

Lifetime: Songs of Life and Evolution

BIRTH

All alone
One dead world
Drifts through space
All alone
No plant grows
No beast moves
Breathes or feeds
On this world

Weeping hot lava and
Shaken by earthquakes
Trembling with rumblings of tectonic plates
Scarred by bombardment and battered by asteroids
Sterile and dead, no life on its face

All alone
One dead world
Drifts through space
All alone
No plant grows
No beast moves
Breathes or feeds
On this world

Then comes the mystery
The first organism
Molecules copy themselves and combine
Deep in the ocean or falling from meteorites
First of our ancestors, first in life's line

All alone
Living world
Drifts through space
All alone
Over time
Earth awakes
Life takes hold
On this world

Life....life....life.....life.....
Life....life....life.....life.....

MUTATE!

Chorus:

Won't you give a big hand for errors
Applause for mistakes?
Without them we wouldn't be here
Let's hear it for inexactitude
For imprecision, Bravo!
For fudging it, hip hip, three cheers

D N A, of twisted double helix fame
Is an expert at that self-replication game
But once in a million times it goes wrong
And thanks to that we're singing this song...

[Chorus]

If that new mutation hits an egg or seed
Which manage to combine together and then lead
To one new fungus, plant or beast
That babe will be a little different at least

That mutation will probably reduce
Our new pal's ability to reproduce
But every now and then a mutation arrives
That gives you a better chance of making more lives

[Chorus]

When the kids inherit that mutated gene
They're fitter than they otherwise might have been
To have more kids themselves and pass it on
And so it spreads through the population

Let's award the first prize for cock-ups
The second for slips
Without them we're nothing but slimy algae
Put your hands together
For things that go wrong
Take off your hats to serendipity

Won't you give a big hand for errors
Applause for mistakes?
Without them we wouldn't be here
Let's hear it for inexactitude
For imprecision, Bravo!
For fudging it, hip hip, three cheers
For fudging it, hip hip, three cheers
For fudging it, hip hip, three cheers

FOOD CHAIN

A bendy blade of grass blowing in the breeze
Browsing off the blazing sunlight
Caterpillar crawling cautiously along
Crunchy crispy grass blade bite by bite

Caterpillar changes into butterfly
Flies into a spider's web
Spider eats it up then along comes a thrush
Pecks at the spider – dead, dead, dead!
Buzzard swoops down, catches thrush with talons
Gobbles up, no scraps remain
When the buzzard dies it soon rots away
And the cycle of life begins again
And the cycle of life begins again

A floppy leaf of lettuce growing in manure
Absorbing water through its white roots
Slithering along leaving slimy tracks
A squelchy slug chews juicy green shoots
Chicken stabs and pecks at the helpless slug
Swallows it into its tum
Farmer feeling hungry comes to get his lunch
Catches that chicken, its neck is wrung – SQUAWK!
Farmer takes a swim, crocodile eats him
Gobbles up, no scraps remain
When the croc dies it soon rots away
And the cycle of life begins again
And the cycle of life begins again
Again, again, 'gain, again, again
'gain, again, again, again

HABITATS

Refrain:

Every animal, every plant
Lives in a place where most other ones can't
Put them in a habitat which is wrong
They'll waste away and they won't last long

Verse 1

I looked for a jelly-fish down a fox-hole
Then I hunted through a creamy trifle bowl
I searched for a jellyfish high up a tree
But the only place I found one was in the sea

Refrain

Verse 2

I tried to find a slug by combing my hair
I thought I might discover one down the back of a chair
I looked on top of the bookshelf and then looked beneath
But the only place I found one was on a lettuce leaf.

