

Vice & Virtue Lyrics

(released 2015)

VICE & VIRTUE

Jimmy Needham, Will Hunt

All my sins go to private school
All my sins know the golden rule
All my sins hold the door for you
There's vice in all my virtue

Even my nice tries are misfires
Even my best lines are white lies
Even the demons do this too
There's vice in all my virtue

I treat You more like a rabbit's foot
If I hold on tight You'll do me good
Less like love more like voodoo
I got vice in all my virtue

Hell's gonna have an HOA
Hell's gonna have a low crime rate
If we don't watch out it'll have us too
There's vice in all my virtue

I'm losing sleep about it
Don't wanna be without Ya
Can't even breathe without Ya
Help me, yeah
On my own without Ya
All alone without Ya
There ain't no hope
Without Ya, help me

Oh my my my my
My good is never good enough
Good enough
Way way way down deep
There is a criminal in us
Down in us

Which is good and which is bad:
Crystal meth or a gospel tract?
If it's done for me and not for You
There's vice in all my virtue

Businessmen and soccer moms
College kids and debutantes
Caiphas and Judas too
There's vice in all my virtue

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THANK YOU

Jimmy Needham, Joshua Silverberg, Ross King

It's time I count the ways like 1-2-3-4-5
Every breath I take is air that You provide
My life is in Your hands and
I won't take that for granted
Don't understand it but I know it's true

I wanna thank You, thank You
I wanna thank You, thank You
Every direction I see
Everything You've done for me
I don't know where I would be without You

I wanna thank You, thank You
For who You are, what You do
I'm gonna give it my best
I may just run out of breath
But You deserve nothing less, yes it's true

You got me lifting off like 5-4-3-2-1
You take the limits off of what I can become
Was crawling now I'm flying
Your love is death-defying
Can't keep quiet gotta let it out

Ain't nobody, nobody like You
I'm so grateful for everything You do

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MAMMA DIDN'T RAISE NO FOOL

Jimmy Needham

Mamma didn't raise no fool
I can see right through you
Daddy didn't do half bad too
So whatcha gonna do
Cause mamma mamma
Mamma didn't raise no fool

You're just like quicksand
I took a step and I was sinkin' in
God pulled me out
And now I'm onto your plan
I'm not afraid anymore

You're like a bad date
You keep on calling like it went great
That might of worked on me in 8th grade
But I'm not a kid anymore
So try it again, I'll be like...

Mamma didn't raise no fool
I can see right through you
Daddy didn't do half bad too
So whatcha gonna do
Cause mamma mamma
Mamma didn't raise no fool

I got my eyes wide
I got a crew that's riding by my side
I got a truth that's changed my whole life
So I think you're luck has run out

Oh I can see Him
I can see Him on the mountain
Oh I can feel it
I can feel it help is comin'
Oh I can see Him
I can see Him on the mountain
I can see Him so
You best be leaving

ALL WE NEED IS NEED

Jimmy Needham, Joshua Silverberg

I was just a good kid
Hope someday to be a pastor
Watch my language
Memorize verse and chapter
But is that really what You're after?

Well I had my hands full
Couldn't take what You were giving
In my household
There wasn't space for You to live in
What's it take to be forgiven?

Doing my best just to hide my mess
But all we need is need
Working so hard on my righteousness
But all we need is need
You want a heart that's open
A hallelujah that's broken
Woah oh oh
Woah oh oh
All we need is need

We all get so dressed up
Thinking maybe we'll impress You
At our best we're messed up
There ain't nothing that we can do
It's what we get not what we give You

So come on mercy
Lead the way to the Father
We are thirsty
Fill us with living water
The less we have the more You offer

There's nothing we can do
We need You, yes we do
We need You
We need You
We need

SIRENS

Jimmy Needham, Will Hunt, Calvin Turner, Taylor Johnson

Have you ever made a promise
You wanted to keep
But keeping up with promises
Was never too easy
So you thought maybe if you tried hard
Maybe if you're die hard
Maybe you could win one game
For the team

But the voice of an angel
Was singing a song
You hardly noticed you're singing along
Before you really knew what hit
You were on a sinking ship
Just another sailor that's
Lost at sea

Your knuckles are white but
The harder you try you're
Still losing the fight
Just wondering why
Why can't I

Silence the Sirens
I hear 'em
They're singing
I feel it pulling me under
Silence the Sirens
Rid their throats of poison notes
And sing a better song for me

Like showing up with a knife to a nuke war
I never knew what I was in for
Pull the ripcord
Plane's going down
Six feet down
Underground
Never make a sound no more

