Lyrics for the CD

SOME KINDA FUNNY

by Lou and Peter Berryman

Recorded in 1998

All songs © L&P Berryman Words by Peter, Music by Lou

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1 ODD MAN OUT

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If your lover won't come over and when you call they're 'bout as warm as an ice cube And your deck of cards is lost and it's raining and there's nothing good on the boob tube Here's a game you play alone and you never have to leave the warmth of your armchair It's your job to try and figure out which word in each grouping doesn't belong there:

Harpo, Ringo, Zorro, Julio,
Zeppo, Chico, STUCCO, Mario, Groucho
Mercury, Venus, Earth-Mars-Jupiter,
Saturn, Neptune, PET WORLD, Uranus, Pluto*
1 pair, 2 pair, MAYONNAISE, 3 of a kind,
Staight, flush, full house, 4 of a kind, straight flush
Car theft, robbery, mugging, burglary,
ROMANCE, hijack, arson, larcency, HAIRBRUSH

Alpha, beta, gamma, epsilon,
Delta, zeta, theta, DRACULA, sigma
Aries, Virgo, Leo, Gemini,
Cancer, Taurus, NISSAN, Capricorn, Libra
Monet, Manet, Van Gogh, Salvidor
Dali, SNEEZY, Cezanne, Delacroix, Renoir
Earthquake, typhoon, mudslide, hurricane,
ROMANCE, blizzard, firestorm, tidal wave, NUT BAR

Sister, brother, father, son-in-law,
Uncle, nephew, cousin, DOUBLE-U, daughter
Whisky, vodka, champaigne, creme de menthe,
Brandy, ouzo, Pernod, muscatel, WATER
Southeast, northwest, northeast, north by northwest,
Due north, due east, DREW BARRYMORE, due south
Headache, earache, heartburn, stomach flu,
ROMANCE, toothache, sore throat, muscle ache, BIG MOUTH

Freon, Neon, Xenon, OREGON / Cotton, Rayon, Orlon, ALANON Phone-ring earring gold-ring SLOBBERING / Hardees Wendy's RABIES Burger-King

Toaster, freezer, washer, opener,
Blender, mixer, ANGER, vegetable steamer
Hipbone, heel bone, tailbone, fibula,
Cheekbone, jawbone,TROMBONE, scapula, femur
Desk lamp, flashlight, lantern, photoflood,
Headlight, dome light, night light, CELLULITE, sun lamp
Puzzler, baffler, cypher, cryptogram,
ROMANCE, riddle, mystery, question mark, OFF RAMP

^{*}Since Pluto is no longer a planet, sometimes we just leave out "pet world"...

2 GLORIOUS PREDICTION

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From the shower we heard strangers ring our doorbell twice, We were dripping when they told us of their view How the lion will be lyin' with the little mice When the glorious prediction comes true

So we asked them as we dried off what they really mean Vicious pumas will they settle for fondue Will the bullfrog stick his tongue out for a lima bean When the glorious prediction comes true

Chorus:

When the glorious prediction comes true When the glorious prediction comes true Will it be as good for me as it will be for you When the glorious prediction comes true

Will there be less TV football 'fyou don't like football Will there be more TV football if you do 'N if you're not sure if you like it will there be some football When the glorious prediction comes true

Will the lovers who once dumped you for the hell of it Will they mention since they left you they've been blue Brokenhearted, suicidal, also celibate When the glorious prediction comes true

(Chorus)

Will the tenants have their landlords let em stay for free Will the landlords have their rent paid when it's due Will this somehow not be seen as a discrepancy When the glorious prediction comes true

Will there be nothing parasitic on your Chia pet
No accordion playing people 'cept for Lou
No more strangers ringing doorbells when you're dripping wet
When the glorious prediction comes true
(Chorus)

3 THE HISTORY OF LANGUAGE (or THE LANGUAGE OF HISTORY)

© L&P Berryman, 1996

It seems a thousand years ago we sat beside the sea

My darling dear, the picnic lunch, the Labrador and me

I think the breeze was softer then, the ocean deeper blue

The birds were mure abundant and the sun was brighter too

So anyway as we relaxed and nursed a glass of wine

A gal came up and told us she was nearly ninety nine

She asked if she could have a sip to clear her weary head

And so she did and when she did she closed her eyes and said

It fifty score of years appears betwixt today and yore
When then my fair with noon repast and hound were by the shore
I did perceive the clime refined, cyan the bounding main
As gay the wren so bright the orb that force the eye to strain
And there content we passed a while on vintage did we dine
When then upon a whim was borne a lass of ninety nine
Who bid haloo & did propose could she partake of sips
Which thereupon resulted in a story from her lips

