

**DOUG & TELISHA
WILLIAMS**
GHOST
of the
KNOXVILLE
GIRL

VOCALS:

BASS:

ACOUSTIC GUITAR:

ELECTRIC GUITARS:

ORGAN & ACCORDION:

DRUMS:

PEDAL STEEL:

DOUG & TELISHA WILLIAMS

TELISHA WILLIAMS

DOUG WILLIAMS

DOUG WILLIAMS, ROD CAPPS, JONATHAN BYRD

TOM BERRY

NATHAN LOGAN

LLOYD MAINES



It certainly wasn't intentional. We didn't even notice it until well after we'd finished recording, mixing, and mastering the record. Actually I remember thinking several times while we were recording that this group of songs shouldn't go together, but somehow they did. There was something strange that locked them all together. Listening to the entire record in the dark, in a car with the window down, riding down an empty highway on a hot, humid, Southern night it all came together. Every song on the record put the same images in my head- the same buildings, the same people, the streets, smells and sounds. We had created our own little town.

We knew some of the songs were about the same people, we just didn't know that they were all about the same place. It's a little town with lots of ghosts. Ghosts of people who used to live here and ghosts of industry that used to live here (both, by the way, left nasty corpses).

We've also got your cheaters, losers, backsliders and even a few bank robbers (Well, the robbers don't live here anymore- the state pretty much takes care of them in the next county over, but the families are still here). There are people who are stuck here and people who only pass through every now and again.

Our town is populated by real people that we know and by people that we made up. Some of the songs started out about real people and ended up being entirely fictional. It doesn't matter in our town, though. The real people interact with the made up characters every day, and they're just too polite for the most part to tell them they don't really exist. Everybody, real or imagined, just gets by the best they can. And they all have to depend on each other, too. That's how it is in a town this size.

If you want to know what our town looks like, go for a drive. You've got to get out of

the city, though. Head down an old two lane highway and keep driving until you pass that church with the witty little sign out front that says "Get Right or Get Left!". After that, you should see some crumbling smoke stacks or a shut down factory or mill. Find a baseball field with a gravel parking lot and take a right. Cross over rusted, unused train tracks and roll right on into downtown, right where those two department stores used to be. Now they sell antiques, Chinese furniture and knick knacks, but you can still see the shadow of the fancy lettering on the bricks up above the front door. Just park right there, get out and walk around a little bit.

Welcome to our little town. We hope you enjoy your visit. Oh, and if you're going to stay a while, be sure to steer clear of the riverbank and the train tracks after dark.

-D & T

1. Kitchen Light

"Sometimes you gotta know when to pack it in!"

CHORUS:

So you want me to forgive you again
These things happen now and then
you played a game that no one wins
when you went and broke my heart again
So many times you let me down
you're always runnin' round
this time I won't give in
no I won't forgive you again

The horses on the carousel
with braided manes and plaited tails
gilded paint and glowing lights
The music echoes through the night-
Now I know where they are bound
They don't go anywhere but round and round
and though I've taken a few rides
I've still got my pride

CHORUS

I'm turnin' out the kitchen light
I'm walkin' out into the night
This time I'm leaving you behind
and I'm not gonna change my mind
You may have made me stay before
But this time I'm closing that door
You say your cheatin' days are through
Well there's somethin' I'm through with, too

CHORUS



2. GRAVEYARD TRAIN

"NO REST FOR THE WEARY"

WAY DOWN IN TEXAS

WHERE THE LIVE OAK GROWS
THERE'S AN IRON RAIL THAT LAYS THERE
RIGHT BETWEEN THE MARBLE AND STONE
DON'T STAND IN FRONT OF THAT HEAD LAMP'S SHINE
NOTHIN' GETS IN THE WAY OF THE SANTA FE LINE
HERE IT COMES, WINDIN' THROUGH THE TOMBSTONES
THE TRAIN ROLLS THROUGH AND RATTLES THEM BONES

YOU CAN HEAR THE RUMBLE,
YOU CAN FEEL THE GROUND QUAKE
THE LEAVES START TO RUSTLE
AND THE TOMBSTONES SHAKE
OFF IN THE DISTANCE YOU CAN HARDLY TELL
IF IT'S THE MOAN OF THE WHISTLE OR THE BANSHEE YELL
DON'T GET CAUGHT AFTER DARK ALONE
WHEN THE TRAIN ROLLS THROUGH AND RATTLES THEM BONES

