

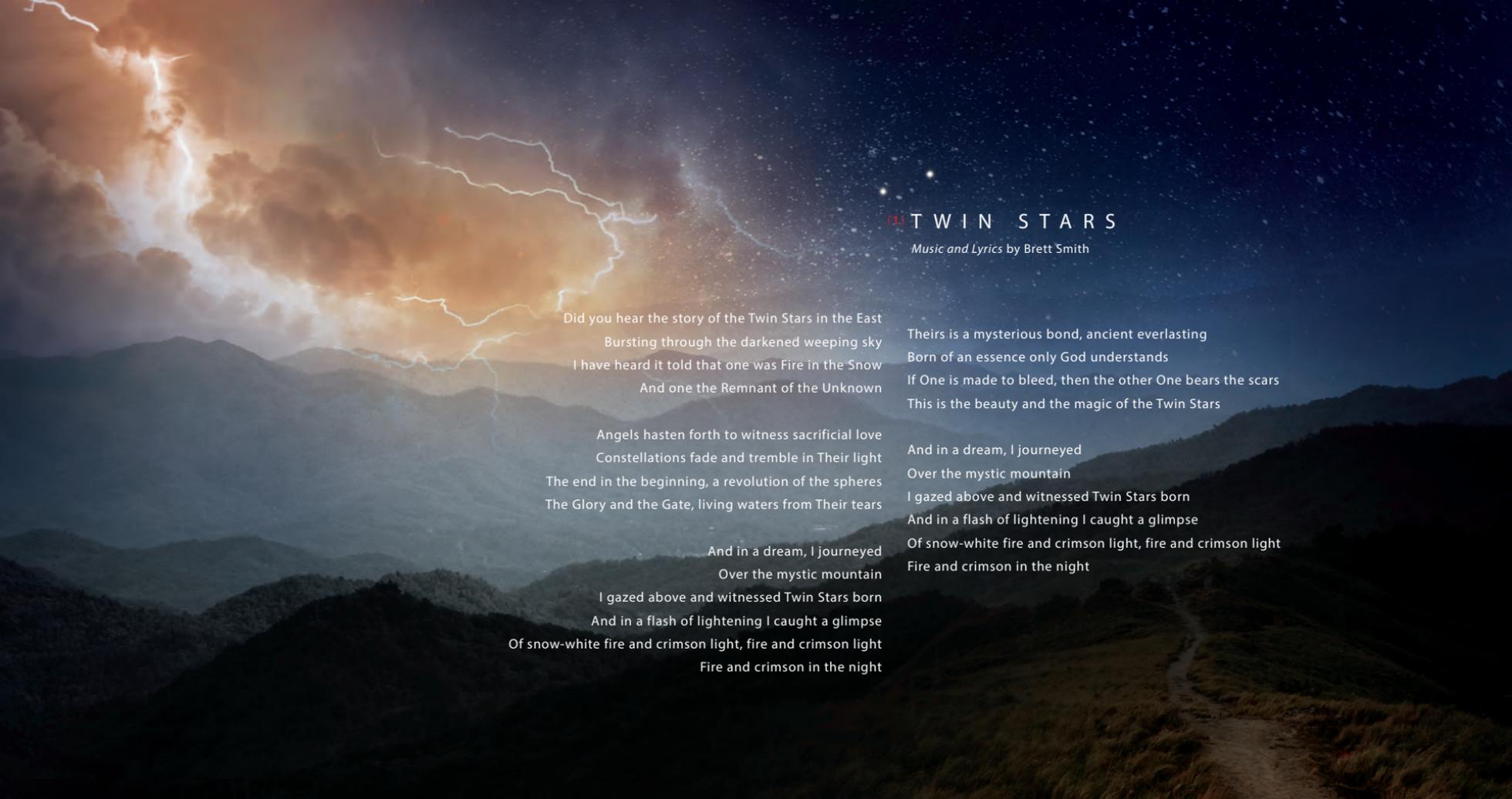
*Smith & Dragoman*

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INTO  
THE  
FIRE

Kindle the fire of love and burn away all things,  
then set thy foot into the land of the lovers.

