



Cold War

Written by Tori Sparks. Copyright © 2006 Hand Over Foot Publishing (ASCAP).

I been knocking
At your door
Don't call these bloody knuckles bad luck
Call them battle scars

I been waiting
For your light to turn on
Patient nascent faith in the impossible dream
Keeps me hanging on

I been down down down
For way too long
But if you think that cold should gonna roll me over
Baby you're wrong

I been down down down
On my knees
But it's a cold war baby
You won't see no white flag from me

I been hurting
Way deep inside
Internal bleeding feeding my needing
Only one thing can satisfy

I been beating
My head against that wall
Cold stone all alone but even cold stone
Can fall

I been down down down
For way too long
But if you think I can't recover from my lover
Well then baby you're wrong

I been down down down
On my knees
But it's a cold war baby
You won't see no white flag from me

If waiting is a weapon
I got the magic bullet
Fire with precision in this war of attrition
There ain't nothing to it

I been down down down
For way too long
No pretenses in the trenches
And I am in for the haul

I been down down down
On my knees
But it's a cold war baby
You won't see no white flag from me

Yes it's a cold war honey
You won't get no surrender from me

Out of the Void

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I can't keep chasing
Though you I love to follow
You shine so bright I feel warm in the night
Bone cold

Love come to me out of the void
And warm me tonight
Because I will be leaving you
With tomorrow's first light

Now I've been here before
Barely surviving I swore
Never again to be blindly led
Down this dank road
True it is stony
Slippery and dark
But that's not the reason
I refuse to go that far

Love come to me out of the void
And warm me tonight
Because I will be leaving you
With tomorrow's first light

They say that true believers
Are tested ultimately
Do I pass or fail when they find me
Down on my knees

Or singing up here on my feet
Because somehow I'm still on my feet

Love come to me out of the void
And warm me tonight
Because I will be leaving you
With tomorrow's first light

Free

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The way you are
It's not my way
You know me better
Than to think I'd stay with you

With your black nights
Your gray days
Your holy books
Your unholy ways

I can't fight what I can't see
I know you'd never fight for me
I salvage what I can
These shreds of a woman

I collect my pieces and fly
Free

Into the rain
I go
They bring the storm
These thoughts of you

With your black nights
Your gray days
Your holy books
Your unholy ways

I can't fight what I can't see
I know you'd never fight for me
I salvage what I can
These shreds of a woman

I collect my pieces and fly
Free

You don't know
What you want
I may want to die
In your arms

But I can't live there
I can't care
Anymore
I got to get free

From your black nights
Your gray days
Your holy books
Your unholy ways

I can't fight what I can't see
I know you'd never fight for me
I salvage what I can
These shreds of a woman

I collect my pieces
And I fly free

Under the Rug

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Trash
Paper and dust
Broken glass
Splintered trust

Just before
You walk in the door
I sweep them under
The rug

Because I believe
In love's intervention
And I've seen
Your good intentions

When the night
Left us bleeding
We survived the war
Can we live through the healing

We had to learn
To love the bruises
Otherwise they'd be useless
Testaments to pain

It's all part of learning
To come in
Out of the rain
Come in out of the rain

Because I believe
In love's intervention
And I've seen
Your good intentions

When the night
Left us bleeding
We survived the war
Can we live through the healing

Blue moons
All went bust
And my heart
Is covered in rust

Just before
You walk in the door
I sweep them under
The rug

Most Alone

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I sit in the dark
Feel the shape the air takes
The promises a heart makes
That a soul can't keep

I reach for the flame
Bringing warmth or pain
I don't know
But the world is open to me

I'm on
My knees
And I crawl when I cannot walk
I sing when I cannot talk

In you I learned the finer things
Like how to hold on
In you I find what I need
When I am most alone

Yes I'm alone
But not in pain
I can't afford to wonder
I can't afford to wait

Because where the blood runs
Where the sun comes up red and warm
Like my beating heart exposed
Is where the truth lies, that's where I know

I'm on
My knees
And I crawl when I cannot walk
I sing when I cannot talk

In you I learned the finer things
Like how to hold on
In you I find what I need
When I am most alone

I fall from the sky
I piece myself together
It's only been cruel weather
And strangers' backs

I feel that I
Am broken and I can't relax
So I swallow the daylight
And let it shine through the cracks

I'm on
My knees
And I crawl when I cannot walk
I sing when I cannot talk

In you I learned the finer things
Like how to hold on
In you I find what I need
When I am most alone

Most Alone

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I don't want to fight
Your ghost women babe
After all
I've been fighting your demons for days

And I don't want to know
Why you don't come home
Ghosts or reflections you broke the connection
And either way I'm left alone

I been so worried about what you think
That I forget to think at all
I been so careful about what you drink
That I sip from the poison well

And I'm thirsty still

So I'm tending dead weeds
In a burnt-out garden
Sheltering
In the shade of a leafless tree

A governor
With a pocket full of pardons
But in this criminal house no one is around
To beg or to barter or ask me

I been so worried about what you think
That I forget to think at all
I been so careful about what you drink
That I sip from the poison well

And I'm thirsty still

I don't want to fight
The truth babe
After all
It's got bigger guns than me

And I already know
Why you don't come home
I could close my heart and my mind either way I find
I'm dying out here in the cold

