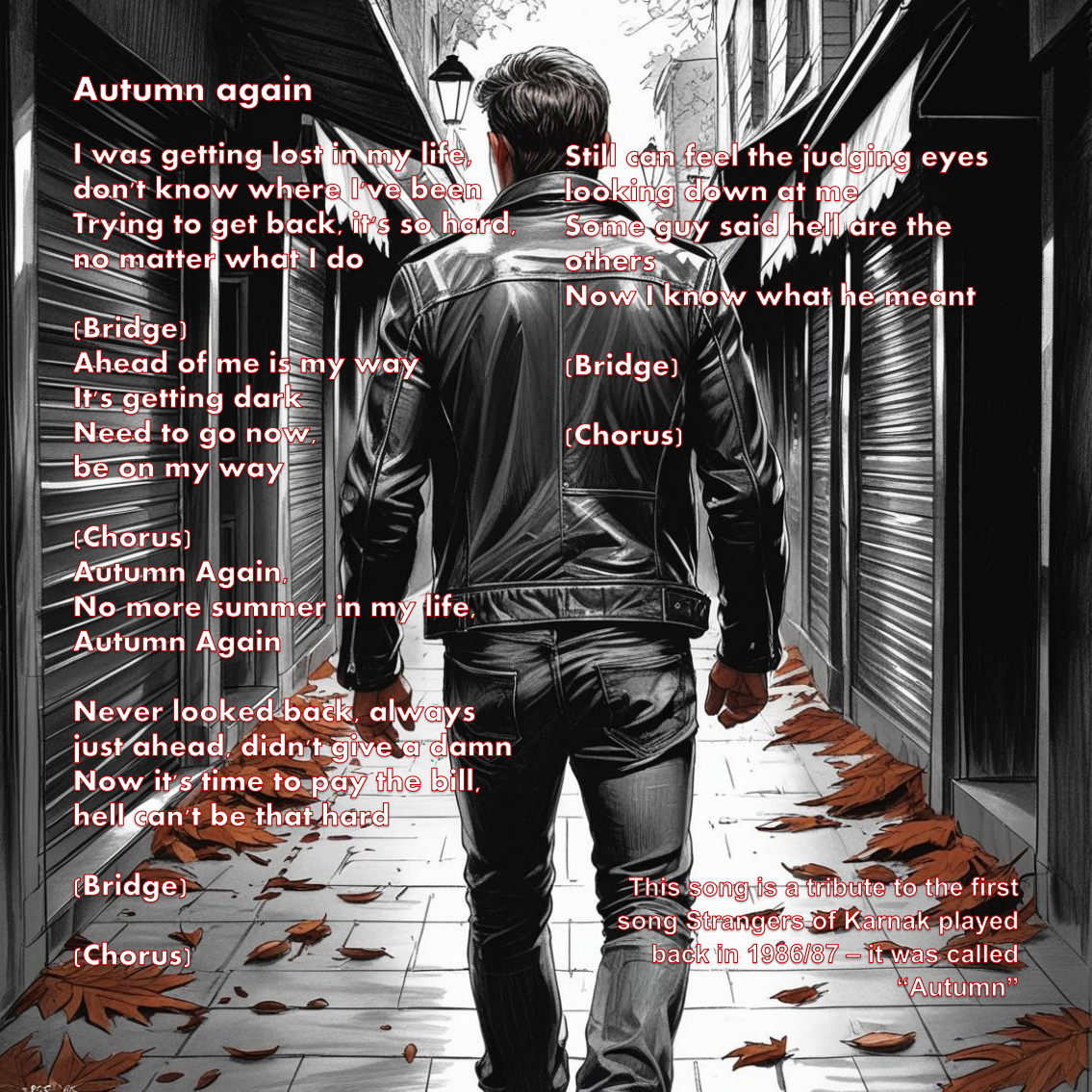


**LATERAL
PARADIGM**



TRANSIENT GUILT



Autumn again

I was getting lost in my life,
don't know where I've been
Trying to get back, it's so hard,
no matter what I do

(Bridge)

Ahead of me is my way
It's getting dark
Need to go now,
be on my way

(Chorus)

Autumn Again,
No more summer in my life,
Autumn Again

Never looked back, always
just ahead, didn't give a damn
Now it's time to pay the bill,
hell can't be that hard

(Bridge)

(Chorus)

Still can feel the judging eyes
looking down at me
Some guy said hell are the
others
Now I know what he meant

(Bridge)

(Chorus)

This song is a tribute to the first
song Strangers of Karnak played
back in 1986/87 – it was called
“Autumn”



