

THE COSTUME SHOP

ALBUM LYRICS

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CLACKETY CLACK

from The Costume Shop

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Clack clack - clackety clack - clack clack
Clackety clackety clack clack - clackety clack
Clack clack - clackety clack - clack clack
Clackety clackety clack clack - clackety clack

Where is - tell me where is the train?
Don't tell me we missed it again
You'd think there would be a big crowd
But there's nobody, there's nobody here

Clack clack - clackety clack - clack clack
Clackety clackety clack clack - clackety clack

No look - the train's over there
Gotta go back - go back up the stairs
And go down on the other side
If we're going to - if we're going to ride

Clack clack - clackety clack - clack clack
Clackety clackety clack clack - clackety clack

Hey you! Hey you at my back
You're standing right on my foot
You stupid son of a bitch
You son of - you son of a bitch

Oh man - I'm sorry 'bout that
I didn't know where your foot was at
I didn't mean to do you like that
'Cause it wouldn't be - it wouldn't be cool
To treat you like such a fool
So don't get all bent out of shape
I jus' wanna stay in the groove
And keep our relationship smooth

Hey quit! Hey quit with this stuff
Enough I - enough is enough
Get on - get on the train
C'mon - get on the train
We got - we got something to say
We got to - introduce a play

Hey look - look who's coming on board
It's Louie Louie
Louie Louie
It's Louie the Shadow

Here come Louie the Shadow on the afternoon train
He makes his home by the park - he sleeps out in the rain
He's an objects collector - a dreamwatcher - matchmaker too
Here comes Louie riding the subway
Every afternoon from Monday to Sunday
Always got something to tell you - got something to say
He's comin' in - he's sittin' down
He sits by the window - the window
He's looking out - he looks out the window - the window
He's thinking 'bout, thinking about a story he's gonna tell
To you - to you

LOUIE'S STORY

from The Costume Shop

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Jack's the man - and Ginny's the woman
They'll meet by accident this afternoon
They have the makings of a modern day romance
They just don't know it yet - but it's gonna happen soon
She's a singer who doesn't sing much in public
He's a lieutenant to a music biz tycoon
She lives in the costume shop called The House of Secrets
And he happens to be headed there to find something to wear
To the party where he's expected
Tomorrow night - a music business costume ball
Everyone will be there - he needs to make an impression
Your star is fading, Jack - for what are you waiting?

Your wish has come true - can't you see that
Your wish has come true - she knows she has your interest
Your wish has come true - though she may not admit it
Your wish has come true

The first thing he noticed was what she was wearing
There's something about her he can't resist
He'll go through hell and back before it's all over
But the lipstick on her lips says - I want to be kissed
She's real disappointed in her audition
That she had this morning and she thinks she blew
She's been in search of something that's missing
Jack beware - you'd better be careful

When wishes come true - you may think you're prepared but —
When wishes come true - the unexpected will happen
When wishes come true - you better be careful
When wishes come true

THE LOVER'S DAYDREAM

from The Costume Shop

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Lover - oh lover - I can hear you calling
Lover - oh lover - I can hear your voice

Someone's sitting 'cross the aisle
I feel her watching me from there
I hope she understands how hard it is
To hear the sound that's lost it's voice
Forgotten by default and not by choice

Lover - oh lover - I can hear you calling
Lover - oh lover - I can hear your voice

I remember — I remember

I remember a time when I was young
When there was nothing to be done
Too demanding or unreasonable
But now that I'm older - less naive
Do I still want to believe
That our dreams are not unreasonable
When it's not seasonable to dream

NAKED – THE BODY ALWAYS KNOWS

from The Costume Shop

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Naked is a concept - naked is the truth
Naked was the robber of their youth
He's a wanderer and misfit - she's broken and aloof
And somewhere in the body is evidence and proof

How does it happen - we'll try to explain
She is his flower in the rain
He once was her panic - she was his pain
And now they're together again

The body reveals - what the child feels
Buried alive - deep down inside
The body always knows
What the costume never shows

INDIAN SUMMER

from The Costume Shop

1998 © 2022 Roger Lienke

Soft breeze and starlight - warm days and cool nights
End of November - summer remembers
Winter is coming - I hear the drumming

As the wind blows - so the crow flies
As the world turns - so the sun rise
As the days go - so the time flies

Soft breeze and starlight - warm days and cool nights
(As the wind blows - so the crow flies)
End of November - summer remembers
(As the world turns - so the sun rise)
Winter is coming - I hear the drumming
(As the days go - so the time flies)

