

Neo GoGo Soul: The Anthology of Kato & The AllyKats A Letter From Kato

This anthology is more than a collection of songs. It's a testimony. A rhythm-stamped love letter to the places that made me, the people who raised me, and the sounds that kept me grounded when everything else felt like noise.

Every track in here carries a memory... some hard-earned, some sweet, all real. This is grown folks' music, forged from GoGo grooves, soul-searching sessions, and late-night conversations with a guitar in my lap and the truth on my mind.

These lyrics are pages from the journey. The ups, the breakdowns, the breakthroughs. Some songs talk about love. Some talk about pain. Some talk about survival in a city that doesn't always let you exhale. But all of them come from the same place: the pocket. The groove. The soul.

So if you're reading this, know you're holding something that wasn't made overnight. This is five years of my best work, curated for those who still believe that music should mean something. That lyrics should say something. That legacy matters.

Thank you for pressing play. Thank you for turning pages. This is Neo GoGo Soul.

KatoThe Bill Withers of the GoGo

DC BREED

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

A cultural mission statement. Personal, rhythmic, rooted in GoGo, and laced with pride. Setting the tone. You're not just getting words. You're getting testimony.

VERSE 1:

Now it all started out way back when I was young • We used to go to Go-Gos. That's what we did, hun • We used to go every week because the music was fun • And we didn't leave the place until the break of dawn • And as I thing about it all the time all the time • I felt the rhythm sneak in my subconscious mind • So, it really doesn't matter about the mood that I'm in • I'll take any of music & I'm ready to blend • Because the folks who grew up with the GoGo background • Learns to never ever walk with their heads hanging down • You see, my pride is on high. My confidence is a glow • And I have no doubt about the places that I can go • To the moon, if that's the object of my soul's desire • And if the moon just ain't enough, then I've got to go higher · Cause, from that point I come from, you've got to be on the one • And all the folks on the circuit knows to get the job done • So, if you wonder how I able to get you out of your seat • I'm just another young soldier raised DC Breed

VERSE 2:

NMy shoes New Balanced • My jeans are blue • I bought them at a shopping spot nearest you • K A T O • That's the name I always go by • And no, I'll tell you no lie • If you wanna know why • I'm gonna tell you why • Cause, I'm a huggable, lovable, hell of a guy • I've got 4 times 25 on my mind • 20/20 vision, so I'm far from blind • A fellah like me is just one of a kind • 100 percent I give all the time • I focus on perfection, so I won't get lost • I like my cinnamon spices in my apple sauce • I like to scope you out, so you'd better not fail • And when it comes to making love, I hit the hammer on the nail • Inner City Grooving is the name of the game • Ask me again, and I tell you the same • Cause I

grew up on the GoGo, so I'm telling you straight • If you're looking for me, you know, you best to wait • You see, I like to take my time when I'm laying a groove • And, it's got to be funky just to make you move • So, you can roll your eyes & you can stomp your feet • Cause I'm another young soldier raised DC Breed

VERSE 3:

A pin and a pad is how I'm running my game • The poetry inside of me is the meaning of my name • The K is how I'm keeping • The A is alive • The T take me through the bullshit and the jive • The O is orchestration, most essential part • Cause if I ain't going to finish, then I ain't going to start • I like my Pepsi cola served as cold as ice • My point is number seven when I'm shaking the dice • My mind is focused • My soul's acute • I specialize in knowing the type of words to recruit • I'm a project to the soul of my musical talent • My creations never whack, and they're far from violent • I'm a slave to the rhythm cause it's got my soul • And I'm a native to the beat that keeps you in control • I get straight to the point without delivering the bull • I eat the Cap'n Crunch until my belly is full • Buy rock gum balls just to ease my breath • And when it's time for me to rap, I come to pass the test • But then, my mission ain't over until I say it's complete • Cause I'm another young soldier raised DC Breed

SPECIAL

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

Romantic but high-energy, with a chantable, crowd-ready hook at the end.

The anthem for anyone searching for real love in the city.

