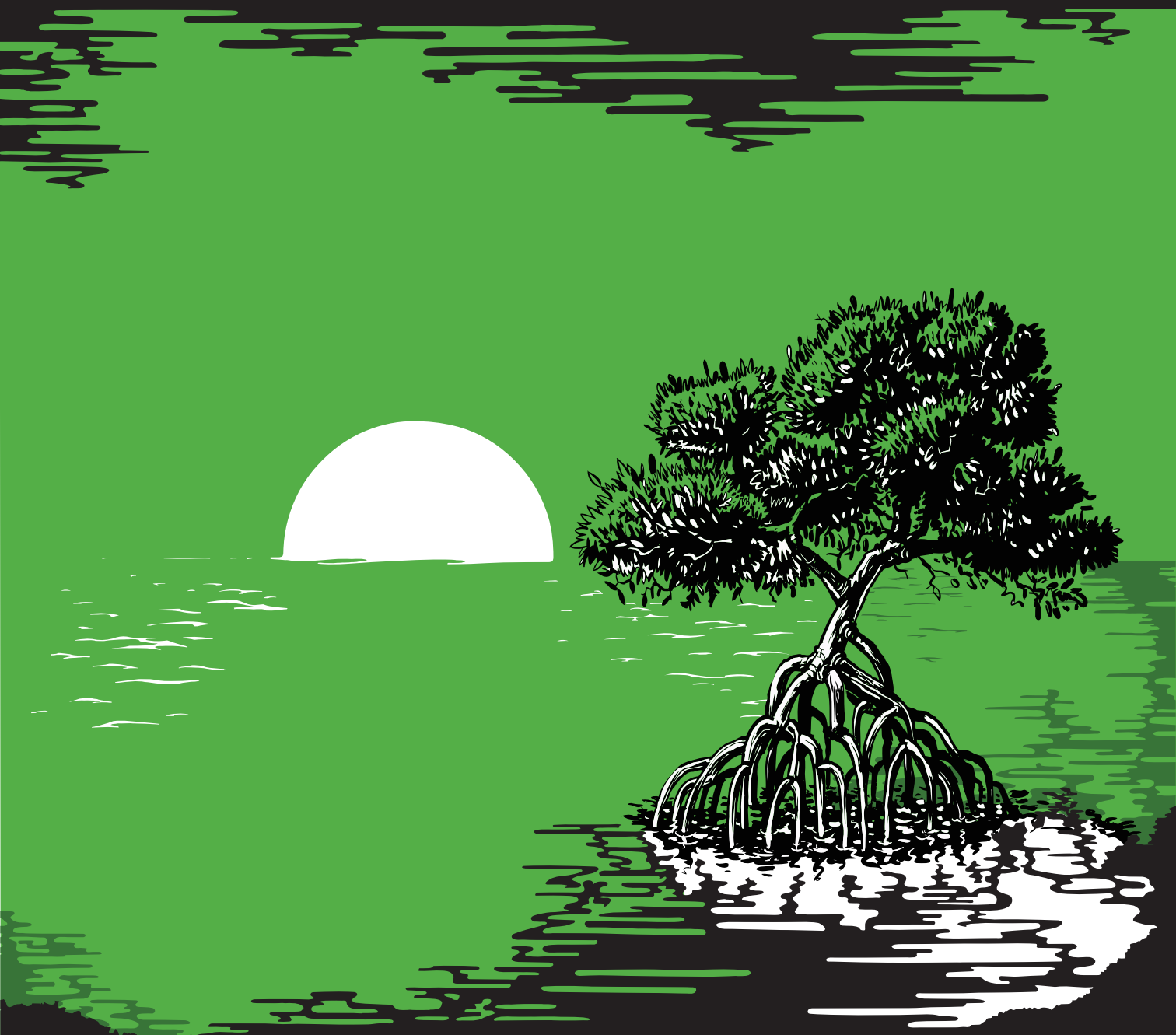


H A L F W A Y



T H E S T Y X

THE STYX: *Written and played by HALFWAY*

JOHN BUSBY - Vocals, acoustic and electric guitars

BEN JOHNSON - Bass, synths and harmony vocals

ELWIN HAWTIN - Drums and percussion

JOHN WILLSTEED - Electric, acoustic, nylon and baritone guitars

CHRIS DALE - Guitars and vocals

NOEL FITZPATRICK - Pedal steel guitar

LIAM FITZPATRICK - Tenor guitar

LUKE PEACOCK - Piano, organ and harmony vocals

ADELE PICKVANCE - Harmony vocals and percussion

LIAM BRAY - Harmonica and harmony vocals

MATT DEVER - Drum and audio technician

MARK NEVERS - Space guitar (*Stars & Pale Blue Sky*)

