



# Manning

# Number Ten

## Press Pack & Song Lyrics

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Mechanical Release : February 14<sup>th</sup> 2009

Electronic Release : December 12<sup>th</sup> 2009

Available through Festival Music, via itunes, Amazon and through all good record shops.

All songs written by Guy Manning.

### The Players

- \* Guy Manning: Acoustic 6,12 & Classical and Electric Guitars, Keyboards, Bass, Bouzouki, Mandolin and Vocals
- \* David Million: Electric Guitar
- \* Laura Fowles: Alto Sax and Vocals
- \* Ian 'Walter' Fairbairn: Fiddle
- \* Phil Wilkes: Keyboards
- \* Kris Hudson-Lee: Bass
- \* Julie King: Vocals (including the duet on "Valentine's Night")
- \* Kev Currie: Vocals
- \* Ed Neidhardt: Soprano Sax and Bass Clarinet
- \* Hannah Hudson-Lee: Vocals
- \* Danny Rhodes: Additional Drums
  
- \* Andy Tillison (Courtesy of The Tangent and PO90): Keyboards and Drums
- \* Steve Dundon (Courtesy of Molly Bloom): Flute and Tenor Sax
- \* Pav Chana: Percussion

	<b>Song Title</b>	<b>Duration</b>
1	Ships	05:34
2	The Final Chapter	07:44
3	An Ordinary Day	06:03
4	Bloody Holiday!	05:51
5	Valentines Night	06:17
6	A Road Less Travelled	10:34
7	Another Lazy Sunday	05:25
8	The House on the Hill	15:52



## Ships

So here you come!  
It's all over & I'll wash my hands of that!  
Two keys, two rings, two old dusty photographs

When the Sun goes down in the western sky  
Your voice calls out to me (you're out at sea)  
Like a lost ship on the ocean,  
the tide will bring you back, oh back to me

It's so calm, the storm is over, clouds have gone away  
your voice in my ears, your face in my mind, all gone today

When the Sun goes down in the western sky  
Your voice calls out to me (you're out at sea)  
& like a lost ship on the ocean,  
the tide will bring you back, oh back to me

Oh with every changing season  
you haunt me & you reach me for no reason  
No, No, No, No, No

Keep on hanging on,  
Why do you keep on hanging on?



## The Final Chapter

When they all see me coming down  
why they step aside,  
There's no trial by fire  
No suicides  
I'm the King of the Low Side Cruisers  
The main dog on the street  
I'm no passenger or loser  
I'm the man you have to beat

No meaner libertine  
will ever take me down  
the new Judge of the highway  
No witness will testify to anything at all

Catching the gangs when they're unawares  
their fates are soon sealed  
There's so much more to this under life  
than their death reveals

You might consider running now  
Chances are you've left it too late  
No heroes on this back street  
True justice is put to bed  
to keep down the numbers  
you know you'll never come back

I hear their leader has crossed the line  
I hear his reign is on the wane  
Word on the street is that he's lost his crew  
it's time to move in again  
Called out to face the music, dance & sing  
There's no movement on the streets  
In this sub section of the war zone  
I hear he's the man to beat

When they all saw him coming down  
why they stepped aside  
there was no trial by fire  
No suicides

No meaner libertine  
was ever taken down  
the old Judge of the highway  
No witness would testify...to anything at all



## An Ordinary Day

It's just another early morning, chasing crisp bags on the breeze,  
the North wind rocks the chimney pots, blowing leaves from off the trees  
frosting pavement, cracks puddles, stings the air,  
etched within its memories is the fur of a Polar bear

Figures shunting quickly on the daily working tracks  
Caught up by their rota, in the hollow icy drafts  
Conspire & push away, a lifetime to be squeezed into an ordinary day

Locked away in towers, with noses to the glass,  
Floating Lotto daydreams on a hope that never lasts  
Illusion! Time standing still  
pulled ever clockwise by a forceful act of will

Countless letter boxes rattle  
when the restless branches splay  
& yesterdays old paper, loops the loop & shoots away....  
Tonight! lamplight floods the sky  
to block the star cast wonders & those aging satellites

We're just ordinary people, living ordinary lives  
Introspective seekers when we hold the love inside ourselves

Candles burning bright,  
reaching onward bravely in the finite wave of light

It's just another early evening, snaking traffic, nose to tail,  
& the North wind hits the rooftops  
turns the slates back into swirling dust,  
& red brick veins, throbbing through the paintwork  
when it mixes with the rain

We've got ordinary problems & a fate that's not denied  
Mortal disbelievers as we hold the fear inside ourselves  
Candles burning bright,  
reaching onward bravely in the finite wave of light



## Bloody Holiday!

Passport, keys & wallet found, tickets still at bay!  
This is the check in queue for another plane delay  
Babies, kids & pensioners wander up the halls  
& this is just about the time that I regret filling in the forms

An aisle seat with extra room for an extra roomy 'Guy'  
there's no chance of any comfort in this pencil in the sky  
Belt up!, Sit still! Obey the rules & know your place  
Two hours of transit mayhem with the seat back in my face

Come along on an English holiday  
Jet ski packers with a lot of cash to pay  
Flying the vapour trails across the smoky blue  
Clouds float on by, there's nothing you can do  
but enjoy the ride!

10ccs' "Mandy" playing in my mind  
the 'Clockwork Creep' ?  
There's a shady bloke sat right behind (me)  
I grip the arms in the vice like seat  
The plastic chicken that your kids won't eat  
& pray to God you make the ground again!

Come along on an English holiday  
Jet ski packers with a lot of cash to pay  
Flying the vapour trails across the smoky blue  
Clouds float on by, there's nothing you can do  
but enjoy the ride!