Like putting a monster inside of a cage
Lock it all up but it can't do a thing
Gonna be free
Free anyway
Begging for grace

Sing a new song
A beautiful song
Right now I'm needing You to

Silence the Sirens
I hear em
They're singing
I feel it pulling me under
Silence the Sirens
Rid their throats of poison notes
And sing a better song for me

A hundred thousand voices
Ringin in my ears
The only hope for me is You
I hear them singing now
I need to hear You louder
Drown them out before they drown me too

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ONLY YOU

Jimmy Needham, Will Hunt

Only you
No one else could ever take your place
Only you
Earth and heaven can pass away
I can't say enough about you
I can't see my world without you
Only you

Did you know you're a phenomenon?
Get me talking about it and I go on and on
No one like you in the world for me
Loving you, girl is simple math
To be whole I had to find me a better half
Now it's you forever and I hope you'll see

Only you
No one else could ever take your place
Only you
Earth and heaven can pass away
I can't say enough about you
I can't see my world without you
Only you

Who gives wanting nothing back?
Who can make up the difference
Everywhere I lack?
Who helped this foolish man find his way?
Who's kisses are forever mine?
Slow me down and speed me up
at the same time
It's you baby, you baby, everyday

Ain't never gonna be another girl like
No never gonna be,
Never gonna be a girl like
Ain't never gonna be another girl like

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FOREVER AND EVER AMEN

Paul Overstreet, Don Schlitz

I'm gonna love ya
I'm gonna love ya

You may think that I'm talking foolish
You've heard that I'm wild and I'm free
You may wonder how I can promise you now
This love that I feel for you always will be

See you're not just time that I'm killing
I'm no longer one of those guys
As sure as I live, this love that I give
Is gonna be yours until the day that I die

Oh, baby I'm gonna love you forever, Forever and ever, Amen
As long as old men sit n' talk
About the weather
As long as old women sit and talk
About old men
If you wonder how long I'll be faithful
I'll be happy to tell you again
I'm gonna love you forever and ever, Forever and ever, Amen

I'm gonna love ya
I'm gonna love ya

They say that time takes it's toll on the body
Makes a young girl's brown hair turn gray
But, honey, I don't care,
I ain't in love with your hair
And if it all fell out, well,
I'd love you anyway

They say time can play tricks
On the memory
Make people forget things they knew
Well it's easy to see, it's happening to me
I've already forgotten every woman but you

Darlin, I'm gonna love you forever,
Forever and ever, Amen
As long as old men sit and talk
About the weather
As long as old women sit and talk
About old men

If you wonder how long I'll be faithful
Just listen to how this song ends
I'm gonna love you forever and ever, Forever and ever, Amen

I'm gonna love ya
I'm gonna love ya

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MR. NICE GUY (feat. KB)

Jimmy Needham, Ross King, Sam Tinnesz, Kevin Burgess

For years I've been striving
To make an art outta hiding
Smile real big
Like I'm doing alright
Pristine on the outside
But inside I'm dying
Trying too hard
To prove I'm fine

Can't stay
This way
No more

No more Mr. Nice Guy
Welcome to the new me
Taking off my disguise
Chasing something risky

I'm a grown-up now
Got a house and a family
"Better safe than sorry" ringing in my ears
Right about now I need to break out
To be what you made me
Free from lies, free from fear

No more Mr. Nice Guy
Welcome to the new me
Taking off my disguise
Chasing something risky

I never knew it could just be me
Now I'm never going back
To what I used to be
What a relief it is to be free
Now I'm never going back
To what I used to be
Nice guy

Nothing more risky than living risk free
Staying in the lines never gave us Sistines
Rather lose life than waste it
Keep the combination
No more playing it safe, kid
Second rate you or a first rate me

Rate me, rank me, praise hate me but KB
I'm living for what He would say
Only gonna be one me today
The one that's freed with grace
What did Needham say?

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BETTER MAN

Jimmy Needham, Jeff Pardo, James Mason

I'm kinder than I used to be, I know
I talk a little less and I listen a little more
I've even figured out the way to
Fold a fitted sheet
In the big and the little things
Anyone can see

I'm a better man, I'm a better man
Every day I spend with you
God makes me more of who I am
I'm a better man, it must have been His plan
All because you love me, baby
I'm a better man

I'll probably never stop losing my keys
But I'll never stop fighting for you
And for our family
And I stand a little taller when
You're standing next to me
Yeah who I used to be
Is some old memory

I've made wrong turns
And I've watched bridges burn
But I'm leaving them behind
That was yesterday
And I have hope today
Every time I look in your eyes

