

# Thunderhead

Recorded April-August 1979  
Released October 1979

NNR Studios, Cleveland



Painter On The Shore

Your Deep And Quiet Soul

Roll Me In Your Arms

Thunderhead

Famous Dreams

Runnin' In The Rain

To Make You Mine

Chessie

Bring A Little Love

## Painter On The Shore

The years pile up like dusty books in a third floor corner where no one looks

But the past is only what you think it is

I may have taken the hard road but I found out what I needed to know

And it done me good i think it done me good

But sometimes i wish with all my might when i'm lost and lonely late at night

And the rain comes down like the walls of jerico

That i could have a word or two with you

I didn't always mean to seem so angry

But part of me always had to fly free

I guess these sound like empty words to you

I never asked for your surrender

I only want you to remember

That time can renew

I believe that's true

When the evening sun was in your sky you showed me how to use my eyes

Like a painter on the shore you pictured every view

But i guess i stood too close to see the colors that you showed to me

So i sat up late and wrote this song for you

They say that strong men stand alone but i don't know if i'm all that strong

When the rain comes down like the walls of jerico

'Cause i need to have a word or two with you

I didn't always mean to seem so angry

But part of me always had to fly free

I guess these sound like empty words to you

I never asked for your surrender

I only want you to remember

That time can renew

I believe that's true

## Your Deep And Quiet Soul

I need the touch of a lady and a mother's smile  
When the distances i've come to can't be measured out in miles  
Standin like a hobo in borrowed clothes  
Thinkin you know something nobody knows but when its over  
And all said and done  
I need to touch your deep and quiet soul

So like a blind man at a corner i don't know where to turn  
So close to the flame i got my fingers burned  
But when i return to my photographs and letters  
I just have to laugh 'cause when its over  
And all said and done  
I need to touch your deep and quiet soul

Magazines blow past my door  
Half my songs lie on the floor  
Waitin for the words to fill their empty lines  
Frost on the window cat's on the sill  
Junk in the mailbox me i'm still out  
on the road standin  
in the rain puddles  
round my shoes

So the curtain's up and the crowd is hushed and you're all alone  
At the drop of a hat you've sung em all now the rush is gone  
Just like a dancer on closing night you linger  
for the love of the white spotlight but when its over  
And all said and done  
I need to touch your deep and quiet soul

## Roll Me In Your Arms

When the witches and the winds come stealin in the night  
movin in takin over

When the days are growin shorter and the sky is growin white  
need the shelter of a lover

Like a knight in rusted armor i'm gonna get out of the fight  
gonna gather all my good friends around me tonight  
And if the sky don't open up on us and drive me away

I'm gonna lie down on the banks of the river  
gonna rest my weary bones

Gonna lie down on the banks of the sweet sweet river  
til you roll me in your arms  
til you roll me in your arms

Like a child at the circus when the tents are comin down  
somethins ended somethins just begun

I'm just goin through the motions of a dance i learned somehow  
sometimes laugh when i don't think its funny

But you brought the strength i needed then and i somehow won the fight  
gonna gather all of your lovin around me tonight  
And if the sky don't open up on us and drive you away

I'm gonna lie down on the banks of the river  
gonna rest my weary bones

Gonna lie down on the banks of the sweet sweet river  
til you roll me in your arms  
til you roll me in your arms

## Thunderhead

They say that lightning don't strike twice but i can see  
the storm clouds in your eyes  
Lookin out i can feel a trace of rain on the wind  
Everything i ever thought was true washed away  
the moment i met you  
I don't need a weather man to see on through the haze

Never understood how these changes come over you  
But they ain't nothin compared to the changes you put me through

You're like a thunderhead  
Stormin in the night  
Just like a thunderhead  
Rollin in on an endless flight

(Coffee's on, woman's gone)

If you live like a rock then you'll die with a heart of stone

I can read your eyes like the morning news between the lines  
are all the worn out clues  
That take the cover from the ruse that you keep on the shelf  
Watchin you i can understand how the rivers  
overflow the land  
How you play it to the end when you only hurt yourself

You're a puzzle i've always seen in the wrong light  
But i think i put you together in my song tonight

You're like a thunderhead  
Stormin in the night  
Just like a thunderhead  
Rollin in on an endless flight

(Coffee's on, woman's gone)

If you live like a rock then you'll die with a heart of stone

## Famous Dreams

Sittin under low lights fakin it through the slow nights  
Savin the best ones for last  
All the restless ones talkin they're like hungry cats stalkin  
One another in some hollywood cast

