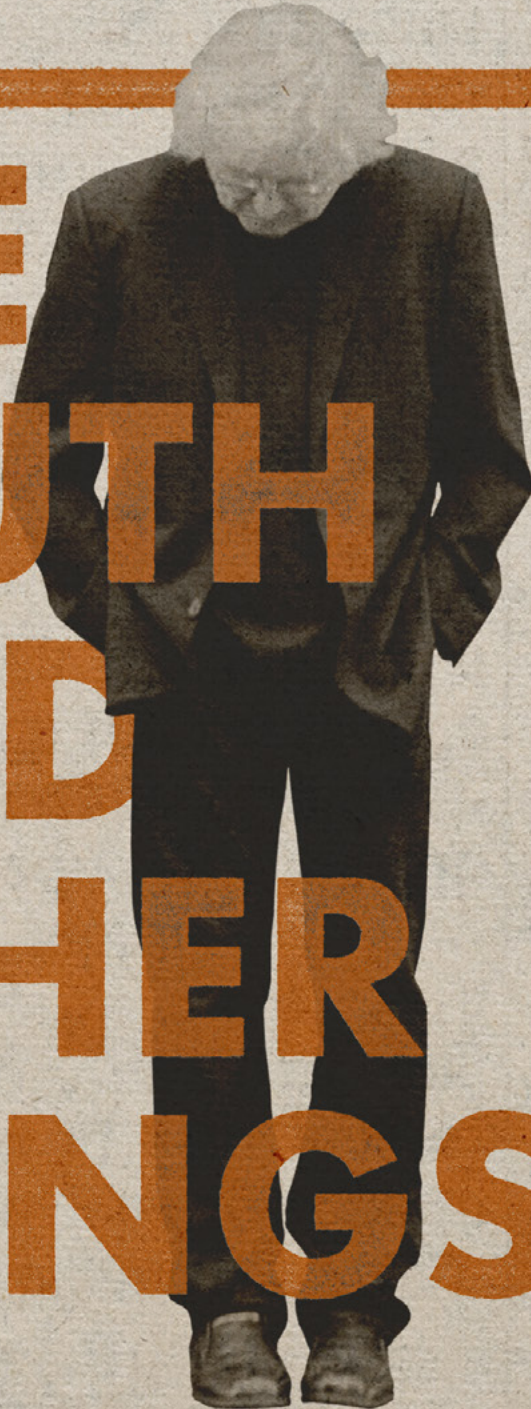

**THE
TRUTH
AND
OTHER
THINGS** **CHIP
TAYLOR**



CREDITS

Chip Taylor: *Vocals / Harmony Vocals / Acoustic Guitar*

John Platania: *Acoustic & Electric Guitars / Dobro*

Tony Leone: *Drums*

Tony Mercadante: *Bass*

Goran Grini: *Keyboards / Samples*

Greg Leisz: *Pedal Steel Guitar / Lap Steel*

Audrey Martels: *Background Vocals*

LaJuan Carter: *Background Vocals*

Recorded by **Huck Bennert**

Mixed by **Huck Bennert**

Produced by **Goran Grini & Chip Taylor**

Artwork by **Elin Olsson**

CD package and liner notes edited by **David Knoblock** *with help from* **Goran Grini**

Mastered by **Reuben Cohen** *at* **Lurssen Mastering**

THE TRUTH AND OTHER THINGS

- 1..... THE TRUTH AND OTHER THINGS
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- 3..... IF YOU HAVE A SONG
- 4..... THE MIDDLE ONE
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BOOK OF ELMER

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CHUCK FLOOD

- 1..... CHUCK FLOOD
- 2..... INTRO TO DINNER AT LAVAGNA'S
- 3..... DINNER AT LAVAGNA'S
- 4..... INTRO TO GIRL BY THE FENCE
- 5..... GIRL BY THE FENCE
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- 7..... SANTOS
- 8..... INTRO TO TILLY'S SONG
- 9..... TILLY'S SONG
(SHE'LL KEEP THE ANGELS HAPPY)

