

# "Long Way to be Free"

## Harry Bird and the Rubber Wellies

### Jon Lopez (Harry Bird)

jon lopez lit the spark of revolution  
in every man and woman that he met  
and no-one knew what drove him  
be it love or hunger or some hidden debt  
he'd appear whenever there was consternation  
signs of suffering or somebody in need  
and he'd always bring solutions  
to the pain, injustice, fear and injury  
and so solemn was his vow on each occasion  
that they'd follow him like children down the road  
but when it came to the hour for their hope to flower  
old jon lopez never showed

well the heat and expectation were unbearable  
as she stood outside the station in the shade  
while the clock was busy striking out  
all of the promises he'd ever made  
she was thinking 'bout that very first encounter  
when she'd looked up at him through swollen blinking eyes  
she was thinking 'bout her new life  
and the cruelty she'd surely left behind  
she turned to face the soft approaching footsteps  
the sweat running underneath her clothes  
oh she waited for him til the light turned dim  
but old jon lopez never showed

he said "how can you reproach me for deceitfulness  
when I give all of them something to believe?  
when they need a place to go to  
i provide a destination for their ease  
like that minotaur who bellows in the alley

because he can't see round the corners of his maze  
the true joy of seeing visions  
is the losing sight of everything you hate  
and hope is like sunlight on their faces  
it illuminates and makes the body grow  
and as flesh turns to dust  
if it hurts then it must  
when old jon lopez never shows”

well i know that it's no kind of great solution  
still i agreed to come and meet him here tonight  
and I know i shouldn't trust him  
cos of all the times he's lied to us outright  
but he told me he had ways of getting through to you  
yes he swore he'd make you see that you were wrong  
so how could i not be tempted  
after missing you so recklessly for so long?  
because you burst into my heart like an avalanche  
with the strength and beauty of snow  
and babe i only want you back  
so i came despite the fact  
i know that old jon lopez never shows

### **Who's Gonna Lead the March upon the Jailhouse? (Harry Bird)**

who's gonna lead the march upon the jailhouse  
when it's finally time for us to pay?  
who's gonna lead the march upon the jailhouse  
mother, when we lock ourselves away?

o let it be the ones who lay the innocent in early graves  
and all for an honest, decent pay go soldier  
when duty calls and flags are flown they march out to protect their  
own  
split blood and brains and breast and bone and then speak of honour

who's gonna lead the march upon the jailhouse  
when it's finally time for us to pay?  
who's gonna lead the march upon the jailhouse  
mother, when we lock ourselves away?

o let it be the men of politics whose lying interested lips  
launch fighter planes and battle ships to glory  
who far from where the conflict's fought send other people's sons to  
war  
and then sit back to watch it all on tv

who's gonna lead the march upon the jailhouse  
when it's finally time for us to pay?  
who's gonna lead the march upon the jailhouse  
mother, when we lock ourselves away?

o let it be the business lords who, reaping warfare's rich rewards  
smile when their company's share price soars as projected  
whose multi-national vampires suck on brand new markets opened  
up  
cos massive contracts and big bucks are expected

who's gonna lead the march upon the jailhouse  
when it's finally time for us to pay?  
who's gonna lead the march upon the jailhouse  
mother, when we lock ourselves away?

o let it first be you and i who speak the judgement from on high  
so quick to cast blame without recognising our own share  
we're the ones who give our votes, who buy the big macs and the  
cokes  
who teach and preach our young folk into warfare

who's gonna lead the march upon the jailhouse  
when it's finally time for us to pay?  
who's gonna lead the march upon the jailhouse  
mother, when we lock ourselves away?

## **Ban the Bomb! (Harry Bird)**

they say “no, no, no, no  
children, don't you ever play with matches!”  
cos maybe, who knows  
you could set the house a light  
and there's a danger, o no!  
sniffing glue that could muddle up your senses  
and as everyone knows  
you could kill yourself outright

there's a warning tag on your packet of fags  
it's there for your health and safety  
but the atom bomb can kill a million  
and it's okay to kill you cos you're from another country

1,2,3...  
ban the bomb! lay lay lay lay  
yeah, it's bad for your health  
ban the bomb! lay lay lay lay  
they banned everything else

well it's illegal to sell certain plants  
cos they've got some funny uses  
the government man wants you to understand  
he ain't having none of it  
and there ain't no exceptional circumstance  
you can run around with axes  
you wield the blade and they'll put you away  
you can be assured of it

they outlawed guns not to spoil your fun  
no, they did it for your own protection  
but if they care so much then why the rush  
to threaten with the weapons of mass destruction?