CHRIS ABRAHAMS - Piano and organ (*Desert Light*)



*Love &
Betrayal, C.Q.*

The Styx - Songs of Love & Betrayal: Xmas 1986

Two brothers, George and Lennie live with their young families in the remote fishing villiage of Stanage Bay, Central Queensland. One warm evening on low-tide the men set their nets in the Styx River and leave them to soak overnight. Just before daylight, Lennie breaks camp to check on the catch, but he doesn't return.

All songs recorded by **HALFWAY**
in Darwin, N.T. and Brisbane, QLD.

Guitar, drum and percussion overdubs recorded at
The Halfway House, Lutwyche, Brisbane QLD.

Brass ensembles, strings, choirs, incidental and
ambient sounds composed and arranged by
BEN JOHNSON and **JOHN BUSBY**

Mixed by **MARK NEVERS** and **JOHN BUSBY**
at The Beech House, Pawleys Island, S.C.



Mastered by **DAREK MUDGE** - Brisbane, QLD.

Artwork by **THE SHORT ANSWER**

Mackay - St. Lawrence - Clairview - Omore - Storage Bay



BEN JOHNSON



JOHN BUSBY



ELWIN HAWTIN



LUKE PEACOCK



MARK NEVERS



MATT DEVER



ROSS GIBSON



JOHN WILLSTEED



NOEL FITZPATRICK



LIAM FITZPATRICK



CHRIS DALE



ADELE PICKVANCE



LIAM BRAY



CHRIS ABRAHAMS

Glossary

The Styx River: 1) Central Queensland - A river on the northeastern coast of Central Queensland, situated south west of Stanage Bay. The river has a wide mouth and is fed by a large bay, which James Cook named 'Broad Sound' due to the size of the waterway. It has a 10-metre tidal range, the largest in Eastern Australia. On a king tide, water is funnelled through The Styx River, resulting in a tidal bore that rushes through the estuary as a wave. Both the Bruce Highway and the North Coast Railway Line cross the Styx River.

2) Greek Mythology - The River Styx was the main river in the Greek underworld that separated the realm of the living from the land of the dead. The souls of the dead would be taken across the river by 'Charon', the ferryman.

Clairview: A small coastal town founded by a now-defunct station on the North Coast Railway line. Made up of a small string of houses on the coastline, the area is very flat and has huge tides that recede, exposing the mangroves and stingray holes.

Saint Lawrence: A small town and wetland east of the Bruce Highway. Once a prosperous port town that used to process meat and cattle, Saint Lawrence became the victim of expanded rail links built in Queensland in the early 1920s, and its port became redundant. In 2006, the town's population was 125. Saint Lawrence takes its name from a martyred Roman deacon who in the year 258, enraged the Emperor (Valerian) and was put to death on a gridiron over hot coals. It's said that after suffering for a long time, Lawrence cheerfully declared, "I'm well done on this side; turn me over." - Saint Lawrence is the Patron Saint of cooks.

North Coast Railway Line: Commencing at Roma Street Station in Brisbane, this rail line runs north, parallel to the Queensland coastline. It concludes at Cairns in Far North Queensland.

Stanage Bay: Stanage Bay (Stanage) is a coastal Queensland town with 78 residents. It is located at the head of the Torilla Peninsula, jutting north into the Coral Sea, with Broad Sound to the west and Shoalwater Bay to the east. The town was subdivided and officially founded in 1989. Before then it was only accessible by four-wheel drive and populated by professional fishermen and their families living off the grid in huts and caravans. A tropical paradise, it is known for its pristine waters, access to reef fishing and estuaries inhabited by giant mud crabs, which can regularly weigh over 2kgs each.