Refrain

Verse 3

I tipped out my cornflakes to try to find a crab
Then lifted up a patio, slab by slab by slab
I looked in the fridge for a crab keeping cool
But the only place I found one was in a rock pool

Refrain

SELFISH GENE

Selfish gene, a selfish gene
I'm a selfish gene, a selfish gene

I'm a selfish gene and I'm programmed to survive
I shape my living organisms so I stay alive
It isn't me exactly, I'm nothing but a code
For which my hosts and I are just a temporary abode

Selfish gene – a software routine
Selfish gene – I am what I mean
Selfish gene – I strive to survive
Selfish gene – forever alive, forever alive

Selfish gene, a selfish gene
I'm a selfish gene, a selfish gene

I'm a spiral chain of acids, nucleic to be exact
Adenine and guanine are purines that's a fact
Cytosine and thymine are pyrimidines, it's true
Together they make DNA, now that's a whole lot to chew

Selfish gene – a software routine
Selfish gene – I am what I mean
Selfish gene – I strive to survive
Selfish gene – forever alive

Selfish gene, a selfish gene
I'm a selfish gene, a selfish gene

I'm a selfish gene and I pass along my traits
Dominant or recessive, I recess or dominate
With every generation I hope to replicate
But every million times or so I accident'ly mutate

Selfish gene – a software routine
Selfish gene – I am what I mean
Selfish gene – I strive to survive
Selfish gene – forever alive, alive, forever alive

LAKE

Dawn breaks on the great lake under African skies long, long ago
Fish swim in the great lake
They are all of one kind, one single species
Then a million years pass by in a single blink of eternity's eye

And the sun shines a little warmer for a hundred thousand years or two
And the rains fail and under blue skies the level of the lake gradually falls
And the sun shines a little warmer for a hundred thousand years or two
And the rains fail and under blue skies
The great lake becomes many separate pools

Dawn breaks on those small lakes under African skies long, long ago
Fish swim in those small lakes
They are all of one kind, one single species
Then a million years pass by in a single blink of eternity's eye

Every small lake is its own world
Some are shallow, some are deep and cool
One is crystal, another cloudy, fishes survive within them all
As the years pass, evolution changes fish to suit their world
Over thousands of generations
They evolve and adapt to their particular pool

Dawn breaks on those small lakes under African skies long, long ago
Fish swim in those small lakes
They are of many kinds, all different species
Then a million years pass by in a single blink of eternity's eye

And the sun shines a little cooler for a hundred thousand years or two
And the rain falls and under grey skies
The level of the lakes will gradually rise
And the sun shines a little cooler for a hundred thousand years or two
And the rain falls and under grey skies
The great lake, reborn, in the dawning light lies

Dawn breaks on the great lake under African skies long, long ago
Fish swim in the great lake
They are of many kinds, all different species
Then a million years pass by in a single blink of eternity's eye
Then a million years pass by in a single blink of eternity's eye
Then a million years pass by in a single blink of eternity's eye
Dawn breaks on the great lake under African skies long, long ago

TAXONOMY

Kingdom, Phylum, Class and Order
Family, Genus and Species last
Taxonomy sorts out all life on Earth
In the present day, in the future and all through the past

Five Kingdoms form life's family tree
Animals and fungi and plants make three
Archaeobacteria thrive on extremes
Eubacteria don't, it seems

Kingdom, Phylum, Class and Order
Family, Genus and Species last
Taxonomy sorts out all life on Earth
In the present day, in the future and all through the past

Phyla these Kingdoms split in smaller bits
Each Phylum only contains within it
Things which share one basic body plan
If you've a spine you're a Chordate like man

Kingdom, Phylum, Class and Order
Family, Genus and Species last
Taxonomy sorts out all life on Earth
In the present day, in the future and all through the past

Classes will take us up one further rung
Mammals, for example, all suckle their young
Orders are the next category in line
Carnivores eat meat nearly all of the time

Kingdom, Phylum, Class and Order
Family, Genus and Species last
Taxonomy sorts out all life on Earth
In the present day, in the future and all through the past

Members of families all similar look
All cats belong in the Felidae book
Genera give us our first Latin name
Species give the second in the taxonomy game

Kingdom – Animal, Phylum – Chordate
Class – Mammal and Order – Primate
Family – Hominid and Genus – Homo
Homo Sapiens, that's the species of every human that you know
Homo Sapiens, that's the species of every human that you know