Love draws the horizon

Walking streets in faded jeans
Only neon lights the scene
Empty faces pass me by
Dreams that flicker, then they
die

Shadowed corners, hollow halls
Fingers tracing broken walls
Breathing smoke with every
step
Losing more than I had left

(Chorus)

Now I got a reason
Headlights burning through the
night
Love draws the horizon
Shows me where my hopes
ignite

Counting hours in the rain
Chasing silence, tasting pain
No direction, only time
Burning out on borrowed dimes

But you, you caught my vacant
stare
Pulled me in, you made me care
Lit a fire behind my eyes
Now I see a place to rise

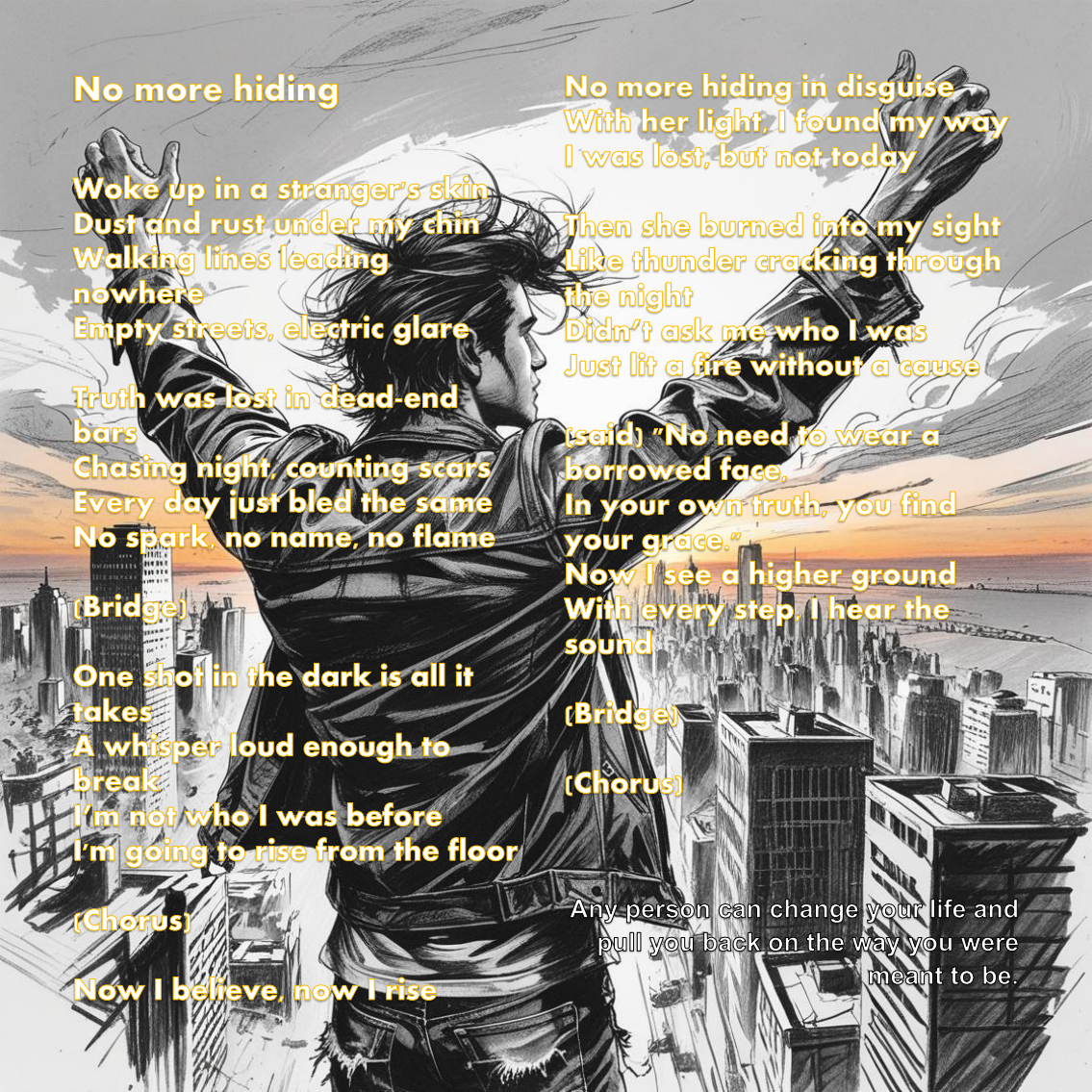
(Chorus)

I was drifting through the cold
You gave my story back its
spark
Steel resolve in open arms
Now I see the way, not dark

Now I got a reason
That no shadow can erase
My steps are sure, the path is
clear,
My rightful place, is finally here.

