

The Essential **BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN**



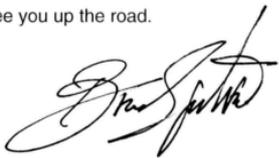
When the record company approached us and said they wanted us to be a part of their "Essential" series, that old saying came to mind. You know... "one man's coffee is another man's tea, one man's whiskey..." In any body of work there are obvious high points. The rest depends on who's doing the listening. Where you were, when it was, who you were with when a particular song or album cut the deepest.

We saw a lot of new faces on our recent tour and we put this collection together with them in mind. We selected material from over the full span of our recorded work and had Bob Ludwig revise and improve the mastering. The idea was to present a little bit of what each album has to offer.

The Rarities disc contains things recorded as far back as '79 for "The River," "From Small Things (Big Things One Day Come)," to "Code Of Silence," a song I wrote with Joe Grushecky (of Iron City Houserockers fame), that we debuted on the '99 tour with the E Street Band.

As for you guys who've been around for a while, I know... "Growin' Up," "Racing In The Street," "Backstreets," "My City Of Ruins," one man's coffee...

Best, and see you up the road.



This is the band that toured in '74 and recorded the song "Born To Run." Liberty Hall, Houston, Texas, 1974.
 Left to Right: Ernest "Boom" Carter, Dave Sancious, Garry Tallent, Danny Federici, Bruce Springsteen, Clarence Clemons.



DISC 1:

1. Blinded By The Light

Madman drummers bummers and Indians in the summer
 with a teenage diplomat
 In the dumps with the mumps as the adolescent pumps
 his way into his hat
 With a boulder on my shoulder feelin' kinda older I tripped
 the merry-go-round
 With this very unpleasing sneezing and wheezing the
 calliope crashed to the ground
 Some all-hot half-shot was headin' for the hot spot
 snappin' his fingers clappin' his hands
 And some fleshpot mascot was tied into a lover's knot with
 a whatnot in her hand
 And now young Scott with a slingshot finally found a
 tender spot and throws his lover in the sand

And some bloodshot forget-me-not whispers daddy's
 within earshot save the buckshot turn up the band

And she was blinded by the light
 Cut loose like a deuce another runner in the night
 Blinded by the light
 She got down but she never got tight, but she'll make
 it alright

Some brimstone baritone anti-cyclone rolling stone
 preacher from the east
 He says "Dethrone the dictaphone, hit it in its funny bone,
 that's where they expect it least"
 And some new-mown chaperone was standin' in the
 corner all alone watchin' the young girls dance
 And some fresh-sown moonstone was messin' with his
 frozen zone to remind him of the feeling of romance

Yeah he was blinded by the light
 Cut loose like a deuce another runner in the night
 Blinded by the light
 He got down but she never got tight, but he's gonna make
 it tonight

Some silicone sister with her manager's mister told me I
 got what it takes
 She said "I'll turn you on Sonny, to something strong if you
 play that song with the funky break,"
 And go-cart Mozart was checkin' out the weather chart to
 see if it was safe to go outside
 And little Early-Pearly came in by her curly-wurly and
 asked me if I needed a ride,
 Oh, some hazard from Harvard was skunked on beer
 playin' backyard bombardier
 Yes and Scotland Yard was trying hard, they sent a dude
 with a calling card,
 he said, "do what you like, but don't do it here"
 Well I jumped up, turned around, spit in the air, fell on
 the ground
 Asked him which was the way back home
 He said "take a right at the light, keep goin' straight until
 night, and then boy, you're on your own"

And now in Zanzibar a shootin' star was ridin' in a side car
 hummin' a lunar tune
 Yes, and the avatar said blow the bar but first remove the
 cookie jar we're gonna teach those boys to laugh too soon

And some kidnapped handicap was complainin' that he
 caught the clap from some mousetrap he bought last night,
 Well I unsnapped his skull cap and between his ears I saw
 a gap but figured he'd be all right

He was just blinded by the light
 Cut loose like a deuce another runner in the night
 Blinded by the light
 Mama always told me not to look into the sights of the sun
 Oh but mama that's where the fun is

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2. For You

Princess cards she sends me with her regards
 barroom eyes shine vacancy, to see her you gotta look hard
 Wounded deep in battle, I stand stuffed like some soldier
 undaunted

To her Cheshire smile. I'll stand on file, she's all I ever wanted.
 But you let your blue walls get in the way of these facts
 honey, get your carpetbaggers off my back
 you wouldn't even give me time to cover my tracks.
 You said, "Here's your mirror and your ball and jacks."
 But they're not what I came for, and I'm sure you see
 that too
 I came for you, for you, I came for you, but you did not
 need my urgency
 I came for you, for you, I came for you, but your life was
 one long emergency
 and your cloud line urges me, and my electric surges free

Crawl into my ambulance, your pulse is getting weak
 reveal yourself all now to me girl while you've got the
 strength to speak
 Cause they're waiting for you at Bellevue with their
 oxygen masks
 But I could give it all to you now if only you could ask
 And don't call for your surgeon even he says it's too late
 It's not your lungs this time, it's your heart that holds
 your fate
 Don't give me money, honey, I don't want it back
 you and your pony face and your union jack
 well take your local joker and teach him how to act
 I swear I was never that way even when I really cracked
 Didn't you think I knew that you were born with the power
 of a locomotive
 able to leap tall buildings in a single bound?
 And your Chelsea suicide with no apparent motive
 you could laugh and cry in a single sound

And your strength is devastating in the face of all these odds
 Remember how I kept you waiting when it was my turn to
 be the god?

You were not quite half so proud when I found you broken
 on the beach

Remember how I poured salt on your tongue and hung
just out of reach
And the band they played the homecoming theme as I
caressed your cheek
That ragged, jagged melody she still clings to me like a leech
But that medal you wore on your chest always got in the way
like a little girl with a trophy so soft to buy her way
We were both hitchhikers but you had your ear tuned to
the roar
of some metal-tempered engine on an alien, distant shore
So you, left to find a better reason than the one we were
living for
and it's not that nursery mouth I came back for
It's not the way you're stretched out on the floor
cause I've broken all your windows and I've rammed
through all your doors
And who am I to ask you to lick my sores?
And you should know that's true...
I came for you, for you, I came for you, but you did not
need my urgency
I came for you, for you, I came for you, but your life was
one long emergency
and your cloud line urges me, and my electric surges free
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3. Spirit In The Night

Crazy Janey and her mission man were back in the alley
tradin' hands
'long came Wild Billy with his friend G-man all duded up
for Saturday night
Well Billy slammed on his coaster brakes and said
anybody wanna go on up to Greasy Lake
It's about a mile down on the dark side of route eighty-eight

I got a bottle of rose so let's try it
We'll pick up Hazy Davy and Killer Joe and I'll take you all
out to where the gypsy angels go
They're built like light
and they dance like spirits in the night (all night) in the
night (all night)
Oh, you don't know what they can do to you
Spirits in the night (all night), in the night (all night)
Stand right up now and let it shoot through you

Well now Wild young Billy was a crazy cat and he shook
some dust out of his coonskin cap
He said, "Trust some of this it'll show you where you're at,
or at least it'll help you really feel it"
By the time we made it up to Greasy Lake I had my head
out the window and Janey's fingers were in the cake
I think I really dug her 'cause I was too loose to fake
I said, "I'm hurt." She said, "Honey let me heal it"
And we danced all night to a soul fairy band
and she kissed me just right like only a lonely angel can
She felt so nice, just as soft as a spirit in the night (all night)
In the night (all night). Janey don't know what she do to you
Like a spirit in the night (all night), in the night (all night)
Stand right up and let her shoot through me

