



***Hall of Mirrors
Matt Hall***



**Lyrics / music by Matthew Hall
except "I'm a Horrendous Politician
by Matthew Hall / Stewart Bickel**

**Produced, mixed & engineered
by Matthew Hall**

**At :- SLW Studios
Crystal Palace, London**

**With thanks to all my friends that
assisted and supported me in the
making of this album.**

**Instruments and programming
by Matthew Hall**

**Except drums on : "I'm
A Horrendous Politician"
by Stewart Bickel with thanks**

**Cover and CD design
by Matthew Hall**



Street Party in Brick Lane

V.1 Triumphant laughter fills the air
As summer's heat descends on
Bangla Town
A blaze of twirling, swirling
Fabrics everywhere
People gathering like fireflies
Seems there's something going down

Ch. Street party in Brick Lane
A fire cracker hurricane
A festival of light and shade
Oh, oh, what a day !

V.2 The buzz and barter from the market stalls
East End banter in East Asian style
We're busy buying, selling anything at all
Looking for a bargain here ?
It's your call !



Ch. Street party in Brick Lane
A Bangla movie quite insane
A festival of light and shade
Oh, oh, what a day !

V.3 The sweet scent of coriander
Drowns the streets
And neon signs burn through the night
Exotic sights and sounds
That taste so sweet
Inviting you down to paradise

Ch. Street party in Brick Lane
Happy days are here again
A recipe of light and shade
Oh, oh, what a day !

V.4 Beautiful girls and boys
That flounce their hair
As giddy hormones overload
Erotic senses fill the everywhere
Like whirling dervishes
Inside your soul

Ch. Street party in Brick Lane
A bunga-bunga quite insane
We'll paint the town a million shades
Oh, oh, what a day !

Ch. Street party in Brick Lane
A bangla movie quite insane
A festival of light and shade
Oh, oh, what a day !



Don't Wait for an Answer

- V.1 Do you doubt uncertainty ?
It's a certain world
You read the science
And you cling to the words

But facts are like a rubber band
Elastic like a sleight of hand
There is no line drawn in the
Endless sands
- Br. And as we fade from clear to grey
Unanswered questions
Will not fade away
- Ch. Don't wait for an answer
Knowledge can be
Capricious like the future
And out of reach
- V.2 Faith is all that is unseen
An instinct, you know what I mean
That leaves no footprints like a
Shadow or thief in a dream

And is it blind faith to believe
When some things you can't conceive
So why waste time inventing
Sophistry ?

Br. And though you told me
We were wrong
And said you knew it all along

Ch. Don't wait for an answer
Knowledge can be
Capricious like the future
And out of reach

The brightest stars in the universe
Mapped out to see
But light years from revealing
What the Heavens ?

V.3 This is not a magic charm
A mojo or an avatar
But just a whole that equals
More than the sum of the parts
We're flying kites up in the sky
It never hurts to wonder why
An understanding of the
Soul and eternity

Br. So it it truth or lies or gravity ?
Let's go & ask the Flat Earth Society

Repeat chorus 2

Coda Got the key to crack the safe ?
Got the key to open doors ?
Mathematics is your faith
In your mind's eye, it's the law
Life in known dimensions
Purpose lacks intentions
And though you won't admit it
You're a fundamentalist !



Gallop - The Devil's Dyke



Heady Summer

V.1 When I looked at my reflection
I just saw a shadow of you
All the thoughts and fears of losing love
Left me like a ghost I'd never seen

Like a puppet or a children's toy
Thrown away and broken in two
A precious item, loved no longer
The mojo cast aside, the magic gone

Br. But my obsession
Was built round you
Just an empty ritual
That I still have to cling to

Ch. Take me back
To the days before the storm
To the heady summer
Nights when I could feel no wrong

V.2 Like an exile just beginning
In an unfamiliar world
Faltering, unsteady footsteps
In a dance I'd never learned

Br. My obsession
Still built round you
Just an empty ritual
That I still have to cling to

Repeat chorus

V.3 And I'm tired of endless night-times
Lying in this bed on my own
When I try to sleep you wake me
Then I realise instead

You know that I don't exist
I'm like a cobweb in your mind
A fleeting image, a flight of fancy
But I'll get it right the next time

Br. But my obsession
Was built round you
Just an empty ritual
That I still have to cling to

Repeat chorus



Glow

Verse 1

Happenstance, coincidence
Midsummer madness
In a fateful dance
Lovers for life or war & strife ?
You pulled the trigger
Then you took the chance

Chorus

Oh, oh, feel the glow
This bond between us
This magical chemistry
Is it only
Devilment or trickery ?