THE TRUTH AND OTHER THINGS

the truth and other things
they take up so much time
you think the words will rhyme
but most times they don't

but there's nothing wrong with that
humans are strong with that
they just keep on going
when they've lost their way

hey hey .. what's up
is that you .. my buttercup
oh gee .. you make me smile
I ain't seen you for a while

the truth and other things
they take up so much time
but sometimes the words do rhyme
oh lucky day

the truth and other things
sometimes they rob you blind
but sometimes .. the words do rhyme
oh lucky day

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AIRPLANE SONG / THE WAY OF IT

if that airplane gets us there
Milan or Ronald will get us someplace to put our heads on a pillow
with some good scotch whiskey
wake up in the mornin'.. get back in the game
(and) start playin' for people like you

and if that airplane pushes through
John and Goran be rubbin' their eyes and slumpin' in the back seat
Hakan pissin' on the border
and we'll figure a set, 'till it's good as it gets .. and start playin' for people like you

it's the real thing.. fuck all the perfect people
will probably make the list.. don't a church have a steeple
and that's "the way of it" .. I might sing that one tonight..
actually, I think I will sing it tonight

if that airplane gets us there
out of the clouds to my seventh heaven be Trondheim Norway
oh baby.. thinkin' about the boathouse there

and Hey mamma .. I couldn't wait to see you
sittin' in that third row .. you and your friends
singin' that song again tonight

The Way Of It

that's the way of it.. that's how it goes
sometimes it rains.. sometimes it snows
sometimes you're hot - sometimes you're cold
sometimes you're young
.... most times you're old

it's the way of it.. in this crazy world
it's a little boy.. and a little girl
they fall in love.. they have no fear
and pretty soon.... they disappeared

that's the way of it .. you know for some
it's an empty dream .. it's a loaded gun
it's a flying stone .. when you callin' names
you think you sound so different
.... hell we're all the same

It's the way of it.. here I go again
I'm off to Holland.. just to play for some friends
friends are diamonds .. friends are gold
sometimes you're young most times you're old

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IF YOU HAVE A SONG

if you have a song within you tryin'
tryin' hard to reach the day
if you have a song within you comin' down the road

if you have a song within you happy
if you have a song within you sad
then you have a song .. any old song
and that ain't bad

if your life seems like a prison
and your heart's been tossed round
if you talk .. and no one listens to the sound

if you've a song within you lonely
if you've a song within you mad
then you have a song .. any old song
and that ain't bad

and if your days are getting shorter
with some dark clouds comin' in
and you're on your knees more often than you have been

ah you've got that song within you happy
you've got that song within you sad
you've got that song .. any old song
and that ain't bad

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THE MIDDLE ONE

and the middle one .. gets the worst of the talk
don't they talk through their hats when they do
put a stamp on that tramp .. that home breaker

and the first one gets the. "oh don't they look good together
made in heaven .. rolled a seven .. when he looked into her eyes"

and this final one.. "well the Angels sure put them together
after that middle one .. she took all she could"

and that's the way it goes
and just who really knows
if everyone of them deserves a rose
well I know they do

but the middle one.. gets the worst of the talk
don't they talk through their hats when they do
put a stamp on that tramp.. that home breaker

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PASSAGE THROUGH

I want to thank you .. for blessing me with your song last night
you have no idea .. how I needed that blessing
and the road's been long and so hard again
now I have passage through

and the Lord .. he moves in mysterious ways
he sent me your song .. I know that he did
and it lifted me straight through the heavens
and I have passage through

I sing it .. I hum it
I get so much from it
it takes me back to church and lets me shine
if I sing sharp .. I sing flat .. I don't care about that
my Jesus knows the song is mine .. mine

I wanna thank you .. for blessing me with your song last night
you have no idea how I needed that blessing
and I've been lost .. and now I'm found
and I have passage through

and the road has been so hard, and so hard and so long
now I have passage through
now I have passage through