Now the night was bright and the stars threw light on Billy
and Davy
dancin' in the moonlight
They were down near the water in a stone mud fight
Killer Joe gone passed out on the lawn
Well now Hazy Davy got really hurt, he ran into the lake in
just his socks and a shirt
Me and Crazy Janey was makin' love in the dirt singin' our
birthday songs
Janey said it was time to go
So we closed our eyes and said goodbye to gypsy angel
row, felt so right
Together we moved like spirits in the night, all night
Baby don't know what they can do to you
Spirits in the night, all night
Stand right up and let it shoot right through you
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4. 4th Of July, Asbury Park (Sandy)

Sandy the fireworks are hailin' over Little Eden tonight
Forcin' a light into all those stoned-out faces left stranded
on this Fourth of July
Down in town the circuit's full with switchblade lovers so
fast so shiny so sharp
And the wizards play down on Pinball Way on the
boardwalk way past dark
And the boys from the casino dance with their shirts open
like Latin lovers along the shore
Chasin' all them silly New York girls

Sandy the aurora is risin' behind us
The pier lights our carnival life forever
Love me tonight for I may never see you again
Hey Sandy girl

Now the greasers they tramp the streets or get busted for
trying to sleep on the beach all night
Them boys in their spiked high heels ah Sandy their skins
are so white



And me I just got tired of hangin' in them dusty arcades
bangin' them pleasure machines
Chasin' the factory girls underneath the boardwalk where
they promise to unsnap their jeans
And you know that tilt-a-whirl down on the south beach drag
I got on it last night and my shirt got caught
And that Joey kept me spinnin' I didn't think I'd ever get off

Oh Sandy the aurora is risin' behind us
The pier lights our carnival life on the water
Runnin' down the beach at night with my boss's daughter
Well he ain't my boss no more Sandy

Sandy, the angels have lost our desire for us
I spoke to 'em just last night and they said they won't set
themselves on fire for us anymore
Every summer when the weather gets hot they ride that
road down from heaven on their Harleys they come and
they go
And you can see 'em dressed like stars in all the cheap
little seashore bars parked making love with their babies
out on the Kokomo
Well the cops finally busted Madame Marie for tellin'
fortunes better than they do
This boardwalk life for me is through
You know you ought to quit this scene too

Sandy the aurora's rising behind us, the pier lights our
carnival life forever
Oh love me tonight and I promise I'll love you forever

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5. Rosalita (Come Out Tonight)

Spread out now Rosie, doctor come cut loose her mama's reins
You know playin' blindman's bluff is a little baby's game
You pick up Little Dynamite, I'm gonna pick up Little Gun
And together we're gonna go out tonight and make that
highway run
You don't have to call me lieutenant Rosie and I don't
want to be your son

The only lover I'm ever gonna need's your soft sweet little
girl's tongue Rosie you're the one

Dynamite's in the belfry playin' with the bats
Little Gun's downtown in front of Woolworth's tryin' out his
attitude on all the cats
Papa's on the corner waitin' for the bus
Mama she's home in the window waitin' up for us
She'll be there in that chair when they wrestle her upstairs
'Cause you know we ain't gonna come
I ain't here for business
I'm only here for fun
And Rosie you're the one

CHORUS

Rosalita jump a little lighter
Se, they'll be comin' up for air
I just want to be your love, ain't no lie
Rosalita you're my stone desire

Jack the Rabbit and Weak Knees Willie, you know they're
gonna be there
Ah, sloppy Sue and Big Bones Billie, they'll be comin' up for air
We're gonna play some pool, skip some school, act real cool
Stay out all night, it's gonna feel all right
So Rosie come out tonight, baby come out tonight
Windows are for cheaters, chimneys for the poor
Closets are for hangers, winners use the door
So use it Rosie, that's what it's there for

CHORUS

Now I know your mama she don't like me 'cause I play in a
rock and roll band
And I know your daddy he don't dig me but he never did
understand
Papa lowered the boom, he locked you in your room
I'm comin' to lend a hand
I'm comin' to liberate you, confiscate you, I want to be your man
Someday we'll look back on this and it will all seem funny
But now you're sad, your mama's mad
And your papa says he knows that I don't have any money
Tell him this is last chance to get his daughter in a fine
romance
Because a record company, Rosie, just gave me a big advance

My tires were slashed and I almost crashed but the Lord
had mercy
My machine she's a dud, I'm stuck in the mud somewhere
in the swamps of Jersey
Hold on tight, stay up all night 'cause Rosie I'm comin' on strong
By the time we meet the morning light I will hold you in my arms
I know a pretty little place in Southern California down
San Diego way
There's a little café where they play guitars all night and day
You can hear them in the back room strummin'
So hold tight baby 'cause don't you know daddy's comin'

CHORUS

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6. Thunder Road

The screen door slams
Mary's dress waves
Like a vision she dances across the porch
As the radio plays
Roy Orbison singing for the lonely
Hey that's me and I want you only
Don't turn me home again
I just can't face myself alone again
Don't run back inside
darling you know just what I'm here for
So you're scared and you're thinking
That maybe we ain't that young anymore
Show a little faith, there's magic in the night
You ain't a beauty, but hey you're alright
Oh and that's alright with me

You can hide 'neath your covers
And study your pain
Make crosses from your lovers
Throw roses in the rain
Waste your summer praying in vain
For a savior to rise from these streets
Well now I'm no hero
That's understood
All the redemption I can offer, girl
Is beneath this dirty hood

With a chance to make it good somehow
Hey what else can we do now
Except roll down the window
And let the wind blow back your hair
Well the night's busting open
These two lanes will take us anywhere
We got one last chance to make it real
To trade in these wings on some wheels
Climb in back
Heaven's waiting on down the tracks
Oh oh come take my hand
Riding out tonight to case the promised land
Oh oh Thunder Road, oh Thunder Road
oh Thunder Road
Lying out there like a killer in the sun
Hey I know it's late we can make it if we run
Oh Thunder Road, sit tight take hold
Thunder Road

Well I got this guitar
And I learned how to make it talk
And my car's out back
If you're ready to take that long walk
From your front porch to my front seat
The door's open but the ride it ain't free
And I know you're lonely
For words that I ain't spoken
But tonight we'll be free
All the promises'll be broken
There were ghosts in the eyes
Of all the boys you sent away
They haunt this dusty beach road
In the skeleton frames of burned out Chevrolets

They scream your name at night in the street
Your graduation gown lies in rags at their feet
And in the lonely cool before dawn
You hear their engines roaring on
But when you get to the porch they're gone
On the wind, so Mary climb in
It's a town full of losers
And I'm pulling out of here to win

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7. Born To Run

In the day we sweat it out in the streets of a runaway
American dream
At night we ride through mansions of glory in
suicide machines
Sprung from cages out on Highway 9,
Chrome wheeled, fuel injected
and steppin' out over the line
Baby this town rips the bones from your back
It's a death trap, it's a suicide rap
We gotta get out while we're young
'Cause tramps like us, baby we were born to run

Wendy let me in I wanna be your friend
I want to guard your dreams and visions

Just wrap your legs 'round these velvet rims
and strap your hands across my engines
Together we could break this trap
We'll run till we drop, baby we'll never go back
Will you walk with me out on the wire
'Cause baby I'm just a scared and lonely rider
But I gotta find out how it feels
I want to know if love is wild
girl I want to know if love is real

Beyond the Palace hemi-powered drones scream down
the boulevard
The girls comb their hair in rearview mirrors
And the boys try to look so hard
The amusement park rises bold and stark

Kids are huddled on the beach in a mist
I wanna die with you Wendy on the streets tonight
In an everlasting kiss

The highway's jammed with broken heroes on a last
chance power drive
Everybody's out on the run tonight
but there's no place left to hide
Together Wendy we'll live with the sadness
I'll love you with all the madness in my soul
Someday girl I don't know when
we're gonna get to that place
Where we really want to go
and we'll walk in the sun
But till then tramps like us
baby we were born to run

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8. Jungleland

The rangers had a homecoming in Harlem late last night
And the Magic Rat drove his sleek machine over the
Jersey state line
Barefoot girl sitting on the hood of a Dodge
Drinking warm beer in the soft summer rain
The Rat pulls into town rolls up his pants
Together they take a stab at romance and disappear down
Flamingo Lane