Verse 2

Whatever came of this perfect match ?
Tough or tender, opposites attract
But what's left is just a post-script now
A rogue statistic, not the perfect catch

Realities and probabilities
Insanities and never-could-it-bes
I'm left wondering what might have been
Was it imaginary, sort of thing ?

Repeat chorus

Verse 3

A million housewives every day
Pick up their cups of coffee and say
"We're still waiting for our stars to change
And now we're only a miracle away" !

Repeat chorus



Hall of Mirrors

V.1 When the world hits hard
And the truths come home to stay
Egos turn them all away
It's the pride before the fall

When wisdom fails again
And it's all been said and done
Just like before we hit the floor
We'll just get up again

Br. Just like a punch drunk in the ring
Convince yourself of anything

Ch. Hall of Mirrors
Fool me forever

V.2 Like the Emperor
Who's wearing brand new clothes
We can only love ourselves (yeah)
It's the pride before the fall

Failed obsessions haunt me
And so instead
We end up living in our heads
And ignore the call

Br. This is the mask that hides the frown
There goes that sad & lonely crown

Repeat chorus

V.3 Narcissistic
This distorted lens
Although we wanted to be loved
We got it all so wrong in the end

Just a vain attempt
To claim the prize
But the mind games failed this time
The fault lines showing in my eyes

Br. Just another cheerful song
That is still waiting to be sung

Repeat chorus



I'm A Horrendous Politician



Doctor Salter's Daydreaming

V.1

The river's quietly flowing on and on
 Father Thames
 Like an end-of-empire song
 Through cosmopolitan metropolis
 Through jaded centuries
 (Photographs have long since gone)

Br.

The Smoke has found
 A brand new home
 And the city's heart is beating strong

Ch.
 Oh oh oh, don't tire of London
 If you're tired of London
 You're tired of living
 Oh oh oh, stay a while in London
 Be a child in London
 Lose your mind in London
 V.2
 And taxis ply their trade all day
 Through patchwork neighbourhoods
 Where citizens come out to play
 A microcosm of the world (or so it seems)
 Brick Lane, White Teeth
 And Tubby Issac's Gaulston Street

Repeat bridge

Repeat chorus

V.3

And daylight creeps from east to west
 Doctor Salter's daydreaming
 As passers-by look on with interest
 We're talking with nine million
 Different points-of-view
 In a thousand different accents
 North & south, you know it's true

Repeat bridge

Repeat chorus

Coda

From the nurses in the Seaman's Mission
 To the ghosts down in Clerkenwell Prison
 Meet in The Eagle or The Angel Islington
 Or be the Mayor just like Dick Whittington



Nothing left here but the Breeze

V.1 Petrified

Life in monochromatic
 An institution
 In bleak monolithic

Corridors
 Of endless panic
 The blank barred windows
 Staring at the maniacs

Ch. Now there's nothing left here
 To be seen
 Now there's nothing left here
 But the breeze

V.2 In tattered love notes

Fragile sanity
 Where broken down souls
 Clung on to vanity

On peeling walls
 Mad genius graffiti
 And another Elvis
 Sings 'American Trilogy'

Repeat Chorus

V.3 Broken bed frames
 Falling down stairways
 Abandoned radios
 Abandon the airwaves

In derelict ballrooms
 The glitter ball fades away
 Just a ramshackle ghost
 That lied of a better day

Repeat Chorus



Innocence

V.1

Look back in the mirror
Seeing eyes that are haunted by you
A hopeless sinner
Still trapped inside the memory of you
Ch.