Hit sims a tousant yars hae goon besan thy zee vee parks
Mine viancee thy noonday meal mit hound o mine vut barks
Thy zephyr zoom caress thy mug the vasser blue galore
The tveets hae hooms in ever tree oon zun vas ever more
Zo anyhoo, ve zits vay doon who tipples bay the zun
Den cooms thereto ein eider babe vat zeems a hundred vun
She spaitch to plead could hay hay gulp fedora hook to clain
Mit all hae warsh thay noggin then thou peeper shuts explain

A oo oo uhk a plop a plop a biggy biggy pool
Mine (smack-smack-smack) a crunchy crunch a (woof-woof-woof) a drool
Da (whzz-whzz) dribble droppa ploosh a davey jones
Ta (whistle whistle) oo uh doo duh bleach da beach o bones
A-oonce a-oonce a-oonce a-(slurp) a oonce a (hic) a booze
A oo oo uhk a thumpa thumpa ooba dooba shoes
A oo daboo dabump a (slurp) a oonce a (hic) to wah
Na lumpa lumpa oo oo uhk ee blah, dee blah

4 AUNT EMILY

©1997 L&P Berryman

Songbirds at night didn't let out a peep
 Fishes were silent way down in the deep
 The cows were all quiet and so were the sheep
 Til my dear Aunt Emily sang in her sleep (she sang...)

CHORUS: Oh la la la, Figaro, fa mi re do You are my sunshine, the valley so low Over the river, and rosin the bow (she sang) Oh la la la, Figaro, fa mi re do

2. The windows were open that evening in june
The chipmunks and bears heard Aunt Emily croon
They perked up their ears and they followed the tune
Surrounding our house by the light of the moon (they heard...)

(CHORUS)

3. They climbed in our windows and danced on our chairs While munching our pretzels and sucking our pears In time Uncle Walter came running downstairs And that's when he got into waltzing with bears (to the...)

(CHORUS)

4. My Aunt hasn't done it since I don't know when Though Uncle still dances with bears now and then They waltz to the radio down in the den (she sang...)

(CHORUS)

NOTE: Aunt Emily was written as a sequel to the popular song Waltzing With Bears, which was in turn based on a poem by Dr. Seuss called My Uncle Terwilliger Waltzes With Bears.

5 GOOD NEWS EVERYBODY ©1998 L&P Berryman

I doubt I really got it right 'cause it was pretty late at night But on the news I could have sworn I heard them say All the armies of the nations of the world went on vacations After throwing all their bombs and guns away

Though it really is a myst'ry now's the only time in hist'ry
That there's not a single war upon the Earth
It appears they made a study proving battle fields are muddy
And the laundry bill was more than it was worth

All the CEO's agreed that they are paid too much indeed and Gave their sal'ries to the poor to pay the rent Now with everybody fed and in a warm and comfy bed they Find that crime is down by 95%

Now that crime is so diminished all the jails that aren't finished They're converting into restaurants and shops Seems that everyone's all right except for eve'ry friday night there Is a benefit for prison guards and cops

They have come to the conclusion that a certain kind of fusion Can occur within fermented plum puree Soon the tankers won't be needed when the countryside is heated By a case of gramma's autumn '93.

As a side effect they're finding that tornadoes are unwinding Into blankets that are softer than velour Which are floating up and mending where the ozone hole was rending Thusly rendering the warnings premature

In the news the legislature kicked its homophobic nature and Will now allow a marriage if you're gay Also congress has decided that our coverage be provided And declared we're all insured as of today

If that doesn't all surpise you we are happy to advise you There's a proclamation here that prob'ly will Unimpeded procreation leads to overpopulation Says the Pope in his reversal on the pill

BRIDGE: We'll begin right after this from Exxon

Giving solar panels out for free
And a proclamation from Monsanto
All-organic farming is the key

In our feature we're announcing exercising causes bouncing And that bouncing causes damage to the brain And a daily glass of brandy & a box of chocolate candy is the regimen they found you should maintain

Also television viewing is deceptively renewing And diminishes the chances of a stroke Plus a crabby disposition helps your physical condition And is even more effective if you smoke

6 DO YOU BELIEVE IN ME?

©1996 Lou & Peter Berryman

Do you think Santa Claus on a long November night When Rudolf cracks a hoof and the elves are breaking down with a Bottle of bourbon open on the toy line D'you think he calls me up

Not when the chance is slim that I believe in him

No he'll call Christmas freaks with ten foot plastic trees And one big statuette, floodlit and turning slowly Shimmering like a red potato pancake

Of Santa Claus himself

That's who he'll ask with glee: Do you believe in me?