WHEN YOU RIDE THAT TRAIN THROUGH TEXAS
IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT
JUST OUTSIDE OF DALLAS
YOU BETTER HOLD ON TIGHT
'CAUSE THE FOLKS LAID THERE DON'T GET NO REST
WHEN THEY CROSS THEIR HANDS UPON THEIR CHEST
IT WAKES THEIR TIRED AND WEARY SOULS
WHEN THE TRAIN ROLL THROUGH AND RATTLES THEM BONES



3. If My Heart

If my heart

*Could take just one more heart break,
I'd give it to you, I'd give it to you*

If I had time

*For just one more mistake
I'd make it with you, I'd make it with you*

If your love for me

*Had come when I was wild and free
I'd be there with you, I'd be there with you*

But my heart aches

*just to be in your arms
and feel you close to me, feel you close to me*

But too many times

*I have just followed love
too many promises I've broken
I feel you pulling me right back again
but I can't break the vows that I've spoken*

So go away

*I've made my last mistake
Please don't stay, please don't stay*

If my heart

*could take just one more heart break,
I'd give it to you, I'd give it to you*



4. 20.2

"We wrote this one back when the unemployment rate of our hometown was at 20.2%. Today, it's up to 22.1%. Let's hope that by the time you're reading this, it's down well below both of those numbers"

Now in my hometown all the factories closed down
and there ain't enough work to go around
in my hometown and everybody's a little nervous

But the Walmart seems to be doin' OK
you might get a job there for the minimum wage
but no health care, and you don't get no retirement

They're sellin' all the things that we used to make
and it all comes packed in a great big crate
from China - somewhere over in China

CHORUS:

This used to be America
The land of hopes and dreams
now all that's left is parking lots
full of nothing but grass and weeds

When I grew up it was a different town
I ain't sayin' it was perfect, but we all got around
and we all had things to look forward to

Now I know there ain't nothing here
and this town gets smaller every year
as the old folks die and the young folks leave

It's a short walk out but a long way back
to the edge of town by the railroad tracks
but I ain't goin' nowhere

CHORUS

When I was a Kid, I'd dream real big
about what I'd do and the life I'd live
and how no one, could take it away from me

But there's not much to dream and there's not much to say
when your pockets are empty at the end of the day
and empty don't feed no one

In my hometown all the all the factories closed down
and there ain't enough work to go around
in my hometown everybody's a little nervous

5. Ghost of the Knoxville Girl

Go Down Go Down, you Knoxville Girl
with the dark and roving eyes

I am the ghost of the Knoxville Girl
Doomed to wander 'round this world
I haunt the paths of jealous men
They all must pay for Willie's sin

He asked me for to be his bride
Yes, oh Willie Dear, I cried
but before we reached our wedding day
he struck me down in a jealous rage

CHORUS:

Go down go down to the pits of hell

Willie dear I loved you well
with the devil now you'll make your home
for my brown eyes they never roamed

On a river bank in Knoxville town
my murdered body there was found
in tattered clothes with bloody stains
yet still my spirit here remains

So jealous lovers you I'll warn
Be careful where you cast your scorn
and watch your step by the river side
or I'll pull you in and watch you die

ALTERNATE CHORUS:

Go down Go down in the rocks and waves
in the tumbling water, I'll make your grave
Your darling will be safe from harm
and find true love in another's arms

CHORUS: Go down go down to the pits of hell
Willie dear I loved you well
with the devil now you'll make your home
for my brown eyes they never roamed

I am the ghost of the Knoxville Girl
Doomed to wander 'round this world
I haunt the paths of jealous men
They all must pay for Willie's sin



6. Learning to Drink Whiskey

"Practice makes perfect"

The first shot it burns like the memories of you
The second shot is easier, I know we're still through
By shot number three, I'm feelin' all right
I'm learning to drink whiskey tonight

Here in the house, we once called a home
with a glass and a bottle, I sit here alone
With tears in my eyes, I'm a pitiful sight
I'm learning to drink whiskey tonight

BRIDGE

The promises you made
Are floating away
They circle my glass
in a whiskey parade
with each drink I take
one more slips away
'til all I have left
is an empty bottle and regrets

When I put down my glass, there's a bitter taste on my lips
Don't know if it's from the whiskey or from remembering your kiss
The warmth in my cheeks, plays tricks on my mind
I'm learning to drink Whiskey tonight

The first shot it burns like the memories of you
The second shot is easier, but it don't change we're through
By shot number three, I'm feelin' all right
I'm learning to drink whiskey tonight

By the time that I'm through, I'll be a pitiful sight
I'm learning to drink whiskey tonight

