

Winter Solstice 2022



Always Look on the Bright Side

Some things in life are bad they can really make you mad
Other things just make you swear and curse
When you've chewing an life's gristle, Don't grumble give a whistle
And this'll help things turn out for the best

And always look on the bright side of life
Always look on the light side of life

If life seems jolly rotten there's something you've forgotten
and that's to laugh and smile and dance and sing.
When you've feeling in the dumps don't be silly chumps
Just purse your lips and whistle - that's the thing

Always Look on the Bright Side

And always look on the bright side of life

Come on always look on the bright side of life

For life is quite absurd and death's the final word

you must always face the curtain with a bow

Forget about your sin - give the audience a grin

Enjoy it - it's your last chance anyhow.

So always look on the bright side of death

just before you draw your terminal breath

Always Look on the Bright Side

Life's a piece of spit when you look at it
Life's a laugh and death's a joke it's true
You'll see it's all a show - keep'em laughing as you go
just remember that the last laugh is on you

And always look on the bright side of life
Always look on the right side of life
And always look on the bright side of life
Always look on the right side of life (retardando)

[words spoken by Taymon]

The Circle

Raise a song, and so commence
Circle, grow and grow.

in praise of all Benevolence!

Circle, grow and grow.

Once a cold and silent night
did the loveless stars pervade;
yet we here, of star-stuff made,
cast a circle of warmer Light!

Circle, circle, grow and grow.

So will we bring our families in,
Circle, grow and grow.

those whom Nature made our kin?

Circle, grow and grow.

Countless likenesses we find,
by our common blood bestowed.

What a debt of care is owed;
what a blessed tie that binds!

Circle, circle, grow and grow.

The Circle

And will we bring our neighbors in,
Circle, grow and grow.

our expansion to begin?

Circle, grow and grow.

Bounty of the harvest sun,
shelter from all hazards dire,
share with each, as each require,
doing as you would be done.

Circle, circle, grow and grow.

And will we bring the stranger in,
Circle, grow and grow.

every state and speech and skin?

Circle, grow and grow.

Think upon the mystery:

how alike is Humankind!

Tho' manifold in face and mind,
conspecific sisters we!

Circle, circle, grow and grow.

The Circle

And will we bring the future in?

Circle, grow and grow.

All of time is ours to win!

Circle, grow and grow.

Will our children rise in power?

overwhelm the starry deep?

Lights unborn, for you we keep

will and hope, though dark the hour.

Circle, circle, grow and grow.

[words spoken by AI]

The Ballad of Smallpox Gone

Old king plague is dead -
The smallpox plague is dead!
No more children dying hard,
No more victims living scarred
With the marks of the devil's kiss
We still may die of other things
But we will not die of this!

Raise your glasses high
For all who will not die,
To all the doctors, nurses too,
And all the lab technicians who
Drove it into the ground -
If the human race does nothing else
It cut this terror down!

The Ballad of Smallpox Gone

Old king plague is dead -
The smallpox plague is dead!
No more children dying hard,
No more victims living scarred
With the marks of the devil's kiss
We still may die of other things
But we will not die of this!

Now scarce the headlines said
The ancient foe was dead,
Then they spoke of curses new -
AIDS and SARS, Ebola too,
And COVID rages on;
Ten new plagues may take its place
But at least this one is gone.

The Ballad of Smallpox Gone

Old king plague is dead -
The smallpox plague is dead!
No more children dying hard,
No more victims living scarred
With the marks of the devil's kiss
We still may die of other things
But we will not die of this!
Oh noooooo!
We still may die of other things,
But we will not die of this!

[words spoken by Skyler]

The 12 Days of Existential Risk

On the first day of X-Risk I suddenly could see:
The end of humanity

On the second day of X-Risk I suddenly could see
Nuclear War!
And the end of humanity

On the third day of X-Risk I suddenly could see
Pandemic Plagues
Nuclear War
And the end of humanity

The 12 Days of Existential Risk

On the fourth day of X-Risk I suddenly could see

Bioengineering

Pandemic Plagues

Nuclear War

And the end of humanity

On the fifth day of X-Risk I suddenly could see

Non-aligned AI...

Bioengineering

Pandemic Plagues

Nuclear War

And the end of humanity

The 12 Days of Existential Risk

On the sixth day of X-Risk I suddenly could see

One nanite making

{2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256, 512, 1024, 2048, 4096,
8192, 16384, 32768} nanites making...

Non-aligned AI...

Bioengineering

Pandemic Plagues

Nuclear War

And the end of humanity

[words spoken by Dan]

We Will All Go Together When We Go

When you attend a funeral,
It is sad to think that sooner or later
-ater those you love will do the same for you.
And you may have thought it tragic,
Not to mention other adjectives,
-tives, to think of all the weeping they will do,
But don't you worry...

No more ashes, no more sackcloth.
And an armband made of black cloth
Will someday never more adorn a sleeve,
For if the bomb that drops on you
Gets your friends and neighbors too,
There'll be nobody left behind to grieve.

We Will All Go Together When We Go

And we will all go together when we go.
What a comforting fact that is to know.
Universal bereavement,
An inspiring achievement,
Yes, we all will go together when we go.

Oh we will all char together when we char.
And let there be no moaning of the bar.
Just sing out a Te Deum
When you see that I. C. B. M.,
And the party will be "come as you are."

We Will All Go Together When We Go

Oh we will all burn together when we burn.
There'll be no need to stand and wait your turn.
When it's time for the fallout
And Saint Peter calls us all out,
We'll just drop our agendas and adjourn.

