

# ***My Father's Only Son***

**Carrie Newcomer**

1996 Lyrics

## **Crazy in Love**

I've seen enough starts and stops to make me wise  
Had enough time to grieve, make believe and Cray  
Just when I wasn't looking 'round anymore  
You came knockin' on my front door  
Let the door swing open

You wouldn't think a grown woman would act like a high school girl  
You wouldn't think a grown man would be lost for words  
But when you looked across the table with that wild and reckless grin  
I whispered down to my heart " Here we go again"

Chorus: Let the door swing open, let you actions speak  
Let your heart beat crazy, let your knees get weak  
I'll slip on close beside you, we fit just like a glove  
Let the door swing open when you're crazy in love

I could try real hard, I could guard my cards,  
I could watch my back, I could play it safe  
But I was never one to let a good thing by  
Never thought that I was fearless'til I met your eyes

Chorus: Let the door swing open, let you actions speak  
Let your heart beat crazy, let your knees get weak  
I'll slip on close beside you, we fit just like a glove  
Let the door swing open when you're crazy in love

Sometimes you just have to let sleeping dogs lie  
Sometimes you just have to give it another try  
I could get burned'cause heat like that singes  
But the door's swingin' open and it's crazy on its hinges

I can't say I really understand  
All that goes between Women and men  
What brings us together what tears us apart  
The sparks that fly when we give up our hearts

Chorus: Let the door swing open, let you actions speak  
Let your heart beat crazy, let your knees get weak  
I'll slip on close beside you, we fit just like a glove  
Let the door swing open when you're crazy in love

## **Tracks**

Be careful when you walk down my street  
The wolves are gathering there  
And the hungry one will eat the wolves  
When there's nothing but wolves to fear  
You come talking light, but you come walking dark  
The truth of your actions show the secrets of your heart

Chorus: We shall surely be known forever by the tracks we leave

Everything that's done gets done in a circle  
Everything that's hidden is brought to the light  
When wisdom speaks, close your mouth and listen  
When something's wrong, then makes it right

Chorus: We shall surely be known forever by the tracks we leave.

Another species dies, and no one hears its wail  
And an innocent is lost when the system fails  
One finger can't lift a single stone  
Hand in Hand we've always known

Chorus: We shall surely be known forever by the tracks we leave.

## **There Are The Moments**

Nobody's gonna know years from now  
No one gonna care why and how  
No story or scandal's gonna matter  
And so what if they do  
But I'm going to leaf through the book of my days  
And grieve each one I threw away  
Hold each moment close and keep it like a photograph

Who loves you now?  
Who loved you then?  
Who do you love?

I remember your young strong heart  
I cried through two green streetlights  
I slept with my face to the wall  
Night after night after night

Who loves you now?  
Who loved you then?  
Who do you love?

These are the moments you have to seize  
Put down those weights you carry around  
These are the truth that will set you free  
These are the moments we give ourselves

Who loves you now?  
Who loved you then?  
Who do you love?

A lot of shining words will come up lies  
There's a lot of wisdom in silence  
We put our faith in political systems  
Sex or God or Science

Who loves you now?  
Who loved you then?  
Who do you love?

These are the moments you have to seize  
Put down those weights you carry around  
These are the truths that will set you free  
These are the moments we give ourselves

## **You Can Choose**

You can throw life like your anger at the wall  
Embrace it like you're following the call  
You can wear it like your hard won years  
You can find it like the music you almost hear

Chorus: You can choose what you give; you can choose what you take  
Make love in your living, live the love that you make  
You can let life get your bitter or you can try to make it better  
You can choose what you choose what you give

You can leave this town on the next dark train  
Or catch your death standing in the rain  
You can find it like so many dreams before  
Or brave it like each unmarked door

Chorus: You can choose what you give, you can choose what you take  
Make love in your living, live the love that you make  
You can let life get your bitter or you can try to make it better  
You can choose what you choose what you give

Sooner or later, you'll find that it matters 'cause  
Every one of us is gonna find our own way  
You can close your eyes wondering how  
Or you can lean back your head  
Smile and say "Now"

You can wear life like well-worn gloves  
Embrace it like your truest love  
You can hold onto something strong like that  
Fend off every trouble standing back to back to back

Chorus: You can choose what you give; you can choose what you take  
Make love in your living, live the love that you make  
You can let life get you bitter or you can try to make it better  
You can choose what you choose what you give.

