

SUSAN GIBSON TIGHTROPE

Susan Gibson

Tightrope



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Evergreen

Just when I think I'm lost, something brings me back
As my train of thought slips off the track
Feeling my way through, crossways and blind
I guess it's what you seek, not what you find

I don't mind things that don't matter these days
Time I've spent on worry never pays
Now the leaves are changing from green to gold
So I'll change with them I'll be so bold

Vivid color dreams Nothing's what it seems
I've turned inside out and back again
Stuck out on this limb, dancing with the wind
How I long to be evergreen

Now I'm 10 years gone in strange scenery
Like an old dust devil chasing round a tumbleweed
I tried to lay down roots so I could just stay here
Blew out my candle & prayed a little prayer

Vivid color dreams Nothing's what it seems
I've turned inside out and back again
Stuck out on this limb, dancing with the wind
How I long to be evergreen

So I can't complain, I've enjoyed the ride
Just cuz I'm runnin' doesn't mean I'm hidin'
This wanderlust puts me off the map
I followed my heart 'til it brought me back

Vivid color dreams Nothing's what it seems
I've turned inside out and back again
Stuck out on this limb, dancing with the wind
How I long to be evergreen

HOPE DIAMOND

Nowhere to go No one's expecting me
I don't have a show But I'm back in the driver's seat
I tell the same old stories Some place I've never been
Here I am here I go again

I fight fire with fire Cuz I like to watch things burn
You call me a liar A nickname I've probably earned
You want some resolution You want to work this out
Here I am here I go again

I am not the road less traveled I'm just a rocky trail
Now your shoes are full of gravel & you haven't found a holy grail
don't make me your Hope Diamond; I'm just a shiney stone
cuz I'm just a reflection of all the Light you've shown
Take it or leave it here I go again

To my surprise I got what I's asking for
You cut all my ties With my suitcase by the door
You finally got the lesson The one I'll never learn
Here I am here I go again

I am not the road less traveled
I'm just a rocky trail Now your shoes are full of gravel
& you haven't found your holy grail
don't make me your Hope Diamond when I'm just a shiney stone
I'm just a reflection of all the Light you've shown

Take it or leave it here I go again

Nowhere to go No one's expecting me
I don't have a show But I'm back in the driver's seat

It's Raining Outside Today Hooooooray

Dead asleep, sleeping like a rock
Wake up fighting with my alarm clock
Just a couple more minutes of pillow talk
It's raining outside today hooray

Sip my coffee through the grassfire smoke
You could fry an egg, & that's no joke
Up and running like a broke egg yolk
It's raining outside today hooray

It started out hot & it's just getting hotter
Fire turns the fields to a blacktop
The rest of the world is under water
& we can't beg, buy or borrow a drop

I been praying all day for the rainclouds
Praying for the men to put the fire out
Maybe it's enough to end this thirst and drought
It's raining outside today hooray

Been here a thousand years drying out baking in the sun
There's a fire on the ground boys & she's ready to run

I been praying all day for the rainclouds
Praying for the men to put the fire out
Maybe it's enough to end this thirst and drought
It's raining outside today hooray

TIGHTROPE

I'm driving out along a stretch of highway 9
it was my father's road & now its mine
I've always been parallel to the horizon
I've seen it all before I just don't recognize it

These watercolor skies they deepen like a bruise
Casting shadows on all the tricks I had to use
How can you follow when I don't leave no clues
When I tiptoe around in ballerina shoes?

I'm on a tightrope I'm on a high wire
I can't come down, I can't get any higher
Staring out across the thin line
You just hold your breath until I reach the other side

You tightened up the reins, you cut me slack
You gave me just enough rope so I could find my way back
You were a crooked line , I have no doubt
Who woulda thought that you would be the one to straighten me out

I'm on a tightrope I'm on a high wire
I can't come down, I can't get any higher
Staring out across the thin line
You just hold your breath until I reach the other side

Climbing up and looking down
Might as well stay on the ground

I'm on a tightrope I'm on a high wire
I can't come down, I can't get any higher
Staring out across the thin line
You just hold your breath until I reach the other side

HAPPY WITH NOTHING

I Wish I could be a millionaire, I wish I'd win the lottery
Spend my time waste my money eating cherries jubilee
All that cash make me dizzy, get the tax man back in town
Be no end in sight to the bitter cat fight , hands out coming around

Too much is never enough
I wish I could be happy with nothing
The only thing money can buy is more stuff
I wish I could be happy with nothing

I wish I had a big caddillac & someone to drive me around
Long & sleek shiney & black, we'd drive slow with the windows down
It'd be so fancy that I'd be scared to take it out after dark
Cost 100 bucks just to fill it up, Probably couldn't find a place to park

Too much is never enough
I think I'll just be happy with nothing
The only thing money can buy is more stuff
I think I'll just be happy with nothing