— Bahá'u'lláh



## 01 TWIN STARS

*Music and Lyrics by Brett Smith*

Did you hear the story of the Twin Stars in the East  
Bursting through the darkened weeping sky  
I have heard it told that one was Fire in the Snow  
And one the Remnant of the Unknown

Angels hasten forth to witness sacrificial love  
Constellations fade and tremble in Their light  
The end in the beginning, a revolution of the spheres  
The Glory and the Gate, living waters from Their tears

And in a dream, I journeyed  
Over the mystic mountain  
I gazed above and witnessed Twin Stars born  
And in a flash of lightening I caught a glimpse  
Of snow-white fire and crimson light, fire and crimson light  
Fire and crimson in the night

Theirs is a mysterious bond, ancient everlasting  
Born of an essence only God understands  
If One is made to bleed, then the other One bears the scars  
This is the beauty and the magic of the Twin Stars

And in a dream, I journeyed  
Over the mystic mountain  
I gazed above and witnessed Twin Stars born  
And in a flash of lightening I caught a glimpse  
Of snow-white fire and crimson light, fire and crimson light  
Fire and crimson in the night

## (2) F I R S T L I G H T

*Inspired by Khadijih Bagum, the wife of the Báb*

*Music by Mike Dragoman*

*Lyrics by Heather Poole and Mike Dragoman*

My Beloved returned early that day,  
It was unusual to see Him that hour  
In a soft voice He bade me, early to dine,  
In His tone, an urgency called

Early to bed, asleep by His side, unaware of what was to come  
With a stirring, an emptiness, the still of the night, I awoke, but where was my Love

Searching I looked, no where to be found, from the garden I noticed a glow

If expecting a guest, I'm sure He would say,  
Yet a presence, I felt it so strong  
And with every step, a growing concern  
Who could be calling this hour?

Searching I looked, no where to be found, from the garden I noticed a glow  
From the windows above, a radiant light  
Finally I gazed on His face

I stood there, paralyzed, frozen in time,  
My Beloved enveloped in light  
A gesture, His gentle hand,  
Motioned me back,  
I was at once freed from the spell

When the morning light came, still trembling inside  
My head bowed, my heart was transformed  
He offered His tea, with His own sweet hand  
I would drink from this Fountain of Life

His glorious hand, I drank from this cup, knowing with certainty, my eyes so clear  
"The memory and praise of Him shall remain, till the end of time..."\*

\* 'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Memorials of the Faithful*



(3) STARS IN THE DARK

Music by Mike Dragoman

Lyrics by Heather Poole and Mike Dragoman

On the horizon appears a glow  
The morning light to wash the dark away  
Why do we doubt the darkness will dissipate?  
After the long night, this has always been the way

Two thousand years aforeside  
They could see beyond the reach of mind  
Celestial winds caress Their heart and soul  
Radiant Lights that shine in the night

Like the stars in the dark  
Once hidden... unfold  
Secrets revealed to the eyes  
Eyes of the soul  
Perfect Mirrors reflect  
The light of the Sun  
With the eyes of a child we must see...  
All things as one

The heat of the flame will serve to burn away  
All the veils that shroud an ancient truth  
And yet we stand as though we were paralyzed  
Holding on to fear, behind shadows in the sun.