Well the Maximum Lawman run down Flamingo chasing
the Rat and the barefoot girl
And the kids round here look just like shadows always
quiet, holding hands
From the churches to the jails tonight all is silence in the world
As we take our stand down in Jungleland

The midnight gang's assembled and picked a rendezvous
for the night
They'll meet 'neath that giant Exxon sign that brings this
fair city light
Man there's an opera out on the Turnpike

There's a ballet being fought out in the alley
Until the local cops, Cherry Tops, rips this holy night
The street's alive as secret debts are paid
Contacts made, they vanished unseen
Kids flash guitars just like switch-blades hustling for the
record machine
The hungry and the hunted explode into rock'n'roll bands
That face off against each other out in the street down in
Jungleland

In the parking lot the visionaries dress in the latest rage
Inside the backstreet girls are dancing to the records that
the D.J. plays
Lonely-hearted lovers struggle in dark corners
Desperate as the night moves on, just a look and a
whisper, and they're gone

Beneath the city two hearts beat
Soul engines running through a night so tender in a
bedroom locked
In whispers of soft refusal and then surrender in the
tunnels uptown
The Rat's own dream guns him down as shots echo down
them hallways in the night
No one watches when the ambulance pulls away
Or as the girl shuts out the bedroom light

Outside the street's on fire in a real death waltz
Between flesh and what's fantasy and the poets down here
Don't write nothing at all, they just stand back and let it all be
And in the quick of the night they reach for their moment
And try to make an honest stand but they wind up
wounded, not even dead
Tonight in Jungleland

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9. Badlands

Lights out tonight
trouble in the heartland
Got a head-on collision



smashin' in my guts, man
I'm caught in a cross fire
that I don't understand
But there's one thing I know for sure girl
I don't give a damn
For the same old played out scenes
I don't give a damn
For just the in-betweens
Honey, I want the heart, I want the soul
I want control right now
talk about a dream
Try to make it real
you wake up in the night
With a fear so real
Spend your life waiting
for a moment that just don't come
Well, don't waste your time waiting

CHORUS

Badlands, you gotta live it everyday
Let the broken hearts stand
As the price you've gotta pay
We'll keep pushin' till it's understood
and these badlands start treating us good

Workin' in the fields
till you get your back burned
Workin' 'neath the wheel
till you get your facts learned
Baby I got my facts
learned real good right now
You better get it straight darling
Poor man wanna be rich,
rich man wanna be king
And a king ain't satisfied
till he rules everything
I wanna go out tonight,
I wanna find out what I got
Well I believe in the love that you gave me

I believe in the love that you gave me
I believe in the faith that could save me

I believe in the hope
and I pray that some day
It may raise me above these

CHORUS

mmmmmmmm, mmmmm, mmmmmmm

For the ones who had a notion,
a notion deep inside
That it ain't no sin
to be glad you're alive
I wanna find one face
that ain't looking through me
I wanna find one place,
I wanna spit in the face of these badlands

CHORUS

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10. Darkness On The Edge Of Town

They're still racing out at the Trestles
But that blood it never burned in her veins
Now I hear she's got a house up in Fairview
And a style she's trying to maintain
Well if she wants to see me
You can tell her that I'm easily found
Tell her there's a spot out 'neath Abram's Bridge
And tell her there's a darkness on the edge of town

Everybody's got a secret Sonny
Something that they just can't face
Some folks spend their whole lives trying to keep it
They carry it with them every step that they take
Till some day they just cut it loose
Cut it loose or let it drag 'em down
Where no one asks any questions
Or looks too long in your face
In the darkness on the edge of town

Some folks are born into a good life
Other folks get it anyway anyhow

I lost my money and I lost my wife
Them things don't seem to matter much to me now
Tonight I'll be on that hill 'cause I can't stop
I'll be on that hill with everything I got
Lives on the line where dreams are found and lost
I'll be there on time and I'll pay the cost
For wanting things that can only be found
In the darkness on the edge of town

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11. The Promised Land

On a rattlesnake speedway in the Utah desert
I pick up my money and head back into town
Driving cross the Waynesboro county line
I got the radio on and I'm just killing time
Working all day in my daddy's garage
Driving all night chasing some mirage
Pretty soon little girl I'm gonna take charge

CHORUS

The dogs on Main Street howl
'cause they understand
If I could take one moment into my hands
Mister I ain't a boy, no I'm a man
And I believe in a promised land

I've done my best to live the right way
I get up every morning and go to work each day
But your eyes go blind and your blood runs cold
Sometimes I feel so weak I just want to explode
Explode and tear this whole town apart
Take a knife and cut this pain from my heart
Find somebody itching for something to start

CHORUS

There's a dark cloud rising from the desert floor
I packed my bags and I'm heading straight into the storm
Gonna be a twister to blow everything down

That ain't got the faith to stand its ground
Blow away the dreams that tear you apart
Blow away the dreams that break your heart
Blow away the lies that leave you nothing but lost and
brokenhearted

CHORUS

I believe in a promised land...

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12. The River

I come from down in the valley
where mister when you're young
They bring you up to do like your daddy done
Me and Mary we met in high school
when she was just seventeen
We'd ride out of that valley down to where the fields
were green

We'd go down to the river
And into the river we'd dive
Oh down to the river we'd ride

Then I got Mary pregnant
and man that was all she wrote
And for my nineteenth birthday I got a union card
and a wedding coat
We went down to the courthouse
and the judge put it all to rest
No wedding day smiles no walk down the aisle
No flowers no wedding dress

That night we went down to the river
And into the river we'd dive
Oh down to the river we did ride

I got a job working construction for the
Johnstown Company
But lately there ain't been much work on account
of the economy



Now all them things that seemed so important
Well mister they vanished right into the air
Now I just act like I don't remember
Mary acts like she don't care

But I remember us riding in my brother's car
Her body tan and wet down at the reservoir
At night on them banks I'd lie awake
And pull her close just to feel each breath she'd take
Now those memories come back to haunt me
they haunt me like a curse
Is a dream a lie if it don't come true
Or is it something worse
that sends me down to the river
though I know the river is dry
That sends me down to the river tonight
Down to the river
my baby and I
Oh down to the river we ride

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13. Hungry Heart

Got a wife and kids in Baltimore, Jack
I went out for a ride and I never went back
Like a river that don't know where it's flowing
I took a wrong turn and I just kept going

CHORUS

Everybody's got a hungry heart
Everybody's got a hungry heart
Lay down your money and you play your part
Everybody's got a hungry heart

I met her in a Kingstown bar
We fell in love I knew it had to end
We took what we had and we ripped it apart
Now here I am down in Kingstown again

CHORUS

Everybody needs a place to rest
Everybody wants to have a home
Don't make no difference what nobody says
Ain't nobody like to be alone

CHORUS

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14. Nebraska

I saw her standin' on her front lawn just twirlin' her baton
Me and her went for a ride sir and ten innocent people died

From the town of Lincoln, Nebraska with a sawed off .410
on my lap
Through to the badlands of Wyoming I killed everything in
my path

I can't say that I'm sorry for the things that we done
At least for a little while sir me and her we had us some fun

The jury brought in a guilty verdict and the judge he
sentenced me to death
Midnight in a prison storeroom with leather straps across
my chest

Sheriff when the man pulls that switch sir and snaps my
poor head back
You make sure my pretty baby is sittin' right there on my lap

They declared me unfit to live said into that great void my
soul'd be hurled
They wanted to know why I did what I did
Well sir I guess there's just a meanness in this world

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15. Atlantic City

Well they blew up the chicken man in Philly last night now
they blew up his house too

Down on the boardwalk they're gettin' ready for a fight
gonna see what them racket boys can do
Now there's trouble busin' in from outta state and the D.A.
can't get no relief
Gonna be a rumble out on the promenade and the
gamblin' commission's hangin' on by the skin of its teeth