## Valentines' Night

Concentrate on a time & place  
Watch the lines in the others face  
It's me...It's a mirror of me

Can you see how it settles in?  
Goes to rest underneath the skin  
& hides, in the linings out of sight

When will she be me?  
& when will I cease to be...me?  
Becoming something new...  
Another hybrid brew

Oh take me home  
with just one kiss  
Left to wander alone in the night, in the darkness & face my  
beast!  
Another Valentine's night

Oh the things I can see now  
& all the things I have lost!  
In a dream of a dream of a nightmare insanity  
the shadow world comes to enforce its anima ...

...& calls me home  
with just one moment of bliss  
Left to wander alone in the night, in the darkness & face my  
beast!

With a welcome home  
with just one kiss  
Left to wander alone in the night, in the darkness & face my  
beast!  
Another Valentine's night



## A Road Less Travelled

The storm is coming down & the radio is dead  
the old tin cans fill the endless carousel like kings of the road  
& nothing is what it seems through the blurry misted glass  
stuck back at this crossroads facing up to my Past  
There's a mystic light that's shining white  
& warms my worn out frame  
it beckons to the Eastern path  
& through the blinding rain, it calls to me again

So I turn the wheel into the rising Sun  
locked to the line of a journey to what may come  
Throwing the map on the back seat, I trust in shadow play  
foot down on the throttle - I pull away  
There's no horizon, no sheltering trees  
as the cross hair mind forces me onwards  
with dust bowl dreams of water  
& of comfort...  
& of company...  
& of rest again

Home - This is the last stop on the road of life  
Going Home - Cancel the meetings you organised  
Hands are pressing greetings now  
I recognise their shapes  
we walk down the Golden Highway - no ticker tape!  
Back street houses opening doors  
tiny windows to their soul  
Pulled along in the flow & the rush of the wind as we go

It's a little bit funny now, as I hear familiar songs  
Brushing off the cobwebs, in the corners where they belong  
Cataloguing fragrances & the objects that I feel  
to separate my monsters from the thoughts that are not real

Welcome Home - Gentle soldier, place that rifle down...  
Welcome Home - the War is over!  
The cavalry returned & the lessons have all been learned

No more fear of casualty now  
the old life is stripped away  
onto the final homecoming with no parades!  
Family houses have opened their doors  
to usher me alone  
Pulled along in the flow & lost in the wind as I go

Welcome Home - Gentle soldier, the white dove will arise  
Welcome Home - your pain is over  
Your friends have all returned & the battlefields have burned  
The ticking clocks are slowing now to meet a new born pace  
we float on the clouds of remembrance, full of grace!  
Supported by their comforting arms, old memories wipe away  
Watching over the show, the hush of the ghosts as they go



## Another Lazy Sunday

It's one o' clock again & this time I've really changed  
No more wasted time, I'm putting things in order  
Lots of things to do, that I have put away  
Lots of games to play, put away for rainy days

Tea & toast  
Read the post  
Try & see what's on TV  
Not much there  
Try elsewhere - oh no!  
Long walks  
Short talks  
Cars & parks & bars...  
They're all ideas for leisure

Oh look at the clock upon the wall (the hands are moving slowly)  
& I've done nothing at all (whiling away a lazy Sunday)!

Tea & toast  
Read the post  
Try & see what's on TV  
Not much there  
Try elsewhere - oh no!  
Long walks  
Short talks  
Cars & parks & bars...  
They're all ideas for leisure



## The House On The Hill

### ***Part One {In The Frame}***

Standing staring at this photograph  
I thought I saw you start to smile  
Curled edges & sellotape, beauty and entropy entwined

I'll fall in love with this memory  
I fall in love with this face  
I will reach down through the Ages and stop...Time & Space

Turn back the clocks!  
Along the Hawking miles  
Folded in on ourselves in some paradigm

I see myself walking slowly in Autumn  
Kicking stones down some leafy English lane  
& suddenly it hits me, I'm alone, I call your name

Cold sepia glass  
I feel the moments pass me by  
the house on the hill is so far away.

### ***Part Two {Travel plans}***

Fixate on a single point in Time  
These butterfly wings can still arise  
Inner point of view locked in my heart

Mad jugglers stand in line,  
& they recognise their King!  
Tumblers in the clockwork mind begin...  
...they begin to sing

Thin gossamer webs with strange designs  
Promised whispers from the other side  
- A trick of the light, a trick on the mind  
No worries at all about what's left behind

Court jesters wait in line,  
They recognise - not a thing!  
Players of the morbid games begin  
we begin to sing



### ***Part Three {The other shoreline}***

It's Alright, It's OK

Under the portal gaze there is some calm & some waiting &  
some breathing

It's not quite how I thought it would be, but then what do I  
know?

Got to get my dead ducks in a row

Ferryman, here is your coin, take me to the other side

But hurry now I'm all for being on my way

Slip the moorings, feel the oars

Cast adrift on the other shore, my destiny is there, waiting for  
me

No sounds of water, no slipstream in our wake

I'm into the Shadowlands, where the dead are still awake

No sign of any Grand Estates, in this wasteland, desolate

I search for her amongst the lost blank faces

Black & white, all shapes & sizes

the overwhelming sorrow that this flow comprises

I look for her within the wandering crowd...but she's not there

### ***Part Four {Together again}***

Left staring at a photograph, I only want to see you smile  
& there you are before me now, found in Time

Turn back the clocks & make this moment last  
Together as one, from out of the Past

Hand In Hand. we walk towards the horizon

Lost in each other eyes

The House on the hill is not so far away

My journey's end, my heart's content

the end of the story as if it was always meant to be  
& you are with me now!