CHORUS:

I'm looking for a very special lady • I'm looking for someone to drive me crazy • I'm looking for her to give it all to me her love • I'm looking for a girl with style and grace • I'm looking for a girl with class and taste • I'm looking for her to give it all to me her love

VERSE:

Let's you and me go out and have some fun • We'll go and shoot the town until the day is done • I'm giving all • All I have to give to you • I'm so excited • I just can't wait to see you • You seem so nice • Don't change the things you do • I'm giving all • All I have to give to you

CHORUS:

I'm looking for a very special lady • I'm looking for someone to drive me crazy • I'm looking for her to give it all to me her love • I'm looking for a girl with style and grace • I'm looking for a girl with class and taste • I'm looking for her to give it all to me her love

VERSE:

Some people say that this will never work • Let's prove them wrong • Cause love don't have to hurt • And I'm giving all • All I have to give to you • Angels of love is watching every step • I'm so so serious • The best you've ever met • I'm giving all • All I have to give to you

CHORUS:

I'm looking for a very special lady • I'm looking for someone to drive me crazy • I'm looking for her to give it all to me her love • I'm looking for a girl with style and grace • I'm looking for a girl with class and taste • I'm looking for her to give it all to me her love

VAMP:

All the party people • All the party people raise your hand • All the party people • All the party people raise your hand • All the party people • All the party people raise your hand • All the party people • All the party people raise your hand

All the party people • All the party people raise your hand • All the party people • All the party people raise your hand • All the party people • All the party people raise your hand • All the party people • All the party people raise your hand

SISTER OF SOUL

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

A Dedication to the Backbone of the Culture. Written to honor the strength, grace, and leadership of Black women. The original rhythm of the culture.

VERSE 1:

Sitting by the window catching some breeze • My girly made a drink to set my mind at ease • She knows how to treat a man with her special touch • And that's one of the reasons why I love her some much • She's an Ebony Queen whom I raise to her throne • I'm where I am today because she's my backbone • She's a devastating beauty sister of gold • When God made this cutie, he broke the mold • You see, all the times I'm lost, she finds my way • I feel that way I feel about her every day • The way I feel about our sister, no other man will know • So, I dedicate this time to the sister of soul

VERSE 2:

God has created a special treat for us • So, to the brothers, this mission is a must • We gotta keep going • keep our heads to the sky • Keep the soul flowing • I'm telling you why • Cause if we start to turn our backs on the sister of soul • They have no other alternative, but to go • to the other side where they're sure to feel pain • The brothers with the strength, please help the lame • We gotta stick together until this mission is done • One for all, and all for one • Collectively in a race to survive • Grab their hand. Keep the family alive • The sister of soul should not be treated like shit • So, keep it in your mind • Don't you ever forget • Share the hope and let the family grow • And let's dedicate this time to the sister of soul

A TOUCH OF LOVE

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

For the one who helped me let go and start again. Healing ain't always loud. Sometimes it's just a soft hand on your back when you need it most.

CHORUS:

Just a simple touch of your love • Is all I needed to be free from her • You have made up my mind To release all those times of sorrow and pain within • Touch me with your heart one more time • And let me answer with the soul I feel • Things have turned for the best • Won't reflect on the past • What I feel now want again and again

VERSE:

I had a falling • And it was you who respond to my calling • God answered my prayer when I needed a hand • And you were there • You gave me something • And I enjoy your style of comforting • Girl, I can see how much you mean to me • You show me you care • And nothing's gonna wipe my mind • You are so so kind • And I won't stop my singing

CHORUS:

Just a simple touch of your love • Is all I needed to be free from her • You have made up my mind To release all those times of sorrow and pain within • Touch me with your heart one more time • And let me answer with the soul I feel • Things have turned for the best • Won't reflect on the past • What I feel now want again and again

VERSE:

You are my sunshine • I wanna show you how you've treated me so kind • No need to fear, I'm gonna be there • That's how much I care • You have no worry • Just call my name, I'll be there in a hurry This feeling is great • And I appreciate that you're so aware • And nothing's gonna wipe my mind • You are so so kind • And I won't stop my singing

CHORUS:

ust a simple touch of your love • Is all I needed to be free from her • You have made up my mind
To release all those times of sorrow and pain within
• Touch me with your heart one more time • And let me answer with the soul I feel • Things have turned for the best • Won't reflect on the past • What I feel now want again and again

BANG THE DRUM SLOWLY

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

A Jazz-Funk Homage to the Groove That Raised Me. Every record I ever loved had a heartbeat. This track? It's mine.