CHORUS

Well now everything dies baby that's a fact
But maybe everything that dies someday comes back
Put your makeup on fix your hair up pretty
And meet me tonight in Atlantic City

Well I got a job and tried to put my money away
But I got debts that no honest man can pay
So I drew what I had from the Central Trust
And I bought us two tickets on that Coast City bus

CHORUS

Now our luck may have died and our love may be cold but
with you forever I'll stay
We're goin' out where the sand's turnin' to gold so put on
your stockin's baby 'cause the night's getting cold
And everything dies baby that's a fact
But maybe everything that dies someday comes back

Now I been lookin' for a job but it's hard to find
Down here it's just winners and losers and don't get caught
on the wrong side of that line
Well I'm tired of comin' out on the losin' end
So honey last night I met this guy and I'm gonna do a little
favor for him

Well I guess everything dies baby that's a fact
But maybe everything that dies someday comes back
Put your hair up nice and set up pretty
and meet me tonight in Atlantic City
Meet me tonight in Atlantic City
Meet me tonight in Atlantic City

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East Camden, New Jersey, 1978.
Left to Right: Danny Federici,
Bruce Springsteen, Garry Tallent,
Steven Van Zandt, Roy Bittan,
Max Weinberg, Clarence Clemons.

DISC 2:

1. Born In The U.S.A.

Born down in a dead man's town
The first kick I took was when I hit the ground
You end up like a dog that's been beat too much
Till you spend half your life just covering up

Born in the U.S.A.
I was born in the U.S.A.
I was born in the U.S.A.
Born in the U.S.A.

Got in a little hometown jam
So they put a rifle in my hand
Sent me off to a foreign land
To go and kill the yellow man

Born in the U.S.A.
I was born in the U.S.A.
I was born in the U.S.A.
I was born in the U.S.A.
Born in the U.S.A.

Come back home to the refinery
Hiring man says "Son if it was up to me"
Went down to see my V.A. man
He said "Son, don't you understand"

I had a brother at Khe Sahn fighting off the Viet Cong
They're still there, he's all gone

He had a woman he loved in Saigon
I got a picture of him in her arms now

Down in the shadow of the penitentiary
Out by the gas fires of the refinery
I'm ten years burning down the road
Nowhere to run ain't got nowhere to go

Born in the U.S.A.
I was born in the U.S.A.

Born in the U.S.A.
I'm a long gone Daddy in the U.S.A.
Born in the U.S.A.
Born in the U.S.A.
Born in the U.S.A.
I'm a cool rocking Daddy in the U.S.A.

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2. Glory Days

I had a friend was a big baseball player
back in high school
He could throw that speedball by you
Make you look like a fool boy
Saw him the other night at this roadside bar
I was walking in, he was walking out
We went back inside sat down had a few drinks
but all he kept talking about was

CHORUS

Glory days well they'll pass you by
Glory days in the wink of a young girl's eye
Glory days, glory days

Well there's a girl that lives up the block
back in school she could turn all the boy's heads
Sometimes on a Friday I'll stop by
and have a few drinks after she put her kids to bed
Her and her husband Bobby well they split up
I guess it's two years gone by now
We just sit around talking about the old times,
she says when she feels like crying
she starts laughing thinking about

CHORUS

Now I think I'm going down to the well tonight
and I'm going to drink till I get my fill
And I hope when I get old I don't sit around thinking
about it

but I probably will
Yeah, just sitting back trying to recapture
a little of the glory of, well time slips away
and leaves you with nothing mister but
boring stories of glory days

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3. Dancing In The Dark

I get up in the evening
and I ain't got nothing to say
I come home in the morning
I go to bed feeling the same way
I ain't nothing but tired
Man I'm just tired and bored with myself
Hey there baby, I could use just a little help

You can't start a fire
You can't start a fire without a spark
This gun's for hire
even if we're just dancing in the dark

Message keeps getting clearer
radio's on and I'm moving 'round the place
I check my look in the mirror
I wanna change my clothes, my hair, my face
Man I ain't getting nowhere
I'm just living in a dump like this
There's something happening somewhere
baby I just know that there is

You can't start a fire
you can't start a fire without a spark
This gun's for hire
even if we're just dancing in the dark

You sit around getting older
there's a joke here somewhere and it's on me
I'll shake this world off my shoulders
come on baby this laugh's on me

Stay on the streets of this town
and they'll be carving you up alright
They say you gotta stay hungry
hey baby I'm just about starving tonight
I'm dying for some action
I'm sick of sitting 'round here trying to write this book
I need a love reaction
come on now baby gimme just one look

You can't start a fire sitting 'round crying over a broken heart
This gun's for hire
Even if we're just dancing in the dark
You can't start a fire worrying about your little world
falling apart
This gun's for hire
Even if we're just dancing in the dark
Hey baby

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4. Tunnel Of Love

Fat man sitting on a little stool
Takes the money from my hand while his eyes take a walk
all over you
Hands me the ticket smiles and whispers good luck
Cuddle up angel cuddle up my little dove
We'll ride down baby into this tunnel of love

I can feel the soft silk of your blouse
And them soft thrills in our little fun house
Then the lights go out and it's just the three of us
You me and all that stuff we're so scared of
Gotta ride down baby into this tunnel of love

There's a crazy mirror showing us both in 5-D
I'm laughing at you you're laughing at me
There's a room of shadows that gets so dark brother
It's easy for two people to lose each other in this tunnel of love

It ought to be easy ought to be simple enough
Man meets woman and they fall in love
But the house is haunted and the ride gets rough
And you've got to learn to live with what you can't rise
above if you want to ride on down in through this tunnel of love

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5. Brilliant Disguise

I hold you in my arms
as the band plays
What are those words whispered baby
just as you turn away
I saw you last night
out on the edge of town
I wanna read your mind
To know just what I've got in this new thing I've found
So tell me what I see
when I look in your eyes
Is that you baby
or just a brilliant disguise

I heard somebody call your name
from underneath our willow
I saw something tucked in shame
underneath your pillow
Well I've tried so hard baby
but I just can't see
What a woman like you
is doing with me
So tell me who I see
when I look in your eyes
Is that you baby
or just a brilliant disguise

Now look at me baby
struggling to do everything right
And then it all falls apart
when out go the lights

I'm just a lonely pilgrim
I walk this world in wealth
I want to know if it's you I don't trust
'cause I damn sure don't trust myself

Now you play the loving woman
I'll play the faithful man
But just don't look too close
into the palm of my hand
We stood at the altar
the gypsy swore our future was right
But come the wee wee hours
Well maybe baby the gypsy lied
So when you look at me
you better look hard and look twice
Is that me baby
or just a brilliant disguise

Tonight our bed is cold
I'm lost in the darkness of our love
God have mercy on the man
Who doubts what he's sure of

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6. Human Touch

You and me we were the pretenders
We let it all slip away
In the end what you don't surrender
Well the world just strips away

Girl, ain't no kindness in the face of strangers
Ain't gonna find no miracles here
Well you can wait on your blesses my darlin'
But I got a deal for you right here

I ain't lookin' for praise or pity
I ain't comin' 'round searchin' for a crutch
I just want someone to talk to

And a little of that Human Touch
Just a little of that Human Touch

Ain't no mercy on the streets of this town
Ain't no bread from heavenly skies
Ain't nobody drawin' wine from this blood
It's just you and me tonight

Tell me, in a world without pity
Do you think what I'm askin's too much
I just want something to hold on to
And a little of that Human Touch
Just a little of that Human Touch

Oh girl that feeling of safety you prize
Well it comes at a hard hard price
You can't shut off the risk and the pain
Without losin' the love that remains
We're all riders on this train

So you've been broken and you've been hurt
Show me somebody who ain't
Yeah, I know I ain't nobody's bargain
But, hell, a little touchup
and a little paint...