We should "seek with all (our) hearts  
This heavenly light,  
that... the hidden ways may be made  
(Made) plain before (our) eyes,"\*

(Our) eyes

\* Abdu'l-Bahá, Paris Talks

Deep within her, something's calling  
Whisperings of a tale  
Sacred stories of Ancient Beauty  
Beyond the seven veils

Her heart is longing, beating, pulsing  
Desperate for His embrace  
But seven valleys stand before her  
Journey to the Gate

Enter into seven valleys  
Abandon all that she knows  
Each one a secret, the dying of ego  
Witness the mystery unfold

Countless ages, books and sages  
Sacred words are released  
She reads the verses, the master key  
And gazes towards the East

Seven valleys draw her nearer  
On crystal river she sails  
All she knows is love and service  
Passing through the veils

With heart ablaze now she turns to the sun  
The veils all burning away  
She looks inside and finding a key  
Unlocks His Crimson Gate

Countless ages, books and pages  
Sacred words are released  
She reads the verses, the master key  
And gazes towards the East

## (4) SEVEN

*Music and Lyrics by Brett Smith*



(5) RAINING DOWN

Music and Lyrics by Emily Dragoman

From the depths, from this hole  
Hear His voice, hear His call  
In the dark, He is sight  
In the dawn there is light

Raining down raining down raining down raining down  
Raining down raining down raining down

"Behold the soul-entrancing Song  
Behold the beating of the Drum  
Hear ... the sotted lovers' sighs  
Glorious hymns in purest light"

Raining down raining down raining down raining down  
Raining down raining down raining down

Raining down raining down raining down raining down  
Raining down

From the clouds of the realms above  
Hear the words beyond words in the sun  
From the fountain of our heart the river flowed  
Hear the words beyond words in your soul

Raining down raining down raining down raining down  
Raining down raining down raining down

Raining down raining down raining down raining down  
Raining down

I am He, I am He made to shine resplendent from Our face  
Raining down raining down raining down  
He is He, He is He from the Fountain of Grace

Raining down  
Raining down  
Raining down

\* Bahd'u'llah, The Call of the Divine Beloved

## 6 INTO THE FIRE

*This song is inspired by and  
derived from The Fire Tablet, written by Bahá'u'lláh.  
All quotations are from this Tablet as well.*

*Music by Brett Smith*

*Lyrics by Maureen O'Neill and Brett Smith*

Say, what do you write, O Pen of the world?  
Say, why do you bleed, O Ink of the World?  
From the House of Udi, a lonely plea  
Through this Tablet of Fire tell me  
What do you see?

I see the breath of the jealous ones searing the land  
I feel the clutch of the greedy tighten their hands  
I hear the quivering of souls on distant shores  
And the barking of dogs rings loud on all sides, like never before

I see the veins in the necks of those who smile sweet  
I hear the whispers of slander, noise of deceit  
I feel the undertow of sorrow in the sea of despair  
And the leaves have turned yellow by poisoning winds of sedition in the air In the air

I see the branches of the Lote-Tree broken on the ground  
I feel the breezes of compassion are nowhere to be found  
I see the king of tyranny sit heavy upon the throne  
And the darkness surrounds the Light of the World. He is all alone

I see the dark flag of calamity thrashing in the summit wind  
I feel the dust storm whip up the sands like bullets to the skin  
A million shovels dig deeper in the valley of descent  
And the thirsty are praying for the rains of relief from this great lament  
This great lament

"Where are the breezes of Thy compassion?"

"Where are the waves of Thy bounty?"

"Where is the lion of the forest of Thy might?"

"Where is the warmth of Thy love?"

"Where is the warmth of Thy love?"

"O Fire of the worlds"

"O Wronged One, O Wronged One, Wronged One of the worlds

We have heard Thy most sweet call"

"O Patience, O Patience, Patience of the worlds

Thou wert created to bear and endure"

"Were it not for the cold, how would... Thy words prevail?"

"Were it not for calamity, how would... Thy patience shine?"

"How sweet was Thy dawning... O Love of the worlds"

"By Thee... the sea of bounty surged..."



(7) DANCING 'ROUND THE FLAME

*Lyrics inspired by Tabernacle of Divine Unity and Seven Valleys written by Bahá'u'lláh*

*Music by Mike Dragoman*

*Lyrics by Heather Poole*

World illuming sun of truth...  
Burneth to ashes the harvest of reason  
How many a fire transform into light  
Dissolved in the fire of love.