(Chorus)

It is sort of a love song, about how
love can bring you back to life. The
lyrics just came to me.



No more hiding

Woke up in a stranger's skin
Dust and rust under my chin
Walking lines leading
nowhere
Empty streets, electric glare

Truth was lost in dead-end
bars
Chasing night, counting scars
Every day just bled the same
No spark, no name, no flame

(Bridge)

One shot in the dark is all it
takes
A whisper loud enough to
break
I'm not who I was before
I'm going to rise from the floor

(Chorus)

Now I believe, now I rise

No more hiding in disguise
With her light, I found my way
I was lost, but not today

Then she burned into my sight
Like thunder cracking through
the night
Didn't ask me who I was
Just lit a fire without a cause

(said) "No need to wear a
borrowed face,
In your own truth, you find
your grace."

Now I see a higher ground
With every step, I hear the
sound

(Bridge)

(Chorus)

Any person can change your life and
pull you back on the way you were
meant to be.

Beggar's dream

Nothing left for me to say
Everytime we talk on the
phone
You break my heart
In one too many pieces

All the broken promises
All the misunderstandings
And all the misgivings
Our love is not going to heal

(Chorus)

It's just a poor beggar's dream
That there will come the day
Where we meet again
It's just a poor beggar's dream
That there will come the day
That love will forgive us

Mutual accusations
Unforgiving positions
Fear of breaking up
Again and again and again

But then I hear your voice

Everything comes back
Wishing I had never lost you
Dreaming of seeing you again

(Chorus)

Chances are we'll never meet
again
I always bet on the loser
But sometimes
The loser wins

Then if you let me I'll show
you
The love I meant for you
No more hiding
Just the two of us forever

(Chorus)

Lyrics written in 2012. It is about
toxic relationships. It is not a love
song!

Slow Life

Memories fade away
like the rain at the end of the
storm

My mind is on decay
Feeling like fallen leaves in
autumn

(Break)

Can't remember the last time
we touched

Can't remember the last time
we talked

(Chorus)

Stepping into my slow life
Leaving my old life behind

Each day there is a new pain
As I try to get up each morning
Each moment is like a stain
Each faded memory just a
sting

(Break)

(Chorus)

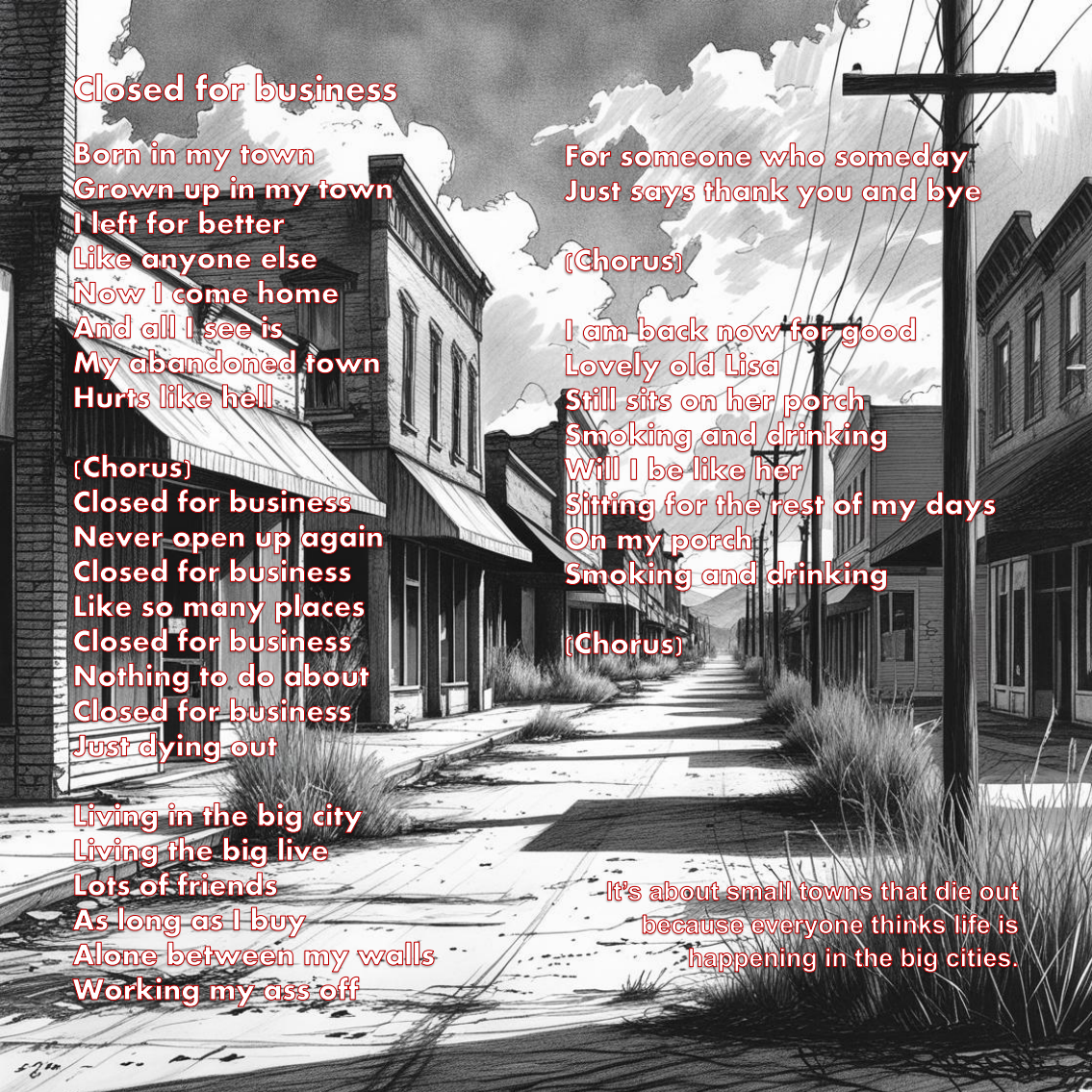
The candle is burning
There is only so much left to
burn