You might need somethin' to hold on to
When all the answers, they don't amount to much
Somebody that you could just to talk to
And a little of that Human Touch

Baby, in a world without pity
Do you think what I'm askin's too much
I just want to feel you in my arms
Share a little of that Human Touch
Feel a little of that Human Touch
Give me a little of that Human Touch

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7. Living Proof

Well now on a summer night in a dusky room
Come a little piece of the Lord's undying light
Crying like he swallowed the fiery moon
In his mother's arms it was all the beauty I could take
Like the missing words to some prayer that I could never make
In a world so hard and dirty so fouled and confused
Searching for a little bit of God's mercy
I found living proof

I put my heart and soul I put 'em high upon a shelf
Right next to the faith the faith that I'd lost in myself
I went down into the desert city
Just tryin' so hard to shed my skin
I crawled deep into some kind of darkness
Lookin' to burn out every trace of who I'd been
You do some sad sad things baby
When it's your you're tryin' to lose
You do some sad and hurtful things
I've seen living proof

You shot through my anger and rage
To show me my prison was just an open cage
There were no keys no guards
Just one frightened man and some old shadows for bars

Well now all that's sure on the boulevard
Is that life is just a house of cards
As fragile as each and every breath
Of this boy sleepin' in our bed
Tonight let's lie beneath the eaves
Just a close band of happy thieves
And when that train comes we'll get on board
And steal what we can from the treasures of the Lord
It's been a long long drought baby
Tonight the rain's pourin' down on our roof
Looking for a little bit of God's mercy
I found living proof

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8. Lucky Town

House got too crowded clothes got too tight
And I don't know just where I'm going tonight
Out where the sky's been cleared by a good hard rain
There's somebody callin' my secret name

I'm going down to Lucky Town
Going down to Lucky Town
I wanna lose these blues I've found
Down in Lucky Town
Down in Lucky Town

Had a coat of fine leather and snakeskin boots
But that coat always had a thread hangin' loose
Well I pulled it one night and to my surprise
It led me right past your house and on over the rise

I'm going down to Lucky Town
Down to Lucky Town
I'm gonna lose these blues I've found
Down in Lucky Town
Down in Lucky Town

I had some victory that was just failure in deceit
Now the joke's comin' up through the soles of my feet
I been a long time walking on fortune's cane
Tonight I'm steppin' lightly and feelin' no pain

Well here's to your good looks baby now here's to my health
Here's to the loaded places that we take ourselves
When it comes to luck you make your own
Tonight I got dirt on my hands but I'm building me a new home

Down in Lucky Town
Down in Lucky Town
I'm gonna lose these blues I've found
Down in Lucky Town

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9. Streets Of Philadelphia

I was bruised and battered and I couldn't tell
what I felt
I was unrecognizable to myself
Saw my reflection in a window I didn't know
my own face
Oh brother are you gonna leave me
wasting away
On the streets of Philadelphia

I walked the avenue till my legs felt like stone
I heard the voices of friends vanished and gone
At night I could hear the blood in my veins
Just as black and whispering as the rain
On the streets of Philadelphia

Ain't no angel gonna greet me
It's just you and I my friend
And my clothes don't fit me no more
I walked a thousand miles
just to slip this skin

The night has fallen, I'm lyin' awake
I can feel myself fading away
So receive me brother with your faithless kiss
or will we leave each other alone like this
On the streets of Philadelphia

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10. The Ghost Of Tom Joad

Men walkin' 'long the railroad tracks
Goin' someplace there's no goin' back
Highway patrol choppers comin' up over the ridge
Hot soup on a campfire under the bridge
Shelter line stretchin' round the corner
Welcome to the new world order
Families sleepin' in their cars in the southwest
No home no job no peace no rest



The highway is alive tonight
But nobody's kiddin' nobody about where it goes
I'm sittin' down here in the campfire light
Searchin' for the ghost of Tom Joad

He pulls prayer book out of his sleeping bag
Preacher lights up a butt and takes a drag
Waitin' for when the last shall be first and the first
shall be last
In a cardboard box 'neath the underpass
Got a one-way ticket to the promised land
You got a hole in your belly and gun in your hand
Sleeping on a pillow of solid rock
Bathin' in the city aqueduct

The highway is alive tonight
But where it's headed everybody knows
I'm sittin' down here in the campfire light
Waitin' on the ghost of Tom Joad

Now Tom said "Mom, wherever there's a cop beatin' a guy
Wherever a hungry newborn baby cries
Where there's a fight 'gainst the blood and hatred in the air
Look for me Mom I'll be there
Wherever there's somebody fightin' for a place to stand
Or decent job or a helpin' hand
Wherever somebody's strugglin' to be free
Look in their eyes Mom you'll see me."

The highway is alive tonight
But nobody's kiddin' nobody about where it goes
I'm sittin' down here in the campfire light
With the ghost of old Tom Joad

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11. The Rising

Can't see nothin' in front of me
Can't see nothin' coming up behind

I make my way through this darkness
I can't feel nothing but this chain that binds me
Lost track of how far I've gone
How far I've gone, how high I've climbed
On my back's a sixty pound stone
On my shoulder a half mile line

Come on up for the rising
Com on up, lay your hands in mine
Come on up for the rising
Come on up for the rising tonight

Left the house this morning
Bells ringing filled the air
Wearin' the cross of my calling
On wheels of fire I come rollin' down here

Come on up for the rising
Come on up, lay your hands in mine
Come on up for the rising
Come on up for the rising tonight

Li, li, li, li, li, li, li, li, li

Spirits above and behind me
Faces gone, black eyes burnin' bright
May their precious blood forever bind me
Lord as I stand before your fiery light

Li, li, li, li, li, li, li, li, li

I see you Mary in the garden
In the garden of a thousand sighs
There's holy pictures of our children
Dancin' in a sky filled with light
May I feel your arms around me
May I feel your blood mix with mine
A dream of life comes to me
Like a catfish dancin' on the end of the line

Sky of blackness and sorrow (a dream of life)
Sky of love, sky of tears (a dream of life)
Sky of glory and sadness (a dream of life)
Sky of mercy, sky of fear (a dream of life)
Sky of memory and shadow (a dream of life)
Your burnin' wind fills my arms tonight
Sky of longing and emptiness (a dream of life)
Sky of fullness, sky of blessed life (a dream of life)

Come on up for the rising
Come on up, lay your hands in mine
Come on up for the rising
Come on up for the rising tonight

Li, li, li, li, li, li, li, li, li

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12. Mary's Place

I got seven pictures of Buddha
The prophet's on my tongue
Eleven angels of mercy
Sighin' over that black hole in the sun
My heart's dark but it's risin'
I'm pullin' all the faith I can see
From that black hole on the horizon
I hear your voice calling me

Let it rain, let it rain, let it rain
Let it rain, let it rain, let it rain, let it rain
Meet me at Mary's place, we're gonna have a party
Meet me at Mary's place, we're gonna have a party
Tell me how do we get this thing started
Meet me at Mary's place

Familiar faces around me
Laughter fills the air
Your loving grace surrounds me
Everybody's here

Furniture's out on the front porch
Music's up loud
I dream of you in my arms
I lose myself in the crowd

Let it rain, let it rain, let it rain
Let it rain, let it rain, let it rain, let it rain
Meet me at Mary's place, we're gonna have a party
Meet me at Mary's place, we're gonna have a party
Tell me how do you live broken-hearted
Meet me at Mary's place

I got a picture of you in my locket
I keep it close to my heart
A light shining in my breast
Leading me through the dark
Seven days, seven candles
In my window light your way
Your favorite record's on the turntable
I drop the needle and pray
Band's countin' out midnight
Floor's rumblin' loud
Singer's callin' up daylight
And waitin' for that shout from the crowd
Waitin' for that shout from the crowd

Turn it up, turn it up, turn it up
Turn it up, turn it up, turn it up, turn it up

Meet me at Mary's place, we're gonna have a party
Meet me at Mary's place, we're gonna have a party
Tell me how do we get this thing started
Meet me at Mary's place