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TELL ME WHAT IS YOUR NAME AGAIN

tell me what is your name again
did I know you from way back when
did I ever hold your hand in mine

memories of my high school years
lost in fog or disappeared
your eyes remind me of some good day

please don't take offense
to what I'm about to tell you
did I ever kiss your lips back then

sorry if I've been a little too forward
but it has been a good day for me
just to look into your eyes

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THAT'S NOT A SONG

oh no.. that's not a song
don't you know.. that's just words on paper
put your pen down.. look at me
what are you feeling

oh no.. that is not a song
start again.. drift away
drift far away.. ok now
how are you feeling

she's gone.. I believe you
she's gone.. I'm so sorry
oh no.. oh no ... she's gone

she's gone.. what was I thinking
she's gone.. just like the sunset
so warm.. disappearing... over the mountains

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I WILL

who's gonna take her to the doctors in the morning
who's going to check out all her pills
who's going to catch her, whenever she falls
Lord if you let me ... I will

and who's going to take her to church on Saturday evening
and park on the downside of that hill
and tell her what Bible reading ... is there for believing
Lord if you let me ... I will

she don't hear much anymore just a few bits and pieces,
but don't she love her Jesus and the boys as they go

when the service is over we'll head for dinner
just like a Sunday fulfilled
and who'll pop that cork and tell her "I love her"
Lord if you let me .. I will
Lord if you let me .. I will

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DAYS TO MAKE HER HAPPY

give me some days to make her happy lord
take her whenever you choose
and soon I'll be right there by her side

it's a beautiful life together
when you win some and you loose
if you double down on love and let it ride

give me some time to hold her hand Lord
and look into her eyes
and write some words on paper her heart will hear

and sip a little wine together, Lord
and click a glass or two
with family and good friends throughout the years

this is not a sad time
it is as beautiful as it gets
a look back on the good times that we have had
and the friends we've met

and if I'm the first to go, Lord
promise me one thing
you will keep her safe until I am next to her

and I'll take it from there, Lord
that's as easy as it gets
as we relive the beauty of the way we were

give me some time to make her happy lord
and take her whenever you choose
and soon I will be right there by her side

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AND THEN THERE WAS THAT SONG

and then there was that song
it flew into her heart
and from that moment on
they were ... one

and then there was that day
the bombs flew over head
the bombs just kept on falling
in that ancient town

but still there was that song
he sings it everyday

and ever since that day
her picture on the wall
he thinks of how it would be
if she.. were here

and 40 years flew by
so happy they flew by

in that little town
a bridge between the hillsides
he heard some pretty sound
and then.. that song

he ran on to the bridge
as fast as shoes could take him
old shoes old man
beautiful heart

they held each other close
shaking through the teardrops
and then there was that song
he sings it everyday

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MARY'S WHITE WHEELBARROW

take your sins .. put em in Mary's White Wheelbarrow
light a match.. and throw that in there too
and let them burn burn burn
'til the ashes float to heaven
and you are in the favor of the Lord

cry a tear.. put 'em in Mary's White Wheelbarrow
with sacred cloth to wipe the tears away
and let them burn burn burn burn
'til the ashes float to heaven
and you are in the favor of the Lord

we all need new beginnings .. everybody does
every bad ending .. needs to start back up with love

so take your sins .. put em in Mary's White Wheelbarrow
and find you in the favor of the Lord

say a prayer boys .. don't we all need some praying
on your knees... the Lord is lookin' back at you

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KEEP YOUR MIND OUT OF THE GUTTER

keep your mind out of the gutter .. hands on the wheel
tough times they come and go
keep on the right side of the road .. that mean ol' road
take it cool and take it slow

bless yourself while you are drivin' past the Lord
be he preaching in a church or sleepin' in a Ford
keep your mind out of the gutter .. hands on the wheel, amen
I'll say it again
keep your mind out of the gutter .. hands on the wheel
trust me that is a pathway to go
your pockets may not jingle from the kisses that you steal
take it from someone in the know

you got the power to turn the devil away
and soon up yonder comes that judgment day
keep your mind out of the gutter .. hands on the wheel, amen

here's a little secret boys .. I use as I drive on
well I think about a little baby's smile, whistle a little song
keep your mind out of the gutter .. hands on the wheel, amen

keep your mind out of the gutter .. hands on the wheel
tough times they come and go
keep on the right side of the road .. (that) mean ol' road
take it cool and take it slow

keep it as a secret boys .. don't tell .. no tell no soul
you just gotta keep rockin' with it .. you got a long way to go
keep your mind out of the gutter .. keep it! keep it! keep it boys
keep your mind out of the gutter .. your hands on the wheel, amen
keep your mind out of the gutter boys .. keep your hands on the wheel, amen