Once this spark ignites into flame  
The flame will burn deep inside  
This is the time for the weighing of hearts  
May the flames be turned into light

Will you choose to dance 'round the flame  
Or kindle the flame within  
Approach this Fire, be set ablaze  
Let the heat burn therein.

No one can escape this flame  
Nowhere to run, or to hide  
And chilled hearts will have no share of the heat  
Heat of this blazing Fire

Will you take the leap of faith  
Kindle the flame within  
Burn thou brightly,...this undying fire  
Sharing the spark, the flame  
Remember the gathered hearts  
Kindle the fire of being and be fit,  
for the pathway of love.



Oh, hour of dawn, Before the rising of the Sun  
From the place where the Gate appears,  
That day which belongs to Him  
Is close, closer than a twinkling of the eye  
Listen to the call from this Upright Soul  
In the air of the cloud

The trumpet has sounded, the alarm bell has rung  
Yet we sleep, complacent,  
Indifferent to the call  
Oh Concourse of Lights, hear the call from above  
From the ocean of unity, hear the cry  
From the heart of the world.

"Verily I am the hour...the Lamp in the niche...  
Verily I am the Fire in the Light  
Upon Light of Sinai in the land of felicity  
I am hidden... Hidden in the precincts of the Fire"\*

When will the inner voice be heard? True fellowship endure?  
And when will the Golden Age appear? These ruinous wars fade away?  
When will the wolf and the lamb be seen,  
To drink from the very same stream?  
Can you hear the Mystic Dove?  
In the midmost heart of eternity

"Verily I am the hour...the Lamp in the niche...  
Verily I am the Fire in the Light  
Upon Light of Sinai in the land of felicity  
I am hidden... Hidden in the precincts of the Fire"\*

Physician Divine, with the cure for all humankind  
Open the Book, turn the page, embrace this New Day  
The healing Fountain overflows  
Do we drink, or choose to turn away?  
Inscribed for us a new way  
With a stroke of His Pen

The youth of the world,  
Reach out to us all  
A call for unity and justice  
To care for their world, preserve their future  
Why should they pay for our plundering?

We the youth of the world,  
Reach out to you all  
A call for unity and justice  
To care for our world, preserve our future  
Why should we pay for your plundering?

## (8) THE HOUR

*Lyrics inspired by excerpts from the Qayyu al-Asma'; Sura 93*

*Music by Mike Dragoman*

*Lyrics by Heather Poole and Mike Dragoman*

\* The Báb, *Qayyu al-Asma'*; Sura 93



There are traces, a circle in the sand  
Heaven spoken, through the Wise One's hand  
On the shore of oneness, I leave myself behind  
And step inside