Not much time left until
My last breath will leave me
forever

(Break)

(Chorus)

The lyrics are about one of my
biggest fears: getting dementia.



Closed for business

Born in my town
Grown up in my town
I left for better
Like anyone else
Now I come home
And all I see is
My abandoned town
Hurts like hell

(Chorus)

Closed for business
Never open up again
Closed for business
Like so many places
Closed for business
Nothing to do about
Closed for business
Just dying out

Living in the big city
Living the big life
Lots of friends
As long as I buy
Alone between my walls
Working my ass off

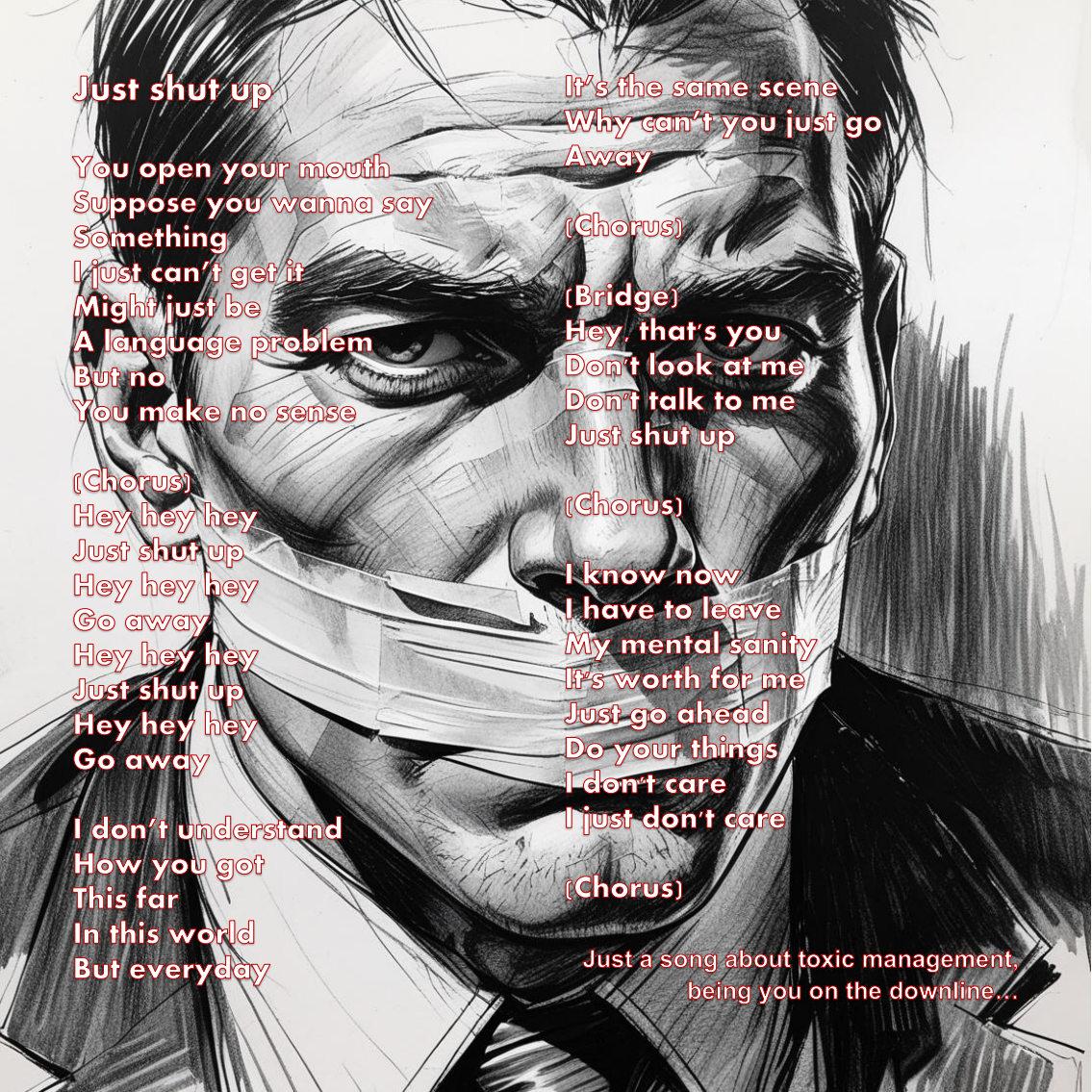
For someone who someday
Just says thank you and bye