## **My Father's Only Son**

It's just a good excuse to watch the sun go down  
On a gravel pit outside of town  
My father had three daughters  
So I became his only son

Summertime in Allen County  
You can slice the air like bread  
Pack up our old Rambler  
With cane poles and little said

Chorus: You never talk much in a fishin' boat  
'Cause it just scares the fish away  
You just give it time and watch your line

He's say, "Just an hour or two."  
Some folks are always like that  
And never really answer you

Chorus: You never talk much in a fishin' boat  
'Cause it just scares the fish away  
You just give it time and watch your line

The sun goes down and why no one knows  
I grew up out of my fishin' clothes  
I told him once and he slowly smiled  
That his only son was expecting a child

Chorus: You never talk much in a fishin' boat  
'Cause it just scares the fish away  
You just give it time and watch your line

I'll remember all my life  
My father's face in the de3ep twilight  
In a boat under the evening sun  
Throwin' back the little ones

## **I'm Not Thinking of You**

I'm tired of being tragic, that bit has lost its magic  
I'm not feeling sorry for you or myself  
I'm not afraid anymore, or hiding behind locked doors  
I'm not running down the stairs with my sweet little girl.

No more long crazy heartaches, hanging on for God's sake  
Somewhere the buck is going to stop and that's here  
No more shouting or crying, no more asking or trying  
No more useless denying, I'm not thinking of you.

Chorus: I'm not thinking of you when I step out of the shadows  
I'm not thinking of you when I open my heart again  
You're still throwing rocks up at my window  
Hoping that it shatters as if it even matters anymore

I'm not laughing at you  
I'm not cursing at you  
I'm not sorry of you today  
I'm just so far gone now from that whole connection  
Any anger of affection has long passed away

Chorus: I'm not thinking of you when I step out of the shadows  
I'm not thinking of you when I open my heart again  
You're still throwing rocks up at my window  
Hoping that it shatters as if it even matters anymore

Some things just don't work out, sometimes people do get hurt  
We all make mistakes and hopefully learn some things  
I'm not falling into the harm you still do  
All those things that through  
I'm not thinking of you

Chorus: I'm not thinking of you when I step out of the shadows  
I'm not thinking of you when I open my heart again  
You're still throwing rocks up at my window  
Hoping that it shatters as if it even matters anymore

## Up In The Attic

Tied up in a bundle is a stack of love letters  
From a boy that meant trouble when I didn't know better  
A green cat's eye marble I won in fifth grade  
A schoolyard trophy from the toughest guy I played

I had an old dog that was loyal and sure  
She's in heaven now and these tags are hers  
A picture my daughter drew when she was just four  
Of the angel that kissed her the hour she was born

Chorus: Up in the attic, up in the attic  
Is a treasure of paper, glass and fabric?  
I forget that's it's there but I'm glad I still have it  
There is an old box I keep safe in the attic

A collection of glass horses, a stack of 45s  
A ring my mom gave me when she was still alive  
A diary of secrets I had to confess  
A car key, a house key, my first wedding dress

Chorus: Up in the attic, up in the attic  
Is a treasure of paper, glass and fabric  
I forget that's it's there but I'm glad I still have it  
There is an old box I keep safe in the attic

Now I know it's just the memories that finally last  
I know the use for these things long ago passed  
But it's just one small box I can't seem to lose  
Through so many changes and so many moves

Chorus: Up in the attic, up in the attic  
Is a treasure of paper, glass and fabric  
I forget that's it's there but I'm glad I still have it  
There is an old box I keep safe in the attic

## **Closer To You**

Missouri's tied together like a rolling rag rug  
Bit and pieces and necessity and love  
You can sense the proud and working dirt poor  
Clean and pressed like Sunday shirt but edge worn

Chorus: You think by now we'd be a little further on  
For all this tumbling we've been through  
As I'm leaving Missouri into Southern Illinois  
I feel like I'm finally getting closer to you

When women look for answer then learn to listen and sit still  
Men think they've got to take some kind of stand  
Yet we're drawn together like magnet to magnet  
Spend years trying to explain again

Chorus: You think by now we'd be a little further on  
For all this tumbling we've been through  
As I'm leaving Missouri into Southern Illinois  
I feel like I'm finally getting closer to you

There's a photo on the table of my family and me  
Taken in some studio in 1963  
The faces are familiar but I can't tell you why  
Most families nod and then they sigh

Chorus: You think by now we'd be a little further on  
For all this tumbling we've been through  
As I'm leaving Missouri into Southern Illinois  
I feel like I'm finally getting closer to you

When I get healed I'm gonna be a healer  
That's just the nature of those things  
We don't exist in any solid form  
We're always moving and changing

Chorus: You think by now we'd be a little further on  
For all this tumbling we've been through  
As I'm leaving Missouri into Southern Illinois  
I feel like I'm finally getting closer to you