CHORUS:

Why don't you Bang The Drum Slowly • Come on Bang The Drum Slowly • Come on Bang The Drum Slowly • You got to Bang The Drum Slowly

VERSE:

Marked with the rhythm of a distant past • Scoped the vision out through an hourglass • Then, through the earphones with the volume on blast • Found myself a fan at the head of the class • Through the bass line fluctuating my feet • I'm swinging and I'm swooping and I'm bounding on a beat • Equate the two divisions of the gospel and blues • Animated through the image of a cultural group • Like Louis the Sach & Lady Day the sway • In smoked filled bars made my way • Be royal genesis captivating the style • Hot lips running deep by the minute a mile • To the boogie-woogie flugalhorn pumpin the beat • Just driving me crazy out in the street • What is this mad craze this razzmatazz • It's the thing I'm addicted to • A thing called jazz

BRIDGE:

Yea, they got them faded yall • But craftically creative you dig • Feel it grow through your body and your soul • Straight pandemonium • Yes indeed yes indeed

CHORUS:

Why don't you Bang The Drum Slowly • Come on Bang The Drum Slowly • Come on Bang The Drum Slowly • You got to Bang The Drum Slowly

VERSE:

One day I stumbled up across a cool one • A straight-up foot stompin true one • The kind that everybody needs to have one of these • To pump up on their records on their record machines • I mean heavy stuff the brother weak at the knees • Absorbed it and take it all through my soul • Every time the needle hit, man it takes control • My mine, my heart, my soul, my way • Made me a slave of the rhythm that I am today • Electrified pulses speakers blew up • Blew the tweeters in my head cause I wanna get up • And get going down with the downstroke • Learning and swim like a child cause it's allowed • And on and on and I never stopped the bumpin for breath • Becomes shoes candid to take the test • I choose to take a cruise

BRIDGE:

Yea, they got them faded yall • But like I said, craftically creative you dig • Feel it grow through your body and your soul • Straight pandemonium • Yes indeed yes indeed

CHORUS:

Why don't you Bang The Drum Slowly • Come on Bang The Drum Slowly • Come on Bang The Drum Slowly • You got to Bang The Drum Slowly

BROTHER MAN

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

A Cautionary Tale with a Comeback Arc.

For every brother who got written off early, this one's proof the story ain't over.

VERSE:

Brother Man, understand • It's not the way I wanna be • It's the way that I am • It's the soul inside that give's me pride • Won't let me hide. Makes me stay on stride • Keeps me rolling • Keeps me up on the flow and • Always lets me be the kind of winner that wins • I'm calling you now • Stand up take a bow • Ask no questions. Just let me tell you how • No chitter. No chatter. • We know Black Lives Matter Pushing for the goal of happily ever after • I'm living and learning and scratching and paying my dues • I've got nothing to lose, Brother Man

Now if you have a minute won't you check out these lyrics • Never mind your rep, I think that everyone should hear it • A young child found doing bad in school • Became a popular name for breaking all the rules • Labeled as disturbed & tried to tame him back • Done everything they could to set him on track • But what they didn't see is that the brother had quest • And that's what made him different from the rest • Now many years later the brother's done an epic • Those who used to talk have no choice but to accept it • So let me add one thing and please don't forget • Life has no limits

Now he's in a situation that's tight as can be • And saying to himself, why's it have to be me • Out of all of the people in the neighborhood • He's the only one getting caught with the goods • The judge gives him time, he's doing 3 to 5 • It's just a damn shame, these tears from my eyes • Listening to the verdict straight brought out the tears • Invited pain to my heart & sent death to my ears