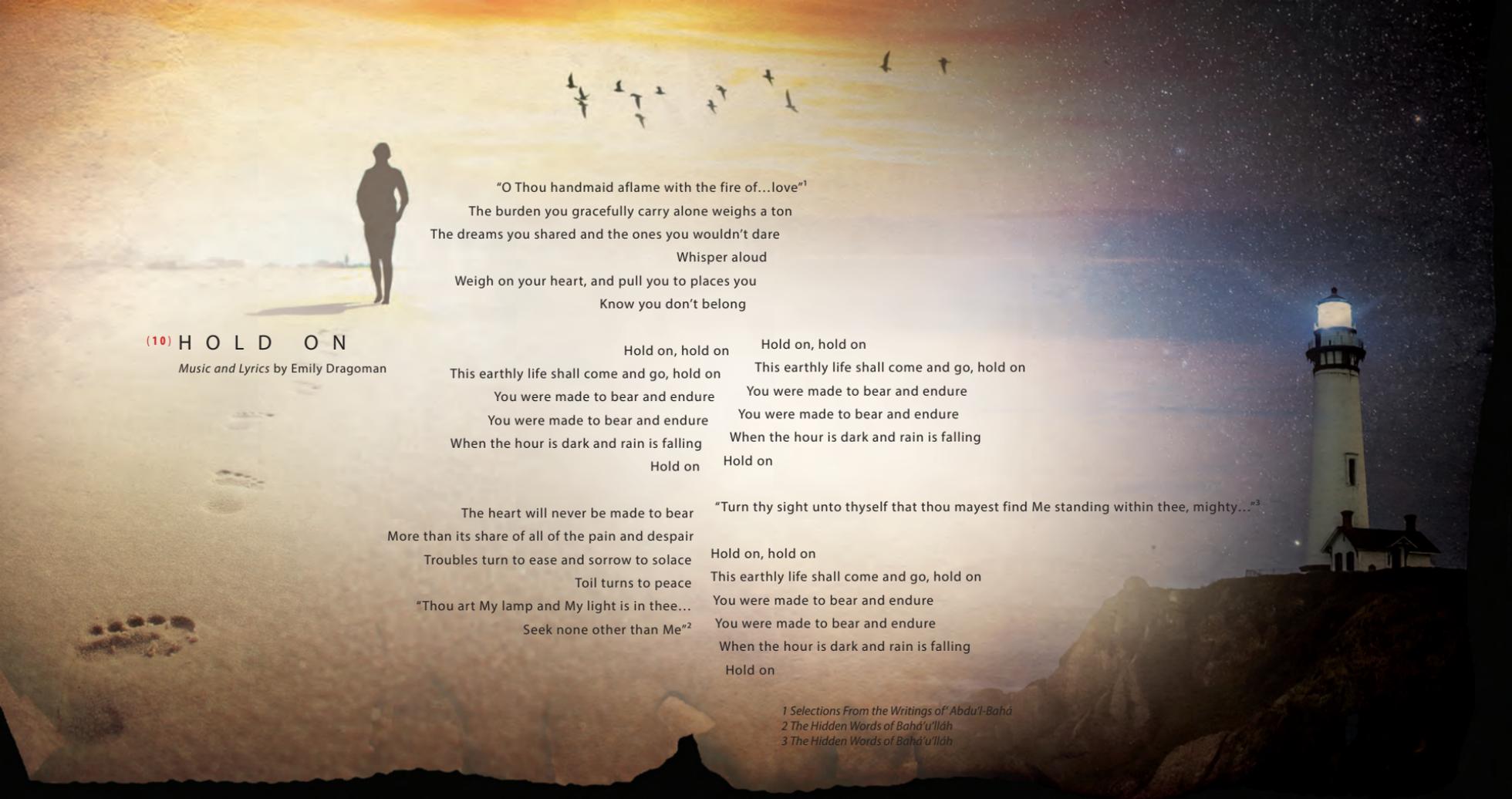
There are traces, a remedy divine      Unravel secrets of unity and peace  
Living waters, He unseals the choice wine      Under the branches of the Divine Lote-Tree  
Divine healer, His finger on the pulse of all mankind      Gentle breezes, whispering celestial designs

"If thou lovest Me, turn away from thyself;  
and if thou seekest My pleasure,  
regard not thine own; that thou mayest die in Me and I may  
eternally live in thee"\*      And I approach this circle, its warm embrace  
On the shore of oneness, by the sea of grace  
Through rings of fire  
I hold on to Your hand and step inside

"If thou lovest Me, turn away from thyself;  
and if thou seekest My pleasure,  
regard not thine own; that thou mayest die in Me and I may  
eternally live in thee"\*

## (9) T R A C E S

Music and Lyrics by Brett Smith



(10) HOLD ON

Music and Lyrics by Emily Dragoman

"O Thou handmaid aflame with the fire of...love"<sup>1</sup>  
The burden you gracefully carry alone weighs a ton  
The dreams you shared and the ones you wouldn't dare  
Whisper aloud  
Weigh on your heart, and pull you to places you  
Know you don't belong

Hold on, hold on	Hold on, hold on
This earthly life shall come and go, hold on	This earthly life shall come and go, hold on
You were made to bear and endure	You were made to bear and endure
You were made to bear and endure	You were made to bear and endure
When the hour is dark and rain is falling	When the hour is dark and rain is falling
Hold on	Hold on