(Chorus)

I am back now for good
Lovely old Lisa
Still sits on her porch
Smoking and drinking
Will I be like her
Sitting for the rest of my days
On my porch
Smoking and drinking

(Chorus)

It's about small towns that die out
because everyone thinks life is
happening in the big cities.



Just shut up

You open your mouth
Suppose you wanna say
Something

I just can't get it
Might just be
A language problem
But no
You make no sense

(Chorus)
Hey hey hey
Just shut up
Hey hey hey
Go away
Hey hey hey
Just shut up
Hey hey hey
Go away

I don't understand
How you got
This far
In this world
But everyday

It's the same scene
Why can't you just go
Away

(Chorus)

(Bridge)
Hey, that's you
Don't look at me
Don't talk to me
Just shut up

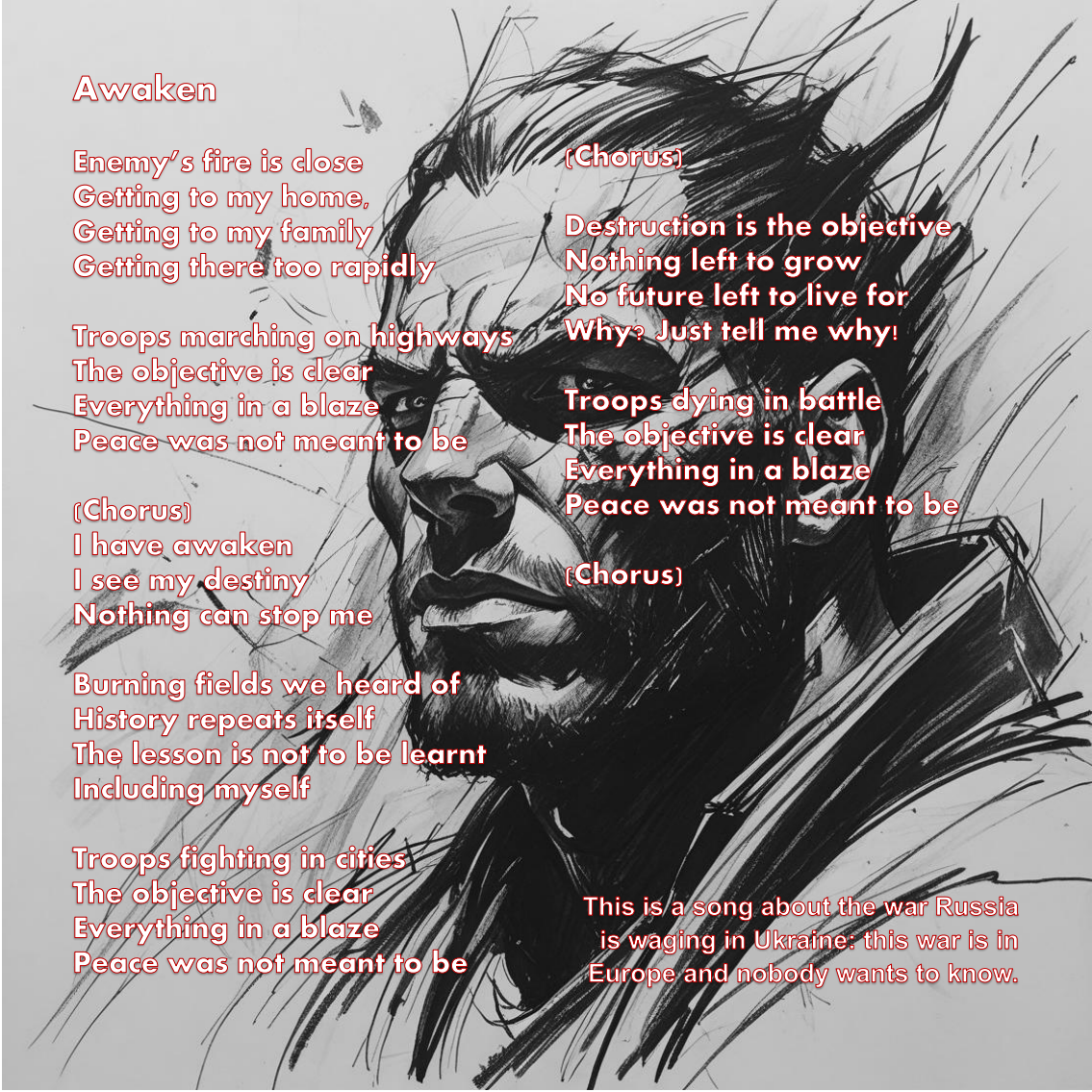
(Chorus)

