

**MAURICE TANI**

**77** el Deora

**BLUE LINE**



WTR 0113

**MAURICE TANI**  
**77 EL DEORA**  
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**1 When I'm Drinkin'**  
*(I Ain't Thinkin')*

(4:05) (Tani)  
Fiddles: Steve Kallai

-----  
I'm sorry Baby  
That I said that about your sis  
You know I love her  
-and your mother  
They are such a source of bliss  
Hardly apropos -yes I know  
My words landed with a hiss  
Hey, drinkin' always makes me  
act like this

When I'm drinkin'  
-I ain't thinking  
I start blurting out the feelings  
that most folks would hide  
away  
When the liquor's talking  
-I should get walking  
Some of those things I say are  
shocking  
When I'm drinkin'

-I ain't thinkin'  
but I believe every word I say

Hey, hey bartender  
I shouldn't have heckled that  
band last night  
Those guys were so bad  
-and I must add  
They couldn't sing or play or  
write  
I said some things  
-took some swings  
Added fire to the fight  
Hey drinkin' always makes me  
feel I'm right

When I'm drinkin'  
-I ain't thinking  
I start blurting out the feelings  
that most folks would hide  
away  
When the liquor's flowin'  
-I should be goin'  
Before my other side starts  
showin'  
When I'm drinkin'  
-I ain't thinkin'  
but I believe every word I say

Liquor never made me say  
a thing I didn't feel  
But it made me say a lot of  
things I wish I'd not revealed

I'm sorry darlin'  
I don't express my love enough  
But I do dear -and it's just fear  
That makes saying it so rough  
My brain takes a time out  
-I spill my guts out  
With a shot of the hard stuff  
Drinkin' always helps me  
loosen up

When I'm drinkin'  
-I ain't thinking  
I start blurting out the feelings  
that I usually hide away  
Through my devotion -to  
potent potions  
I'm in touch with my emotions  
When I'm drinkin' -I ain't thinkin'  
but you can believe every  
word I say

**2 Fields of Green**  
(3:10) (Griffiths-Owen-Tani)

-----  
That night that I left,  
I could see my breath,  
By the light of a thousand  
stars. A thousand stars.  
Blinded by dreams,  
and sensational schemes,  
I bid thee my fondest farewell,  
"Fare Thee Well."

Lost were your blue-sky days.  
Lost were your fields of green.  
For something I'd only seen,  
In a dream, in a dream

My travels were long,  
Behind me was gone,  
With one more horizon to go.  
Always one more.  
But as far as I went  
I was never content  
With the life I found out there  
Grasping at air

Lost were your blue-sky days.  
Lost were your fields of green.  
For something I'd only seen,

In a dream, in a dream

Yours was the breath  
I longed for on my neck  
The warmth of your lips on my  
cheek.  
The lover's touch I seek  
-in the morn'

That night black as coal,  
I drifted back home,  
By the light from a thousand  
stars. A thousand stars.  
I was young, you were right.  
I was blind to the light  
And the things I could not see,  
Now I see.

Home in your blue-sky days.  
Home in your fields of green.  
Like nothing I've ever seen,  
In a dream, in a dream.



**3 Nadine**

(4:07) (Berry)  
Bkg Vox: Kathy Kennedy;  
Organ: Jim Pugh

-----  
I got on a city bus  
and found a vacant seat,  
I thought I saw my future bride  
walking up the street,  
I shouted to the driver  
"Hey conductor, you must  
slow down. I think I see her  
please let me off this bus"

Nadine, honey is that you?  
Oh, Nadine. Is that you?  
Seems like every time I see  
you, darling, you got some-  
thing else to do

I saw her from the corner when  
she turned and doubled back  
And started walkin' toward a  
coffee color Cadillac  
I was pushin' through the  
crowd to get to where she's at  
I was campaign shouting like a  
southern diplomat

Nadine, is that you?  
Oh, Nadine. Honey, is that you?  
Seems like every time I catch  
up with you, you're up to  
something new

Downtown searching for her,  
looking all around.  
Saw her getting in a yellow cab  
heading up town.  
I caught a loaded taxi, paid up  
everybody's tab.  
With a hundred dollar bill, told  
him "catch that yellow cab."

*Chorus*

She moves around like a  
wayward summer breeze.  
"Go, driver, go, go'on, catch  
her for me please."  
Movin' thru the traffic like a  
mounted cavalier.  
Leanin' out the taxi window  
tryin' to make her hear.