## **Bearing Witness**

Could you be some redemption  
Could you be some relief?  
Could you be a safe haven?  
Do you promise to believe?  
When I tell you these stories  
Every pain and hard won glory  
Bear witness to a journey  
That's been well traveled so far  
So very far

Don't you want to know sometimes?  
How close we're getting  
It seems like we're leaping  
Into the kingdom of God  
But I'm coming undone  
I'm all loose ends and ravel  
Bear witness to a journey  
That's been well traveled so far  
So very far

Chorus: So believe me, heal me  
Believe me, it's all true  
Believe me, You can heal me  
It's all true

I can feel my heart beating  
I can feel my chest heaving  
I close my eyes and wonder  
Did I really run so far  
Could you be some forgiveness  
By not passing judgment  
Bear Witness to the shouting  
And every pregnant stillness

Chorus: So believe me, heal me  
Believe me, it's all true  
Believe me, you can heal me  
It's all true

I've haven't always known you  
But I never tried to hurt you  
I've always had the hunger  
And I've changed my own rules  
I've made my mistakes  
Too many to mention  
Bear witness to a life  
Lived with good intentions  
So far  
So very far.

## **The Madness You Get Used To**

Violence for violence, time after time  
Putting those things right out of your mind  
Thinking this could never happen to you  
Just to those folks on the evening news

Chorus: It's no big deal they say  
It's just the kind of madness you get used to  
It's a truth you always have known  
It's tough as sinew and bones  
And you don't get used to it

Violence for violence, it just comes around  
It cries in the night with a desperate sound  
But where do you run when fear stalks your dreams  
How do you measure the weight of those things

Chorus: It's no big deal they say  
It's just the kind of madness you get used to  
It's a truth you always have known  
It's tough as sinew and bones  
And you don't get used to it

The strong will bet by, cause they always do  
The small and the helpless are counting on you  
Doesn't anybody notice, doesn't anybody care  
Doesn't anybody ever give a dam out there

So up on the hill they fight like little children  
Arguing over who gets the crumbs  
Plotting and planning, cheating and scamming  
While the soul of a country  
Slowly gets numb

It's no big deal they say  
It's just eh kind of madness you get used to

## **The Rooms My Mother Made**

She said, "Your coat isn't new but it's gonna be clean  
Stand up for yourself and say what you mean  
Look at me when I'm talkin' to you  
I'm talking to you."  
I might work like dog, I might swear like a sailor  
I've loved her and fought her and sometimes failed her  
But I always come home to the rooms my mother made

Don't be afraid to look behind you  
And take what's worth taking  
Leave what needs leaving behind

I've washed the newborn and held hands with the dying  
Howled with the laughing, embraced the grieving  
There's so much to gain and so much to lose along the way  
Yet I was born a woman and proud to be so  
Glad that I've learned what I needed to know  
But I always come home to the rooms my mother made.

Don't be afraid to look behind you  
And take what's worth taking  
Leave what needs leaving behind

When I stand up I can stand up strong  
I can burn like a coal and say what I mean  
I can cradle my lover's head like a treasure  
Whisper something fearlessly tender  
I always come home  
I always come home  
I always come home to the rooms my mother made

### **Amelia Almost 13**

We've been so close together  
Close from the start  
And as you learn to walk away  
Take care of your heart  
And don't forget your prayers  
And whatever you do  
Whoever, wherever you are  
I'll love you

You're all crushes and blushes  
And brushes with insight  
But you still sleep with our bears  
But you still sleep with your bears  
Half of the nights  
When you're ready and willing  
And you're of the right mind  
The right teachers come along  
Most of the time

You were born in the morning  
In the quiet place  
You were born in the morning  
To take my place  
We've been so close together  
Close from the start  
And Damn the first man  
Who comes to break your heart

Your all long legs and long hair  
And big wide eyes  
With a hundred million questions  
And a thousand hundred whys  
And I wish I had the answers  
But the best that I can give  
Is to be a safe place for you  
As long as I live

Cause sometimes as a grown up  
My strength is all sapped  
And I'd give anything to sit in my own mother's lap  
Bt she's long gone and long missed  
The best that I can do  
Is the love that she would have given to me  
I'll give to you

As far as I can tell  
As far as I have seen  
You couldn't pay me enough  
To go back to thirteen  
When you girls find out  
And get wise to the rules  
And young women stand up

And honey, so will you

You were born in the morning  
In the quiet place  
You were born in the morning  
To take my place  
We've been so close together  
Close from the start  
And Damn the first man  
Who comes to break your heart