Meet me at Mary's place
Meet me at Mary's place

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13. Lonesome Day

Once I thought I knew
Everything I needed to know about you
Your sweet whisper, Your tender touch
But I didn't really know that much
Joke's on me, It's gonna be okay
If I can just get through this lonesome day

Hell's brewin' dark sun's on the rise
This storm'll blow through by and by
House is on fire, Viper's in the grass
A little revenge and this too shall pass
This too shall pass, I'm gonna pray
Right now all I got's this lonesome day

It's alright...It's alright...It's alright

Better ask questions before you shoot
Deceit and betrayal's bitter fruit
It's hard to swallow, come time to pay
That taste on your tongue don't easily slip away

Let kingdom come I'm gonna find my way
Through this lonesome day
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14. American Skin (41 Shots) (Live) Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band

41 shots
41 shots...

and we'll take that ride
'cross this bloody river to the other side
41 shots... cut through the night
You're kneeling over his body in the vestibule
Praying for his life

Is it a gun, is it a knife
Is it a wallet, this is your life
It ain't no secret
It ain't no secret
No secret my friend
You can get killed just for living
In your American skin

41 shots
Lena gets her son ready for school
She says "on these streets, Charles
You've got to understand the rules
If an officer stops you
Promise you'll always be polite,
that you'll never ever run away
Promise Mama you'll keep your hands in sight"

Is it a gun, is it a knife
Is it a wallet, this is your life
It ain't no secret
It ain't no secret
No secret my friend
You can get killed just for living
In your American skin

Is it a gun, is it a knife
Is it in your heart, is it in your eyes
It ain't no secret

41 shots... and we'll take that ride
'Cross this bloody river
To the other side
41 shots... got my boots caked in this mud
We're baptized in these waters and in each other's blood

Is it a gun, is it a knife
Is it a wallet, this is your life
It ain't no secret
It ain't no secret
No secret my friend
You can get killed just for living
In your American skin

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15. Land Of Hope And Dreams (Live) Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band

Grab your ticket and your suitcase
Thunder's rolling down the tracks
You don't know where you're goin'
But you know you won't be back
Darlin' if you're weary
Lay your head upon my chest
We'll take what we can carry
And we'll leave the rest

Big wheels rolling through fields
Where sunlight streams
Meet me in a land of hope and dreams

I will provide for you
And I'll stand by your side
You'll need a good companion for
This part of the ride
Leave behind your sorrows
Let this day be the last
Tomorrow there'll be sunshine
And all this darkness past

Big wheels roll through fields
Where sunlight streams
Meet me in a land of hope and dreams

This train
Carries saints and sinners
This train
Carries losers and winners
This train
Carries whores and gamblers
This train
Carries lost souls
This train
Dreams will not be thwarted
This train
Faith will be rewarded
This train
Hear the steel wheels singin'
This train
Bells of freedom ringin'
This train
Carries broken-hearted
This train
Thieves and sweet souls departed
This train
Carries fools and kings
This train
All aboard

This train
Dreams will not be thwarted
This train
Faith will be rewarded
This train
Hear the steel wheels singin'
This train
Bells of freedom ringin'

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BONUS DISC:

1. From Small Things (Big Things One Day Come)

Cut at the power station in NY in '79. I busted out my Gretsch "country gentleman" guitar and the band drove the hell out of it in a take or two. I played this song for Dave Edmunds backstage in London in '80 and he made a great record of it.

At sixteen she quit high school to
make her fortune in the promised land
She got a job behind the counter in an
all night hamburger stand
She wrote faithfully home to mama
"Now mama don't you worry none"
From small things, mama
Big things one day come

It was late one Friday he pulled in
out of the dark
He was tall and handsome; first she
took his order, then she took his heart
They bought a house up on the hillside
Where little feet soon would run
From small things, mama
Big things one day come

BRIDGE

Oh but love is fleeting
it's sad but true
But when your heart is beating
You don't wanna hear the news
She packed her bags
and with a Wyoming County real estate man
She ran down to Tampa
In and "El Dorado Grande"
She wrote back home, "Dear Mama
Life is just heaven in the sun
From small things, mama
Big things one day come"

Well she shot him dead
On a sunny Florida road

When they caught her all she said
Was she couldn't stand the way he drove

Back home lonesome Johnny
Prays for his baby's parole
He waits on the hillside
Where the Wyoming waters roll
At his feet and almost grown now
A blue-eyed daughter and a handsome son
Well from small things, mama
Big things one day come
Well from small things, mama
Big things one day come

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2. The Big Payback

A little mean rockabilly cut at home shortly after the "Nebraska" album.

I bought a scooter and I rented a shack
Out in the sun, by the railroad track
I got a job and I'm a-breakin' my back
Workin' and workin' for the big payback

I keep a puttin' and a puttin' out
I keep a sweatin' like all get out
I work so long that I'm a losin' track
Waitin', waitin' on the big payback

Well, it's a wham, bam, thank you ma'am, god damn,
look out Sam
It's a gone dead train rumblin' down this track
They got your neck in the noose, you're draggin' long
in back
Chasin' and chasin' the big payback

Oh what my foreman does well I don't know
He just throws me a shovel and yells "Go, Bobby, Go"
Oh well – a all day long he's just a diddy wack wack
While I'm sweatin' and sweatin' the big payback



Well, it's a wham, bam, thank you ma'am, god damn,
look out Sam
It's a gone dead train rumblin' down this track
They got your neck in the noose, your hands are tied up
in back
Chasin' and chasin' the big payback

I quit that job, and Mister I ain't goin' back
Got me a knife and she's a long and black
I'll tell you how I make my piece at night Mac
Down in the alley of the big payback

I go a wham, bam, thank you ma'am, god damn,
c'mon man
You're a gone dead train rumblin' down this track
I got your neck in the noose and I don't give a damn, Jack
I'm on that long lost highway of the big payback
I'm on that long lost highway of the big payback
I'm on that long lost highway of the big payback

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3. Held Up Without A Gun (Live) Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band

*Alive and raucous in Uniondale, NY on New Year's Eve
1980. Go...Stevie...Go! Sing...Stevie...Sing!*

I was out driving just a taking it slow
Looked at my tank it was reading low
Pulled in a Exxon station out on Highway One
Held up without a gun, held up without a gun

Some damn fool with a guitar
walkin' down the street
ain't got nowhere to go
Ain't got nothing to eat
Man with a cigar says, "Sign here son"
Held up without a gun, held up without a gun

Now it's a sin and it oughta be a crime
You know it happens buddy all the time

Try to make a living, try to have a little fun
Held up without a gun, held up without a gun

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4. Trapped (Live) Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band

*Written by Jimmy Cliff, one of the great masters of
reggae and cut live on "The River" tour.*

Seems like I'm caught up in your trap again
Seems like I'll be wearing the same old chains
Good will conquer
Evil and the truth will set me free
And I know some day I will find the key
I know somewhere I will find the key
Seems like I've been playing your game way too long
Seems the game I've played has made you strong
When the game is over
I won't walk out the loser
I know I'll walk out of here again
I know someday I'll walk out of here again

Well now I'm
Trapped
OOH yeah
Trapped
OOH Yeah
Trapped

Seems like I've been sleeping in
your bed too long
Seems like you've been meaning to do me harm
But I'll teach my eyes to see
Beyond these walls in front of me
Someday I'll walk out of here again
Someday I'll walk out of here again

Trapped
OOH yeah
Trapped
OOH Yeah

I've played has made you way too strong

Trapped
OOH yeah
Trapped
OOH Yeah
Trapped
OOH Yeah
Trapped
OOH Yeah

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5. None But The Brave

*Set in the bars and '70s circuit in Asbury Park. Cut at the
Hit Factory, NYC for "Born In The USA."*

Tonight down on Union Street
I'm thinking back baby to you and me
The way you used to be
Your words come back to me
From passing cars
Voices sing out
And empty bars
Where guitars ring out
Who'd be the ones to get out