ERAS

Pre-Cambrian, Pre-Cambrian
The longest era of four
Four billion years from the birth of Earth
When life wasn't very much more than
Blue-green algae, slimy and wet
And bacteria milling around, I bet
There weren't many laughs, in fact I'd say
I wouldn't want to live in Pre-Cambrian days

Palaeozoic, Palaeozoic
Second longest era of four
Over three hundred million years of life
Our Earth for the first time saw
Invertebrates living in sea then on land
Fish, ferns, insects, amphibians and
Conifers spreading their seeds around
Reptiles creeping along the ground

Mesozoic, Mesozoic
Third longest era of four
One hundred million years it lasted
This era opened the door
To tiny little mammals no bigger than a shrew
Great big dinosaurs, some of which flew
The very first flowers and right at the end
An asteroid fell to Earth and then...

Cenozoic, Cenozoic
Shortest era of all
Sixty five million years ago
We mammals survived that fall
When those poor old dinosaurs died
Nobody cared and nobody cried
Mammals moved in where those beasts had been
That brings us up to the present day scene

When those poor old dinosaurs died
Nobody cared and nobody cried
Mammals moved in where those beasts had been
That brings us up to the present day scene

(Sops & altos sing the following counter-melody over the last verse & coda....)

Cenozoic, Cenozoic, Cenozoic, Cenozoic
Cenozoic, Cenozoic, Cenozoic, Cenozoic
Cenozoic, Cenozoic – we survived that fall
When those dinosaurs died nobody cried

Now that brings us up to the present day scene
The present day
When those dinosaurs died nobody cried
Now that brings us up to the present day scene
The present day scene, the present day scene

MR DARWIN, MR WALLACE, MR MATTHEW

Mister Darwin on the Beagle sailed the oceans and seas
To South America and Tahiti and New Zealand, Maldives
To Australia and Tasmania, Keeling Island and Saint Helena
To Ascension and Mauritius and Brazil, de Verdes and Galapagos Islands
Mister Darwin on the Beagle sailed away for five years

Mister Darwin on his journey watched the plants, beasts and birds
He drew pictures, gathered samples, kept a journal full of words
He saw beetles, iguanas, giant tortoises, flightless cormorants
He saw finches, frogs and lizards, duck-billed platypuses, albatrosses
Mister Darwin wondered where they came from and he soon had ideas

Mister Darwin, when he got home, wrote these new ideas down
But he didn't like to offend so didn't share them around
Twenty years passed, Mister Darwin got a letter from a Mister Wallace
Now this young man had discovered
Just the same thing Mister Darwin found
Aboard the Beagle, Mister Wallace had the self-same ideas

Mister Darwin and Mister Wallace formed a team for some time
But Mister Darwin wrote his big book in eighteen hundred and fifty-nine
"On the Origin of Species by Natural Selection"
Everybody read the book, everybody had an opinion
Some people praised it, others damned it, Mister Darwin's big book

Mister Matthew was a gardener and when he read Darwin's book
He wrote a letter to the paper saying "Just take a look
At the book I wrote nearly thirty years ago, I had all the same ideas"
No-one listened and Mister Matthew and Mister Wallace were forgotten
Over all the years and now we just remember Mister Darwin's big book

Now when you think about natural selection
Just spare a thought for those forgotten two
Remember those names, just a brief recollection
Alfred Russell Wallace and Patrick Matthew

SWALLOW

Tiny hummingbirds
Hum their tired way
Five hundred miles 'cross
Mexico Bay
Eels abandon streams
Intrepid then they go
Out into the ocean
Towards the still Sargasso

Bogong moths each summer
Escape the baking heat
By flying up the mountains
Where they sleep but never eat
Serengeti wildebeest
Roam eight hundred miles
Braving dangerous rivers
Crammed with hungry crocodiles

Sometimes it truly seems to me
The whole world's on the move
Every spring and every autumn
I have to migrate too.....