The heart will never be made to bear  
More than its share of all of the pain and despair  
Troubles turn to ease and sorrow to solace  
Toil turns to peace  
"Thou art My lamp and My light is in thee...  
Seek none other than Me"<sup>2</sup>

"Turn thy sight unto thyself that thou mayest find Me standing within thee, mighty..."<sup>3</sup>  
Hold on, hold on  
This earthly life shall come and go, hold on  
You were made to bear and endure  
You were made to bear and endure  
When the hour is dark and rain is falling  
Hold on

<sup>1</sup> Selections From the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá

<sup>2</sup> The Hidden Words of Bahá'u'lláh

<sup>3</sup> The Hidden Words of Bahá'u'lláh

Under clear skies, a lion walks alone, he is seeking  
His trail marks the land like a tear on a dusty cheek

Far from his home, in the silence of the dawn  
He turns his feet toward the Sun...  
Drawn to the Call

In morning light, drawn to the Call

O lionhearted one quickened by love at the command to go  
The chains fall off his tongue

Unrestrained as the wind  
He is rising from the prison of self  
Shaking off the dust from desert sands  
Listen to his roar, peals of thunder, echo through the land

And he roars like thunder, like beating thunder,  
He is the lionhearted  
He roars like thunder, he's on fire

He summons courage and love  
Bracing for the storms and the howling winds  
The darkness lies in wait but his light shines through the night

His voice is healing bringing life to barren lands  
Raising up the weary and the meek  
Can you hear the roar? Multiplied through time  
I can hear the roar!

And he roars like thunder, like beating thunder, he is the lionhearted  
He roars like thunder, he's on fire

So we roar like thunder, like beating thunder, we are the lionhearted  
We roar like a mighty thunder choir

"Whereas formerly they were as moths, they became as royal falcons"\*  
Once a gnat now a lion in the forest of might  
It's time to embark, join the pride of the lionheart

And he roars like thunder, like beating thunder, he is the lionhearted  
He roars like thunder, he's on fire

So, we roar like thunder, like beating thunder, we are the lionhearted  
We roar like a mighty thunder choir

## LIONHEART

Music by Brett Smith  
Lyrics by Maureen O'Neill and Brett Smith

*\*Abdu'l-Bahá, Bahá'í Prayers*





(12) ASCENSION  
THE PASSING OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

*Inspired by the Tablet of Ahmad by Bahá'u'lláh  
Music and Lyrics by Brett Smith*

Can you hear the spring, the flourishing of life?  
From the Tree of Eternity comes a song of paradise  
To the lovers and the severed ones the poor ones and the kings  
He sings a song to wed the hearts and lift our drooping wings

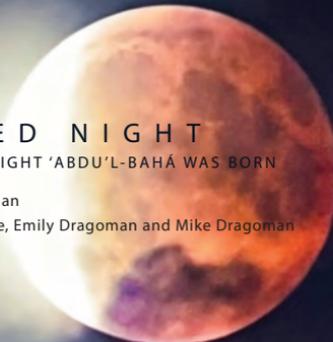
A dervish, a prisoner, Father of the poor  
He has drained the cup of sorrow that all may live in joy  
With every passing day He takes a dagger to His chest  
With trembling hands and weary bones, He lays His head to rest

And when the day turns to night, He longs to take His flight  
Whispering good-bye to all the lovers  
And the fever drains His life, one last breath, one last goodbye  
He is a King and His Kingdom will not die  
He is a King and His Kingdom is nigh

His footsteps slowly fade, His slippers by the bed  
One more smile to cheer the hearts, no word is left unsaid  
Oh the fire in His eyes is gone, He's summoned to His home  
And in my heart I see the King ascending to His throne

And when the day turns to night, He longs to take His flight  
Whispering good-bye to all the lovers  
And the fever drains His life, one last breath, one last goodbye  
He is a King and His Kingdom will not die  
He is a King and His Kingdom is nigh