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JEKYLL & HYDE

Jimmy Needham

There is a lunatic in everyone I know
Some live it out,
Some just refuse to drink the potion, baby
But we're all monsters inside
Cause we act like Dr. Jekyll
But there ain't no hiding Mr. Hyde

We point the finger
At the fella down the road
"What kind of devil does a thing like that?" we joke
Oh baby, just give it time
Cause we act like Dr. Jekyll
But there ain't no hiding Mr. Hyde

Every last one of us
Are pretty much the same
We got ol' Adam's blood
Running through our veins
Oh baby, I ain't telling no lies

It's just some are caught red-handed
And some work up an alibi

Some will probably kill ya
And some just kill ya in their mind

Cause some live in a prison
And some live in a suit and a tie

We act like Dr. Jekyll
but there ain't no hiding Mr. Hyde

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THE STORY (A Spoken Word)

Jimmy Needham, Will Hunt

This is a story
A story about a Hero and a damsel
A villain and a scandal
Bend down, untie your sandals
Cause where we're going is holy ground
Starts like this:

In the beginning there was the Hero.
And the Hero was the Father.
And the Hero was the Spirit.
And the Hero was the Son.
And if this hurts your head already,
Welcome to the kingdom

Immutable, inscrutable, infinitely
Glad-hearted, triune perfection
His ancient love reverberated off each Member with no hint of dissension
Perfect in unity
Perfect in diversity
Holy trinity

And even before the rocks could cry out His name
He was singing his own praises
How could he not?
You know anyone else who goes by
"The Rock of Ages"?
He needed nothing from no one,
As if something made could improve
Upon His majesty
His majesty's amp was already at 11
And if this was the end of our story
That'd be enough for us to
Glory for a thousand eternities at Him,
But our story isn't over cause one day
The Hero started speaking

And when He started speaking,
Things started being

Light, night, wind, water, mud, moons,
Seas and spiders, swimmers
And flyers, gallopers and gliders,
Stars and seasons, rhyme and reason to all
Of it and all of it was good

And suddenly all the commotion came to a standstill, when our Hero
Bent down fashioned His damsel
God leaned over our body of earth
Breathed life into our lungs
Made our heart beat from dirt
He put light in our eyes
He gave us each other
And He gave us Himself as a prize
And we were naked and were not ashamed

But of course, the plot thickens
Enter stage right The Villain

The serpent was craftier
Than any beast in the garden
He made a beeline for the tree line
And found Eve and her husband
And in less than fifty words
He convinced perfectly satisfied people
They were starving to death
And since that day
God's damsel has known nothing but
Starving to death
The poison of asps is heavy on her breath.
We traded the glory of the incorruptible God for a silly substitute
Like a school kid duped into giving up
His brand new Jordan's
For a pair of worn out tennis shoes
We became dark-hearted
Bent inward on a mission to find
within ourselves the solution,
Like trying to number the stars
While gazing through L.A.'s air pollution
We couldn't see
And we fell in love with lesser things
And we bought them each a diamond ring
And we betrayed our Maker,
Our Husband, our King

Let me clarify

This doesn't just apply
To the treacherous and murderous
Even the best of us
Are as bad as the worst of us
Outwardly clean

But inside full of dead men's bones
Like the Taj Mahal,
It looks good and all
But there's nobody home
And one terrible day
We looked around
But there was no more villain
To be found

He crawled inside of us
Like a virus, rewired us
And now the damsel
Is the villain as well
We tied our own self
To the train tracks
The horn blows and careening
Toward us is 10,000 tons
Of God's wrath sounds so loud
You can barely hear
The screaming chorus
"Who will save us from the
Body of this death?!"
Enter stage left, Jesus of Nazareth

The Word became flesh
And dwelt among us
He came lowly
Perfectly holy
He came like a groom
On his way to the altar
To meet the bride
And for the dowry,
He had no cash
So He paid with his life

Are you shocked
By the consequence of sin?
Be more shocked
By the mercy of him

Couldn't free ourselves
So Christ became our freedom
Couldn't fill these lungs
So He became our breathing
We live because He died
Once a harlot now a bride
Sins were scarlet,

Now made white
Perfect by proxy
Saved by a surrogate
Holy through Him
The Hero and the damsel are one,
Once again
But wait,

I haven't told you the best part yet
As if there wasn't enough here already
To impress you the best part
About this story is the story is true
The only fairytale that's not a fairytale
So long mother goose
Farewell Dr. Seuss
This here's the genuine article

God made
We strayed
God's love, displayed
God-man gives grace
Stands in our place
Our sins erased
Debt paid always
So fall on your face,
And give God all praise

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