I keep on asking honey
How our love fell through
But there's no answer I know
Just the painful truth

V.2

I hear you crying
Baby, on the answerphone
I wish I could believe you...
You were tired of being alone

While sounds of your happy laughing
Always replaying in my head
I wish I could be there with you
Loving you instead

Ch.2

I keep on asking honey
How our love fell through
There's still no answer I know
Just the painful truth
Keep on praying baby
It'll one day make sense
But I'm alone again
And nothing compensates

V.3

What I saw
In the two of us
I can see clearly now
Was never quite the truth
The perfect friendship
In a perfect friendly world
But in reality I watched
Our dreams unfold
Ch.3
I keep on asking baby
How our love fell through
There's still no answer I know
Just the painful truth
I keep on praying baby
For some better sense
And keep on wanting to return
To innocence



Libido so cruel

V.1

Talk yourself to sleep
Rest the thoughts inside your head
The memories you've got
Of nothing special I suppose
Morning's breaking in
Stretched full out upon your bed
She leaves you gasping out for breath
You're waking up and she's not there
The cold truth dawns again
Fooled by the same mistakes once more
Making out that you just don't care
Wars that rage inside your mind
But temptation is easy
When love's hard to find
Ch.
A libido so cruel
With a heart like a fool
Hesitate and you're through
Yeah, yeah

And when she smiles at you
You're so distant and cool
A libido so cruel
V.2
Pour yourself a drink
See the world through a hazy half-light
Think all the world's in love with you
But wishful thoughts survive the lies
And time keeps marching onward
Till your spirit dies

It's hard to emulate
The energies of fighting men
Heart-throbs, heroes come and go
Just keep dreaming I suppose
Cos I know
You just keep chasing shadows
Ch.2
A libido so cruel
With a heart like a fool
Wait a while and you're through
Yeah, yeah

And when she smiles at you
You've still got something to prove
A libido so cruel
Ch.3
A libido so cruel
With a heart like a fool
Walk on by and you're through
Yeah, yeah
And when she laughs at you
And you sink to your shoes
A libido so cruel



The Wilderness And Beyond

V.1 Into the wilderness
And then head out from there
Axle deep in midsummer mud swamps
Mosquitoes like a
Dust-storm are everywhere
Less than a month
Before the window closes
I'm serious
Human spirit clinging to the wire
Before the winter freezes Siberia

Br.1 The road through
Russia's east frontier
On the Kolyma Highway
Asia's last goodbye-way

Ch.1 The Wilderness
And Beyond

V.2 Where Yakutsk gleamed
Spirits flag on the
Endless road to Magadan
The Road of Bones
Right through the heart of
Nowhere in particular
We're heading east
For two thousand brutal kilometres
Past the gaunt old ghosts of the Gulags
And the phantom city of Kadykchan

Br.2 Where tower blocks
Crumble and decay
And in the lone apartments
Diaries left abandoned
And posters still on walls

Repeat chorus

V.3 The Pole of Cold
Where the solid earth
Creaks down below
Ice fogs enfold
Timber shacks that are
Bowed by the permafrost
Don't stall the truck !
Keep the motor running - I'm serious
Life freezes before your very eyes
In an almost delirious state of mind

Br.3 But what a story you could tell
On the Kolyma Highway
Russia's passed-on-by-way

Repeat chorus



Flight - Minsmere

Desperate Pride

V.1 Is it love ?
Or is it self-acclaim
My thoughts unclear
They always seem to feel the same
Hearts get hurt
And though I feel ashamed
In this love affair
I will not take the blame

Ch.1 Live for
The good things in life
But I can't reconcile
Jealous desires
With a warm compassion

V.2 Survival wins
It's in the DNA
But when conflict strikes
It doesn't somehow seem that way
And I'm wasting time
Hating things that never change
And the promises
That never see the light of day

Ch.2 Live for
The good things in life
But I can't reconcile
Jealous desires
With a deep and generous mind



Faint hearts flip-flop inside
But I must sacrifice
Desperate pride
For a world that's calm and kind

V.3 Heaven knows
How we trust ourselves
Judgements flawed
While the spaceship heads direction hell
In this love affair
The world's got a point-of-view to tell
It's not about me
Jesus knows, and I should know as well

Ch.3 Live for
The good things in life
But I can't reconcile
Jealous desires
With a deep and generous mind
Faint hearts flip-flop inside
But I must sacrifice
Desperate pride
For a love that's calm and kind



Battle Weary



Hall of Mirrors - Matt Hall



1. *Street Party in Brick Lane*
2. *Don't Wait for an Answer*
3. *Glow*
4. *Hall of Mirrors*
5. *Nothing left here (But the Breeze)*
6. *Innocence*
7. *Flight (Minsmere)*
8. *Desperate Pride*
9. *Battle Weary*
10. *The Wilderness and Beyond*
11. *Libido So Cruel*
12. *Doctor Salter's Daydreaming*
13. *I'm a Horrendous Politician*
14. *Heady Summer*
15. *Gallop (Devil's Dyke)*

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