Flapping along a thousand feet in the air
Heading for Britain 'cause the spring is there
Got to raise a family, got to work like a slave
But at the moment I'm languidly flapping my way
A thousand feet in the air
Heading for Britain 'cause the spring is there

Flapping along a thousand feet in the sky
Snoozing on the wing and snacking on the odd fly
When I get to Britain got a nest to build
Then the tummies of half a dozen chicks to fill
But with my mate by my side
And working hard I'm sure we'll just get by

My life isn't all work, no play
Each and every single day
I find the time to practise my tricks
Doing my swallow-style aeronautics

Flapping along a thousand feet above you
Got to raise a family or maybe two
When I see those tiny hungry beaks gape wide
Only thing I can do is go catch flies
To feed my chicks so they too

Will fly to Africa the way I flew

Flapping along a thousand feet in the air
Heading for Africa 'cause spring is there
Got to raise a family, got to work like a slave
But at the moment I'm languidly flapping my way
A thousand feet in the air
Heading for Africa 'cause spring is there

BATS

1 HORSESHOE BAT

I wake up when the sun goes down
Feeling hungry in the gloom
I spy my victims all around
As I fly beneath the moon
I click, click, click to find my prey
Listen for the echoes back
Is it close or far away?
Now I'm on my victim's track – so luscious!

2 FRUIT BAT

I wake up when the sun goes down
Feeling hungry in the gloom
Fruit is hanging all around
As I fly beneath the moon
I see a leafy mango tree
Up onto a branch I glide
I munch a mango hungrily
Suck its juices from inside – so scrumptious!

3 FISHERMAN BAT

I wake up when the sun goes down
Feeling hungry in the gloom
I spy my victim swimming round
As I fly beneath the moon
I skim the water of the lake
Swoop and scoop a tasty fish
In my jaws it flaps and shakes
Down in one, it tastes delish! – so moreish!

4 VAMPIRE BAT

I wake up when the sun goes down
Feeling hungry in the gloom
I spy my victim on the ground

As I fly beneath the moon
I swoop and land upon my prey
Dig incisors into flesh
Suck its blood the vampire way
Stops it clotting, keeps it fresh – so juicy!

5 CODA

When the sun arrives I nap
Hanging in a gloomy cave
Tummy feeling full and fat
As I sleep the livelong day
As I sleep... as I sleep....
As I sleep the livelong day

LIVING LIGHT

Let's go looking for living light
Glow-worms glowing in the summer night
Let's go swimming in the night-time sea
Phosphorescence all around me

Think of a blue whale in the ocean
Opens mouth wide to take her fill
Think of the scene within those jaws
Flashing and sparkling with luminous krill

Let's go looking for living light
Toadstools glowing in the autumn night
Let's go walking by the night-time sea
Jelly-fish glowing as they cling to seaweed

Think of an angler fish in the ocean
So deep down, no light, pitch black
Dangles a lure glowing in the dark
Curious fish come, the angler's jaws snap!

Let's go looking for living light
Glow-worms glowing in the summer night
Let's go swimming in the night-time sea
Phosphorescence all around me
Let's go looking for living light
Toadstools glowing in the autumn night
Let's go walking by the night-time sea
Jelly-fish glowing as they cling to seaweed

Let's go looking for living light
Let's go looking for living light
Let's go looking for living light
Let's go looking for living light...

FLYING CREATURES

What's up there?
What is that?
It's a furry big black fruit bat
What's that gliding above the sea?
Fishes flying gracefully
What's that speeding over there?
A lizard that's soaring through the air
See that buzzard hovering high
Mouse below is going to die...

Mammals, birds, insects fly for miles
Others can glide, like fish and reptiles
How I wish that I could fly, but I can't
Mammals, birds, insects fly for miles
Others can glide, like fish and reptiles
How I wish that I could fly, but I can't

Hear that busy buzzing bee
Collecting nectar busily
See that froggie, green and cute
Uses feet as a parachute
Did I dream or did I see
A lemur swoop from tree to tree?
Am I mad, brain going soft?
Did I see a snake aloft?