And old Count Dracula, on those long summer eves
When twilight lingers on, and the man has shared the day with a
Rubbermaid array of under bed bins
D'you think he leaps at me
Upset cause I insist that he does not exist

No he'll jump vampire freaks who never dangle arms Too far beside their beds, and nightly wake up screaming Fumbling with a hammer and a tent stake Since they believe in him He'll suck their scapula to prove he's Dracula

And that poor tooth fairy, when she's all out of dimes
And her truck's full of teeth and she hears nine more children
Wiggling on their molars in the suburbs
D'you think she picks that time
To ask why I prefer to not believe in her

No she calls five year olds who hoard their baby teeth Like little traveler's checks that they put underneath their Pillow and then they whisper with a new lisp "Tooth fairy pleathe come thoon"

That's who she asks you see: Do you believe in me?

So when your boss is mean and your begonia dies

And your best friend buys guns and your new couch comes off and
Litters about a mile of the freeway

You should not pick this time

To have your mom appraise the way you live these days

No you should march right in and call yours truly up

Who hangs on every word and will go: "...unh-unh, uh-huh, unh-unh,

Certainly and of course not..."

Enthusiastically.

So soon's this line is free go make a call to me

7 MAIDEN VOYAGE

©1998 Lou & Peter Berryman

With a picture of mom and a bottle of pop In my youth I did cruise the Bahamas I brought my new pumps and my seersucker frock But I spent the whole voyage in pajamas

My togs and my rackets I never unpacked And the same with my Coppertone lotion But the 100's of Dramamine tablets I brought Were soon in the (ulp) in the ocean

CHORUS:

Be careful my daughter, for life is a voyage And time is the ocean you're sailing The trick is in keeping your eyes to the side While your head is (ulp) over the railing

Up from a trough we would lurch to a crest And slip down the slope to a valley To the odor of diesel and seaweed and fish And grease from the (ulp) from the galley

The captain was living on parboiled squid And inquired if I'd like to try it I said thanks but I'm (ulp) i'm on a (ulp) Thanks but I'm (ulp) on a diet (CHORUS)

The dandies would pencil epistles that read When this cruise was over they'd miss me So why wouldn't they (ulp) why wouldn't they (ulp) Why wouldn't they (ulp) they kiss me?

They all said they'd like to but something's come up I'm not sure exactly what that meant D'ya spose it was (ulp), d'ya spose it was(ulp) D'ya suppose (ulp) it (ulp) was my accent (CHORUS)

But then I caught sight of your father at last He was green as the threatening sky was And I knew in my heart he was my kind of guy For he was as queasy as I was

It isn't the brand of the coffee you drink
But whom you are sharing the cup with
For it matters not much what you're holding inside
But (ulp) whom you (ulp) bring it up with (CHORUS)

8 The STUFF SONG

1998 L&P Berryman

I had always considered my habits austere Cause i don't have a boat or a big chandelier But then recently something became very clear When I found myself building another new shelf

I'm no antiquer with hundreds of lamps And I'm not a philatelist tho I have stamps Nor am I a numismatist such as my gramps But I run a museum in spite of myself

Ties for example I've dozens of those I have ties that are thin and go down to your toes And a couple so wide you don't need any clothes And so thick they will cushion your fall if you faint

Ties that are new and a few from my youth And a wool one I wore on a whim in Duluth And a doozy i bought in a mall in a booth And a few i invented with glitter and paint

Leftover paint for the ceiling and floor I have paint for old wood that was painted before I have paint i forget what it's for anymore And a color for only where nobody looks

Red for the car that i drove as a teen And a can of a hideous lemony green And a hundred percent of the shades in between With instructions on painting in handyman books

Books in the cupboard & books overhead and a shelf of quotations from guys who are dead But I ran out of rubbermaid boxes that size a collection of classics i never have read and an unopened book about keeping in shape

Waterproof books about building a yacht And the story of spam which I read & forgot A debunking of Ripley's Believe It Or Not And a hist'ry of myst'ry and Dickens on tape

Tape I have some that is stronger than glue And electrical tape in both yellow & blue I have tape for the pool or to patch a canoe Even tho I don't own a canoe or a pool

Tape for my car that's reflective and red I have tape for the trunks of my trees in the shed I have leftover tape from a gash in my head I have tape you apply with a packaging tool