I wish I could be the president & make up all of the rules
I'd appoint my friends to the cabinet, ...wouldn't that be cool
But all that power would go to my go to my head & blind me from the truth
So I'm working downtown at the circle K up on Pennsylvania avenue

Too much is never enough
I'd rather be happy with nothing
The only thing money can buy is more stuff
I think I'll just be happy with nothing

LOVELY WHEN YOU CRY

I hate to see the tears in your eyes
Your trembling lip predicts stormy skies
Just cuz you smile, that's no disguise
Still yer lovely when you cry

I hate to see the pain on your face
I'm struggling for words that might replace
The sticks and the stones that words can't erase
Still yer lovely when you cry

Was it a memory or was it a fear
You muster your strength To hold back that tear
& when the dam breaks, the teardrop will fall
Still yer lovely when you cry

I hate to hear the doubt in your voice
Of making decisions when you had no choice
You're straining for answers through all the white noise
Still yer lovely when you cry

Was it a memory or was it a fear
You muster your strength To hold back that tear
& when the dam breaks, the teardrop will fall
Still yer lovely when you cry

The water is rising, there's cracks in the wall
You tightrope the levy even though you might fall
& when the dam breaks and baptizes all
still yer lovely when you cry

A STRAY

I found you hanging out down on the corner
You looked so cold and lost
If I didn't take you home who knows where you'd end up
Living in the shadows on the scraps and exhaust

I thought I knew better, just what you needed
Something safe & suburban
Just like all those TV shows or maybe it was cable
But that's what you were running away from

I can't tie you down
But I want you to stay
I need you around
But you were always a stray

When I unlock the door you bolt right Through it
Thought you were happy to see me
I was dog tired you were a man on fire
You made a beeline for the busy street

I tell you how I feel, it just gets complicated
Like we don't speak the same language
You'll learn a few tricks but you won't be domesticated
Now you sleep in the garage

I can't tie you down
But I want you to stay
I need you around
But you were always a stray

I tried to make you mine said that you belonged to me
I don't think you ever believed me
I tried to prove it by holding on to tightly
You proved me wrong by leaving

We reach a compromise, you'll stay in the neighborhood
Sounds like a pretty good deal
But everytime your missing I wonder if you're gone for good
Or just looking for another free meal

I can't tie you down
But I want you to stay
I need you around
But you were always a stray

Oil & Water

They say that you're no good for me
Trouble from the start
Throw yer love around like breadcrumbs
Leave a trail of broken hearts

I know that you are not my type
& that's a good thing
Cuz my type kinda bugs me
I'm tired of the static cling

We go together like oil & water
Just gotta shake it up
& if we settle down that's when we separate
I sink to the bottom & you're back on top

I'm not in it for the outcome
Cuz we don't have a chance
But I'm not looking for a smooth ride
I want some turbulence

We go together like oil & water
Just gotta shake it up
& if we settle down that's when we separate
I sink to the bottom & you're back on top

Infatuated, crushed & smitten
Who wrote the book of love & where is it written
That you should shy away once bitten
Why is the sweetest always forbidden

I should have seen it coming
This one's going to hurt
But I might as well enjoy the ride
Before I hit the dirt

So I brush it off & crawl away
Into the sunset you ride
& I'll live to love another one who is not my type

We go together like oil & water
Just gotta shake it up
& if we settle down that's when we separate
I sink to the bottom & you're back on top

Wood Wouldn't Burn

My old man had a dying wish
Bought it with his bone and flesh
That you should have this old guitar
We pulled it out of the fire

He always liked the way you played
He knew the sacrifice you made
To leave your family for the lonely road
& send the money that you made back home

1952 Gibson FlatTop
Blisters on the neck & ashes on the headstock
Held together with the rusty wire
The wood wouldn't burn in the fire
No, that wood wouldn't burn in the fire

My old man didn't play that much
He let the strings get rusty when he lost his touch
So down in the basement it went
With the babybooks and Christmas ornaments

The fire started on the ground floor
Took my husband and my son before
It crept down the basement stairs
Then I guess it just ran out of air

CHORUS

He was a regular at all of your shows
He knew your daddy and he watched you grow
Into the man that you are today
How I wish that he could hear you play

So sing about him in your sad sad songs
Play your hot licks & hear him sing along
& when the crowd wants a little more
bring him out for an encore

PASSIN' THRU

I'm not like you but we get along
We whistle different tunes but it's still the same old song
If the world sees you like a tourist
It's cuz you're only passing through

Uncomfortable in your own skin
Sometimes your confidence wears thin
You try just hard enough & then you let 'em win
Cuz you're only passing through

None of us are too long for this earth
Don't let it kill ya, the process of rebirth
Get it while the getting's good
Forget about the coulda shoulda
Just stop by my neighborhood on your way back through

It was the biggest boat you could afford
Away from solid ground you jumped overboard
I guess the struggle is it's own reward
When you're only passing through