The smiles come easy but they don't stay long  
Like a grade school playground like a juke box song  
So you listen to the sound  
Listen to the sound  
Of your famous dreams comin down

All the pavement pounders and night time rounders  
Gather in the down town dark  
Over whisky wet tables they fold out fables that fall  
Sorry short of the mark

Smoke ring room makes a bleary eyed scene  
They talk real smooth but you know what they mean  
Listen to the sound  
Listen to the sound  
Of your famous dreams comin down

You're feelin like a gypsy moth caught under glass  
Wings pinned down for a second grade class to see  
Listen to the sound  
Listen to the sound  
Of your famous dreams comin down

## Runnin' In The Rain

Friends can come and friends can go like candles burning low  
You never can depend of friends to let you know  
But marking time in no man's land where love is just a word  
Is easier than lettin your love go

And its a long time  
Since I've seen the sunshine on your face  
And the price it takes away from me  
Just ain't worth a winnin game  
I feel just like I'm runnin in the rain  
In the rain  
I feel just like I'm runnin in the rain

Now you gave me the answers and I ran up the score  
Now i can't remember all the answers anymore  
So the time has come for questions and the time has come for words  
I need to know the answers like before

And its a long time  
Since I've seen the sunshine on your face  
And the price it takes away from me  
Just ain't worth a winnin game  
I feel just like I'm runnin in the rain  
In the rain  
I feel just like I'm runnin in the rain

## To Make You Mine

I can't believe the words you say, they simply can't be true. That our time is like a river  
runnin dry. Now i'm fightin my own feelings but i'm losing them to you. I know its over  
but I don't know why. I've got a way to make you laugh, got a way to make you  
smile. But i can't find a way to make you mine.

You told me when this started not to get my hopes too high. But i rushed in never  
thinkin of the time. Now the days they are forgotten and the time is rushin by  
and someone else has what i thought was mine. I've got a way to make you laugh,  
got a way to make you smile but i can't find a way to make you mine.

I don't understand your feelings and i can't understand your mind. I thought i had  
somethin to believe in but it was my own eyes that made me blind.

I thought that i was safe within the boundaries we drew, but you turned away and  
it opened up my eyes. You shook me from my sleep and now the words i hear from  
you ain't nothin but a way to get you by. I've got a way to make you laugh,  
got a way to make you smile but i can't find a way to make you mine.



## Chessie

Chessie, i think you know there's too much confusion here  
Chessie, i'm gonna go before there's more losin here

You're livin on appearance and approval and that's  
a game no one can win  
Sprung from childrens' dreams and grown ups' schemes  
But i see you're playin again

Time to come down from the sky and in the morning you won't know why  
You climbed so high just to tumble down again

Freedom sometimes comes in disguises  
you can't tell  
the sorcery from what you see when  
heaven turns to hell

Woman of the world just another baby girl  
Tryin to find yourself when you've left yourself behind

Stealin' away, standin outside on the city street  
Learnin to say you don't mind when you're thinkin you're beat  
One eye open all the time and the other on the thin white line  
That keeps you runnin keeps you runnin out of time

Open up the door behind you it  
ain't so hard to find  
Don't look down when you turn around even though  
you'll feel inclined  
To run out in the lanes and to burn up in the flames  
That feel so warm and safe when you're standin far away

Stealin' away, standin outside on the city street  
Learnin to say you don't mind when you're thinkin you're beat  
One eye open all the time and the other on the thin white line  
That keeps you runnin keeps you runnin out of time  
Keeps you runnin keeps you runnin out of time

## Bring A Little Love

I guess it rained this morning  
Looks like rain again today  
Just like an old time movie  
Nothin good to say

So I'm standin at the bottom  
Of a dried out wishin well  
Dreams are fallin all around me  
If they're mine its hard to tell  
Hard to tell

But I'll be alright if you hold me tonight  
Tonight  
Save me from the water  
Risin up so high above my site  
Save me from the water  
Love me tonight

So I'm standin in the hallway  
Starin at the empty room  
Never meant to seem so far away  
Never meant to lose so soon  
So soon

If i saw you at my window  
I would tell you to come in  
And i wouldn't even ask you  
To tell me where you been  
Where you been

But i'll be alright if i can hold you tonight  
Tonight  
Save me from the water  
Risin up so high above my site  
Save me from the water  
Love me tonight