

# Soulful Songs and Stories

**With a song and your stories, we co-create a soft place for hard conversations and a brave space for personal and spiritual growth.**



**Hi Soulful Song Lovers and Story Tellers,**

**Songs and Stories about theory vs. practice, and the dark side of dogma.**

**In theory there is no difference** between theory and practice, while in practice there is.  
—Benjamin Brewster, *The Yale Literary Magazine*, Feb 1882

**Theory without practice** isn't much use.... Practice won't let you forget anything or leave anything out. In theory, problems are easily solved because you can leave something out.  
—Charles F. Kettering, *Prophet of Progress*, 1961

**“Hem,” Tvärvägen** (instrumental)

<https://youtu.be/sug9f18uhw4> 1:52

**At the most basic level, Trevor died of the toxic effects of** liver damage caused by hepatitis C. Yet Trevor's deteriorating condition resulted also from the toxic effects of dogma. Dogma that told him that governmental assistance in any form was evil and not to be trusted. Dogma that, as he made abundantly clear, aligned with beliefs about a racial hierarchy that overtly and implicitly aimed to keep white Americans hovering above Mexicans, welfare queens, and nonwhite others. Trevor voiced a literal willingness to die for his place in this hierarchy, rather than participate in a system that might put him on the same plane as immigrants or racial minorities.

—Jonathan M. Metz, *Dying of Whiteness*, © 2019, ISBN 1541644972

**“Love Will Lead Us On,” Deva Premal and Miten**

And love will lead us on / everywhere we go  
And love will lead us on / my heart tells me so

<https://youtu.be/lwOfOEieUcQ?t=9> 3:10

**On the road, there is a different Torah.** —from Episode 4 of the Netflix series *Unorthodox*. [The difference between book learning & the real world, knowledge & wisdom.]

<https://www.theoxfordblue.co.uk/2020/04/13/unorthodox-review>

**What dogmas, laws, rules, and mitzvot have given:** the Inquisition, The Crusades, the Star Chamber, the Holocaust, slavery, racism, misogyny, homophobia, fear, shame, guilt, dependence, and a whole lot more.

### **“Why Is It So Hard?” Charles Bradley**

A land of milk and honey, a land supposed to be built with love  
Why is it so hard to make it in America? / I tried so hard to make it in America  
Got me a job to get away from all that stress  
But I couldn't get away, no matter how far I went

<https://youtu.be/QxNNaViK5Js> 4:14

Lyrics: <https://genius.com/Charles-bradley-why-is-it-so-hard-lyrics>

**Isaiah 29:13a, 14** The Master said: “These people make a big show of saying the right thing, but their hearts aren't in it. I'm going to step in and shock the crap out of them. The wise ones who had it all figured out will be exposed as fools. The smart people who thought they knew everything will turn out to be a-holes.”

—Eugene Peterson, *The Message*, adapted, ISBN 1631465783

**Drive your karma, curb your dogma. • Stop barking up the wrong dogma.**

**What dogmas, laws, rules, and mitzvot have taken:** sex, birth control, abortion, divorce, the priesthood, autonomy, life, livelihood, lobster, pork, and a whole lot more.

### **“A Change Is Gonna Come,” Sam Cooke/Brian & Thomas Owens**

It's been a long / A long time coming / But I know a change gonna come / Oh, yes it will

<https://youtu.be/cEXhZ8PwM-Y> 4:34

Lyrics: <https://genius.com/Sam-cooke-a-change-is-gonna-come-lyrics>

**Ought one to surrender to authority,** even if one believed that that authority was wrong? If the answer was yes, then I knew that I would always be wrong, because I could never do it. Then how could one live in a world in which one's mind and perceptions meant nothing and authority and tradition meant everything?

—Richard Wright, *Black Boy*, 1945, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black\\_Boy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Boy)

**All organizations are perfectly designed to get the results they get.**

—Arthur Jones (Paul Batalden changed it to, “All systems...”)

### **“God Bless The Child,” Billie Holiday/Keith Jarrett, piano; Gary Peacock, bass; Jack DeJohnette, drums**

Them that's got shall have / Them that's not shall lose / So the Bible said and it still is news  
Yes, the strong get smart / While the weak ones fade / Empty pockets don't ever make the grade

<https://youtu.be/n3rjaGy7hmk> 16:44 (instrumental)

Lyrics: <https://billieholiday.com/song/god-bless-the-child>

**Marcia's mother used to tell her** *that she should always wear clean panties in case a bus ran over her, because other people might see them as her corpse was being toted off to the morgue. It has been a useful story for Marcia because it embodies the supposed Anglo-Canadian prudery, inhibition, and obsession with public opinion, and as such has mythic force.* —Margaret Atwood, "Hack Wednesday," New Yorker, Sep 10, 1990