Mammals, birds, insects fly for miles
Others can glide, like fish and reptiles
How I wish that I could fly, but I can't
Mammals, birds, insects fly for miles
Others can glide, like fish and reptiles
How I wish that I could fly

And now I've bought my jet pack
I can fly high in the sky
I can fly, fly, fly, fly, fly, fly, fly, fly

HEDGEHOG

While the storms of winter rage
The poor-will bird hides safe away
When the snow lies all around
Slow worms sleep deep underground
While those fierce gales bluster and blow
Toads lie torpid way below
The earth or deep in mud in pools
Hibernating one and all

When the earth is hard with frost
Deep in dreams the black bear's lost
When the winter comes to stay
Bats hang silent night and day
When soil freezes hard as rock
The hedgehog in its torpor locked
Lies concealed, scarce alive
Waits for sweet spring to arrive....

In my bed of leaves
All winter long
Through the dark days
I dreamed
Through the snow storms
I dreamed
Through the long nights
Dreamed of today

In my bed of leaves
Opened my eyes
Saw the blue sky
Above
Saw the warm sun
Above
Saw the new world
Reborn today

In my bed of leaves
All winter long
Through the dark days
I dreamed
Through the snow storms
I dreamed
Through the long nights
Dreamed of today

In my bed of leaves

Opened my eyes
Saw the blue sky
Above
Saw the warm sun
Above
Saw the new world
Reborn today

AMOEBA

VERSE 1:

Don't look down, don't look down your nose at me
I may be just a single-celled amoeba, but I can do things you only dream about...
When I choose on a wish or whim to move
I grow a new limb then I flow into my pseudopod, you may find it odd but
We amoebae, we believe we are the coolest protoplasm in town
We're the coolest protozoans around...

Chorus:

What... what's so great about being the same...
Being the same shape day to day?
What a boring way to live!
Always the same face in the same place
Can't change shape from a naked ape
I would sob with misery if I couldn't be a blob like me, so
What... what's so great about being the same...
Being the same shape day to day? From day to day?

VERSE 2:

Don't ignore, don't ignore me 'cause I'm small
I may be shapeless jelly and slimy, you think I'm insignificant, tiny
I'll tell you what this gobblet of slime can do!
When I feel I could eat a hearty meal
I find some mould or anything old, I grow pseudopods and wrap up the lot in my new legs
I engulf it then I wolf it down! I engulf my dinner then wolf it down!

- Chorus -

VERSE 3

Don't dismiss, don't you dismiss this protist
It's true that most Protista don't wish to do any harm but, Mister,
You'd be wise to despise
Entamoeba Hystolytica, Entamoeba Hystolytica
This guy is the meanest amoeba by a long chalk
Don't allow entry to this amoeba, you will get dysent'ry, maybe fever
Entamoeba Hystolytica, Entamoeba Hystolytica
You could be a "Mister Sick-as-a-Parrot"!

- Chorus -

FUNGI

Food gone blue and green with mould
Dry rot, wet rot growing in old
Buildings, ancient fairy rings
All of these are fungal things
All of these are fungal, all of these are fungal things
Blue-veined, stinky Stilton cheese
Mycorrhizae helping trees
By growing round their rooting tips in
Symbiotic relationship
All of these are fungal, all of these are fungal things

Leaf-cutter ants cut leaves
From the local plants and trees
Cut them into tiny rounds
Crush and store them underground
Ants can't digest cellulose
So they grow a fungus on those
Leaves then eat the fungal hyphae
Ants and fungus both do nicely

Bread dough made with foamy yeast
Proves to twice its size at least
Yeast makes alcohol in ale
Too much leaves you sick and pale
All of these are fungal, all of these are fungal things
If you scratch your itchy toes
You will spread and scatter loads of
Fungal spores around the place
Athlete's foot will win its race
All of these are fungal, all of these are fungal things

Lichens grow most anywhere
But don't like bad polluted air
Deserts, mountains, hills and dales
They're shaped like leaves, shrubs, crusts or scales
Not just one, but two or three
Species symbiotically
Living together with equal shares
Most are fungal-algal pairs
Best of friends, best of friends...