And we will all go together when we go.
Every coffee shop and every Broadway show.
When the air becomes uranious,
We will all go simultaneous.
Yes we all will go together when we go

Intermission



[words spoken by Robi]

Bitter Wind Blown

Sun barely rising above the horizon

Little one, little one, bitter wind blown

Flowers are withering, naked bark brittle oh,

Little one, little one, bitter wind blown

Don't understand why the light would abandon us,

Little one, little one, bitter wind blown

And I don't know how much more he may demand of us

Little one, little one, bitter wind blown

Sun, sailing away, I don't know where... I don't know why...

Sky, darkening grey, wishing there weren't so many goodbyes...

Little one, little one why...

Bitter Wind Blown

Asking me questions I don't have the answers to

Little one, little one, bitter wind blown

Watching you shiver, and I don't know what to do

Little one, little one, bitter wind blown

Maybe if we did the dance said the words just right

Little one, little one, bitter wind blown

Maybe he'd come back may-be things would be all right

Little one, little one, bitter wind blown

Sun, sailing away, I don't know where... I don't know why...

Sky, darkening grey, wishing there weren't so many goodbyes...

Little one, little one why...

[words spoken by Keller]

Hymn to Breaking Strain

The careful textbooks measure (Let all who build beware!)
The load, the shock, the pressure material can bear.
So, when the buckled girder lets down the grinding span,
The blame of loss, or murder, is laid upon the man.
Not of the Stuff - the Man!

But, in our daily dealing with stone and steel, we find
The Gods have no such feeling of justice toward mankind.
To no set guage they make us, for no laid course prepare
And presently o'ertake us with loads we cannot bear:
Too merciless to bear.

Hymn to Breaking Strain

We only of Creation (Oh, luckier bridge and rail!)
Abide the twin-damnation, to fail and know we fail.
Yet we - by which sole token we know we once were Gods
Take shame in being broken however great the odds
The Burden or the Odds.

Oh, veiled and secret Power whose paths we seek in vain,
Be with us in our hour of overthrow and pain;
That we - by which sure token we know Thy ways are true -
In spite of being broken, because of being broken,
May rise and build anew.
Stand up and build anew!

[words spoken by Taymon]

Brighter Than Today

Countless winter nights ago,
A woman shivered in the cold,
Cursed the sky and wondered why,
The gods invented pain.

Aching angry flesh and bone,
Bitterly she struck the stones,
Until... she saw that spark of
Light and flame.

And though
The others cried out heresy,
She defied them, proud
And set afire history

Brighter Than Today

Tomorrow can be brighter than today
Although the night is cold
The stars may seem so very far away

But courage, hope, and reason burn
In every mind, each lesson learned,
Shining light to guide our way.
Make tomorrow brighter than today!

Oh,
Brighter than today.

Brighter Than Today

Ages long forgotten now,
We built the wheel, and then the plow
Tilled the Earth and proved our worth
Against the drought and snow.

Soon, we had the time to fathom,
Mountain peaks and tiny atoms,
Beating hearts, electric sparks,
And so much more to know.

Brighter Than Today

Tomorrow can be brighter than today
Although the night is cold
The stars may seem so very far away

But courage, hope, and reason burn
In every mind, each lesson learned,
Shining light to guide our way.
Make tomorrow brighter than today!

Oh, oh,
Brighter than today.

Brighter Than Today

The universe may seem unfair
The laws of nature may not care
The storms and quakes, our own mistakes,
All nearly doused our flame.

But all these trials we've endured,
Moral progress, ailments cured,
Against our Herculean task,
We've risen to proclaim.

Brighter Than Today

Tomorrow can be brighter than today
Although the night is cold
The stars may seem so very far away

But courage, hope, and reason burn
In every mind, each lesson learned,
Shining light to guide our way.
Make tomorrow brighter than today!

Oh, oh, oh,
Brighter than today.

[words spoken by Elizabeth]

Level Up

so come out.

been waiting long enough.

you're done with all the talk talk talk with nothing on the table.

it's time to come on out.

no sign from above.

you'll only hear the knock knock knock of your own heart as signal.

if you are afraid, come forth.

if you are alone, come forth now.

everybody here has loved and lost,

so level up and love again.

Level Up

begin again.

blast the dam on the flow.

your body feels the tock tock tock of time as it hammers.

lord we are all cinders

from a fire long ago,

but here it is the knock knock knock of your own heart that matters.

if you are afraid, come forth.

if you are alone, come forth now.

everybody here has loved and lost,

so level up and love again.

and this is all we need.

and this is where we start.

this is the day we greet.

this is the day, no other.

Level Up

call it any name you need.
call it any name you feel.
call it your 2.0, your rebirth, whatever –
if you can feel it all,
with your doors flung wide.
call it your day no. 1 in the rest of forever.

if you are afraid, give more.
if you are alive, give more now.
everybody here has seams and scars.
so level up and love again.

[words spoken by Will]

Old Devil Time

Old devil time, I'm gonna fool you now
Old devil time, you'd like to bring me down
But when I'm feeling low, my lovers gather round
And help me rise to fight you one more time

Old devil pain, you've often pinned me down
You thought I'd cry and beg you for the end
At that very time my lovers gathered round
And helped me rise to fight you one more time

Old Devil Time

Old devil fear, you with your icy hands
Old devil fear, you'd like to freeze me cold
But when I'm sore afraid, my lovers gather round
And help me rise to fight you one more time

Old devil hate, I knew you long ago
Before I learned the poison in your breath
Now when we hear your lies my lovers gather round
And help me rise to fight you one more time

Old Devil Time

No storm nor fire can ever beat us down
No wind that blows but carries us further on
And you who fear, oh lovers gather round
And we can rise to sing it more time
And we can rise to sing it one more time

[words spoken by Taymon]

The End