Now he's on the outside. He's back on the scene • It's hard to say no, but no is what he means • He make some honest cash and do a little math • Now I think what's missing is the chaos of the past • A little bit of luck with a little bit of faith • These two together, you never felt the race • So, let me add one thing and please don't forget • Life has no limits

So if I'm getting through, then I'm doing my job
• Because schooling you brothers shouldn't be so
hard • You listen and learn. You learn and live • Take
it from me, you're gonna get what you give • You
play the game right. Take no short cuts • Keep your
eyes on the ball no if, and or buts • Believe in yourself and you will always show • The people around
the right way to go • So, let me add on thing and
please don't forget • Life has no limits

And I'm Black and I'm Black and I'm Blackity Black • I'm Black and I'm Black and I'm Blackity Black • I'm Black and I'm Black and I'm Blackity Black • I'm Black and I'm Black and I'm Blackity Black

CALL ME

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

For anyone who just needed someone to pick up the phone. Together, it's you and I.

VERSE:

My friend • There's no need to pretend • No need to worry alone • I'm here through thick and thin • This road we travel can be so rough • Step by step sometimes enough is enough • You don't have walk this path alone • Just reach on out to me when you're alone • I'm just gonna be on standby

CHORUS:

You just call me • When you need a friend • You can call on me • I'll do whatever I can • On the double • I'll be right by your side • Together it's you and I

VERSE:

My friend • Time and time and again • Words sometimes get in the way • But I know • And I am your friend • Just call me when text just ain't enough • Hearing a voice.the next best thing to touch • That's all that is, ain't asking for much • No No No - No No No • I'm just gonna be on standby

CHORUS:

You just call me • When you need a friend • You can call on me • I'll do whatever I can • On the double • I'll be right by your side • Together it's you and I

And you just call me • When you need a friend • You can call on me • I'll do whatever I can • On the double • I'll be right by your side • Together it's you and I

VAMP:

Call me • Call me • I'm your friend • You're my friend • Call me • Call me

SOUL SEARCHING FOR CHUCK'S GROOVE

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

A tribute to the Godfather and creators of GoGo Chuck Brown & The Soul Searchers

VERSE:

They taught us how to Swing • And make that pocket a thing • Build the foundation • That allowed us all to sing • All across the land • With rocks, pebbles and sand • And we the people • Chose to understand

CHORUS:

Soul Searching for Chuck's Groove • To make that body move • Soul Searching for Chuck's Groove • To make that body move

VERSE:

Lord, it's amazing • The impact of this thing • Inspired so many people • The wind beneath our wings And for the past 40 years • It's been reving in full gear • The seed that started this song • Now who came to freaky deak all night long

CHORUS:

Soul Searching for Chuck's Groove • To make that body move • Soul Searching for Chuck's Groove • To make that body move

VERSE:

Now if Hollywood ain't up to no good • You should have stayed home like you ought to should • Create your own groove and crank your own beat • In the same stomping grounds where you sleep and eat • Now dealing with the world, easier said than done

- Especially when you're cranking that one on one
- And people around will come from miles away Just to see you groove to what you have to say

It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that GoGo swing
• It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that GoGo swing

THE POCKET

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

A Groove ain't just a sound. It's a sacred trust.

VERSE:

Listen up everybody, I got something to say • About a concept that's vital, in every single way • It's called the pocket, and it's where the beat resides • It's the foundation of the groove, the rhythm that provides • You gotta feel it, you gotta sense it, and you gotta know • That if you're out of the pocket, you're out of the flow • It's more than just timing, it's a feeling you can't fake • You gotta be in sync with the music, make no mistake • It's a connection between the drummer - the drummer and the bass • It's a pocket so tight, you'll never lose your place • It's a secret weapon, a groove that's so deep • It's what makes you wanna move your feet

BRIDGE:

I'm talking about the pocket, the pocket, don't you ever forget • It's the heartbeat of the music, the rhythm you can't reject • Stay in the pocket, and you'll never go wrong • Keeps it in the groove going all night long

CHORUS:

Keep that thing in the pocket, yall • Keep that thing in the pocket, now • Keep it in the pocket where you know it's gonna be safe, yall • Keep it in the pocket where you know it's gonna be safe now

VERSE:

Now, the guitar, and the horns, the keys, and all the rest • They all got their place, but if you wanna past that test • Unless they're locked in, with the drummer and the bass • Then they're all together, in one tight embrace • It's the beat that counts, it's the beat that matters • Stay in the pocket, and nothing else will shatter • From go-go to hip-hop, to R&B and soul • The pocket's always there, it's the key to the goal • It's the foundation of the music, the heartbeat of the sound • It's the reason people dance, the reason they stick around • So if you wanna make it, if you want to shine • Stay in the pocket, and you'll be just just fine

BRIDGE:

I'm talking about the pocket, the pocket, don't you ever forget • It's the heartbeat of the music, the rhythm you can't reject • Stay in the pocket, and you'll never go wrong • Keeps it in the groove going all night long

CHORUS:

Keep that thing in the pocket, yall • Keep that thing in the pocket, now • Keep it in the pocket where you know it's gonna be safe, yall • Keep it in the pocket where you know it's gonna be safe now

I said keep that thing in the pocket, yall • Keep that thing in the pocket, now • Keep it in the pocket where you know it's gonna be safe, yall • Keep it in the pocket where you know it's gonna be safe now

Keep that thing in the pocket, yall • Keep that thing in the pocket, now • Keep it in the pocket where you know it's gonna be safe, yall • Keep it in the pocket where you know it's gonna be safe now

Let's vamp it on out

MY SUNSHINE

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

Love like light. Constant. Calming. Bright. Your eyes... they say things that words could never ever express.

VAMP:

La La

VERSE:

I wake up in the morning • And I thank the Lord for another day • Then I look over • And there you are With a smile up on your face • Your eyes they say things • That words could never ever express • And I'm reminded right there and there • Any place anywere we are one

CHORUS:

You are my sunshine yea yea • On a cloudy cloudy day • The fruits of hopes you are • As you chase the rain away • My golden light so right • And it's so dynamite • The fruits of my dreams • So it seems and the lovin is pure delight

VAMP:

La La

VERSE:

Who would've ever thought • That this union would take us oh so far • This distance we made • The games sometimes played • But the trust remained in place • And I would change a thing • So happy with what we bring • It's amazing the vibration • Has kept our attention • Again and again

CHORUS:

You are my sunshine yea yea • On a cloudy cloudy day • The fruits of hopes you are • As you chase the rain away • My golden light so right • And it's so dynamite • The fruits of my dreams • So it seems and the lovin is pure delight • Yea Yea Yea

You are my sunshine yea yea • On a cloudy cloudy day • The fruits of hopes you are • As you chase the rain away • My golden light so right • And it's so dynamite • The fruits of my dreams • So it seems and the lovin is pure delight

VAMP:

La La

LET US GET AWAY

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

Escape anthem with romantic optimism. Feels like a smooth closing scene in a film.

CHORUS:

Let us get away • From the outside looking in • Let us get away • Just listen to me my friend • Get away from here

VERSE:

My clothes are packed yea • There's no coming back no • Off to a better place • With a brand new start - And no time to waste • Looking for something that's true and true • New places to roam and new things to do • Please come with me • This place is much to small for us to see • Brighter days and shiny nights • Instead of always close, but never right

BRIDGE:

If you as me were will we go • I'll just say that all I know • Is that we're going bye bye • Baby bye bye Bye Baby • Baby Bye Bye • We're going bye bye • Baby bye bye • Bye Baby • Baby Bye Bye

VERSE:

It's gonna feel great to have you there with me • Doing things that only our minds can dream • Hand in hand just the way it's suppose to be • Me loving you and you loving me • This is something that's written in the stone • Never again will you ever feel alone • Building a world with the hands that love made • And loving each and every moment for the rest of our days.