Indian summer — Indian summer — Indian summer

WAY STATION

from The Costume Shop

1993 © 1994, 2022 Roger Lienke

Way station alone in the wind - all by itself
Not one person who's ever been introduces themselves
Strangers on a train - passengers of fate
Brush by each other - back to hurry up and wait

At the way station
(ah oh oh)
At the way station
(whoa oh oh)
At the way station
(oh oh oh)

Connections – ones never made - ones we let go by
Attention – that never gets paid - ones that grace our lives
Refugees of time – casualties of love
Ignore each other – until push comes to shove

At the way station
(ah oh oh)
At the way station
(whoa oh oh)
At the way station
(oh oh oh)

(Instrumental)

Way station in the back of your mind - inside yourself
Not one notion what you may find - out about yourself
Strangers on a train - passengers of fate
Stop to discover - stop before it's too late

At the way station
(Like the rain that falls on the field)
At the way station
(Makes the tall grass in the wind bend harder)
At the way station
(A flashing red light that's gaining ahead)
At the way station
(Tells the train to stop 'fore it goes any farther)
At the way station
At the way station

ONE OF THOSE ACCIDENTS

from The Costume Shop

© 1985, 2022 Roger Lienke

One of those accidents has put me here tonight
You couldn't be more right
It must be just a dream I'm having
One of those accidents too good to be true
Would it bother you much if I accidentally
Fell in love with you

One of those accidents has caught me by surprise
And brought me down to size
You've got me in a spin I can't stop
One of those accidents from out of the blue
Would it bother you much if I accidentally
Fell in love with you

Something's happening to me
Call it chance or destiny
Is it my imagination
Or this simple explanation

One of those accidents – I never would have guessed
My life could be so blessed
My crystal ball was not expecting
One of those accidents to happen to me
Would it bother you much if you accidentally
Fell in love with me

Something's happening to me
Call it chance or destiny
Is it my imagination
Or this simple explanation

One of those accidents has put me here tonight
You couldn't be more right
It must be just a dream I'm having
One of those accidents too good to be true
Would it bother me much if I accidentally
Fell in love with you

COAX ME

from The Costume Shop

1998 © 2022 Roger Lienke

I want you to coax me
Coax me to kiss you
You never know what a little persuasion will do
I want you to coax me and then maybe I just might
Give you the benefit of the doubt
I don't know how long I can hold out
But you could make your mind up
And give it - give it - give it your all

Coax me - coax me - coax me
That's what I want you to do
Coax me - coax me - coax me
That's all I'm asking of you

Coax me - coax me - coax me
That's what I want you to do
Coax me - coax me - coax me
That's all I'm asking of you

I want you to coax me - coax me to love you
Maybe you are the one - and not just anybody will do
I want you to coax me - to caress me and - hold me tight
I may be more than you bargained for
My love's not sold in convenience stores
But you could make your mind up
And give it - give it - give it your all

Coax me - coax me - coax me
That's what I want you to do
Coax me - coax me - coax me
That's all I'm asking of you

Coax me - coax me - coax me
That's what I want you to do
Coax me - coax me - coax me
That's all I'm asking of you

IN THE CITY OF SHADOWS

from The Costume Shop

1996 © 2022 Roger Lienke

In the city of shadows
In the blue black of the night
There's a someone who's keeping
Their shades pulled down tonight

So I sit by my window
Though I don't know what for
'Cause it's only a shadow
I see anymore

I could sit forever sequestered this way
And nothing would come from it
But for one glimpse of you
In the flesh one day
What I wouldn't do for it

In the city of shadows
In the corner of my room
I sit mulling over
This vision I have of you

This vision I have of you

LAY IT ON THE LINE

from The Costume Shop

1998 © 2022 Roger Lienke

They put your name up in lights today
 They put my name up?
(Yeah) they put your name up in lights today
 They put my name up?
 I can't believe it's true
Would you believe me if I told you
 They put my name up in lights today?
(Yup) They put your name up.

Show business - making it everybody's business
What do you have to show for yourself
Take it outta the closet - lay it on the line
Take it outta the closet

But - what is the purpose - what is the reason for it
What's it gonna do for me - what's it gonna cost me
What is the price I'm gonna have to pay for it
What's it all about - somebody tell me

Show business - making it everybody's business
What do you have to show for yourself
Take it outta the closet - lay it on the line
Take it outta the closet - lay it on the line
Take it outta the closet - lay it on the line

 The line - the line - the line
It's your line - it's your line
 What if I forget my lines?
 What if I forget my lines?

