

OMEGA DEFERS



COMMON GROUND



REAL WITH YOU I only show them what they want to see. I only show the world a fantasy. They wouldn't get my insanity like you do, ooh. I only show the world a filtered face, all my defects hidden, all my flaws erased. They never get to see me fall from grace like you do. Can I give you my pleasure? Can I give you my pain? Will you love my sunshine? Will you love my rain? **Only wanna be real with you. Only wanna feel with you, the way I feel tonight forever. Only gonna be real with you. If you feel it too, then come on come on come on come on come on come on.** You only share a little part of you. You never talk about the start of you. Nobody understands the heart of you like I do. You only show the world a surface glance. You won't let anybody see you dance. Don't even give yourself a second chance like I do, ooh. I built a house of secrets. I'll let you come inside. I'll break myself open and show you my light.

RENEGADE She was a killer in blue jeans and suede. We went dancing in the rain. Watched the sun set on the waves. I didn't know she was a renegade. She wears the shrapnel of all her past mistakes like armor. She thinks if she keeps on running nothing can harm her. **Oh she's a renegade. Yeah she's the queen of pain. Love's just a barricade, oh for a renegade.** We sat in my car down by the beach. I listened closely to her body speak. Watched the sunrise through the clouds, yeah I wonder what she's doing now.

COMMON GROUND **No matter where we stand we will all fall down, No matter who we are we land in common ground. Don't matter if we can't seem to find it now, they will bury us, dust to dust, in common ground.** Driving you home in my car, so lost in my thoughts, don't know where we are, don't know where we are. Together we fly through the dark, only inches apart but so very far, each leather seat our own little world, where we dress our wounds from the words that were hurled. Five little miles could be years, driving blind past the signs, blurred by angry tears, I've got no more tears to lose. The ringing subsides in my ears, as I loosen my grip on the wheel and my fears, the dash glows red and shines so bright, I'm finally seeing the light.

THE BALLAD OF BILLY Billy was a killer 'til the day he had his fill of all the dying. Billy did his job, he did it well, but couldn't live with all the lying. Oh he was a rifle, made of steel and rage. **Billy doesn't sleep at all. In the shadows on the wall, he sees all of their faces, he's wrapped in their embraces dark and cold. Will he get another chance to make himself a better man? Will he ever find a way, will he live to see the day his story's told?** Billy had a plan, it was a good plan, but he knew there would be danger. He'd sacrifice the man he was, and then he would start over as a stranger. Oh he is a novel, blood red ink on a page. He had it all worked out, without a shred of doubt. Everything was going right to plan. Then he saw her, and he saved her, and she saved him, she saved him, she saved him. Somewhere in the mountains, in a cabin, in the woods you'll find a writer. Conjuring a world of possibilities, and he's right there beside her.

STREETLIGHTS Don't you want to go? Go outside and play? Go out and explore, feel the wind upon your face? **When I was 12 years old, I rode my bike from the suburbs to the mall, and I wouldn't go back home, until the streetlights came on.** They say the world is different now, and it's a scary place. Bad was always going on, but now it's always in our face. **When I was 12 years old, I rode my bike, I was king of the road, and my friends would tag along, until the streetlights came on.** What is right or wrong, who are you to say? Every generation has to find their own way. Why don't you want to go? Go outside and play? Go out and explore, feel the wind upon your face? **When I was 12 years old, I rode my bike as fast as I could go, and I barely made home, before the streetlights came on.**

MAYBE Now I lay me down to sleep, counting troubles, counting sheep, looking at this tangled heap de ma vie pourrie. Now I lie awake and pray, if I die before daybreak, that I've done enough to make something bigger than me. **Maybe we can live forever in these lines, they'll last longer than the mess we leave behind. Maybe we don't have to die. Maybe we can live forever in these rhymes, when we turn to dust the best of us survives, maybe we don't have to die.** As I lay down next to you, in our tiny, cozy room, you cut right through the gloom like a blade. As I lay my crowded head, on our humble little bed, all my existential dread, fades to gray. Like children's laughter in the rain, we'll be an echo when nothing remains. A whisper in the hall, to prove we were here at all. Are we really here at all?

SECONDHAND HEART I collected pieces of broken hearts, built a new one from spare parts, oh got a secondhand heart. How fragile they can be, but you still gave yours to me, someone with a secondhand heart. **My secondhand heart is bursting at the seams, with secondhand scars, and secondhand dreams. So much stronger than it seems, the world on fire has tempered my secondhand heart.** I remember under the ancient tree, in the rain you spellbound me, you rebuilt my secondhand heart. The smell of petrichor brings me to the sycamore, where you held my secondhand heart. I won't be scared, won't be prepared. It might break, but that's a risk I'm willing to take.