Min Min Light: Min Min lights or spirits appear as large glowing balls of light floating on the horizon. Sometimes seen as dancing across the sky, they have also been witnessed as stationary. Though most sightings appear in the Channel Country of Queensland and NSW, they have been sighted as far north as the Kimberly and Pilbara regions. Balangarra and Ngarluma people have accounts of the lights that pre-date the European colonisation of Australia. For those who see them, the experience is often recalled as being frightening and unknowable.

Prospect: A prospect is a person in the process of being considered for full membership in a motorcycle club. This status involves a probationary period where the nominee is obliged to demonstrate their dedication to the club.

Ogmore: A rural town in Central Queensland with 72 residents, the locality includes Broad Sound and The Styx River. It was originally a service town to The Styx Number 3 coal mine that opened in 1924 and was closed in the 1960s. Queensland Rail's railway service gang was originally based in Ogmore but was disbanded in the 1990s. This caused the town's population to decline to about 30 people.



The Styx (J, Busby/B, Johnson/Halfway)

We saw some lights on the horizon

And we figured they were fishing inspectors

So we went down to the water
To cut the nets loose

But as it turned out

It was just a train, The Sunlander
Way off on the horizon

Sometimes the night plays tricks on you

We saw some lights on the horizon

Sometimes the night plays tricks on you

So a couple of us
Went down to the water

With the sand flies
Way off on the horizon

And as the train crossed the bridge
We thought we could see

Sometimes the night plays tricks on you

Sometimes the night plays tricks on you

The Palace (J, Busby/Halfway)

We'll we broke into the palace
With a pen and a daily planner

I don't know any of the songs you sing
Can you play "Hammer the Hammer"?

We went outside for air
With nothing much to lose

I said, I know a world
And listen to me girl, I know you

When we were always, coming home
We were always

In the palace grounds alone
I know you, I know you, I know you

We drank at **Clairview Beach**
With the cassette player on

The mangrove light was fading
Put the kid with the hearing aid on

Guitars and crashing waves
We'll make this one our song

Let him scream and writhe
And go on all night and comfort you

And we were always coming home
We were always

In the great palace of the unknown
I know you, I know you, I know you

And by morning we can see everything
(I see it coming, I can feel it calling me)

Smoke and coals are still lingering
(I see it coming, I can feel it calling me)

The seabirds have all taken the wing
(I see it coming, I can feel it calling me)

Wake up, say good morning to the sky
(I see it coming, I know, I feel it coming, I know)

And I know you, I know you, I know you

And by morning now we see everything
(I see it coming, I can feel it calling me)

Cassette player buzzes and rings
(I see it coming, I can feel it calling me)

I can hear the words that it sings
(I see it coming, I can feel it calling me)

Wake up, say good morning, to the sky
(I see it coming, I know, I feel it coming, I know)

Stars (B, Johnson/, Busby/Halfway)

Nothing lasts forever
And someday yeah you'll see
Some things don't go together
Even you and me

Ah some things don't last forever
And one day you will see
There'll be stars, there'll be stars
There'll be stars

Nothing lasts forever
Forget the end you see
It's not how we planned it
But it's you and me

Ah the end will come together
And one day you will see
Oh there'll be stars, there'll be stars
There'll be stars

Send your love to me
I hope that all the things you want, come to be
If I can not, I wish for you to see

Ah some things don't last forever
And maybe now you'll see
There'll be stars, there'll be stars
There'll be stars

There'll be stars, there'll be stars
There'll be stars

Pale Blue Sky (J, Busby/B, Johnson/Halfway)

When we're together in the pale blue sky
There's no reason to deny

When we're together just you and I
We don't need to understand why

And oh, just think of the places you'll go

When we're together in the pale blue sky
We don't need, the how's or why's

When we're together, just you and I
There's no reason to deny

And oh, just think of the places you'll go
And oh, if by some minor miracle
You see your way through this now
I don't know, just pick up the phone