 They took my name off of the marquee
They took your name off?
 They took my name off of the marquee
They took your name off?
Oh - I can't believe it's true
 Would you believe me if I told you
 They took my name off of the marquee
They took your name off? They can put it back up

Show business - making it everybody's business
What do you have to show for yourself
Take it outta the closet - lay it on the line
Take it outta the closet - lay it on the line
Take it outta the closet - lay it on the line

The line - the line - the line
It's your line - it's your line
What if I forget my lines?
What if I forget my lines?

(That's show business)

Take it outta the closet - take it outta the closet
Take it outta the closet - lay it on the line

THE LOVE I FOUND

from The Costume Shop

1998 © 2022 Roger Lienke

I found my sugar at the bottom of the cup
I found my sunshine when the moon was almost up
When the leaves stopped clinging to the trees
And the snow started sticking to the ground
Then the love I resigned to never find
Was the love I found

I found my flower where the soil had turned to clay
I found my fire - in the ashes cold and gray
When all answers to the riddle had been tried
And both ends against the middle tied and bound
Then the love I resigned to never find
Was the love I found

All at once you're standing there
Right in front of me
And I don't believe it's happening - happening to me
All at once there's music and I could dance around
For the love I'd never find is the love I found

I found my sugar at the bottom of the cup
I found my sunshine when the moon was almost up
When the leaves stopped clinging to the trees
And the snow started sticking to the ground
Then the love I resigned to never find
Was the love I found

All at once you're standing there
Right in front of me
And I don't believe it's happening - happening to me
All at once there's music and I could write a song
(But) I don't believe we met today - I've known you all along
And all at once there's music and I could dance around
For the love I'd never find is the love I found

SHOW ME THE MAN THAT YOU ARE

from The Costume Shop

1998 © 2022 Roger Lienke

Somebody believe it's magic - somebody believe it's true
Somebody needs somebody - somebody like you
Somebody is in your corner - somebody is watching you
Somebody wants somebody - somebody like you

Oh - I believe in miracles - a miracle is happening
Oh - I believe in miracles - a miracle is happening
Oh - I believe in miracles - a miracle is happening
I believe

Gone is the mask - there's a face in its place
 She said
Show me the man that you are
I know you're a man but you're mine to command
 She said
Show me the man that you are
The man that you are

Somebody would give you diamonds
Somebody give the world to you
Somebody love somebody - somebody like you

Oh - I believe in miracles - a miracle is happening
Oh - I believe in miracles - a miracle is happening
Oh - I believe in miracles - a miracle is happening
I believe

Gone is the mask - there's a face in its place
 She said
Show me the man that you are
I know you're a man but you're mine to command
 She said
Show me the man that you are
The man that you are
The man that you are - the man that you are

COSTUME SHOP

from The Costume Shop

1998 © 2022 Roger Lienke

Welcome to - welcome to the costume shop
Welcome to my world
Welcome to - welcome to the place you pick and choose
The you you'll use - the you you'll lose
The you that you'll become
Welcome to - welcome to my world

I got stuff and it's something that I never get enough of
I got stuff running in and out my ears
I got stuff and it's making me like crazy man
I can't get enough stuff - what if it should disappear
Where would I be without this stuff defining me
Making me crazy with desire
I got a need as big as buildings you can see
I kid you not - I really got to have this stuff

I am afraid I am a gunfighter
I am afraid I am a priest
I am afraid I am a lion tamer
Can't tell the beauty from the beast
I am afraid I am a human being - human being
Human - Being

(Next three sections overlap)

(1)
Welcome to - welcome to the costume shop
Welcome to my world
Welcome to - welcome to the place I keep my shoes
And belts and boots - and all the things I own
Welcome to - welcome to my world

(2)
I got stuff - I've collected, very rare and hard to find it
I got stuff - items like you've never seen
I got stuff - from uncommon to bizarre
It all depends on who you are
It doesn't matter who you've been
There's stuff for you - there's stuff for me
There's stuff for everybody - wouldn't you agree
What would life be without this stuff
Except an empty pane of glass - nothing would last
Without this stuff

(3)

I am afraid - I am an astronaut - I am afraid I am a king
I am afraid - I am a daredevil - who's not afraid of anything
I am afraid - I am a human being - human being
Human - Being

When you're living in the world
 When you're living in the world
And you wanna get the girl
 Yeah you wanna get the girl
Then you better have the stuff that really works
 The stuff that really works