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THE NEW SPLASHIN' PARTY

God bless the little guys .. the humble ones
the ones who can't speak for themselves
the ones who can't walk by themselves
down to the river

God bless the little guys .. the quiet ones
the ones who forever are there
to give an old woman the chair
far from the river

the new splashin' party.. won't put out their fire
they clean the lonely with deeds that inspire
the old splashin' party .. with family and friends
that starts with the chosen
when will it end

and god bless the little guys.. the humble ones
the ones who can't speak for themselves

the new splashin' party .. 'cross borders and time
no gold plated crosses .. and vestments that shine
the old splashin' party .. with cousins and all
that starts with the chosen .. for whom the bell tolls

and god bless the little guys .. the humble ones
the ones who can't speak for themselves

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BETTER THAN I AM

oh God my sweet God .. help me lift my spirits
make me better than I am .. better than I am

no better than the Jewish man .. a Sikh and I understand
the Muslim and the Hindu man .. and of course the women too

don't forget the women too .. just between me and you
ah the women .. oh the women .. surely in there too

oh God my sweet God .. help me lift my spirits
make me better than I am .. better than I am

no better than the Buddhist man .. whose heaven is right where he stands
the Islam man is in the plan .. and oh the women too

take a look at that John

no better than the less and more men .. scientific sand and shore men
Army Navy Air Force core men .. oh the women too

oh God .. Oh oh
oh God .. Oh oh

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INVEST IN HUMAN KINDNESS

invest in human kindness.. that's a good thing to do
come hell or high water .. it will help you get through
When you're down and out .. Turn your grey skies to blue
Invest in human kindness .. that is a good thing to do

you spend far too many dollars boys on bad wine and gin
and I've heard you holler ... about the fix that you are in
well put your money in the bank
but put your spirit in view
and invest in human kindness that's a good thing to do

(boys sing that chorus with me... sing it for Elmer)
"Invest in human kindness.. that's a good thing to do
come hell or high water .. it'll help you get through"
when you're down and out .. turn your grey skies to blue
and invest in human kindness .. that's a good thing to do

and listen to the birds singin' in the trees
and thank your lucky stars.. we get so much for free
you and me.. yodeleyeee

And always remember boys .. that the clocks ticking' down ..
be kind to your brother .. before he's leavin' this town ..
and your sisters and your fathers .. hey they are all in there too
invest in human kindness .. that's a good thing to do

Johnny... play it for those mothers!
(all right.. that's right)

be kind to your mother be kind to your pa
be kind to your sisters and your brothers and your ol grandpa
and holy camoly ... grandma's there too
invest in human kindness .. that is a good thing to do

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NOT DOING NEARLY ENOUGH

I am not doing nearly enough through the day
to make this.. a better place .. for humans to stay in
no, I'm not.. doing nearly enough

I wake up in the morning and kiss Joan hello
and pretty soon.. I'll trade her in.. and strap on my guitar and sing
not doing nearly enough

unless some words flow
that means something.. to help somebody
unless they do that.. I'm close to doing nothing at all

I liked me better the way I did it in early summer
bringing poor folks, some food .. and stuff they needed

I'll make a deal with you
if you do something for someone right now
I will sing your glory from the stage for as long as I am able