Tools i have lying around everywhere Like a pump for replacing the air in a spare And a circular saw and a carpenter square And a fairly elaborate socket array

Hammers and planes and a ratcheting wrench And a workbench of drills and a drilling extension That fits in a rack on tha back of the bench Over lithium grease in an aerosol spray

Spray for my hair i have cream for my face I have dandruff shampoo with an apricot base I have bottles of aloe all over the place And a case of deoderant germicide soap

Now while I rinse couldn't somebody quick Give a person perspective on what makes 'im tick Tell me why in a world full of hungry and sick I need herbal emollient and soap on a rope

I'm ashamed to admit I have too many socks And infusers and shovels and pencils and clocks And enough pairs of glasses to fill a shoe box And fedoras and paper clips up the wazoo

Sorting it all into bins would be wise And for labels I don't have the office supplies So it looks like i have some more shopping to do

It looks like I have some more shopping to do

9 THE UNFULFILLED SNEEZE

©1995 L&P Berryman

Her breath was draw in little puffs of air Her eyes were closed, she tossed her auburn hair Her head was back her lips were parted some To pass the sneeze that never was to come

> The breeze was high & ragweed was in bloom Angora cats & pepper filled the room But as we reached to cover up our tea She lost the sneeze that never was to be

So gone our youth, like hairdos in the rain And gone our friends, like marbles down the drain But sadder still, for once we did have these The unfulfilled anticipated sneeze

> Like flakes of snow, no sneezes are the same So gone for good the sneeze that never came For we may sneeze and we may sneeze again But never once, that sneeze we started then

Our chance to say Gesundheit passed away And no one knew exactly what to say Til someone spoke and said we should recall That now and then it happens to us all

> Somewhere upon a dim and distant star There is a home for close but no cigar For trains just missed for lovers nearly pleased And now, a sneeze, regretably unsneezed.

10 HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE HEAT (aka HEARD ABOUT THE HEAT) ©1996 L&P Berryman

According to the cheesy pamphlet Wisconsin is the place to see Before you call a bed and bratwurst A question has occurred to me

You've heard about the polka masses You've heard about the crap we eat You've heard about the Dells no doubt But have you heard about the heat?

CHORUS: Have you heard about the heat, dryin up the rain

Softening the cheese, softenin the brain

Boilin the beer, spoilin' the meat

Yah Hey have youheard about the heat

You've heard about the mizrable winters Where they're fishin on the frozen lakes You've heard about the jumper cables Snakin round the block like snakes

You've heard about the towering snowdrifts 65, 70 feet You've heard about the cold no doubt But have you heard about the heat? (CHORUS)

You've heard about the ornery skeeters They'll perforate a pair of jeans You've heard about the deadly deer tick Climbin' up your LL Beans

'Fyer gonna sit around the campfire
You better take a bath in Deet
You've heard about the bugs no doubt
But have you heard about the heat (CHORUS)

You've heard about the crime-free cities You've heard about the virgin trees Your've heard about the pure clean rivers Ripplin' in the hot June breeze

> You've heard of how the friendly drivers Stop & let you cross the street Surprise surprise they're all damn lies 'Cept the part about the heat (CHORUS)

11 GOODNIGHT EVERYBODY

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When the raindrops tumble through the dark night air It's so hard to remember that the moon's still there Though the clouds may diminish by the dawn somehow In the sky high above them that ol' moon shines now

Where a jet plane twinkles in the starry sky And it's hard to imagine there are folks that high Eating nuts and peering through the atmosphere Trying hard to imagine there are folks down here

CHORUS:

So good night everybody and good night all things We will sleep close together till the 'larm clock rings We may range from the ocean to the end of space But in time's estimation we're in one small place

There are friends by the ocean oh so far away
Whom I left in the evening of a bygone day
I will go back to see them once again I vow
But what gives me the shivers is they're there right now

I won't feel that I'm going till I start to pack
I won't feel that I've been there till the slides come back***
And when we stand together by the deep blue sea
I will not quite believe that it is really me

(CHORUS)

Though the flights to the moon have been in some decline I remember the eagle back in sixty nine
That they walked on the moon is not as wild somehow
As the fact there are footprints on the moon right now

And we all go exploring in our separate ways We take off on vacation by ourselves for days But we're always together and we're home at last On the spot where the future meets the dear old past

(CHORUS)

12 POET IN LOVE

©1997 L&P Berryman

In the poolhall of your eyeball with a quarter on the cornea An eyelash as a cuestick and a teardrop as a drink From the shadow of your eyelid I emerge exhuding visine and I size up inconclusively the danger of a wink