(20 Jan, 14 Mar, 25 Dec, 9 Apr, 9 July, 14 June,
12 Sept, 12 Dec, 2 March, 4 April, 1 Jan, 1 July,
1 Nov, 1 Dec, 16 Mar, 19 April, 21 Aug, 14 June,
14 Sept, 18 Mar, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 1, 2, 1)

And oh, just think of the places you'll go
And oh, if by some minor miracle
You see your way through this
I want to know, you just say it's so

And then you said oh

To the morning
Where we lay our head
To the things that we never said
I hope that you'll understand
It's not enough, it's not enough

To the end of love she said
A toast to my oldest friend
Lay down on the estuary bed
It's not enough, it's not enough

And you know oh
All of the places you'll go

And oh, if by some minor miracle
We don't come out of this
Oh, don't you know
That would be just like us

(6 Feb, 9 July, 12 Sept, 15 April, 15 July,
13 Sept, 15 Sept, 1)

Matches (B, Johnson/, Busby/Halfway)

Oh put down the matches
I never knew nobody like you
There's a fire in the kitchen
I never knew nobody like you

You said you were leaving and I find it
So hard and it's true
You made a decision
And now it's time to follow it through

You've got your reasons and I find it so hard
Living here without you
Living here and there's no way clear
To find you, so what do you say?
When I pull out there's a stranger in my way

So batten the hatches
There's nothing else we can do
It's not worth repeating
Never seen nobody like you

I wish you all the fortune
That the day provides
Sometimes it can be hard
These are such complex designs
But one thing for sure
You will always be loved

So put down the matches
Never seen nobody like you
I guess the end's a beginning
There's never been nobody like you

It's so out of season and I find it so hard
Living here without you
Living here and I just can't find my way right

There's a phone outside I could call you
It seems that I have the **Clairview**
Line to solitude

I hear you're somewhere on the southside
One day on I'll pick up that phone and call you

What do you say? Well it's nothing now
There's a stranger in my way

Lost By Design (J, Busby/J, Willstead/Halfway)

Any day or night, you just call alright
Everything you see, is left as it should be
Unnoticed and you know
We could never lose you

A love of mine
Oh we are lost here by design
A place I know that we could hide

Separate the night, you just come inside
It's just you and me
Our own way make-believe
And we both carry on
We could never lose you

A love of mine
Oh we are lost here by design
A place I know that you could see

And if I knew the words
I'd say them true, to hold away the tide
And if one day it moves away from you
I don't need to know the why

Any love will lie, on the shoulder at times
You know what you need, a fear I could see
Outliers, we could fall
But it will never leave you

A love of mine
Oh we are lost here by design
I know, I need to let it go

And if I knew the words I'd say them true
To hold away the tide
In the end I'll find my own way through

I'll fall away from you
Oh I'll fall away from you

Min Min Light (J, Busby/C Halfway)

(There was no way, we could both stay
because it was our turn now)

St. Lawrence it was half way
And we'd gone too far to go back now
But there was no way
That we could both stay
Because it was our turn now
All conversations
Were just wine and 'Old No. 1' now
But we could always, see it our way
And it was all nothing now

Drive on
You let the night-time be your guide
All we were asking is that you decide
And would you please just believe me
It's a hard life, let the Min Min light
Just guide you home

There's no return from here bay
The **Ogmore** Hotel's in sight now
It was foreign, loves outlier
And it was hard won ground
After we'll head north
We'll drop those two four-inch nets down
I hope we always have it our way
'Cause it's a new world now

Drive on
You let the night-time be your guide
All we were asking is that you decide
And would you please just believe me
It's a hard life, let the Min Min light
Just guide you home

Hey I'll see you at the **Styx River** again
You know that I will always understand
How the ending is the hardest
Part to plan

Hey sure in time, I'll understand
How the leaving, is the hardest
Part to plan

The Prospect (J, Busby/Halfway)

You and I we roll together
No love could kill off that
Floating, on the line we're tethered
To keep us from coming back

A message to you
It's the least that I could do
I'm the prospect and I'll cover you

You and I we roll together
Tempered where reason may lack
A shore drift in all kinds of weather
Let merchant seas collapse
Oh love I'm coming home
And I'll say it to you, I'm the prospect
The end never comes true

