



### A FAREWELL TO KINGS (5:51)

When they turn the pages of history  
When these days have passed long ago  
Will they read of us with sadness  
For the seeds that we let grow  
We turned our gaze  
From the castles in the distance  
Eyes cast down  
On the path of least resistance

Cities full of hatred  
Fear and lies  
Withered hearts  
And cruel, tormented eyes  
Scheming demons  
Dressed in kingly guise  
Beating down the multitude  
And scoffing at the wise

The hypocrites are slandering

The sacred halls of Truth

Ancient nobles showering

Their bitterness on youth

Can't we find

The minds that made us strong

Can't we learn

To feel what's right and wrong

Cities full of hatred

Fear and lies

Withered hearts

And cruel, tormented eyes

Scheming demons

Dressed in kingly guise

Beating down the multitude

And scoffing at the wise

Can't we raise our eyes

And make a start

Can't we find the minds

To lead us closer to the Heart

### XANADU (11:08)

"To seek the sacred river Alph  
To walk the caves of ice  
To break my fast on honey dew  
And drink the milk of Paradise..."

I had heard the whispered tales  
Of immortality  
The deepest mystery  
From an ancient book. I took a clue  
I scaled the frozen mountain tops  
Of eastern lands unknown  
Time and Man alone  
Searching for the lost - Xanadu

Xanadu -

To stand within The Pleasure Dome  
Decreed by Kubla Khan  
To taste anew the fruits of life  
The last immortal man  
To find the sacred river Alph  
To walk the caves of ice  
Oh, I will dine on honey dew  
And drink the milk of Paradise

A thousand years have come and gone  
But time has passed me by  
Stars stopped in the sky  
Frozen in an everlasting view  
Waiting for the world to end  
Weary of the night  
Praying for the light  
Prison of the lost - Xanadu

Xanadu -

Held within The Pleasure Dome  
Decreed by Kubla Khan  
To taste my bitter triumph  
As a mad immortal man  
Nevermore shall I return  
Escape these caves of ice  
For I have dined on honey dew  
And drunk the milk of Paradise

### CLOSER TO THE HEART (2:53)

And the men who hold high places  
Must be the ones to start  
To mould a new reality  
Closer to the Heart

The Blacksmith and the Artist  
Reflect it in their art  
Forge their creativity  
Closer to the Heart

Philosophers and Ploughmen  
Each must know his part  
To sow a new mentality  
Closer to the Heart

You can be the Captain  
I will draw the Chart  
Sailing into destiny  
Closer to the Heart

### CINDERELLA MAN (4:21)

A modest man from Mandrake  
Travelled rich to the city  
He had a need to discover  
A use for his newly-found wealth

Because he was human  
Because he had goodness  
Because he was moral  
They called him insane

Delusions of grandeur  
Visions of splendour  
A manic depressive  
He walks in the rain

Eyes wide open  
Heart undefended  
Innocence untarnished

Cinderella Man  
Doing what you can  
They can't understand  
What it means

Cinderella Man  
Hang on to your plans  
Try as they might  
They cannot steal your dreams

In the betrayal of his love he awakened  
To face a world of cold reality  
And a look in the eyes of the hungry  
Awakened him to what he could do

He held up his riches  
To challenge the hungry  
Purposeful motion  
For one so insane

They tried to fight him  
Just couldn't beat him  
This manic depressive  
Who walks in the rain

### **MADRIGAL (2:35)**

When the dragons grow too mighty  
To slay with pen or sword  
I grow weary of the battle  
And the storm I walk toward  
When all around is madness  
And there's no safe port in view  
I long to turn my path homeward  
To stop awhile with you

When life becomes so barren  
And as cold as winter skies  
There's a beacon in the darkness  
In a distant pair of eyes  
In vain to search for order  
In vain to search for truth  
But these things can still be given  
Your love has shown me proof

### **CYGNUS X-1 (10:25)**

#### **BOOK ONE - THE VOYAGE**

##### **PROLOGUE (5:01)**

In the constellation of Cygnus  
There lurks a mysterious, invisible force  
The Black Hole  
Of Cygnus X-1

Six Stars of the Northern Cross  
In mourning for their sister's loss  
In a final flash of glory  
Nevermore to grace the night...

##### **1 (0:45)**

Invisible  
To telescopic eye  
Infinity  
The star that would not die

All who dare  
To cross her course  
Are swallowed by  
A fearsome force

Through the void  
To be destroyed  
Or is there something more?  
Atomized - at the core  
Or through the Astral Door -  
To soar...

##### **2 (1:34)**

I set a course just east of Lyra  
And northwest of Pegasus  
Flew into the light of Deneb  
Sailed across the Milky Way

On my ship, the 'Rocinante'  
Wheeling through the galaxies,  
Headed for the heart of Cygnus  
Headlong into mystery

The x-ray is her siren song  
My ship cannot resist her long  
Nearer to my deadly goal  
Until the Black Hole -  
Gains control...

*To be continued*

Spinning, whirling,  
Still descending  
Like a spiral sea,  
Unending

Sound and fury  
Drowns my heart  
Every nerve  
Is torn apart...

Geddy Lee - Bass/Acoustic Guitar/  
Mini-Moog/Bass Pedals/Vocals  
Alex Lifeson - Acoustic and  
Electric Guitars/Bass Pedals  
Neil Peart - Drums/Percussion

Music by Lee and Lifeson, except  
"A Farewell to Kings" and "Cygnus X-1" by  
Lee, Lifeson and Peart

Lyrics by Peart, except  
"Closer To The Heart" by Peart and Talbot,  
"Cinderella Man" by Lee

Produced by Rush and Terry Brown  
Engineered by Pat Moran and Terry Brown

Mercury/Polygram, September 1977

Dedicated to Nancy, Charlene and Jacqueline



### Notes:

- Certified Gold by RIAA: November 16, 1977 - Certified Platinum: December 1, 1993 - Highest Billboard Chart Position: 33
- "Geddy's bass playing is so melodic and that comes from playing bass parts on an acoustic guitar. He would play bass lines right on the acoustic, but he would come up with a lot of guitar parts too. 'Closer to the Heart' for instance—he wrote that opening picking part. I heard it and said, 'That's so cool—show me that!'" - Alex Lifeson, *Frets Magazine*, Spring 2006