

# The Boat Builder

by Simon de Voil

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## YOUR WEDDING DAY

Do you remember that I wrote you this song?  
it was late in the afternoon and we'd just eaten chocolate cake  
sun was streaming through the windows making beautiful light  
you were looking radiant and I was so full of joy  
on your wedding day

It was seven years ago but not that that matters now  
and this was our sacred place, this was our special day  
sun was streaming into the room making beautiful light  
you were looking radiant and I was so full of joy  
on our wedding day

Will you remember that I wrote you this song  
and the life we shared before things went wrong?  
I meant every word I said, think you did too  
but now there's nothing left but this love that I give to you  
on your wedding day

## SACRED AND SCARRED

I don't know how to hold your hand  
and reach beyond broken vows.  
You shared my world and it was beautiful  
sowing our dreams, it was just beautiful.

I'll take my time in letting go  
and make sure that I can still hold your hand.  
You shared my world and it was beautiful  
broken and whole and it was beautiful.

I can't let this soil my world  
so I reach for you but darling where's your hands now?  
You share my world and it's so different now  
violated and scorned but still beautiful.

I don't know how to hold your hand  
and reach beyond spoken vows.  
This is my world it's so different now  
sacred and scarred, it's just beautiful

## DREICH

It rains more in my heart than the hills on a dreich wet day  
so I reach out to my friends and they hold me with such grace  
the sun will shine

No I wouldn't have made it through without you

*Come I'll give you rest  
I will give you rest  
the sun will shine*

## ACID RAIN

The anger falls down on my skin like acid rain

You can go your way  
and I will pack my own things  
we'll be on our best behaviour now  
but don't dare we say it's ok  
cause it's not ok

I don't cry so often  
my truth's more clearly spoken  
sun shines in my heart every now and then  
but don't dare you say it's ok  
this is not ok

How come in my mind's eye I see you trapped and lonely  
locked up in a tower and I watch you lying there?  
So I can't say that it's ok  
cause I know you're not ok

I will go my own way high up on this mountain  
plant these seeds and maybe some forgiveness might grow  
so maybe one day I can say  
that it turned out ok  
but the anger falls down on my skin like a gentle acid rain

## ARCTIC WINTER

It's been a long long night  
I'm waiting for the rising sun  
my arctic winter  
weathering the storms.  
Wish you could hold my hand  
I know you share the same fate too  
but we're poles apart now  
and your winter 's still to come.

At first I searched for you  
the pull to be there by your side  
but when the moon rose  
could see I was alone.  
And the sea froze cold  
It's made up of a billion tears  
shed there by all of us  
since the beginning of time.

When the first storm came  
I thought that I would die right there  
that there'd be nothing left  
but a soul can't freeze.  
And when I opened my eyes  
I saw the most beautiful lights  
shining all around me  
I knew I was lucky to be alive.

Wish I could take your tears  
and wipe all of my pain away  
but it's our humanity  
and it's your Antarctic sun.  
You know it's been a long long night  
still waiting for the coming dawn  
been months of winter now  
I'm waiting for the sun.

## FROZEN

Love is such a thing that we might die for  
in a world that's not quite so pure.  
Come and take my hand and I will follow you  
to a place so calm and still.

He goes to where his bride lies sleeping  
beautiful, beneath the ice.  
It's cold and he's not sure if he's gonna die here  
but he lies down, reaches out to touch her hair.

Love is such a thing that I might live for  
in a world so full of pain.  
Come and take my hand and you could follow me  
to a sacred grove so full of life.

My love I called I called for you  
I called your name four hundred times.

## COSMIC

He's cosmic  
falling through a vacuum in time  
spiral ever downward  
through a dark and empty void.  
Maybe I've been here before  
but I know it was a long long time ago  
I saw myself as an angel  
charred and falling through the void.

Cosmic maybe I'm cosmic  
Maybe I live here  
But maybe I'm stuck here

It's just empty  
a place devoid of any noise  
everything's just waiting  
watch him as he falls.  
And it pulls him  
tugging at the fabric of his form  
bursting to be open  
so the new life can be born.