As I strut the conjunctiva lining up a combination Squeaking chalk and chewing BlackJack I'm completely torn apart When a devastating twinkle has me knocked into the pupil As the iris closes in around my palpitating heart

CHORUS: Lock up your pencils it's a poet in love

Lock up your pencils it's a poet in love Lock up your pencils it's a poet in love

Lock up your pencils

In the cocktail of your laughter incognito in a wetsuit I'm a kamakazi papparazi sinking thru the gin As the situation darkens in the oil of your olive I recalculate my f-stop on the greyscale of your chin

Since my focus on your visage as i tumble toward the coaster Grows unstable thru the heartthrob of your lipstick on the rim I consider in my rapture to unstrap my apparatus And ascend into your grin altho i doubt that I can swim

(CHORUS) then BRIDGE: Go find your sharpener and pull out the plug

Sweep your ticonderogas under the rug Flush your thesaurus like a dangerous drug

It's a poet in love, it's a poet in love

Down the purple viyl purse or is it handbag of your future I'm spelunking in the darkness from a piton in the latch Toward a glow that may be nothing but a flashlight on the blink Tho I'm predicting it's a flame from I assume our perfect match

As I pratfall on the compact of your kismet and it opens There is light enough to tell that we are both reflected back If I only had some paper I would write this vision down And tack it up if I could only find a pencil and a tack

13 RED KIMONO

©1998 Lou & Peter Berryman

With sun on the Aspidistra, with news on the Motorola I picked up my red kimono, from the chair With breakfast a little nearer, I gazed in the bureau mirror Anxious as to who I'd see there

It could been Oprah, could been Elvis, could been Eva Gabor Could been Kerouac, could been Balzac, or Mister Kashudak, next door It could been Billy, (my cousin in Philly), or Waylon or Willie, or Robert E. Lee The Mona Lisa, or Mother Teresa, but it happened to be me

I went down to feed the Budgie, and plug in the Mr. Coffee And fumble inconsequently with my hair While peeling an avocado, I peeked out the kitchen window Anxious as to what I'd see there

It coulda been Cleveland, it coulda been Sweden, it coulda been Mercury or Spain Coulda been Burnaby, British Columbia, coulda been Muncie or Maine The Mall of America, or Buenaventura, or Montevideo Boulevard Coulda been Omaha, coulda been Panama, but it looked like our yard

Where standing among the clover, my darling along with Rover, Was watching the sun go over, like a blur With wonder and admiration, I gazed at the situation, Perplexed at how lucky we were

We could been isotopes, we could been cantaloupes, we could been hat racks or dice We could been semaphores, we could been dinosaurs, we could been cough drops, or lice We could been roadmaps, a bucket of mousetraps, a couple of big shoes, on a bus We could been dipsticks, or lavender lipsticks, but we happened to be us

BRIDGE:

That night I had nightmares my life was remade And the universe all rearranged In the morning I gingerly opened my eyes Afraid that the world may have changed

I rose from my hibernation to check out the situation, And soon my exhilaration filled the air With sun on the aspidistra, with news on the Motorola I picked up my red kimono, from the chair

14 YOU BLOT OUT THE FUTURE

©1996 L&P Berryman

Soon's I hear the 'larm clock • My thoughts rush on ahead My mind is eating corn flakes • (while) My body's is still in bed I hardly taste my coffee • 'zl think the plan the whole day thru But when I kiss you darlin • I think of kissin you

'Cause you blot out the future You ease my churning brain You blot out the future Like hay sops up the rain

CHORUS: You hold me in the present

You make it last and last 'Cause you blot out the future Like gin blots out the past

My mind is on my toothbrush • 'ZI fiddle with my comb And as i drive to work dear • My thoughts are driving home I plan the 'ntire evenin' • As in the drive I turn But when I kiss you darlin • The TV Guide can burn

'Cause you blot out the future You keep me here today You blot out the future Like hair sops up the spray (CHORUS)

BRIDGE: The future's big's a truck stop. (Tho) 'tisn't quite as bright

The past is like a Motel 6. (on) a dark and rainy night

The present aint a toaster. It ain't a sticky bun

But when i kiss you darlin. It's a WalMart in the sun

I lie awake and wonder • 'zThere money in my stars The truck aint even paid for • And now it needs new tars I'll take it out tomorrow • And get some tires at Sears but when i kiss you darlin • tomorrow disappears

'Cause you blot out the future When my poor spirit flags You blot out the future Like bread sops up m'eggs (CHORUS)