Time - time - you got time but don't let time run out on you
Time - time - you got time but don't let time run out on you
Before the evening's over
Before the night is through with you
Stop and think it over - but don't let time run out on you
Time - time - you got time
Better use your time while you got time

Welcome to - welcome to the costume shop
Welcome to my world
Welcome to - welcome to the place you pick and choose
The you you'll use - the you you'll lose
The you that you'll become
Welcome to - welcome to my world

Welcome – welcome - welcome to the costume shop
Welcome to the costume shop

DREAMS – THE MUSE OF BIG SINKS

(from The Costume Shop)

© 1993, 2022 Roger Lienke

Dreams are like water - they run through my fingers
I sit and watch them - run through my fingers
Dreams are like water - now and forever
Now and forever more

Cherish and keep them - as long as they let you
Try to remember - they won't forget you
Dreams are like water - now and forever
Now and forever more

WHEN THE WOLF GETS OUT

(from The Costume Shop)

© 1985, 2022 Roger Lienke

Take your outside in - and let your inside out
Make me sink or swim - make me scream and shout
Can't you see I'm free - I've let my demons out
What comes over me - when the wolf gets out
And the clock strikes three
I hear the wind begin to howl - the wolf is on the prowl

So kiss me won't you please - you please me when we kiss
Makes me feel at ease - when I feel like this
There's a certain tease - you know I can't resist
What comes over me - when the wolf gets out
And the clock strikes three
I hear the wind begin to howl - the wolf is on the prowl

When the wolf gets out
When the wolf gets out
When the wolf gets out
When the wolf gets out

The wolf has a way of making games out of things
Pinning butterflies up by their wings

When the wolf gets out - do you run and hide
Do you scream and shout - do you start to cry
Does your in go out - and take your out inside
What comes over me - when the wolf gets out
And the clock strikes three
When the moon is full in size - the wolf begins to rise

When the wolf gets out
When the wolf gets out
When the wolf gets out
When the wolf gets out

When the wolf gets out
When the wolf gets out
When the wolf gets out
When the wolf gets out

BROKEN

from The Costume Shop
1998 © 2022 Roger Lienke

Worlds apart - there's an ache in the years
Rocking the cradle that houses your fears
Follow the lines in your face - they're like roads
Leading you back - until the mirror explodes

Worlds apart - there's an ache in the years
Rocking the cradle that houses your fears
Follow the lines in your face - they're like roads
Leading you back - until the mirror explodes

Shattered and scattered and broken — like dreams

Shattered and scattered and broken like dreams
There's an emptiness about to burst at the seams

Shattered and scattered and broken — like dreams

LOVE TRAVELS

(from The Costume Shop 1998)

1996 © 2022 Roger Lienke

I'm crazy sad - I'm sad-eyed blue
I don't know what in the world I'd do
Without your love to see me through
I'm crazy sad for fear of losing you

But love travels
Over land and sea
Love travels
I can feel you touching me
And as the grief of being 'part from you unravels
I take comfort in the thought that love travels

Yes love travels
Over land and sea
Love travels
I can feel you touching me
And as the grief of being 'part from you unravels
I take comfort in the thought that love travels

Love travels

CAN'T MAKE UP MY MIND

from The Costume Shop

1998 © 2022 Roger Lienke

I can't make a decision - I can't make up my mind
I must be going crazy - I must be going blind
Welcome to my dilemma - stuck on the horns
Between black and white - between either / or
Black and white — either / or

My body is a costume that doesn't seem to fit
It's a game I cannot win and I think I'd rather quit
Whoa - I give up - I don't even care
Why should I try finding something to wear?
What should I wear - there's nothing to wear

Whoa oh - it's quicksand on which I stand
It's not concrete anymore

I can't make a decision - can't make up my mind
I must be going crazy - I have lost my mind
I can't make a decision - I must be going crazy
I can't make a decision - I think I've lost my mind
I can't make a decision - I must be going crazy
I can't make a decision - I can't make up my mind

Whoa oh - it's quicksand on which I stand
It's not concrete anymore

WINDOW OF RISK

from The Costume Shop 1998

1992 © 1994, 2022 Roger Lienke

Want to believe – there's something there
Want to belong – belong somewhere
You can hold on to what you got or you can let go
Invest your time in the plans you plot
But you can never know
So pull up your bootlace and pack up your suitcase
Push your boat into the wind and let it blow

You can't go home – the past is a blur
You are alone – you always were
Take a last look – tell me what you see – have a good cry
Find a central theme – a philosophy that you can live by
It's no use pretending – your old world is ending
Close your eyes – make a wish – and let it blow