I know now
I have to leave
My mental sanity
It's worth for me
Just go ahead
Do your things
I don't care
I just don't care

(Chorus)

Just a song about toxic management,
being you on the downline...

Awaken



Enemy's fire is close
Getting to my home,
Getting to my family
Getting there too rapidly

Troops marching on highways
The objective is clear
Everything in a blaze
Peace was not meant to be

(Chorus)
I have awoken
I see my destiny
Nothing can stop me

Burning fields we heard of
History repeats itself
The lesson is not to be learnt
Including myself

Troops fighting in cities
The objective is clear
Everything in a blaze
Peace was not meant to be

(Chorus)

Destruction is the objective
Nothing left to grow
No future left to live for
Why? Just tell me why!

Troops dying in battle
The objective is clear
Everything in a blaze
Peace was not meant to be

(Chorus)

This is a song about the war Russia
is waging in Ukraine: this war is in
Europe and nobody wants to know.



Dreams to become

Hidden behind a wall of lies
This is more than a dream
Shadows express emotions
Shadows of a nightmare

(Bridge)

Shadows of a nightmare
Darkened by the fallen rain
But before the rain starts
The pain begins to rise

(Chorus)

We are just dreams to become
Never getting there
Just dreams to become

You knew nothing would
change
And you know the reason why
Once when we were happy
I thought nothing could change

(Bridge)

(Chorus)

But we've made our faults and
time
is running out for you and me
that's why yesterday
I kissed you the last time

(Bridge)

(Chorus)

The lyrics are adapted from a Strangers
of Karnak song around 1987/88. Time
goes by...



Love gone by

You were looking out of the
window

Your eyes so sad and distant
reflecting on times gone by
unsure of what's to come

Snow kept falling as if to
freeze the hurt in your heart
Your heart feels broken
You can't find yourself anymore

(Chorus)

Love can be a strange thing
making us see the truth
Love can be a strange thing
But blinding us all the same

Emptiness kept returning
Tears kept flowing
(But) nothing could heal your
wounds
Nothing could heal your mind

The hurt is not going to pass
Until you trust yourself again
So many things to live for

Don't forget what really matters

(Chorus)

(Bridge)

You got the mind and beauty
Don't surrender
These absurd feelings
Start to live again

(Chorus)

Nightmares come returning
(and) When you wake up
Nobody's at your side
But you got the strength,

But you got the beauty
But you got the power
But you got the mind
You can be all you want

(Chorus)

This is an anti love song. You just
need yourself and you have to trust
yourself.

Blank Pages

Restlessness is all I feel
Just wanna sleep (but no)
Emptiness finds me always
Wherever I am

(Chorus)