BRIDGE:

If you as me were will we go • I'll just say that all I know

CHORUS:

Let us get away • From the outside looking in Let us get away • Just listen to me my friend • Get away from here

BRIDGE:

If you as me were will we go • I'll just say that all I know • Is that we're going bye bye • Baby bye bye Bye Bye Baby • Baby Bye Bye • We're going bye bye • Baby bye bye • Bye Bye Baby • Baby Bye Bye

CHORUS:

Let us get away • From the outside looking in Let us get away • Just listen to me my friend • Get away from here

YOUNG LOVE

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

Pure 80s nostalgia and high school heart. Fun, honest, and visual. With Melvin Lindsey in the background on the Quiet Storm.

VERSE:

First time I saw her, she was in the lunchroom • High school cafeteria multipurpose room • She was a freshman - a new kid on the block • I was a junior and the cream of the crop • But her eyes told no lies - and yes I recognized • I'm crushing on her and it's no surprise • I took her books and walked her to her next class • She answered every question that I wanted to ask

CHOURS:

Young Love • Young Love • Young Love • I can't get you out of my mind

VERSE:

We'd meet each morning at the homeroom bell • Shared the love notes that made our days go well • Then spend the nights together on the phone • With Melvin Lindsey in the background on the Quiet Storm

CHOURS:

Young Love • Young Love • Young Love • I can't get you out of my mind

VERSE:

She was my "Bunny" and I was her "Boo" • We'd spend every moment in and out of school • And it's kind of funny now that I think back • That the saying is so true that opposites attract • Cause I'd go forward - and she'd go back • But when we got together it's a natural fact • Another love lesson about the golden rule • You can't stop Young Love, no matter what you do

CHOURS:

Young Love • Young Love • Young Love • I can't get you out of my mind

AND JUST LIKE THAT

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

Encouragement meets empowerment.

Soulful motivation for anyone doubting their own power.

VERSE:

I'm telling the truth - now dig, it what it is • You're everything to me - in this here biz • If the sky was falling - I'd catch in the rain • And the things you deliver girl - I want again and again

But I can't tell - you to do - what you don't wanna do • It's on you - to see the things I see in you • And once you see it, girl... you'll start to believe it • And just like that you'll make the dreams come true

CHORUS:

And just like that - And just like that now • You'll make those dreams come true • And just like that - And just like that now • You'll make those dreams come true

VERSE:

This ain't magic - no tricks up my sleeve • No presto chango - in order to achieve • No snap of a finger - to change day from night • And the way you move it girl - comes straight from inside

But I can't tell - you to do - what you don't wanna do • It's on you - to see the things I see in you • And once you see it, girl... you'll start to believe it • And just like that you'll make the dreams come true

CHORUS:

And just like that - And just like that now • You'll make those dreams come true • And just like that - And just like that now • You'll make those dreams come true • And just like that - And just like that now • You'll make those dreams come true • And just like that - And just like that now • You'll make those dreams come true

BRIDGE:

Let me hear you say - Uh Huh • Let me hear you say - Uh Huh • Let me hear you say - Uh Huh • Let me hear you say - Uh Huh

VERSE:

Do the things that you wanna do • Make sure it feels good to you • Just as long as you don't knock the groove • Of anyone trying to do theirs too • It's a rhythm that we all need • Don't matter in your choice of speed • Let that rhythm guide you on your way • Til you feel that brand new day • It's your vision and the feeling's right • Then that vision out of sight • Feel it deep down in your soul • Now grab the wheel and take control

VAMP:

You'll make those dreams come true You'll make those dreams come true

BRAND NEW BEGINNING

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

Grown-folks reconciliation and emotional healing. Introspective and full of heart.

