES

B

TO FILL MY DAYS

ESUS E ESUS E

LEMURIA! LEMURIA!

2ND VERSE

SO MUCH LYING AND DUPLICITY

IT FEELS JUST LIKE BERLIN IN '33

IT'S NO WONDER PEOPLE WANT TO GO TO MARS

BUT I KNOW SOMEWHERE THAT IS REALLY NOT

QUITE THAT FAR

(CHORUS)

BRIDGE

F#MIN G#MIN

I WILL CROSS THE DESERTS

F#MIN G#MIN

THE JUNGLES, RIVER'S WIDE

F#MIN G#MIN C#MIN

JUST TO MAKE IT TO THE OTHER SIDE

F#MIN G#MIN

AND WHEN I FINALLY GET THERE

F#MIN G#MIN

THE WONDERS THAT I'LL SEE

A

AND THERE I'LL REMAIN

C D

TO LIVE MY LIFE IN LOVE AND PEACE

(CHORUS)

F Bb
WITH ONE VOICE, WITH ONE SOUL

Bb C
THE SAME DREAM, THE SAME GOAL

F Bb
WE ALL LOVE, WE ALL SHARE

Bb C
WITH ONE HEART, WE ALL CARE

DMIN C Bb
AND IF YOU TAKE MY HAND

C F Bb F Bb C (MODULATE BACK TO D)
YOU CAN FEEL THE PULSE

2ND VERSE

THE DISTANCE SEEMS VAST
BUT IT'S ALL ILLUSION
FOR DON'T WE ALL CRY
WE LAUGH AND WE BLEED
AND IN THE END, THERE'S JUST ONE SOLUTION
AS A GOOD MAN ONCE SAID
LOVE IS ALL THAT WE NEED
UNDER THE MOON AND UNDER THE SUN
WE ALL DECIDE WHO WE BECOME

(CHORUS)

BRIDGE

D C
LIKE A RIVER THAT FLOWS THROUGH US ALL

D C D

IT'S THE CURRENT OF LIFE CAN YOU HEAR IT CALL

(ACCAPELLA CHORUS IN E)

(CHORUS – IN F)