Blank Pages
Flying with the wind
Never to be found
Blank Pages
That's all we are

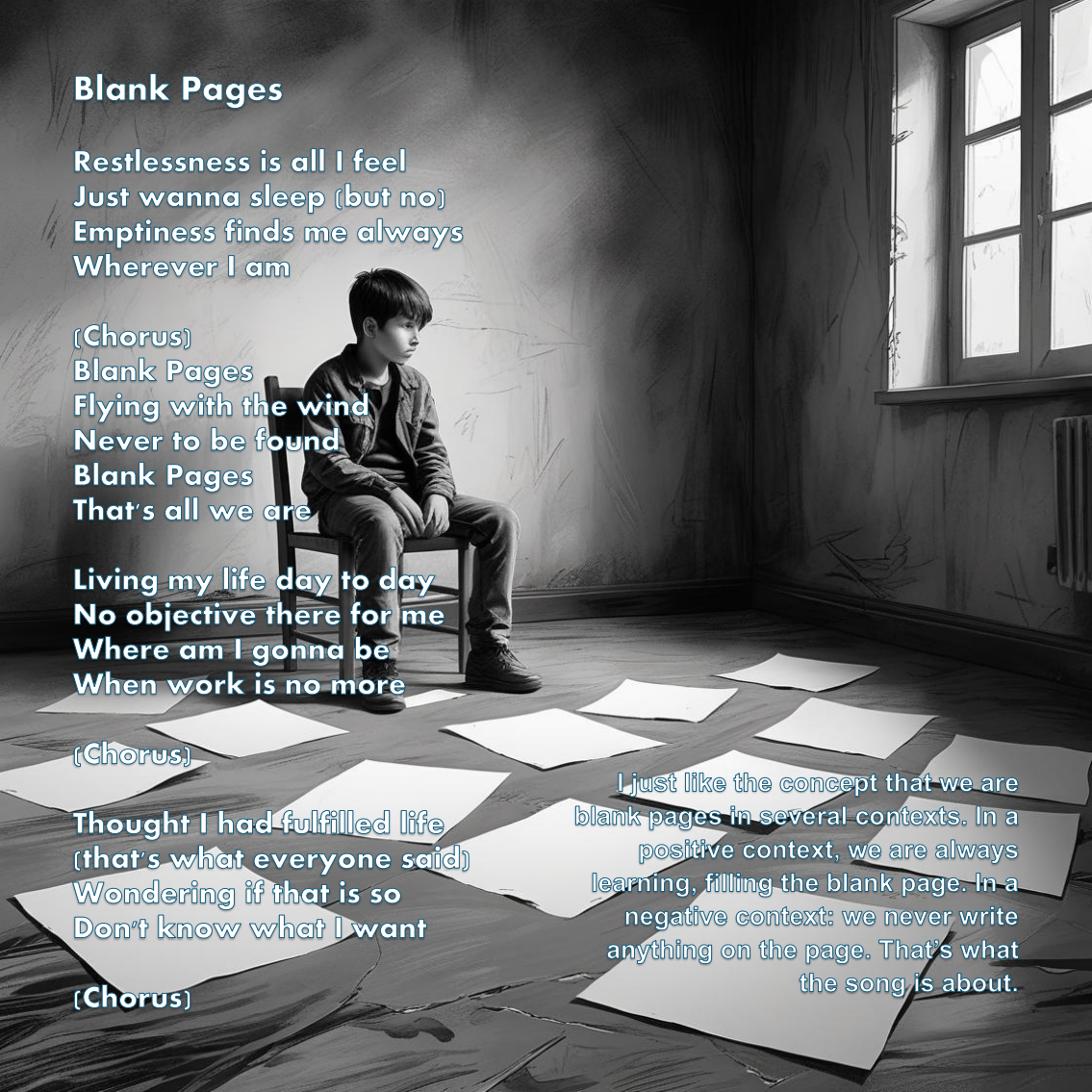
Living my life day to day
No objective there for me
Where am I gonna be
When work is no more