You said
None but the brave
No one baby but the brave
Those strong enough to save
Something from what they gave

None but the brave
No one baby but the brave

In my dreams these nights I see you my friend
The way you looked back then
On a night like this
I know that girl no longer exists

Except for a moment in some stranger's eyes
Or the nameless girls in cars rushing by
That's where I find you tonight
And in my heart you still survive

None but the brave
No one baby but the brave
Who's strong enough to save
Something from the love they gave

None but the brave
No one baby but the brave

Now tonight once more
I search every face on that crowded floor
Looking for, I don't know what for
Just waitin' to see you come walkin' through that door
There's a girl standing by the band
She reminds me of you and I ask her to dance
As the drummer counts away
I take her hand, we move away

Tonight now I see old friends
Caught in a game they've got no chance to win
Gettin' beat and then playin' again
'Til their strength gives out or their heart gives in

Now who's the man who thinks he can decide
Whose dreams will live who's will be pushed aside
Has he ever walked down these streets at night and
looked into the eyes of
None but the brave
No one baby but the brave
Those strong enough to save
Something from the love they gave

None but the brave
No one baby but the brave

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6. Missing

I was experimenting with drum looping at my home studio and recorded this in California in the mid '90s. I played it for Sean Penn and he used it in his film "The Crossing Guard."

Woke up this morning, was a chill in the air
Went into the kitchen, your cigarettes were lying there
Your jacket hung on the chair where you left it last night
Everything was in place, everything was all right
But you were missing
Missing...

Last night I dreamed the sky went black
You were drifting down and you couldn't get back
You were lost and in trouble so far from home
I reached for you, my arms went to stone
I woke and you were missing
Missing...

I searched for something to explain
In the whispering rain, the trembling leaves
Tell me baby where did you go
You were here just a moment ago

There's nights I still hear your footsteps fall
Your key in the door, your voice in the hall
Your smell drifts through our bedroom
I wake, but I don't move

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7. Lift Me Up

Director John Sayles called and said he was looking for a song to end his film "Limbo." The picture ends with a small plane approaching an island his main characters were stranded on. I tried to pick up the hum of the plane's engine and write something ethereal using the falsetto voice I'd developed in the '90s.

I don't need your answered prayers
Or the chains your lover wears

I don't need your rings of gold
Or the secrets that you hold
Lift me up and I'll fall with you lift me up
Let your love lift me up

I don't need your sacred vow
Or the promise tomorrow brings
Veiled behind the morning clouds
I'll take the fate the daylight brings
Lift me up, darling
Lift me up and I'll fall with you lift me up
Let your love lift me up

When the morning bright
Lifts away this night
In the light above
We will find our love, we will find our love

Your skin, your hand upon my neck
This skin, your fingers on my skin
This kiss, this heartbeat, this breath
This heart, this heart, this wilderness
Lift me up, darling
Lift me up and I'll fall with you lift me up
Let your love lift me up

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8. Viva Las Vegas

Cut for the NME benefit record in support of Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy with Jeff Porcaro on drums and Bob Ludwig on bass.

Bright light city gonna get my soul
gonna get my soul on fire
There's a whole lot a money just ready to burn so
get those stakes up higher
There's a thousand pretty women just waitin' out there
They're all livin'
Devil may care and I'm just the

Devil with love to spare
Viva Las Vegas
Viva Las Vegas

I how I wish that there were more than 24 hours in a day
But even if there were 40 more I wouldn't sleep a minute away
There's Blackjack Poker and a Roulette Wheel
A fortune won and lost on every deal
All you need is money and nerves of steel
Viva Las Vegas
Viva Las Vegas

Viva Las Vegas with your neon flashing
And your one-armed bandits crashing
And all your hopes down the drain
Viva Las Vegas turning day into night time turning
night into day time and you see it once you'll never be the same again

SOLO

Gonna keep on the run
I'm gonna have me some fun
If it costs me my very last dime
If I wind up busted well I'll always remember that I had a swinging time
I'm gonna give it everything I got
Lady Luck won't you let the dice stay hot
Let me shoot the seven with every shot

Viva Las Vegas
Viva Las Vegas
Viva Las Vegas
Viva Viva
Las Vegas

BUSTED.....
SOLO OUT

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9. County Fair

Portrait of an end-of-summer fair on the outskirts of town. It's from a collection of acoustic songs I cut shortly after the "Nebraska" album in California in '83.

Every year when summer comes around
(they) stretch a banner cross the main street in town
And you feel something happen in the air
Well, from Carol's house up on Telegraph Hill
You can see the lights going up out in Soldiers Field
Getting ready, for the county fair

County fair, county fair,
Everybody in town'll be there
So come on, hey we're goin' down there
(hey) Little girl with the long blond hair
Come win your daddy one of these stuffed bears
Baby, down at the country fair

Now you'll be hangin' tight when we hit the top
And that rollercoaster's ready to drop
And you brag, how you wasn't even scared
Well baby you know I just love the sound
Of the pipe organ on the merry-go-round
As it (bells) at the county fair

County fair, county fair,
Everybody in town'll be there
So come on, hey we're goin' down there
(hey) Little girl with the long blond hair
Come win your daddy one of these stuffed bears
Baby, down at the country fair

At the north end of the field they set up a stand
And they got a little rock and roll band
People dancin' out in the open air
It's James Young and the Immortal Ones
Two guitars, (baby) bass and drums
Just rockin' out at the county fair

(well) County fair, county fair
Everybody in town'll be there
So come on, we're goin' down there
Little girl with the long blond hair
Come win your daddy one of them stuffed bears
Baby, down at the county fair

Now it's getting late before we head back to town
We let that fortune wheel spin around
Come on mister tell me what's waiting out there
On my way out I steal a kiss in the dark
Hope I can remember where our car's parked
Baby, out at the county fair

Now off down the highway there's the last stream of cars
We sit a while in my front yard
With the radio playin' soft and low
I pull Carol close to my heart
And I lean back and stare up at the stars
Oh I wish, I'd never have to let this moment go

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10. Code Of Silence (Live) Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band

Written with Joe Grushecky in the winter of '97 and recorded live in NYC on the '99 tour with the E Street Band.

There's a code of silence that we don't dare speak
There's a wall between and the river's deep
We keep pretending that there's nothing wrong
But there's a code of silence and it can't go on

Is the truth so elusive, so elusive you see
that it ain't enough baby
To bridge the distance between you and me
There's a list of grievance 100 miles long
There's a code of silence and it can't go on

Well you walk with your eyes open
But your lips they remain sealed
While the promises we made are broken
Beneath the truth we fear to reveal
Now I need to know now darlin'
I need to know what's goin' on so c'mon

Well you walk with your eyes open
But your lips they remain sealed
While the promises we made are broken
Beneath the truth we fear to reveal
Now I need to know now darlin'
I need to know what's goin' on so c'mon

There's a code of silence that we don't dare speak
There's a wall between and the river's deep
We keep pretending that there's nothing wrong
But there's a code of silence and it can't go on

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11. Dead Man Walkin'

Written for the Tim Robbins film. I tuned the E string of my guitar down to a D and cut it in as low a key as possible to get as much deepness and darkness I could out of the music.

There's a pale horse comin'
I'm gonna ride it
I'll rise in the morning
My fate decided
I'm a dead man walkin'
I'm a dead man walkin'

In St. James Parish
I was born and christened
Now I've got my story
Mister no need for you to listen
It's just a dead man talkin'

In the deep forest
Their blood and tears rushed over me
All I could feel was the drugs and the shotgun
And my fear up inside of me
I like a dead man talkin'

With a summer sky my eyes went black
After I won't ask for forgiveness
My sins are all I have

Now the clouds above my prison
Move slowly across the sky
Here's a new day comin'
And my dreams are full tonight

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12. Countin' On A Miracle (Acoustic)

I sat in the lounge of Southern Tracks Studio where we recorded "The Rising" and played this country blues version of "Countin' On A Miracle." Filmmaker/photographer Danny Clinch was there with his super 8 film camera and caught it on tape. We closed our shows on tour with his film. This is the audio portion.