I will not forget Thy bounties when You are gone  
I will remember Thy days during my days  
And I pray that I will be so steadfast in Your love  
That my heart shall not waver



(13) SACRED NIGHT  
THE NIGHT 'ABDU'L-BAHÁ WAS BORN

*Music by Mike Dragoman*

*Lyrics by Heather Poole, Emily Dragoman and Mike Dragoman*

You are finally here, in my arms I'll keep you safe and warm  
I hold you near, for a fleeting time before the storm  
Entrusted to me in this world but from a realm beyond  
On the night the veil is lifted in the dwelling in Shiraz

One day You'll be upon the knee of blessed Tahirih  
Your heart ablaze, hearing every word she has to say  
Created in the Realms above, a blessing to us all  
As the verses stream unceasing in the dwelling in Shiraz

Pure hearts will be drawn to You  
Want to follow You, in Your footsteps the Mystery  
His grace will flow to You  
To the lowest point on earth

Your deep blue eyes, the perfect mirror of Your Father's light  
A healing balm, for the helpless and the poor in sight  
Created in the realms above a blessing to us all  
As the mystic veil is lifting in the dwelling in Shiraz

Pure hearts will be drawn to You  
Want to follow You, in Your footsteps the Mystery  
His grace will flow to You  
To the lowest point on earth

You were created in the world of light  
The dawn of this new day  
Appearing on this sacred night  
To help us find our way...



# Smith & Dragoman

a message from the band

We are extremely grateful to have worked with and recorded a number of exceptional musicians on this album. They each bring their own creative genius to the process and add a level of sophistication and talent that truly humbles us.

## Aaron Ferrera

*Drums and percussion:* Lionheart, Seven, Into the Fire, Stars in the Dark, The Hour, Dancing 'Round the Flame, First Light  
*Keyboards on* Stars in the Dark  
*Santur on* The Hour

## Peter Bond

*Bass on* Twin Stars, Stars in the Dark, Raining Down, Traces, Hold On, Lionheart, Sacred Night  
*Electric Guitar on* The Hour  
*Additional programming on* all songs

## Chris Church

*Violins and Duduk on* Twin Stars and Seven  
*Viola and Violin on* Into the Fire

## Tony McManus

*Guitar on* Twin Stars, First Light, Hold On and Dancing 'Round the Flame

## Nicolas Hernandez

*Flamenco Guitar on* Seven and Raining Down

## Corey Tamas

*Electric Guitar on* Lionheart

## Gary Diggins

*Vocals on* Stars in the Dark  
*Kora on* Seven

## Mike Dragoman

*Handpan on* Seven  
(provided by Auracle Handpans)

## Jessica Poole

*Vocals on* Stars in the Dark

## Heather Poole

*Vocals on* Lionheart, Stars in the Dark, Hold On

## Hilda Melbourne

*Vocals on* Stars in the Dark

## Christine Duncan

*Vocals on* Stars in the Dark

## Waleed Abdulhamid

*Vocals and percussion on* Stars in the Dark

## Asher Smith

*Piano on* Raining Down  
*Additional piano on* Traces  
*Additional piano on* Ascension

## Additional Singers on The Hour

Asher Smith  
Eli Smith  
Felicia Sobhani  
Mehdi Poirier  
Milan Rosen  
Ramona Sobhani  
Tristan Smith

## Additional Singers on Lionheart

Maureen O'Neill  
Asher Smith  
Eli Smith  
Tristan Smith

## PRODUCTION CREDITS

*Produced and arranged by* Brett Smith, Michael Dragoman and Emily Dragoman

*Additional production by* Peter Bond

*Recorded at* Smith & Dragoman Studios

*Mixed by* Peter Bond at The Rose Room, Toronto

*Production Consultants -* Aaron Ferrera and John Ebata

*Recording Engineer Support -* Asher Smith

*All conceptual artwork and booklet design done by* LuCa Design, [www.lucadesign.ca](http://www.lucadesign.ca)

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We are truly grateful.