*Chorus*



#### **4 Three Flights to L.A.**

(4:23) (Tani)

*Vocal: Jenn Courtney;*  
*Ac. Bass: Mike Anderson,*  
*Electric Guitar: Jinx Jones*

-----  
Coffee - with cream  
She thumbs - a worn magazine  
Pooled up - Cabin light  
Shade up - She stares in the night  
She smells him in her clothes  
She tastes the ache and  
feels the bite  
She's Venus in repose tonight  
Three flights to LA

Magick - her dear  
He made it - perfectly clear  
Do what - thou will  
was his - license to kill  
Deafened by the hum  
Magick faded as magick can

Deviating from the plan  
Three flights to LA

They could have made it big  
All light -no heat from Augustine  
She's fingering the figurine  
-tonight -in flight

The damage on the ground  
Seems old and scarred  
-beyond regrets  
The hissing air and sound of jets  
-in flight -tonight

Angel - cool gray  
Etches - his exquisite decay  
on a small screen in- real time  
Returns to the scene of the crime

The coast glitters below  
Reveals its shape like beads  
and pearls  
Embroidered bays Van Gogh  
light swirls  
Three flights to LA

#### **5 Twisted**

(3:09) (Tani)

*Bass: Mike Anderson;*  
*Drums: Christopher Fisher*  
*Fiddle: Alisa Rose; Har-*  
*monies: Pam Brandon, Wil*  
*Hendricks, Misisipi Mike*  
*Wolf; Mandolin: Adam*  
*Roszkiewicz;*

-----  
She twisted Twisted my lies  
She twisted my lies into truth  
She saw through  
Saw through my eyes  
And she twisted my lies into truth

I wove a web. A beautiful web  
A web of deception and lies  
It was a thing to behold  
To watch it unfold  
Till it lead me to my demise

*Chorus*

All of my lies  
My sweet silver lies  
So smooth and so round on  
the tongue  
I told her that she was the

woman for me  
It was the sweetest song I'd  
ever sung

#### **6 I Think of You**

(4:15) (Owen-Tani)

-----  
I knew you when -he left you,  
then as your whole world  
crumbled apart,  
I wanted my heart to be the  
one to make you whole again.  
But we both knew  
for me with you  
there'd only be room as a friend.  
And in the end there'd just be  
one more broken heart to mend.

*Chorus*

When the lights go down  
and there's no one around  
I'm deep inside my head  
and feelin' grim  
I think of you,  
and you think of him.  
I think of you - thinking of him

It was so wrong  
that you should belong  
To someone that treats you  
that way  
and yet you stay  
and still I pray you'll summon  
the strength one day  
But I bided my time  
till you'd be mine  
But the time never came  
But still the flame  
Blackens my heart  
and burns my soul away

*Chorus*

I hate to do what I need to do  
but I'm only thinking of what's  
best for you  
And I'll hate myself in the  
morning when the cryin' time is  
through but I never will be over  
loving you

My dreams were sand,  
they slipped through your hand  
A few grains on an endless beach  
But unto the breach  
My dear friends, I'd step again

### 7 **New Dress**

(4:34) (Tani)

Vocal: Pam Brandon;

-----  
It was a new day  
- at the edge of town  
I pulled up to the sign by the  
light of the rising sun  
And with a new brush  
and some old paint  
I lowered the population here  
by one

I'm painting my new dress red  
As dark as the color of blood in  
the pale moonlight  
My new dress is red tonight  
-tonight

I'd painted myself into a corner  
There was nowhere to go in  
that town of brown & grey  
Now I'm sketching my horizon  
It's wide and it's straight and it  
never fades away

Chorus

It's a still night –in a still life  
I'm cleaning my brushes in a  
bucket of kerosene  
It's a new day –in a new town  
A match in the bucket and I  
have my slate wiped clean

### 8 **Red Wine**

(5:43) (DeSio)

Sax: Armen Boyd;

-----  
I'm out of sorts  
And the rain only adds to it  
Just listening to this music  
and driftin'  
It's so beautiful here  
I can see how men get lost  
Among all these bottles  
of amber and blue  
People are talking  
People are laughing  
People don't bother me tonight

If I lost you I know  
If I lost you I know  
I can always find you at the  
bottom of a glass of red wine

I'm writing on a red napkin  
'Cause that's all I do in a bar  
It's not that I'm afraid  
And it's not that I'm grasping  
It's just so easy to feel you in  
this place

Chorus

### 9 **Walk On By**

(5:43) (Bacharach-David)

Pedal Steel: David Phillips;

-----  
If you see me walking down  
the street  
And I start to cry each time  
we meet  
Walk on by, walk on by  
Make believe  
that you don't see the tears  
Just let me grieve  
in private 'cause each time I  
see you  
I break down and cry  
Walk on by... -walk on by...  
-walk on by

I just can't get over losing you  
And so if I seem broken and blue

Walk on by, walk on by  
Foolish pride is all that I have left  
So let me hide the tears and  
the sadness you gave me  
When you said goodbye  
Walk on by... -walk on by...  
-walk on by

### 10 **Blue Line**

(6:46) (Tani)

Harp: Jimmy Sweetwater;

-----  
Blue. Take the blue line downtown  
Blue. Take the blue line downtown  
Ain't no sinner without a future  
Ain't no saint without a past  
Salvation's on sale and the  
deals are going fast

Big Jimmy always said, "It's  
good to be king"  
He had his fingers deep in  
everything  
A taste of this, a little piece  
of that  
Before you know it a man  
gets fat