7. LORRETTA'S BALLAD

LORETTA LEFT THE FACTORY ON A FRIDAY AFTERNOON
THE WEATHER'S HEATING UP NOW
MAY'S PASSED ON INTO JUNE
AND FREDDY'S HEADING UP FROM PENSACOLA, HE'LL BE HEAR ALL TOO SOON
LORETTA KNOWS THAT FREDDY'S TRAVELS MATCH THE SEASONS AND THE MOON

SHE PULLS ON OUT OF THE FACTORY GATE AND THEN ON OUT OF TOWN
SHE FILLS UP AT THE QUICK STOP THEN PUTS THE HAMMER DOWN
AND MAKES HER WAY UP TO THE CABIN BEFORE THE SUN GOES DOWN
ON THE SILENT BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS WITH NO ONE ELSE AROUND

LORETTA PULLS A SUITCASE FROM THE TRUNK OF HER CAR
THE MOON IS COMING UP NOW AND SHE LOOKS UP TO THE STARS
AND SAYS A PRAYER TO ASK FORGIVENESS FOR THE SINS UPON HER HEART
THEN GOES ABOUT HER BUSINESS AS IF SHE PLANNED IT FROM THE START

CHORUS COOL WIND BLOWS THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS
EARLY IN THE SUMMERTIME
AIN'T NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT
SOME DIE BEFORE THEIR TIME

MONDAY EVENING AFTER WORK LORETTA PULLS INTO HER DRIVE
A CHILL RUNS DOWN HER SPINE SHE SEES THAT FREDDY HAS ARRIVED
HE'S SITTIN' IN THE CARPORT WITH A BEER CAN IN HIS HAND
HE SMILES TO SEE LORETTA, BUT HE DOESN'T EVEN STAND

LORETTA WALKS INTO THE HOUSE AND SHE DOESN'T EVEN SPEAK
SHE KEEPS HER HEAD UP HIGH BUT HER STOMACH'S FEELING WEAK
SHE LOOKS OVER AT THE ANGEL SITTING ON HER KITCHEN SINK
AND LEANS AGAINST THE COUNTER AND TRIES TO GATHER STRENGTH

SHE SEES THAT FREDDY'S BEEN INSIDE AND HE'S TORN IT ALL TO HELL
BUT SHE KNEW THAT HE'D BE COMING SO SHE HID IT WELL
OUT OF THE CORNER OF HER EYE SHE SEES AN EMPTY BOX OF SHELLS
SHE KNOWS FREDDY'S GUN IS LOADED AND HE'S GOING TO MAKE HER TELL

CHORUS

FREDDY WALKS INTO THE KITCHEN JUST AS CALM AS HE CAN BE
AND PULLS HIS PISTOL FROM HIS POCKET TO BE SURE LORETTA SEES
HE SAYS BABY WHERE'D YOU PUT IT, IS THIS HOW IT'S GOING TO BE?
YOU KNOW THAT THERE AND NOTHING YOU COULD EVER HIDE FROM ME

HE SITS DOWN AT THE TABLE AND CRACKS ANOTHER BEER
THE BLOOD RUSHING THROUGH HER VEINS THE ONLY SOUND LORETTA HEARS
SHE STANDS THERE FOR A MOMENT FROZEN BY HER FEAR
AND THEN IT ALL COMES FALLING OUT SHE TELLS HIM WHAT HE NEEDS TO HEAR

SHE TELLS ABOUT THE FRIDAY THAT SHE HID IT IN HER CAR
TELLS ABOUT THE CABIN SAYS IT REALLY AIN'T THAT FAR
AND THEY CAN GET UP THERE THIS EVENING BEFORE IT GETS TOO DARK
AND SHE'LL SHOW HIM WHERE SHE PUT IT
AND THEY CAN MAKE A BRAND NEW START

SO THEY HEAD ON UP THE CURVY ROAD WITH LORETTA AT THE WHEEL
BUT FREDDY WON'T PUT DOWN HIS PISTOL
'CAUSE HE LIKES THE WAY IT FEELS
HE LIKES THE POWER THAT IT GIVES HIM A POWER THAT FEELS REAL
HE LIKES TO LOOK DOWN AT HIS HANDS TO SEE THE COLD BLUE STEEL

THEY TURN DOWN TOWARDS THE CABIN AND HEAD UP THAT ROCKY DRIVE
LORETTA PRAYS COME MORNING SHE'LL STILL BE ALIVE
FREDDY HE DON'T PRAY FOR NOTHING, BUT THERE'S A TWINKLE IN HIS EYE
HE CAN SMELL A CHANGE IN FORTUNE, HIS DAY HAS JUST ARRIVED