I been so worried about what you think
That I forget to think at all
I been so careful about what you drink
That I sip from the poison well

And I'm thirsty still

Providence RI

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I met a man in Providence Rhode Island
He was my whole life at five foot nine

It split me wide
To leave him behind

Don't let it make you sad
It's just one more good thing gone bad

Now don't you let it show
It's just your sweet love brought low

I had his baby in Cleveland OH
She was my whole life with her wet green eyes

It split me wide
To leave her behind

Don't let it make you sad
It's just one more good thing gone bad

Now don't you let it show
It's just your sweet love brought low

In my head she's queen of the Nile
And he is faithfully mine

And we live in a world
That's kind

Don't let it make you sad
It's just one more good thing gone bad

Don't you let it show
It's just your sweet love brought low

Under This Yellow Sun

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Some people hide from the weather in the pouring rain
I don't understand it but I do the same
Trying to drown sorrow in sorrow's seas
And we are floating aimlessly

Well you told me the truth
Was gonna set me free
I'm hanging by a thread so what is freedom to me
But a fall and a tragedy

How did I know
That you were the one
If there ain't nothing new
Under this yellow sun

If the man on the corner
And the woman on the bus
And the Jehovah's witnesses
Standing on my doorstep

Can make it through
Noon to night
Clock in clock out
In short survive so can I

The weight of my coat like your arms around me
Saying I'm not lost I'm home you've found me
Everything is substitute
Sweet-n-low without you

The touch of hot coffee to my bleeding lips
Is your kiss illusory bliss
It's not just the music babe
The whole world is blue today

So how did I know
That you were the one
If there ain't nothing new
Under this yellow sun

If the man on the corner
And the woman on the bus
And the Jehovah's witnesses
Standing on my doorstep

Can make it through
Noon to night
Clock in clock out
In short survive so can I

I'm begging and broke without you
But we pay for the things we do
I can't touch you much less love you
Because when I did I drew blood

So how did I know
That you were the one
If there ain't nothing new
Under this yellow sun

If the man on the corner
And the woman on the bus
And the Jehovah's witnesses
Standing on my doorstep

Can make it through
Noon to night
Clock in clock out
In short survive so can I

Peace of Soul

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You are a page in my story
That I've torn out countless times
But I always rewrite
And there you are between the lines

Some things I need for peace of mind
So I take this time alone
But freedom can suffocate
And I need you for peace of soul

Now I may need these claws and wings
To carry me once we're through
I know they can you're just a man
And I've survived much worse than you

But some things I say for peace of mind
And so I say to leave me alone
But freedom can suffocate
And I need you for peace of soul

Horses may run wild
But for me that's just an excuse
Because people run away can I settle and stay
Face myself and you

Some things I need for peace of mind
So I take this time alone
But freedom can suffocate
And I need you for peace of soul

Caged Bird

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Once I hung on
To your every breath
And I was left
Hanging

I clipped my wings
Just to hear you sing
You sure sounded pretty
As you flew away

Don't tell me about no caged bird
Don't tell me about no caged bird
Let the door swing wide on the hinge of your mind
And unfettered you'll find that your heart

Will take to the sky

You used to put me to shame
You put me in my place
I swallowed it down
And got used to the taste

Rather than hold up
My heart like a tin up
For your change
I sleep in the street these days

Don't tell me about no caged bird
Don't tell me about no caged bird
Let the door swing wide on the hinge of your mind
And unfettered you'll find that your heart

Will take to the sky

After all that I've seen
It's the least I can do
Make a present of my past
To every ear in the room

Don't let them nail you
To their tree
There ain't no lock
Until you give them the key

No there ain't no lock
Unless you give them the key

Don't tell me about no caged bird
Don't tell me about no caged bird
Let the door swing wide on the hinge of your mind
And unfettered you'll find that your heart

Will take to the sky

Where Is the Love

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You call it like you see it
But you see it your own way
Out of line out of focus
And out of phase

You search for words, for wisdom
Then ram them down my throat
And you stand and stare and shake your head
As I choke

Lover
Where is the love
I'm asking you lover
Where is the love

You say it like you mean it
But you mean it your own way
How can I speak your language
When you're not sure what you say

You fell for a fighter
And then you beat her down
Where she once saw God in you
She sees only dirty ground

Lover
Where is the love
I'm asking you lover
Where is the love

Because I've been told it's invisible
Like God's only dove
Lover
Where is the love

I try to keep the demons out
As you invite them in
And I will have to run from you
Just to save my own skin

Lover
Where is the love
You know I'm asking you love
Where is the love

I been told it's invisible
I've almost given up
Lover
Where is the love

I want to know
Where is the love

Carry Us

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You are the flame
You are the match
You never ask for
Anything back

It's your final breath
Used to say
Though I go
Be not afraid

Be not afraid

That's love
And it carries us

Floods without
Fires within
May drown my lungs
And scorch my skin

Though the tides of time
May drain away
The shape of you
Will stay with me

You'll stay with me

That's love
And it carries us

It's the cooling rain
On the face
Of the criminal
And the saint

It's the dirty slate
That's wiped clean
By the patient hand
That's never seen

It's never seen
That's love
And it carries us
Let it carry us