Big Jimmy took pride in the

good things in life  
The house, the car, the boat,  
the young trophy wife  
And as a tribute to his personal flair  
He had a statue of himself built  
down in St Mark's Square

Blue. Take the blue line downtown

Big Jimmy didn't go unnoticed  
upstate  
and caught the eye of one  
Louie the Great  
who felt that this was some-  
thing he might need to contain  
So Louie called his right hand  
man, Rollo Fontaine

Louie said "Rollo, go check  
this guy out"  
"and if we need to take him  
down just keep my name out"  
Rollo headed down state the  
very next day -Jimmy  
Wasn't gonna like what Rollo  
had to say

Rollo met with Jimmy at his  
bar the next night

Jimmy could smell something  
wasn't quite right.  
Rollo didn't like Big Jimmy  
right from the start  
And set out to take Jimmy's  
little kingdom apart

Chorus

Big Jimmy woke up just across  
the state line  
The flashlight in his face was  
not a good sign  
He held an empty bottle of  
Cuervo Gold™  
And the girl beside him looked  
about 12 years old

The troopers pulled Big Jimmy  
out of his car  
They asked him "Jimmy, do  
you know where you are?"  
Jimmy tried but found he was  
too high to walk  
And the teenage girl was too  
eager to talk

Blue. Take the blue line downtown

Big Jimmy's trial's a short and ugly affair  
Louie and Rollo made a point to be there  
They spared no effort or expense to supply  
The finest judge & jury that money could buy

Big Jimmy knew it wasn't going his way  
The case was closed before it opened that day  
Witnesses to things that Jimmy couldn't recall  
And a teenage girl who swore to it all

The sparks are flying down at St Mark's Square  
Dust and smoke and racket fill the air  
They're busting concrete up and cutting through the steel  
The king is dead and there's a brand new deal

Big change has come to Jimmy's former domain

There's a new boss in town named Rollo Fontaine  
Big Jimmy's outta stir and workin' upstate  
as the new right hand to one Louis the Great

*Chorus*

### **11 Happy Hour** (3:13) (Owen-Tani)

*Pedal Steel: David Phillips*

-----  
All day long there's been one thing one my mind,  
the sound that work bell makes at quitting time.  
It lets me know that time will soon be ours,  
when I see you tonight at Happy Hour.

Each night I head down to our favorite place,  
to wait for your smile and your warm embrace.  
I'll try to hide my worries and my cares,  
No one will ever know my

silent prayers.

I'll save a chair for you,  
just like I always do,  
in this place where love began for you and me.

When the jukebox plays our song, I know it won't be long,  
until I see you in my memories.

To make you stay,  
I never had the power,  
but I'll see you tonight at Happy Hour.

At the end of every day it's here I come to pray  
that someday you'll be right here by my side.

But it's just one more night,  
that you're nowhere in sight,  
in this place where you said that your love had died.

### **12 Don't Say It's Over** (4:23) (Bruno)

-----  
Just don't say it's over  
Just don't say goodbye  
Don't say that you're leaving me  
It's ok to lie

Just don't say you've moved on  
You don't live in the past  
Just don't say it's over  
That's all that I ask

You can say that maybe now  
and then It feels like this may end  
But for now we're going to leave it all alone  
You can say there's reason for concern.  
Bridges have been burned.  
But that doesn't mean you're never coming home.

Don't say you're walking  
That we just didn't last  
Just don't say it's over  
That's all that I ask



### **13 Your Cheatin' Heart** (4:28) (Williams)

*Vocal: Pam Brandon;*  
*Accordion: Big Lou*

-----  
Your cheatin' heart  
will make you weep  
You'll cry and cry  
and try to sleep  
But sleep won't come  
the whole night through  
Your cheatin' heart  
will tell on you

When tears come down  
like fallin' rain  
You'll toss around  
and call my name  
You'll walk the floor



the way I do  
Your cheatin' heart  
will tell on you

Your cheatin' heart  
will pine someday  
And crave the love  
you threw away  
The time will come  
when you'll be blue  
Your cheatin' heart  
will tell on you

When tears come down like  
fallin' rain  
You'll toss around  
and call my name  
You'll walk the floor  
the way I do  
Your cheatin' heart  
will tell on you

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Produced by Maurice Tani

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### El Deora, CA. August 1977

*In spite of the fact that the vast majority of the Central Valley was as flat as a regulation pool table, the engineers who built this road had chosen the gently undulating hills in the western side. They carved slots through the soft, featureless peaks and filled in the soft, featureless depressions until they had built up a runway-straight, 4-lane pointer to either horizon. On this day however, there was no horizon. The heat rising from the hot asphalt reflected the featureless sky beyond until the road simply vanished in the haze of the featureless distance. Fata morgana.*

*The blacktop directly at our feet now had a fair amount of blood from where Danny had cut his hand pretty bad on the blown out steel belted radial. The spare had both tread and air. Unfortunately, the wheel it was mounted on was for a Chrysler and that Mopar rim was not going to play nice with the hub on Roy's '65 Continental. The tow truck driver gave us the news. Elvis was dead. Overdose, he said. ...*



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