You and I we roll together
Ambition fatigues the facts
Patched up in gold and red letters
Enlisted to bring you back
Oh love I'm coming home
And I'll say it to you, I'm the prospect
And the price is loving you

Sail your whole world away from me
Considering the weight of these
Uncertainties
And if I had my time again
You know I would just leave it there

You and I we roll together
No love could kill off that
Safer at home
And we know we're right
Safer at home, safer at home
We're right, safer at home

Desert Light (J, Willstead/C, Abrahams/, R. Gibson/J, Busby/Halfway)

There was desert light, in the underpass
You can say it now, beauty never lasts
There were crown fire blasts
From the gum-tree roof tops
There was something else
In the way we lost

This is the residue
That gets left behind
In the overlap, loveless in **Mackay**
Oh thoughts fire in my mind
Thoughts fire in my mind
Oh thoughts fire in my mind
Thoughts fire in my mind

What gets left behind? what gets left behind?
What gets left behind?
In the scorched dust, aromatics
In the overlap, out of the static

Where does it lie? Where does it lie?
Where does it lie? Where does it lie?
Where does it lie? Where does it lie?
Where does it lie? Where does it lie?
Vigour transpiring
Dawns billowing thrill
Bounty in a sun shower, 'Love of Will'
Where does it lie? Where does it lie?
Where does it lie? Where does it lie?
Does it lie? Does it lie? Does it lie?

The city wakes and understands
And tries to push some comfort in
Oh now the city wakes and understands
And tries to push some comfort in

Oh now the city wakes and understands
And tries to push some comfort in

It doesn't matter, it doesn't matter
It doesn't matter

Ruby, The Stage (J, Busby/Halfway)

Hey now, it's time to figure out
If all the world's a stage
Then Jesus let me get off the case

Hold out, you don't figure out
Oh come on right now
Ruby don't take your love to town
Just remember when you go
Hey there's nothing left, nothing new to know
It's an even break, hey come on home

Hold out, fall for you now
Just say the words again
I can't repeat them anyway
Hold out, you don't need it now
You don't ever say for rent
Ruby don't take your love to town
Just remember when you go
Hey there's nothing left
There's nothing new to know
It's an even break, come on home

And you say for luck, you could give it up
It's a nothing to me
Fire fourteen lines, you could be in time
It's everything you could say

Oh now, I see out I don't ever want it now
I don't believe it anyhow
Oh, alright you know, any night
You don't ever say for now
Ruby, don't take your love to town

Just remember what I know now
Hey there's fuck-all left
There's nothing else to count
It's an even break, come on now

Hey there's nothing left in this thing you know
It's the call of love, hey please don't go

True To You (J, Busby/C, Dale/Halfway)

(There was no way, we could both stay
because it was our turn now)

It's not like we even know
What's left is left for us
The work we did was hard
And harder to give up

And it's all true to you right now
Say enough, now get out
That's a hard lesson now
But we stay around

This time we need to know
To get what's left for us
We could just stay on the course
But how much is enough

And it's all true to you right now
Say enough, now get out
That's a hard lesson now
We stay around

Hey it's easy one by one
Go hard, now get up
You don't ever say enough
Until it runs out

And do anything you want to do
Do anything you want and do it now
You're lying on the ground
Just something
No-one wanted anyhow

It's all true to you right now
Say enough, now get out
That's a hard lesson now
But we stay around
Hey it's easy one by one
Go hard, now get up
It's the only lesson left for us now

(There was no way, we could both stay,
because it was our turn now)

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Vinny Ramone, Ross MacLennan,
Matt Leo, Damon Churchill,
E.P. Thompson, Elston Gunn,
All of our families.

In memory of my friend,
Ross Gibson.



Produced by Halfway & Mark Nevers

Morning, Day 1

The Styx

The Palace

Stars

Pale Blue Sky

Matches

Lost By Design

Evening, Day 2

Min Min Light

The Prospect

Desert Light

Ruby, The Stage

True To You

Halfway wish to acknowledge the traditional owners of the countries referenced within this album.
Our respect and reverence to the Darumbal and Barada Kabalbara Yetimarala (BKY) Nations.
Always Was. Always Will Be.