Cosmic maybe I'm cosmic  
Maybe I know this  
But maybe I'm stuck here now.

### THE BOAT BUILDER

I could not stay, it's just that I could not stay  
without you by my side  
so I built myself a round wee boat.  
I wove my boat from willow and birch  
and pushed my way out through the surf  
to where the tide would carry me away.

It took some time for me to build myself  
a sturdy clinker boat  
I did not know how to work the grain.  
But I built my boat from oak and pine  
and found a way to scarf the joins  
steam the wood so it would fit just right.

I raised my sail and I rowed my boat  
across the sea of tears  
of pain and grief and shame.  
To find the croft where we both lived  
we worked the land with love and care  
till you broke down and said "I need to go".

I found the ruin of our home  
and there's no roof there now  
the foxgloves they grow tall.  
The wren's still there, the blackbird too  
where once I grew those pansies for you  
and in the kitchen garden the herbs still grow.

Before I left I took my seed bag out  
the one you mended for me  
I broadcast on the wind.  
So when you come and look around  
you'll see my flowers for miles around  
the flowers hold the colours of my love for you.

### CIRCLE DANCE CHANT

We sow these  
these seeds of love and human kindness  
the light to shine in nights of darkness  
bright stars to help us find our way

### DIED AND WENT TO MAINE

Feel like I died and went to Maine  
to learn to be myself again.  
I'm in a cabin all alone  
with tomorrow's porridge cooking on the open fire.  
Learning to use a chisel and a plane  
and build in myself a sense of home again.

Open my palm, breathe deeply  
turn and face the wind.  
Won't hold my dreams too tightly  
lest they fall through my fingers like sand.

Feel like I died and went to Maine  
to learn to be myself again.  
I'm on an island all alone  
with tomorrow's porridge cooking on the open fire.  
The stars are shining overhead  
and I am lucky and I am blest  
to be following my dreams.

### WHEN THE SNOW CAME

Can't quite believe what I see with my eyes  
so I have to reach out  
check that it's there.  
It's only my life but it's good now  
beautiful and kind now  
and gentle and I'm more wise now.

And how could it all work out?  
How could it be this fine now?  
Look at my life I survived somehow  
and I'm building a brand new home.  
Still the tears of betrayal are just endless  
but keeping them alive would be useless  
hurts nobody else but me.  
It's time to see things differently.

I was finding my way when the snow came down  
covering over my tracks  
on the path to where I belonged  
was now a place that time had moved on.  
So I look above at the stars tonight  
so crisp and clear and there's no moonlight  
the air is cold on my face but I'm warm inside  
and there's a fire in my new home.

I look outside at the snow tonight  
it's barely light by my candle light.  
My lover she calls for me  
draws the fire deep in my soul.  
And how could it all work out?  
How could it be this fine now?  
Look at my life it's so good somehow  
and I'm building a brand new home.

Can't quite believe what I see with my eyes  
so I have to look twice  
check that it's there.  
It's only my life but it's good now  
beautiful and kind now  
and gentle and I'm more whole now.

### MASTER CARPENTER

Christ you are the master carpenter  
wield well your tools in the workshop of our world  
so that I who come rough hewn to your bench  
may become a truer beauty of your hand and touch

Christ you gave to me the gifts of courage and faith and laughter  
and took my hand and pushed me out from your sacred nest  
to go where I don't know where soldiers spit and curse  
to carry your light of truth out to an endangered world  
this world of ours, this world of mine

### LONGING

I long for you  
thirst to be home with you  
run to you  
feel this longing inside.  
In sorrow I called to you  
in joy now I smile with you  
reach out with open heart.

I am one with you I long to be there beside you  
I will run to you, run home and be waiting for you  
I will look to you, remember and look for you.

In love and separation  
in our broken perfection  
we heal and grow beyond.  
In darkness I could see light  
so in life now I see shadows  
like a river walk beneath some tall beech trees.

I am one with you....

In love and separation  
when you're broken wide open  
standing there with nothing left to hide.  
So fragile with such beauty  
and your candle burns so brightly  
lantern held high through the long wild nights.

I am one with you....

In love and separation in our broken perfection  
we heal and grow beyond ourselves.



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