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BARRY, BARRY, BARRY

Barry, Barry, Barry.. he's got no gossip in him
he sees truth in humans better.. than anyone I know

he might change his mind on some days
he don't hold himself to nothin'
and I hold him up to all good things I know

if someone put pin up magazines.. floatin' in the papers upon his desk
he would not care just who saw 'em.. his wife his students and the rest

he just goes the way he goes.. oh that is how he goes
take a walk with Barry, if you can

he had his picture on the cover of Discover magazine
it said, "Barry versus the volcanos" .. right here inside

he got famous at Mt St Helens
when he warned all who would listen
that the son of a bitch would blow the north flank
not the side they were predictin'

Barry, Barry, Barry
he's got no gossip in him..
he don't want people braggin 'bout him
like I did.. in this song
cause in some ways I'm like Barry
somethin' straight should be remembered
or it 'll turn up as someone's bullshit every time

Barry, Barry, Barry.. he's got no gossip in him
he sees truth in humans better.. than anyone I know

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RECOVER WHEN YOU CAN

let's stay with what we got
don't reach for somethin' else
one slow day at a time
that's how we'll get there

don't try quite as hard
give your weakness some rest
strength returns when it does
it always knows best
.. and we will be ok with that!

recover when you can
we will do this together
you got hit pretty hard
there is no shame in fallin' down

recover when you can
listen to your body
when it says it's had enough
it has had enough!
and close your eyes and rest your head

all right.. ok.. here we go

now I'm thinkin'
we'll walk round the block
in 2 weeks... no more
but we won't bend that clock
we will keep mindin' the store
.. we'll get there in time!

get up from the chair.. here you go
and walk cross the room, right to me
that's it .. get your legs up high
look at you... ha!
you got here too soon
good work .. hey.. we can live with that!

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LAMB OF GOD

lamb of God.. who takes away the sins of the world
grant us peace in our time
lamb of God .. who takes away the sins of the world
be there with us .. in our time of need
I have seen the devil.. in so many ways
I have seen him comin' .. seen him comin'
with a wreath on a gravestone .. a shiny car for the widow
so useless in the eyes of my Lord
lamb of God .. who takes away the sins of the world
grant us peace in these times
lamb, lamb, lamb.. lamb of God.. who takes away the sins of the world
be there with us .. in our time of need
I have seen the devil .. bring his shame to saints of Warsaw
"son, wear dark colors so you will not be seen
hide in basements, listening to vinyl sounds of freedom
walk in gardens with words of Karol and Krzysztof"

***In 1974 after seeing my band and I perform in Central Park in New York City, Krzysztof Zanussi, revered Polish director, asked if I would play a part in his upcoming film, "A Woman's Decision", starring Maja Komorowzka. I agreed.**

Later that year, we headed for Krakow where Krzysztof gave a lecture at the university. I added a few words about my feelings about freedom in the US, I ended the event with a guitar/voice version of "I Wasn't Born InTennessee".

After, we stopped off to see Krzysztof's friend, Cardinal Karol Józef Wojtyła, who later became Pope John Paul 11. I remember a warm, friendly talk with Karol as we "walked the gardens" there.

I felt I was walking with as kind and honorable a twosome as God could have placed on earth.

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GOOD LUCK OVER THERE

good luck over there
Godspeed anywhere
wherever you are
I hope it's going your way

there's something about
the way you're remembered
from the first of October to the last of September
that makes me believe that you have got it together
and things are going your way

I hope so .. are they
as always .. I love you

and this time it's Hawaii
I'm wonderin' why me
I've got my heart there
any where that you try me
on a beach at the wedding
it's true that I'm sending
big love and hugs from my heart

"good luck over there
Godspeed anywhere
wherever you are
you know I hope, I hope it's going your way"

There's something about
The way you're remembered
From the first of October to the last of September
That makes me believe that you have got it together
And things are going your way

I hope so.. are they..
as always.. I love you

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CHUCK FLOOD

OK.. about Chuck Flood

He was a good force .. in a bad world
and whoever bumped up against him
got a blast of crazy goodness .. a blast that never got past 'em
and they took that goodness with them
from sea to shining sea
and it spread across the mountains
beat up on the bad guys
until they all gave up .. said they had enough of that
crazy, honorable Chuck Flood stuff
and they took that goodness with them
from sea to shining sea
and then one day Chuck ran into Jesus
Jesus said, hey Chuck .. what was that all about
you seem to have a way with common people
and I'd like to pass your message around
so Chuck sat down with Jesus
he looked him in the eye and said the following:

He said: "you work hard.. you listen to good music
not the bad stuff Jesus .. be careful how you choose it
you spend money only on what you need
start a family .. got babies to feed
you get a girl like Beth .. straight down the line
like an old love letter till the end of time
and don't forget your friends, Jesus
Jesus, don't ever forget your friends"

alright .. we'll end this thing
with a message of .. a message of thinking good
who was Chuck Flood

He was a good force .. in a bad world
and whoever bumped up against him
got a blast of crazy goodness.. a blast that never got past 'em
and they took that goodness with them
from sea to shining sea

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DINNER AT LAVAGNA'S

a friend of mine called from home .. he's got problems there
nothin' I can fix .. I'll just say a little prayer
and hope he wakes up feelin better than he did before
he is a friend of mine .. and I never would shut the door

and there's that other guy, the other one .. don't seem to have a care
his sky is always blue but there's danger there
he doesn't see it now but in time he surely will
I hope time is on his side

think I'll call them up .. for dinner at Lavagna's
with Kay & Georgeo .. warm smiles I've come to know
it's a place where love and kindness hang around
food and wine the way you like .. on the east side of town

and there's a one of a kind .. friend of mine .. who's not here anymore
after Nashville to NY he'd be knockin on my door
"c'mon let's figure this stuff out" he'd say .. "life and the music business
hell, I know just the place"

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GIRL BY THE FENCE

she was the girl by the fence .. waiting for a jet plane to come in
in the quiet back porch of the old Nashville airport
where the rich people get their private planes and somehow, who knew
little ol' JetBlue .. was in there too
to take me home

She was waiting for her brother and wife to come in
might as well call them "mom and dad" for the way that it's been
didn't know what she meant by that
but she kept talkin'

she had a cancer operation a few months ago
that took 20 lbs off her body .. but how would you know
she's about the prettiest thing .. just the way she was

just the way she was .. just the way she was
about the prettiest thing .. just the way she was

she has a songwriter boyfriend .. who got on the road with Willie
from a viral 60 million in some TikTok countdown
she has a PET scan in a month or so .. the insurance has been so silly
but it is comin' up now .. she prays the cancer is gone

and in the pickup's a cat .. scratchin' on the window
with the passengers comin' now in a short steady stream
and she runs to her brother .. and then turns around
and hollers back to me .. "Kalie is my name .. Kalie!"

I stuck my phone number in the fence ..give me a call
your cancer .. my cancer ... we'll beat em all"

She was the girl by the fence, waiting for a jet plane to come in
in the quiet back porch of the old Nashville airport

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SANTOS

broken car .. broken heart
broke down before the start of a
celebration of a life of a friend

pull hard .. turn that wheel
Fordham Road .. here's the deal
it's like an old Spanish masterpiece
on the top side of New York
(New York City, that is)

Santos Santos ..don't speak no English
I don't speak Spanish
but some things vanish .. when you talk with your heart
and you've got friends in the sky

see that man .. with his boy
he's washin' down that pick-up truck
maybe he can help me find a helping hand

what's that .. he's on the ground
pushin' all that rubber around
"dios pappa", cries the boy
and soon we're on the road again

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TILLY'S SONG (SHE'LL KEEP THE ANGELS HAPPY)

hey Tilly .. it's been a long time
heard the sad news 'bout your sister
what a smile she had
she'll keep the angels happy
she'll keep the angels happy

ah the old times.. the ball games
little faces beamin' down from Kris's bunk bed
and just ahead
she'll keep the angels happy .. Jackie
she will keep the angels happy

even angels .. could use a smile or two
to help them through
what they see goin' on down here
here comes the better and the best of what we do
she'll keep the angels happy
she'll keep the angels happy

Ave Maria.. here she comes
heaven shines a little brighter now
just a little brighter now

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