CHORUS

WELL THE CABIN, IT AIN'T THERE NO MORE
AND THERE'S BEEN A LOT THAT'S CHANGED
SINCE EVERYTHING ON THAT HILLSIDE WENT UP IN A FIERY BLAZE
THE TREES ARE GROWING BACK NOW AND YOU CAN HARDLY EVEN TELL
ON THAT WINDY SUMMER EVENING IT LOOKED LIKE THE FIRES OF HELL

WELL IF LORETTA HAD IT ALL PLANNED OUT I GUESS WE'LL NEVER KNOW
BUT TWO DAYS AFTER THE FIRE SHE CAUGHT A FLIGHT TO MEXICO
AND NOBODY AIN'T EVER HEARD FROM FREDDY SINCE HE WENT RIDING DOWN
THROUGH THE SILENT BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS WITH NO ONE ELSE AROUND

CHORUS



8. last Call

"That age old dilemma"

CHORUS:

**I'm stuck between last call and alter call
save my soul or have a ball
put a stop to my sinnin' ways or
put it off another day, well
maybe I'm not living right
but sometimes I still see the light
on the crooked path I walk between
sunday morning and saturday night**

**Every week I kneel here again
beggin' forgiveness for the same ol' sins
swearin' on my soul this time I won't fall
But every time I ride past the bar
I hear the call of the whiskey jar
and back into it's wicked grasp I crawl**

CHORUS

**The party lights and the smoke filled room
will be the cause of my eternal doom
oh why oh why my lord do I love them so
I try and try as hard as I can
but I've learned I'm a weak and pitiful man
and I don't have the strength to resist that neon glow**

CHORUS



9. Unrepentant Sinner's Last Prayer

Gonna go up on the mountain top and see what I can see
Gonna go up on the mountain top and see what I can see
Let all of heavens angels stare right back down at me

Gonna sail out on the ocean deep and taste that salty air
Gonna sail out on the ocean deep and taste that salty air
I'll dive right in that water, but it won't wash away my cares

Gonna go out in the piney grove where the pine trees grow so high
Gonna go out in the piney grove where the pine trees grow so high
I'll climb the tallest one I see and grab hold of the sky

I'll walk across the desert sand till it burns and stings my feet
I'll walk across the desert sand till it burns and stings my feet
'Till I look all around me, and desert's all I see

I'll stand beside the lake of fire and smell that sulfur burn
I'll stand beside the lake of fire and smell that sulfur burn
I know I've reached my final days, and there's nowhere I can turn

Gonna go up on the mountain top and see what I can see
Gonna go up on the mountain top and see what I can see
Let all of heavens angels stare right back down at me



10. Go Go Go!

CHORUS

It's in my blood, I got to roam
and I don't ever want to go home
It's what I do I gotta go go go
and I don't ever want to go home

BP, Texaco, Flying J,
Pilot, Citgo, and TA
Too much coffee makes my heart race
but I need a little more to keep up this pace
Gotta make it to Ashland, sound check's at 5
then we play our show and pack it up and
drive, Drive, DRIVE!

CHORUS

40 to Knoxville, Nashville and Memphis
Left turn at Little Rock, headin' to Dallas
Stop in Garland with Billie and Reta
Every time we're in TX we're happy to see ya
then 35 southbound, headed to Austin
Sure feels good to get back down there again

CHORUS

Head all the way west pedal to the floor
straight up 5 back east on 84
Makin' our way through Colorado
it takes a little longer with all that snow
Then over to Kansas where you set the cruise
and get the "I don't see nothin' but corn field" blues

CHORUS

Decatur, Johnson City, Pensacola
I don't ever wanna go home
Portland, Shreveport, Saluda, Asheville
I don't ever wanna go home

Detroit, Nashville, Winston-Salem
I don't ever wanna go home
It's in my blood I got to roam
and I don't ever wanna go home

11. I Wonder

I Wonder what streets you walked down today
I wonder what interesting things you had to say
And sometimes I wonder if you ever wonder about me

I wonder if the moon seems dull where you are
I wonder if he magic's all gone from the stars
A night sky without you just makes me feel blue
so I'll sit here and wonder about you

BRIDGE As leaves start to fall
and time moves on
every day turns to night
and the nights are too long
I lay awake and wonder
just where we went wrong
if I'd done things different
would you still be gone

I wonder if you're happy wherever you are
I wonder if you've found another to hold in your arms
and sometimes I wonder if you ever wonder about me

Yes sometimes I wonder
it haunts me but I wonder
if you ever wonder about me



12. Riner

"Don't judge until you walk a mile in those shoes. Some-
times you just do what you think you gotta do."