In his famous petri dish
Fleming spotted mould that killed his
Cultured germs stone dead like that
Penicillin knocked 'em flat
All of these are fungal, all of these are fungal things
Pile up high your carrot peels

Egg-shells, grass, left-over meals
Fungi in your compost mound
Help to break tough fibres down
All of these are fungal, all of these are fungal things

CHOIR LYRICS

Fun- fun- fungi – fun- fun- fungi (x4)
All of these are fungal
Fun- fun- fungi – fun- fun- fungi (x4)
Fun- fun- fungi – fun- fun- fungi

[Choir sings verse then repeat chorus as above followed by 2nd verse then the CODA...]

Fungus, fungus, fungus, fungus fun and
Fungus, fungus, fungus fun
Fungus, fungus, fungus, fungus fun and
Fungus, fungus, fungus fun

TREE

Chorus:

Underground with the moles and the worms
Pushing down and around through the dark earth
White roots winding their twisting way
Seeking food and water from the soil and clay
Trunk reaching into the air
Leafy branches spreading under blue sky where
Sun shines, bringing warmth and light to the tree
Bringing the light of life - bringing the light of life

[EARTH]

Every cubic metre of the soil is a world alive
With a million tiny plants, with a million creatures who survive
For a few brief days then die and decay
Into the food for the next generation
Their lives, though hidden from our view
In the cycle of life play a part of value
Replenishing the earth with essential foods
Digging channels in the soil, letting air and water through
Digging channels in the soil, letting air and water through

[AIR]

All through the night, all through the day the tree breathes
Absorbing air through the pores in its leaves
At night it manufactures sugars for its foods then
During the day gives off oxygen
These trees and plants everywhere
Give out the vital gas we animals need in our air

Carbon dioxide, that we cannot breathe
Is broken down by the trees into the oxygen we need
Is broken down by the trees into the oxygen we need

- Chorus -

[FIRE]

The fusion fire of the sun burns bright
Bathing the earth in the energy of heat and light
Our planet's tilted orbit around the sun brings
The cycle of the seasons, summer, autumn, winter, spring
With green chlorophyll the trees utilise
The radiation of the sun to photosynthesise
The food for life that we need, one and all
Carbohydrates made from water, air and minerals
Carbohydrates made from water, air and minerals

[WATER]

In the heat of summer when the sun glares down
The roots absorb water from below the ground
Osmosis draws the water up to the leaves
Where evaporation from the surface cools down the tree
Rainwater dissolves from the earth
All the nutrients the plant will require from its birth
As a seed to a full-grown tree
Water does for trees what my blood does for me
Water does for trees what my blood does for me

- Chorus – (and repeat last line)

QUEEN BEE

All winter long I have patiently waited
For signs of the coming of spring
All winter long I have patiently waited
While snow covered everything
Now is the time I have waited for
Now is the first day of spring
Now I'll go searching for that perfect place
Where my kingdom will begin

I'm a Queen, I'm a Queen
And there never has been
Such a day as today in my life before
Now the spring has arrived
I must found a great hive
Lead my bees to a place
Where we'll build a new life

All winter long I have waited and dreamt of
The new life that comes with the sun
All winter long I have waited with bated breath
Waited for springtime to come
Now is the time I have waited for
Now is the first day of spring
Now I'll go searching for that perfect place
Where my kingdom will begin

I'm a Queen, I'm a Queen
And there never has been
Such a day as today in my life before
Now the spring has arrived
I must found a great hive
Lead my bees to a place
Where we'll build a new life

I'm a Queen, I'm a Queen
And there never has been
Such a day as today in my life before
Now the spring has arrived
I must found a great hive
Lead my bees to a place
Where we'll build a new life
Where we'll build a new life
Where we'll build a new life

REPTILES

See, wherever you go, it's the reptiles
Big as a building, small as a pussy-cat
For two hundred million years right through
Triassic, Jurassic, Cretaceous and then that
Great big asteroid nearly wiped the whole lot out