It's a fairytale so tragic there's no prince to break the spell
I don't believe in magic but for you I will, for you I will
I'm countin' on a miracle, countin' on a miracle
Darlin' I'm countin' on a miracle to come through

There ain't no storybook story, there's no never-ending song
Our happily ever after darlin' forever come and gone
I'm countin' on a miracle, countin' on a miracle
Darlin' I'm countin' on a miracle to come through

"Sleeping beauty awakes from her dream with her lover's
kiss on her lips
Your kiss was taken from me, now all I have is this
Your kiss, your kiss, your touch, your touch, your heart,
your heart

Your strength, your strength, your hope, your hope
Your faith, your faith, your face, your face, your strength,
your strength
Your dream, your dream, your life, your life

I'm runnin' through the forest with the wolf at my heels
My king is lost at midnight when the tower bells peal
We've got no fairytale ending, in God's hands our fate
is complete
Your heaven's here in my heart
Our love's this dust beneath my feet, just this dust
beneath my feet
(If I'm gonna live I'll lift my life darlin' to you)
I'm countin' on a miracle, countin' on a miracle
Darlin' I'm countin' on a miracle to come through

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All tracks written by Bruce Springsteen except "Code Of
Silence" written by Bruce Springsteen and Joe Grushecky,
"Trapped" written by Jimmy Cliff and "Viva Las Vegas"
written by Mort Shuman and Doc Pomus.

Asbury Park, New Jersey, 2002.
Left to Right: Clarence Clemons, Nils Lofgren,
Garry Tallent, Max Weinberg, Steven Van Zandt,
Bruce Springsteen, Danny Federici,
Patti Scialfa, Roy Bittan, Soozie Tyrell.



PRODUCERS:

Bruce Springsteen
Disc 1: Tracks 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
Disc 2: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15
Disc 3: Tracks 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11

Mike Appel
Disc 1: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Roy Bittan
Disc 2: Tracks 6, 7

Jimmy Cretecos
Disc 1: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Jon Landau
Disc 1: Tracks 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
Disc 2: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Disc 3: Tracks 1, 5, 8, 9

Brendan O'Brien
Disc 2: Tracks 11, 12, 13

Chuck Plotkin
Disc 2: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15
Disc 3: Tracks 1, 5, 8, 9, 10

Steve Van Zandt
Disc 1: Tracks 12, 13
Disc 2: Tracks 1, 2, 3
Disc 3: Track 1

MUSICIANS:

Bruce Springsteen – Lead Vocals, Acoustic
Guitar, Electric Guitar, Harmonica, Bass, Background
Vocals, Recorder, Mandolin, Handclaps
All Tracks, All Discs

Mike Appel – Background Vocals
Disc 1: Track 6

Roy Bittan – Fender Rhodes, Glockenspiel,
Synthesizer, Keyboard, Piano, Mellotron, Kurzweil, Pump
Organ, Korg M1, Crumar, Background Vocals
Disc 1: Tracks 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13
Disc 2: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Disc 3: Tracks 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10

Richard Blackwell – Congas, Percussion
Disc 1: Tracks 4, 5

Ernest "Boom" Carter – Drums
Disc 1: Track 7

Clarence Clemons – Saxophone, Percussion,
Background Vocals, Handclaps
Disc 1: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13
Disc 2: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Disc 3: Tracks 3, 4, 5, 10

Danny Federici – Accordion, Organ, Glockenspiel,
Piano, Vox Continental, Farfisa, Background Vocals
Disc 1: Tracks 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
Disc 2: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Disc 3: Tracks 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11

Jere Flint - Cello
Disc 2: Track 13

Bob Glaub - Bass
Disc 3: Track 8

Jim Hanson - Bass
Disc 3: Track 11

Randy Jackson – Bass
Disc 2: Track 6

Suki Lahav – Violin
Disc 1: Track 8

Larry Lemaster - Cello
Disc 2: Track 13

Nils Lofgren – Guitar, Dobro, Slide Guitar, Banjo,
Background Vocals
Disc 2: Tracks 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Disc 3: Tracks 4, 10

Vincent "Mad Dog" Lopez – Drums, Background
Vocals
Disc 1: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Gary Mallabar – Drums, Percussion
Disc 2: Tracks 7, 8, 10
Disc 3: Track 11

Ian McLagan - Piano, Organ
Disc 3: Track 8

Jeff Porcaro – Drums, Percussion
Disc 2: Track 6
Disc 3: Track 8

Marty Rifkin – Pedal Steel
Disc 2: Track 10

David Sancious – Piano, Organ, Electric Piano, Clavinet
Disc 1: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7

Eino Scarpantoni - Cello
Disc 2: Tracks 11, 12

Patti Scialfa – Vocals, Guitar, Harmony
Disc 2: Tracks 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Disc 3: Tracks 4, 10

Garry Tallent – Bass, Tuba, Background Vocals
Disc 1: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
Disc 2: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Disc 3: Tracks 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10

Boozie Tyrell - Background Vocals
Disc 2: Tracks 11, 12, 13

Steve Van Zandt – Guitar, Mandolin, Background Vocals
Disc 1: Tracks 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
Disc 2: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Disc 3: Tracks 3, 5, 9, 10

Max Weinberg – Drums, Background Vocals
Disc 1: Tracks 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
Disc 2: Tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Disc 3: Tracks 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10

Harold Wheeler – Piano
Disc 1: Tracks 1, 3

Alliance Singers: Corinda Carford (also contractor),
Tiffany Andrews, Michelle Moore (choir solo), Antionette
Moore, Antonio Lawrence, Jesse Moorer - Choir on Disc 2:
Track 12

Horn Section on Disc 2: Track 12: Mark Pender – Trumpet;
Mike Spengler – Trumpet; Rich Rosenberg – Trombone;
Tony Vivino - Tenor sax; Ed Manion - Baritone sax

Remastered by Bob Ludwig

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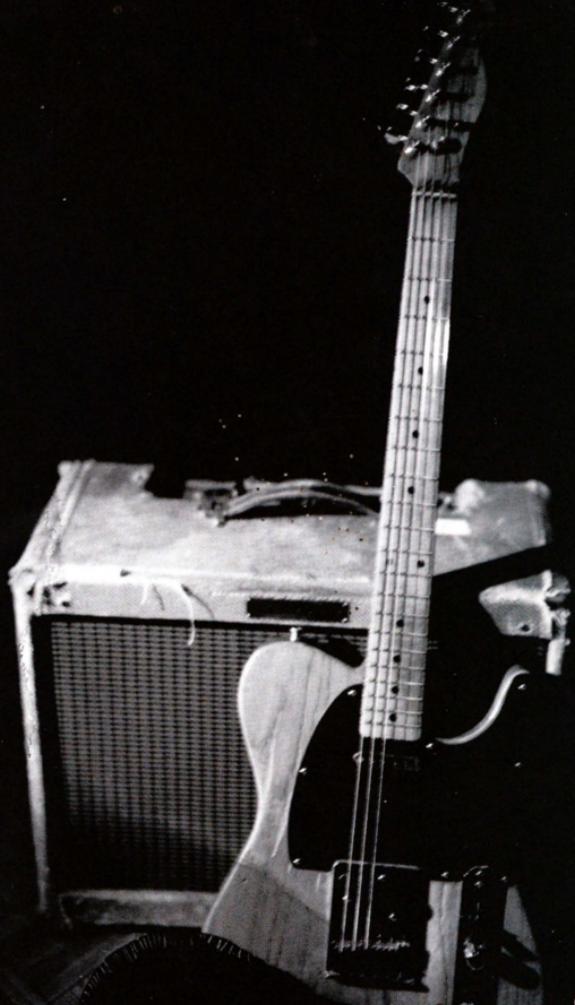
Love and thanks to Patti, Evan, Jessica and Sam.

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