When there ain't no jobs and money's tight
the line gets fuzzy 'tween wrong and right
and she's the kind of girl that wouldn't ever hurt no one
But in the parking lot of the 1st 3rd bank
She prays for forgiveness, not for thanks
puts her hand in her pocket and wraps it around that gun

CHORUS: It really shook 'em up in Riner
at the Ya'll Come Back Now Diner
It was all that they could talk about that day
Did he really think she'd do it
and when it gets down to it
how the hell'd they think they'd ever get away

She walks on in and stands in line
Wonderin' if she might change her mind
but when it gets to be her turn she pulls the gun
Stuffs the cash in her pocketbook
as folks she knows all stare and look
then heads for the door and breaks out in a run

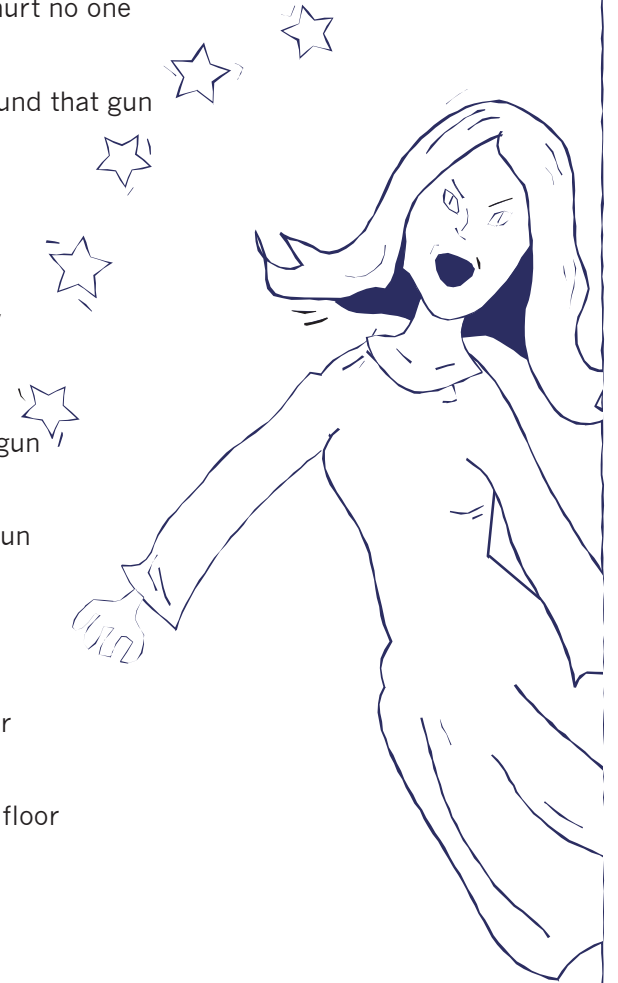
CHORUS

Well back out in the parking lot
TJ's nerves are gettin' hot
when Mary Anne jumps in and slams the door
TJ drops it into gear
he almost stalls with all that fear
as he wheels it out and puts the pedal to the floor

CHORUS

Before they crossed the county line
they had a swarm of troopers right behind
and them blue lights were swallowin' up their hopes and
dreams
tears just rolled down Mary Anne's face
as TJ stops and ends the chase
easy money ain't as easy as it seems

CHORUS



This is the part where we try to list all the people we're thankful for. An impossible task, but we're going to give it a shot. Doug & Annelle, Mike & Jackie, Alice Leon, Nell & Perry, Andres & Becki, Billy & Renee, Billie & Reta, John & Lucy, All the Americana Agency Gang, Patti and Lee, Skip & Leslie, Eric & Bernadette, Jonathan Byrd, Miles, Tom Berry, Lloyd Maines, Nathan Logan, Rod & Annie Capps, Mark & Stacey, the Millroys, the entire population of the states of Michigan, Texas, and Virginia, Gallagher Guitars, Heil Sound, D-TAR electronics, Annabelle, All the people who come out to see us play, especially the people who drag their friends out with them, all the venue owners and talent bookers who let us stand up on their stages, and of course, all the people who help us out along the way by buying this record, buying our last record, letting us park the Mobile Clubhouse in your driveway, feeding us, hot showers...



PRODUCED BY DOUG & TELISHA WILLIAMS
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