VERSE:

Last night it was you and me together • Sharing those fantasy's of what we made in our minds • We reached and talked to one another • Never had the moment to do that before • You cried, and girl I told you how I feel • You revealed and it seemed so real • I'm glad that I got the chance to tell you • Cause when we cleared out our minds we made love

CHOURS;

Here's to you - a brand new beginning • Never gonna feel the way I felt yesterday • Looking back, we must have been crazy • We fought off the heat in our own little way • You and me - a brand new beginning • Just the way when we first met • Never gonna change the way I feel about you • You see, I never stopped loving you yet

VERSE:

Last night we crawd to one another • Tired of those sufferings we had in our minds • We vowed to never start tomorrow • Having to leave with our hearts standing low • You felt that time had come for romance • I held you and I have it a chance • You said that you could never cease to love me • And when you reached for my hands, we made love

CHORUS

Here's to us - a brand new beginning • Never gonna feel the way I felt yesterday • Looking back, we must have been crazy • We fought off the heat in our own little way • You and me - a brand new beginning • Just the way when we first met • Never gonna change the way I feel about you • You see, I never stopped loving you yet

[Talking]

We were so in love • But we never took the time out to really reach out to one another • Not realizing that we were just hurting each other • You know. We took our love for granted. • But I'm glad that we actually took the time to pull it all together just that one more time

CHORUS:

Last night we loved one another
Happy to erase all those thoughts in our minds
We felt that the time had come to hold on
Just the way when we first met
You and me a brand new beginning
Just the way when we first met
Never gonna change the way I feel about you
I know. You never stopped loving me yet

IAM

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

A self-affirmation anthem.

Feels like it belongs in a scene where someone steps fully into their purpose.

VERSE:

Whoa... Yea...

Daylight's come in • Your desire • You can feel it • In your fire • Something's burning • Passions yearning • And you're learning • It's too discerning • But never the less • You took the test • And you can rest • Knowing it's been blessed • And today • You can say • No matter what comes your way

CHORUS:

I Am Somebody • I Am Somebody

VERSE:

Some tried to tell you • Just to discourage you • But they don't know • Or the things you can do • When you put your mind to • Nothing's stopping you • The sea will open up • So you can pass right through • Trust God to make a way • Though it seems no other way • Hold on to it • You can do it • And today You can say • No matter what comes your way

CHORUS:

I Am Somebody • I Am Somebody

VAMP:

You can do it... yea yea • You can do it • You can do it... yea yea • You can do it

YOU ARE MY ROCK

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

Raw, reflective apology and love letter to the woman who stood strong through the chaos.

VERSE:

I remember when I used to play all night • In those smoky clubs, under those flashing lights • I thought it was all about my music career • But I didn't realize what I had to lose, my dear • I'm sorry for all the times I made you cry • But I'm grateful you never said goodbye

Those women groupies, they were always around • Trying to get with me, trying to bring me down • I admit, I was caught up in the game • But now I see it was all just for the fame • You never wavered, you were always there • Supporting me, through all the drama and despair

CHORUS:

You are my rock • You're my everything • Through the good times and the bad, you are my queen • I let my guitar and the music lead the way • But now I promise • I'll never let it get in the way

VERSE:

I'm older now, and much wiser too • I've learned what's really important, and that is you • I'll still play my guitar, but I make time for us • Our love is worth more than any musical fuss • I put you first, and I always show you love • With you by my side, we can conquer anything above

I know I messed up, but I'm willing to try • To make it right, to make you feel alive • I appreciate all you do for me • I promise to love you, endlessly

CHORUS:

You are my rock • You're my everything • Through the good times and the bad, you are my queen • I let my guitar and the music lead the way • But now I promise • I'll never let it get in the way

I won't let the past define our future I'll always keep my promises, forevermore Together, we'll create new memories Our love will continue to soar eternally

CHORUS:

You are my rock • You're my everything • Through the good times and the bad, you are my queen • I let my guitar and the music lead the way • But now I promise • I'll never let it get in the way

You are my rock • You're my everything • Through the good times and the bad, you are my queen • I let my guitar and the music lead the way • But now I promise • I'll never let it get in the way

LOVE IN THE KEY OF GOGO

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

Party cut meets MC manifesto. Peak energy and lyrical fun.