**For your reverie, music without dogma. Or words.**

### Three Gymnopédies

**Erik Satie/Jean-Yves Thibaudet, piano**

<https://youtu.be/Vp5IoSnKkxw> 10:20 ALTERNATES:

**Gymnopédie No.1**, Erik Satie/Daniel Varsano (piano) <https://youtu.be/S-Xm7s9eGxU> 3:36

**Gymnopédie No.2**, Erik Satie/Daniel Varsano (piano) <https://youtu.be/IM54ja7p86U> 2:45

**Gymnopédie No.3**, Erik Satie/Alison Balsom (trumpet) <https://youtu.be/cQE4c3MjjRg> 2:28

**I've spent every day of my writing life** *learning all the ways you can leave a door open: unlocked, cracked, off the hinges.* —Destiny O. Birdsong [Dogma keeps doors locked.]

### Irish Spirit for Clarinet and Marimba, Bill Douglas/

**Mika and Richard Stoltzman** <https://youtu.be/HuoHIUooQ48?t=7> 7:25

AND/OR <https://youtu.be/ZEhsWov98ps?t=3> 7:45

**To be nobody but yourself** *in a world which is doing its best, night and day, to make you everybody else—means to fight the hardest battle which any human being can fight; never stop fighting.* —e. e. cummings

### Comptine d'un autre été (from Amilé)

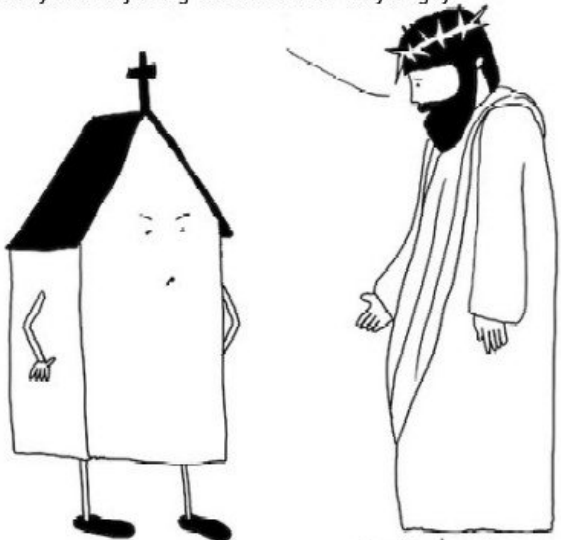
**Yann Tiersen/Enzo De Rosa** <https://youtu.be/hJV3PXG7bIk?t=2> 2:33

### Impromptu No.2 in A flat Major, Op.142, Allegretto, D.935

**Franz Schubert/Maria João Pires** <https://youtu.be/wi9MpFsisn8> 7:58

AND/OR **Seung Min Ha** <https://youtu.be/U3viOOhBxuw> 8:17

No, they aren't rejecting your God and you because they're gay. They are rejecting your God and you because you're rejecting THEM because they're gay.



@nakedpastor.com

Breathe. Be centered.  
Relax. Be calm. Release all  
negative emotions.  
Forgive everyone. Find  
repose in your  
contentment. Accept  
what is. Just be!

@nakedpastor.com

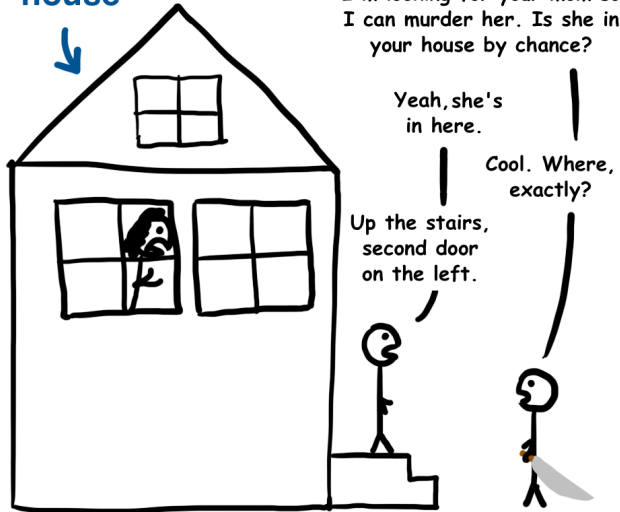
Naked



I'm all for meditation, prayer, love, and forgiveness. But, what if this is designed to get me to not be angry about inequality? What if they don't want me to protest injustice? What if they want abusers excused so that their world can continue unchallenged? What if they want me to submit to authority and live a subdued life that doesn't upset their comfortable lifestyles?



Kant's house



waitbutwhy.com

Is lying always wrong?



"Let me start by saying no one is a bigger feminist than me."



"It's not enough that we succeed. Cats must also fail."

It is not irresponsible to listen to **UNPROTECTED LANGUAGE** that could result in your becoming pregnant with ideas deemed to be illegitimate by mainstream society