OKLAHOMA Somewhere in the middle, all the grass is green. I'm going to Oklahoma, where nothing's chasing me. I keep on thinking, it's gonna be all right, if I can just hang on until the morning light. Had to cut my love away, burned it like a cigarette. I'm going somewhere better, that I ain't been to yet. **Oklahoma, Oklahoma, this time I surrender to the west.** Well I lost my innocence, yeah my heart went cold. I went so far down, trying to fill that hole. I've been wrong more than I've been right, but Lord I keep on tryin' I can't tell any longer, where the truth turns into lyin'. Out in the middle of nowhere, it all looks the same. One road leads to heartache, one road leads to pain. I crawled out from the wreckage, kicked it to break free. Here I am at the crossroads, beggin' on my knees.

SALT Who are you? Who am I? You'd think we would know after all this time. Here we are, side by side. Are we moving together or in parallel lines? I don't know, I don't know, I don't know. **I don't wanna fall in love again, if I can't be with you. But I'm so afraid to let you in, when you do the things you do. You play catch me if you can, you love me on demand, so dizzy it gives me vertigo, then you answer when I call and catch me when I fall, in love again.** Look at me, happy drunk. Tryin' to unthink the thoughts that I've thunk. Down deep, is it love? Or only the costs that we've sunk.

HOLIDAY FROM HEARTACHE Saw you out the other day, and it took me by surprise. I forgot the way it felt when I looked into your eyes. Never thought I'd suffer from a relapse of this pain. Never thought that I could ever feel this way again. **I just need a holiday from heartache tonight. Kiss my case of rainy days and Mondays goodbye. Go down to a honky tonk, and sing along to my favorite songs, 'til I feel all right. I just need a holiday from heartache tonight.** It's been awhile but I thought I was over you for good. Found myself a little piece of heaven in the woods. Maybe I just ran away to hide out from the truth. Maybe there is just no way of getting over you. Oh when I left you, I thought it was time to move on. Oh but I was a damn fool, oh baby I was so wrong.

MEMPHIS Walkin' down the streets of Memphis, early on a Sunday afternoon. The pavement shimmers like a river, baking in the oven of late June. Last time she was here with me, I couldn't find the words to say. Now I'm lost and lonely, clinging to the ghost of yesterday. My, how the changes come. I thought she was the one. **I need to find my way to the river, and be baptized by the breeze, try to find a way to forgiver her, forgive me. I need to find my way to the river, feel the mud beneath my knees, 'til my raging prayers deliver me.** Wandering the streets of Memphis, wishin' I had been there in the end. But wandering and wishin' will never bring her home to me again. Every time I think of her it brings the bitter taste of my regret. I chase it down with whiskey, but it don't help me forget. My, how the levee breaks. I let it carry me away.

THE CARETAKER Hello Mr. Grady, have I met you before? You seem so familiar, but I cannot be sure. In the redroom without shadows, there is nowhere to hide, you act like you know me, am I losing my mind? Come on, come on, come on! **When your mama don't care, and your daddy don't care, and your kids don't care, and your wife, your husband, your partner don't care, when the dog don't care, and your friends don't care, and the weight of it all is too much to bear, Mr. Grady is there for you. Let the caretaker take care of you.** Hello Mr. Grady, nice to see you again, in this impossible place, where the veil is so thin. Thank you Mr. Grady, you have helped me to see, I have always been here, it has always been me. I see the writing on blue flower walls. Real as the blood in my veins. I hear the voices from deep in the halls. I hear them calling my name!

PRINCE SOMEDAY A little girl with lacy socks and patent Mary Janes on the stoop, waiting for a man who never came. It's happened before. It'll keep on happening. It's only 1986, and she's already started laying bricks. **I wanna tell her, it'll be ok. I wanna tell her, she'll meet her Prince Someday. She won't be ready to let him in right away, but that's ok, he will wait. I wanna tell her, it'll be all right. I wanna tell her he'll be by her side, through whatever, forever, and he will love her all the way, all the way.** She stomps around the house, says I'm an angry little girl. Nine years old, already angry at the world. And her tower grows 'til it's higher than the trees. She made a lock and threw away the key. A key that would be found eventually. Her fairy tale castles have crumbled down. Her glass slippers shattered. She broke her crown. She don't need them anymore. She don't need them anymore. She was grasping at shadows in empty space, holding on to a ghost who had her face. She don't need him anymore. She don't need him anymore.

All songs written by Heather Liebensohn & Michael Liebensohn

Produced by Michael Liebensohn, Heather Liebensohn
& David Paulin

Executive Producers: Julie Lange, Darrin Lange

Engineer: David Paulin

Assistant Engineer: Owen Phillips

Recorded at The Sound Emporium in Nashville, TN

Mastered at Independent Mastering by Eric Conn

Drums & Percussion: Matt King

Bass: Lex Price

Piano, Organ, Keyboards: Mike Rojas

Steel & Slide Guitars: Dan Dugmore

Electric & Acoustic Guitars: Michael Liebensohn

Vocals: Heather Liebensohn, Michael Liebensohn, Nick Liebensohn

Strings on "Maybe" arranged by Mike Rojas

Piano on "Prince Someday" by Michael Liebensohn

Album design by Zen Mantis

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