1,2,3...

ban the bomb! lay lay lay lay  
yeah, it's bad for your health  
ban the bomb! lay lay lay lay  
they banned everything else

### **She's Lost to Me (Harry Bird)**

she's lost to me like a morning  
you wake too late to discover  
she's lost like the sun 'neath the ocean  
to shine upon another

she's lost to me like a cold ember  
now she burns in another man's fire  
and blessed be the one who has taken  
the thing I most desire

sweet be the wine that they're tasting  
and long dwell the toast in their ears  
and loud ring the swell of those marriage bells  
to drown my raging tears

### **Hummingbird (Harry Bird)**

hummingbird, won't you tell me where you've been so long?  
don't you know i missed you and your sweet morning song?  
everywhere i looked i hoped you'd greet me with a smile  
hang around like you used to do and sing with me a while

hummingbird, you don't ever light on any tree  
you don't wanna get stuck somewhere you shouldn't really be  
there's hunters in the bushes out to catch you in the dark  
but i don't need you in my hands to hold you in my heart

hummingbird, everybody someday gotta choose  
and every time you gain something there's something else you lose

if i can't touch you anymore then i'll have to love the breeze  
that one day just might bring you home my hummingbird to me

### **Dirty Hands (Harry Bird)**

i've always kept myself well out of trouble  
i've always kept my tongue inside my head  
i've always kept a clean cut reputation  
and the good book somewhere close beside my bed

but there's only one thing i want  
when my time on this earth ends  
a pair of dirty hands, oh lord  
and a clean conscience

well everywhere i've been i've seen oppression  
and everywhere i've been i've seen abuse  
and everywhere i've been i've put a blind eye on the table  
cos it never costs you anything to lose

but there's only one thing i want  
when my time on this earth ends  
a pair of dirty hands, oh lord  
and a clean conscience

lay lay lay...

they said jesus shouldn't heal a man on sunday  
he shouldn't eat with sinners and he shouldn't have fun  
well some rules are just waiting to be broken I guess  
so i think it's time i started breaking some

but there's only one thing i want  
when my time on this earth ends  
a pair of dirty hands, oh lord  
and a clean conscience

## **The Beard Snood (Harry Bird and Christophe Capewell)**

the beard snood sat on my beard-i-o  
stopped hair from falling in the baker's dough  
the beard snood sat on my beard-i-o  
whilst my beard did grow  
lay lay lay lay.....

the beard snood sat on my tash-i-o  
stopped hair from falling in the pistachios  
the beard snood sat on my tash-i-o  
whilst my tash did grow  
lay lay lay lay.....

the beard snood sat on my sidies-o  
stopped hair from falling in the bridies-o  
the beard snood sat on my sidies-o  
whilst my sidies did grow  
lay lay lay lay.....

the beard snood  
protects the food  
from hairy intruders

## **La Grietita (Harry Bird)**

en mi casita hay una grietita  
un agujerito en la pared  
para que entre la luz de la luna  
y el sol que apenas se ve  
¡y la grieta soy yo!  
¡y la grieta soy yo!  
porque un cambio de aire se necesita ya  
y si todas las grietitas se juntan verás  
en vez de la casa un gran agujero  
tanto espacio para hacer posible otro mundo

en mi casa hay mucho dinero  
pero no tanta igualdad  
en mi casa hay mucho derecho  
pero no tanta libertad

en mi casita hay una grietita  
un agujerito en la pared  
para que entre la luz de la luna  
y el sol que apenas se ve  
¡y la grieta soy yo!  
¡y la grieta soy yo!  
porque un cambio de aire se necesita ya  
y si todas las grietitas se juntan verás  
en vez de la casa un gran agujero  
tanto espacio para hacer posible otro mundo

lay lay lay.....

en mi casa hay muchas armas  
pero no tanta seguridad  
en mi casa hay muchas palabras  
pero no tantas de verdad

en mi casita hay una grietita  
un agujerito en la pared  
para que entre la luz de la luna  
y el sol que apenas se ve  
¡y la grieta soy yo!  
¡y la grieta soy yo!  
porque un cambio de aire se necesita ya  
y si todas las grietitas se juntan verás  
en vez de la casa un gran agujero  
tanto espacio para hacer posible otro mundo

lay lay lay.....



