

CONTEMPLATING CONTEMPLATIONS

ALL THE SONGS
ALL THE RESEARCH
ALL THE STUDY
ALL THE REHEARSALS
THE AUDITIONS

ALL THE JAZZ, THE BLUES,
THE MOTOWN, THE COUNTRY
THE ROCK AND ROLL, THE GOSPEL AND THE SOUL

ALL THE OPERA,
ALL THE TRYING TO REMEMBER THE WORDS TO SOME SONG REQUEST
THAT I ONLY HEARD ONCE
OR TWICE

ALL THE SMILES , THE FANS
THE COMPLIMENTS AND THE CRITICS
ALL THE THE NEWS ARTICLES, THE INTERVIEWS, THE PRESS,
THE PHOTOGRAPHERS
ALL THE BOOTLEG VIDEOS & RECORDINGS

ALL THE VISA'S
ALL THE CUSTOMS AGENTS
ALL THE SECURITY
ALL THE FLIGHTS, THE HOTELS, THE HOTEL FOOD, THE BOTCHED LAUNDRY
ALL THE ROAD TRIPS, THE VANS, THE TRAINS, THE BUSSES, THE CARS,
THE BUMPY ROADS, THE ICE, THE SLEET , THE SNOW
ALL THE REST ROOMS, THE TOILETS, THE HOLES IN THE GROUND,
THE OUT HOUSES WITH NO PAPER
AND THAT ONE BATHROOM IN THE AFRICAN BUSH THAT DOUBLED AS A TREE

ALL THE GIGS , THE CLUBS
ALL THE SMOKE THAT CAUSED ASTHMA
THE CIGARS
ALL THE DAMN CIGARETTES
THE TRYING TO BREATH IN VAIN
ALL THE DOCTOR BILLS THAT EXCEEDED THE PAY FOR THE GIG THAT GOT ME SICK
THE SMOKING PATRONS WHO DIDN'T CARE THAT MY SINGING LUNGS NEED AIR

ALL THE CONCERT HALLS
THE OUT DOOR GIGS IN ALL THE ELEMENTS
THE GREEN ROOMS
THE DRESSING ROOM IN A CAMPING TENT

ALL THE WORKSHOPS, THE UNIVERSITIES, ALL THE STUDENTS
ALL THE AGENTS, THE BOOKER'S, THE CONTRACTORS, ENTERTAINMENT GROUPS
THE CLUELESS AND THE STUCK ON STUPID

ALL THE RIGHT CONNECTIONS
ALL THE CROOKS

ALL THE LIES, THE DECEIT, THE CONTRACTS, THE AGREEMENTS, THE HANDSHAKES
ALL THE CANCELLATIONS WITH NO EXPLANATION
ALL THE UNDERPAID AND NON PAID PROMISES
ALL THE DISAPPOINTMENTS
ALL THE LATE BILLS
ALL THE LATE CHARGES
ALL THE NO MONEY THIS WEEK ANXIETIES
ALL THE STARTING ALL OVER AGAIN

ALL THE FASCINATIONS AND INFATUATIONS
ALL THE GUYS WHO WANT ME
AND THE GIRLS WHO WANT TO BE ME
ALL THE JEALOUSY
THE HATERS WHO DON'T EVEN KNOW ME
ALL THE DIRTY LOOKS

ALL THE LANGUAGES, THE UNDERSTANDING, AND THE MISUNDERSTANDINGS
ALL THE FUN, THE MISTAKES, THE LAUGHS, THE JOKES

ALL THE MUSICIANS , THE BEGINNERS, AND THE PRO'S
ALL THE CHARTS, THE CHANGES THAT KEEP CHANGING
ALL THE ARRANGEMENTS,
THE CONFUSION THAT LEAD TO SOME CONCLUSION THAT LEAD TO APPLAUDS
ALL THE STANDING OVATIONS
ALL THE AUTOGRAPHS
ALL THE POSING FOR PICTURES
ALL THE PEACE SIGNS
ALL THE BLINDING FLASHES

ALL THE SEATS, THE LIGHTS, THE SOUND ENGINEERS FROM HELL
ALL THE BUSTED SPEAKERS
ALL THE MONITORS THAT SOUND LIKE CRAP

ALL THE DRESSING ROOMS WITH NO MIRRORS
ALL THE DRESSES, THE HIGH HEALS, THE BAUBLES, THE BANGLES & THE BEADS

ALL THE VARICOSE VEINS, SPIDER VEINS
THE ACHING FEET AND SORE LEGS
ALL THE MANICURES, THE PEDICURES, THE WAXES ,
THE MAKE UP
ALL THE RED LIPSTICK

ALL THE HEADACHES, SORE THROATS, ALLERGIES AND SINUS INFECTIONS
ALL THE LARYNGITIS, THE BRONCHITIS
ALL THE GARLIC, GINGER , LEMONS, HONEY, CAYENNE, ECHINACEA,
THYME, SAGE, OREGANO OIL, LOBELIA, MULLIEN, LICORICE, SLIPPERY ELM,

ALL THE ZINC AND VITAMIN C

ALL THE FRIENDS I'VE MET AROUND THE WORLD AND STAYED IN TOUCH WITH FOR
30 YEARS

ALL THE LIVES I MIGHT HAVE TOUCHED WITH A SONG
ALL THE CHARITY CONCERTS AND FUNDRAISERS

ALL THE FREE DRINKS

ALL THE BOTTLED WATER

ALL THE LATE NIGHT DINNERS AND MORNING AFTER STOMACH ACHE REGRETS

ALL THE SLEEPING TILL MID DAY

ALL THE NIGHTS

ALL THE MORNINGS I LAY ME DOWN TO SLEEP

ALL THE DAYS I MISSED THE SUN

ALL THE WONDER OF IT ALL

ALL THE TIME SPENT CONTEMPLATING

WHAT? WHEN? WHO? WHY? AND HOW?

THE GOOD OUT WEIGHING THE BAD

I'D DO IT ALL

OVER

AGAIN