See, wherever you go, it's the reptiles
Crash through the jungle, speed over desert sand
Swim through the oceans – streamlined!
Go flying and soaring on wings wide as gliders
Then that asteroid nearly wiped the whole lot out

Amphibians left the ocean, began to breathe air
But laid eggs in water, grew as tadpoles there
Reptiles laid eggs with shells hard and dry
Lived on the land, some even learnt to fly

See, wherever you go, it's the reptiles
Dinosaurs roaming the land like the big boss
Tyrannosaurus rex, king of the carnivores
Smelly breath, they never flossed
Then that asteroid went and wiped the whole lot out

See, wherever you go, it's the reptiles
Plesiosaur and Ichthyosaur
Abandoned the land, preferred ocean
Shaped like sharks through the water they tore
Then that asteroid went and wiped the whole lot out

Some dinosaurs grew feathers to keep themselves warm
Gradually evolved into a bird-like form
Then they added flying to their box of tricks
To make a toothy early bird - Archaeopteryx

Who survives from the age of the reptiles?
Tortoises, turtles, snakes, lizards, crocodiles
All of the others died sudden
Extinguished, departed, deleted from the life files
When that asteroid came and wiped the whole lot out
When that asteroid came and wiped the whole lot out
When that asteroid came and wiped the whole lot out

CETACEANS

Far, far, far away... far, far, far away
For hundreds of miles, rising and falling
For hundreds of miles through the depths of the ocean
That haunting sound hurtles
Through caverns and canyons
The song of the blue whale...

Deep, deep, deep below... deep, deep, deep below
The great whale goes hunting, sensing with sonar
Seeking its prey through the depths of the ocean
The giant squid gliding
Now tentacles thrashing
In the jaws of the sperm whale...

Near, near, near to here... near, near, near to here
The dolphins are playing, jumping and diving
They swim to our shores through the depths of the ocean
To play near our beaches
As we watch amazed by
The games of the dolphins...

HOMO SAPIENS

We're the same but we're different in lots of ways
We're animals too but I'd like to say
We can write, read, talk, use a knife and fork
We only use two legs when we go for a walk

I'd like to be a bird 'cause I want to fly
I'd like to be a giraffe with my head in the sky
I'd like to be a dolphin leaping out of the sea
But I am a human and I'm glad to be me
But I am a human and I'm glad to be me

Like all animals we're born then we suckle and poo
We run, sleep, breathe, on our food we chew
When we hurt we groan, don't like being alone
Our bodies are made of flesh and bone

I'd like to be a bird 'cause I want to fly
I'd like to be a giraffe with my head in the sky
I'd like to be a dolphin leaping out of the sea
But I am a human and I'm glad to be me
But I am a human and I'm glad to be me

We get scared, angry, jealous just like animals do
Worry about status just like they do too
But we ain't no fool, we can keep our cool
Rationality is our sharpest tool

I'd like to be a bird 'cause I want to fly
I'd like to be a giraffe with my head in the sky
I'd like to be a dolphin leaping out of the sea
But I am a human and I'm glad to be me
But I am a human and I'm glad to be me
But I am a human and I'm glad to be me

FOUR BILLION YEARS

SOLO

Four billion years
Four thousand million years
Birth pangs of life on earth began
Four billion years ago

Four billion years
Four thousand million years
We could be last in a line
Four billion years old

How sad it would be
If we carelessly
Allowed life to disappear
From every land
From every sea

Now I'm so afraid
That the progress life has made could be
Thrown away from sheer neglect
From human apathy

CHORUS

Four billion years
Four thousand million years
Birth pangs of life on earth began
Four billion years ago

Four billion years
Four thousand million years
We may be last in a line
Four billion years old

How sad it would be
If we carelessly
Allowed life to disappear
From every land
From every sea

How sad it would be
If life's melody was cut short
Never to sound again
In future history

[NB The lyrics of the chorus parts differ slightly]