## **Ain't Got Far to Go (Harry Bird)**

i'm ready with the butcher's knife  
i'm ready with the blow  
up you get my own true love  
cos we ain't got far to go

no, don't you fear the wolves at night  
and don't you fear the ghosts  
only fear the ones you love  
when they're tearing at your throat

your eyes they look like earth to me now  
the day is nearly done  
soon i'll lay your body down  
with the sun

so won't you take my hand now love  
and won't you take my coat  
and won't you kiss me one last time  
cos we ain't got far to go

no, don't you fear the wolves at night  
or the thundering skies  
only fear the ones you love  
when there's sadness in their eyes

## **Bonnie Glenshee (Traditional)**

o do you see yon shepherds  
as they all walk along  
with their plaids pulled about them  
and their sheep they graze on?

busk, busk bonnie lassie  
won't you come along with me  
and i'll take you to glenislá

near bonnie glenshee

o do you see yon soldiers  
as they all walk along  
with their guns on their shoulders  
and their broadswords hanging down?

busk, busk bonnie lassie  
won't you come along with me  
and i'll take you to glenisl  
near bonnie glenshee

o do you see yon high hills  
all covered in snow?  
they've parted many a true love  
and they'll soon part us two

busk, busk bonnie lassie  
won't you come along with me  
and i'll take you to glenisl  
near bonnie glenshee

### **The Lizard (Harry Bird)**

when the sun comes out  
out comes the lizard  
lazing around and flicking her tail  
when the sun goes home  
home goes the lizard  
til the sun comes out again

see the way she slides  
my what a lizard!  
she's got so many beautiful scales  
see the way she shines  
she's wearing mirrors  
lighting up the coast of wales

going down to the atlantic sea, yeah  
all the boys all sigh  
she's sitting underneath a palm tree  
drinking a bottle of hawaii

she's catching flies  
that greedy lizard  
her long, sticky tongue doesn't make any sound  
she gets a pomegranate  
out of the cupboard  
that's the way to wash 'em down

### **Fire in the Hold (Harry Bird)**

there's a gunpowder fire down below deck  
and none want to die in the flames  
so we'll scupper ourselves and get shipwrecked  
so to drown in the sea faring way

cos there's fire in the hold, ready to get scuppered  
yes there's fire in the hold, ready to jump overboard  
there's fire in the hold and a chopping at the beams  
ready to get scuppered and welcome the sea

all through my life as a sailor  
i've climbed in the rigging so high  
well now i'll be ascending much higher  
on the steps that lead up to the sky

cos there's fire in the hold, ready to get scuppered  
yes there's fire in the hold, ready to jump overboard  
there's fire in the hold and a chopping at the beams  
ready to get scuppered and welcome the sea

drink boys there's plenty of liquor  
drink while the ship's still afloat

cos soon you'll be drinking salt water  
you'll just have to open your throat

cos there's fire in the hold, ready to get scuppered  
yes there's fire in the hold, ready to jump overboard  
there's fire in the hold and a chopping at the beams  
ready to get scuppered and welcome the sea

now the captain's wife is a woman  
in search of longevity  
well now she'll never sleep in a coffin  
never taste that mortuary

cos there's fire in the hold, ready to get scuppered  
yes there's fire in the hold, ready to jump overboard  
there's fire in the hold and a chopping at the beams  
ready to get scuppered and welcome the sea

the captain's got a chest full of silver  
and a leg that is made out of wood  
well you can swim for your life with his treasure  
but i'd steal me his leg if i could

cos there's fire in the hold, ready to get scuppered  
yes there's fire in the hold, ready to jump overboard  
there's fire in the hold and a chopping at the beams  
ready to get scuppered and welcome the sea

### **Long Way to be Free (Harry Bird)**

so much to be thankful for, so much i lack  
i keep on moving forward, no, i don't look back  
on fifty thousand miles beneath my feet  
i died in the desert, i died in the deep  
you won't remember mister cos my blood is cheap  
but i've come such a long way to be free

i fought for every single step i took  
through poverty and prejudice and paperwork  
to each and every day his enemy  
i've marched in the street, i've lain in prison  
i've sung the police all my best bob dylan  
and i've come such a long way to be free

i've come such a long way  
i've come such a long way  
i've come such a long way to be free

i come looking for a job but i've had no luck  
i need a pie in which to get my finger stuck  
i thought i knew what hunger did to me  
i've sold everything to buy this field  
now i'm just left here praying that the pearl is real  
o i've come such a long way to be free

i've come such a long way  
i've come such a long way  
i've come such a long way  
i've come such a long way  
i've come such a long way to be free