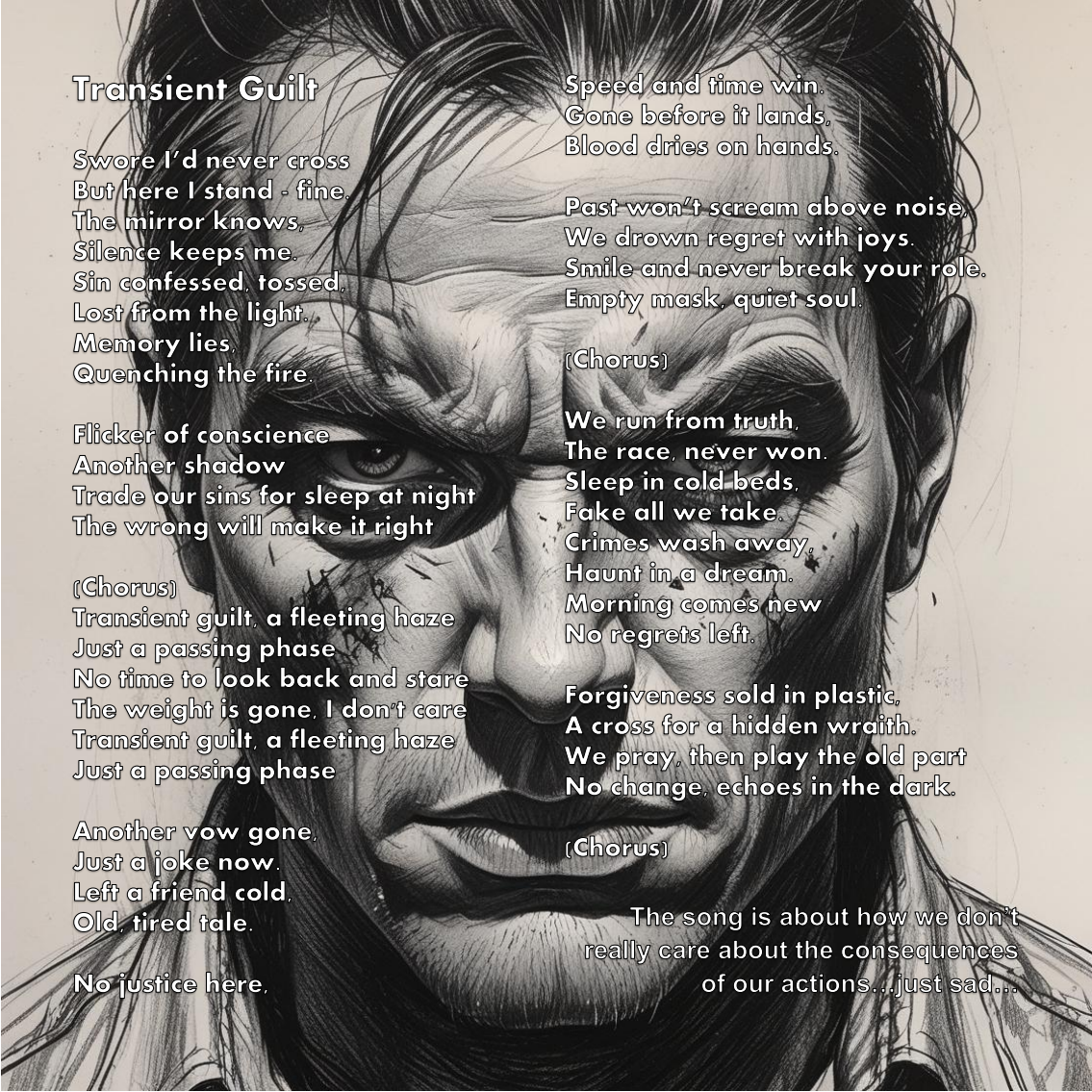
(Chorus)

Thought I had fulfilled life
(that's what everyone said)
Wondering if that is so
Don't know what I want

(Chorus)

I just like the concept that we are blank pages in several contexts. In a positive context, we are always learning, filling the blank page. In a negative context: we never write anything on the page. That's what the song is about.





Transient Guilt

Swore I'd never cross
But here I stand - fine.
The mirror knows,
Silence keeps me.
Sin confessed, tossed,
Lost from the light.
Memory lies,
Quenching the fire.

Flicker of conscience
Another shadow
Trade our sins for sleep at night
The wrong will make it right

(Chorus)
Transient guilt, a fleeting haze
Just a passing phase
No time to look back and stare
The weight is gone, I don't care
Transient guilt, a fleeting haze
Just a passing phase

Another vow gone,
Just a joke now.
Left a friend cold,
Old, tired tale.

No justice here.

Speed and time win,
Gone before it lands,
Blood dries on hands.

Past won't scream above noise,
We drown regret with joys.
Smile and never break your role,
Empty mask, quiet soul.

(Chorus)

We run from truth,
The race, never won.
Sleep in cold beds,
Fake all we take.
Crimes wash away,
Haunt in a dream.
Morning comes new
No regrets left.

Forgiveness sold in plastic,
A cross for a hidden wrath.
We pray, then play the old part
No change, echoes in the dark.

(Chorus)

The song is about how we don't
really care about the consequences
of our actions... just sad...

Credits

All songs, music, lyrics, guitars
& bass:
Ralf Wende
(really played, no AI)

Postproduction & Coverwork:
Canva.com (all images
generated by Canva AI)
Fre:ac & Mp3tag

All voices: suno.com (all voices
generated by Suno AI)

Guitars used:
Ibanez Roadstar II
LTD MH-10
Zoom G5n

Bass used:
Rocktile
Zoom B1 Four

Drum Loops:
Yurtrock.com
Producerplanet.com

Recording:
Zoom R12

Mixing & Mastering:
MusicMaker 2026
Audacity