When the winter is long – and the summer is quicker
And your comfort zone's gone and the air's gettin' thicker

Open up a window of risk – open up a window of risk
Open up a window – a window – a window of risk
Open up a window of risk – open up a window of risk
Open up a window – a window – a window of risk

When the snow has come to the mountaintop
And the gap is closed
Take a narrow path on the edge of a drop
And follow your nose
Your blackout is over – you're sad but you're sober
Put the fire up to the fuse and let it blow

When the winter is long and the summer is quicker
And your comfort zone's gone and the air's gettin' thicker

Open up a window of risk – open up a window of risk
Open up a window – a window – a window of risk
Open up a window of risk – open up a window of risk
Open up a window – a window – a window of risk

Open up a window – a window
A window of risk

INJURED PARTY

from The Costume Shop

1993 © 1994, 2022 Roger Lienke

Who is – who is the injured party
Who made – who made the big mistake
Pieces of puzzles – arrested development
Night after night I am in a predicament

Come get me out – you're not the victim
But you scream and shout
Where is my sympathy – who is the real
Injured party

Who is – who is the cat's pajamas
Who says – who says that you're the one
Turn up your nose – you are lost in your vanity
If I would let you – you'd threaten my sanity

Can't get you out – you're not the victim
That you make yourself out to be
Where is my sympathy – who is the real
Injured party

You're not the one – I am the one
You're not the one – I am the one who's been down
Through the wound – and back through the womb
Won't somebody now – tell me who is the real
Injured – party

TYPHOON

from The Costume Shop

1998 © 2022 Roger Lienke

It's fun to get dirty daddy
It's fun to get your foot stuck in the mud
Never let them know that you're out for their blood
Before you cut them down to size

You want to get back where you started
You want to get back to where you're coming from
I'm going to make you mine
I'm going to make you want me
Before I cut you down to size

I'm going to hit you soon
Hit you like a typhoon
Typhoon

You keep yourself undercover
You're always in disguise - but you're not fooling me
You might as well resign yourself
You'll never be free
I have found your hiding place

I'm gonna hit you soon
Hit you like a typhoon — typhoon — typhoon

MY SHAME HAS YOUR EYES

from The Costume Shop

1998 © 2022 Roger Lienke

My shame has your eyes
And all the people that you and I know
Could tell you it's so
Don't you remember last night when we met
All of the lights in the city were bright

And we walked through the night
Until the sidewalks were wet
From the dew that was silently forming
Then I reached out to you in the morning

My shame has your eyes
My shame has your eyes
My shame
My shame has your eyes
Your eyes

My shame has your eyes
And all the mem'ries that come into view
Remind me of you
I cannot help it - this sadness I feel
I'm astounded how deep is this sorrow within

And it feels like I'm drowning
But sorrow can swim
It's not only for you I'm pretending
To be free from this shame never ending

My shame has your eyes
My shame has your eyes
My shame
My shame has your eyes
Your eyes
Your eyes

THE PARTY IS LIFE

from the Costume Shop

1998 © 2022 Roger Lienke

You got to be kidding - you got to be kidding me - you got to be kidding me
Too much has happened - too much history - too much is happening
Faster and faster my life keeps eluding me
Faster and faster the time goes by
External relations - internal dissonance - the life of the party – we're the life of the party

Come to where the party is - you can be what you wanna be
It's such a heavenly night
Make up - costume jewelry - plenty of Tom Foolery
Something is bound to go right

Look at her - look at him - look at him look at her
Look at her look him over
Look at all of these people looking like they've never been
So intensely interested in the one beside the one that they came in with

Oh hello - how are you
Tell me what's new - what's new - what's new
Good to see you - good to see you
How you been - how are you - how are you

I feel like this could go on like this forever
Nothing would ever have to change
Then I could keep you straight in my feelings
And I would not have to feel like such a stranger – like a stranger

What's up - what you doin' now - what have you been up to
Where have you been all my life
When you're standing next to me - sparks of electricity
Dance off the edge of a knife

I feel like this could go on like this forever
Nothing would ever have to change
Then I could keep you straight in my feelings
And I would not have to feel like such a stranger - like a stranger

How many times can someone say just be yourself – it'll be alright
Before you've had enough
How you'd like to be somebody else - how'd that be
Come on - come on in - the party's started - it's gonna be fun
Only - don't come as you are - let it come – undone
And then come on in
'Cause this is not just any party - this is the party - the party of - your life
The party is life - oh the party is life - yes this party is life