VERSE:

Yes.• Your body is strong, Your wind is long • When you get down, you can't do no wrong

Microphone check • Time to check the microphone up • To the next dedication • For the Tender Ronas • For the video watchers • The uptown shoppers • The young crumb snatchers • And the big show stoppers • Turn the music up so you'll be able to hear me • Use the microphone in the way that it should be - Used • It's not designed for the average wannabe • Perpetrating, stimulating, fellow that has to be • Using up the time with a frivolous rhyme • That's the kind that seems to the back of the line • Cause when the beat starts droppin, uou'll be able to see • The kind of entertainer I was meant to be.• Cause I'm the K - the A - to the T and O • And the beat don't stop 'til I say so. So...

CHORUS:

I'm gonna blow your mind with this obtainable rhyme • It goes on and on until the break of dawn.
• I'm gonna blow your mind with this obtainable rhyme • It goes on and on until the break of dawn.

VERSE:

A brother once asked me how do you do it • I just gave him a smile, cause there's really nothing to it • It's all about the rhythm, It's all about the soul • It's all about knowing which way to go • You see... life and living and loving is fun • I know you dream about me baby, cause I am the one • Who cares about the way that you're wearing your smile • So stop growling, frowning - You know I'mma be here a while • Don't worry about the places that we're gonna go • Be ready when I get there, cause baby you know • That I hate to be late when I'm on a date • And the force of me and you equals eighty-eight • And when the beat starts droppin, You'll be able to see • The kind of entertainer I was meant to be.• Cause I'm the K - the A - to the T and O • And the beat don't stop 'til I say so. So...

CHORUS:

I'm gonna blow your mind with this obtainable rhyme • It goes on and on until the break of dawn. • I said, I'm gonna blow your mind with this obtainable rhyme • It's goes on and on until the break of dawn.

VAMP:

Love in the key of GoGo, y'all • Cause, When Your body is strong, Your wind is long • When you get down, you can't do no wrong • Love in the key of GoGo • And when the beat starts droppin • You'll be able to see • The kind of entertainer I was meant to be. • Yes indeed, Yes indeed • Cause I'm the K - the A - to the T and O • And the beat don't stop 'til I say so. • Yes indeed, Yes indeed • Because, yes indeed • I'm gonna blow your mind with this obtainable rhyme • Its goes on and on until the break of dawn.

4TH PERIOD

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

Tender, poetic love poem disguised as a school crush.

VERSE:

Morning light breaks, I'm up with a start • With thoughts of her, the beat of my heart • I rush through the halls, just to see her smile • 4th period English, it's all worth the while

CHORUS:

She sits in the front row - like a queen in her throne

- Her laughter the sweetest tune I've ever known
- But she doesn't know, no she can't see She's the reason English means everything to me

VERSE:

I write her name in the margins of my book • Every word from her lips is the hook • She's the poetry, the rhythm in my rhyme • The hidden muse that makes the days sublime

CHORUS:

She sits in the front row - like a queen in her throne

- Her laughter the sweetest tune I've ever known
- But she doesn't know, no she can't see She's the reason English means everything to me

BRIDGE:

4th period, she's my sunshine, my secret delight • 4th period, she's the reason I'm alright • In that classroom, I'm lost in her grace • Dreaming of the moment I'll share my heart's space

4th period, she's my sunshine, my secret delight • 4th period, she's the reason I'm alright • In that classroom, I'm lost in her grace • Dreaming of the moment I'll share my heart's space

VERSE:

Bell rings, yet I'm caught in her spell • She's my story - but I'll never tell • In her eyes, a universe, so profound • In her presence, I'm lost, but oh, so found

CHORUS:

She sits in the front row - like a queen in her throne

- Her laughter the sweetest tune I've ever known
- But she doesn't know, no she can't see She's the reason English means everything to me

VERSE:

Every day, I weave a story in my mind • Where courage leads me to her, where our hearts entwine • But for now, it's a secret, a silent sweet desire • She's the flame that fuels my academic fire

CHORUS:

She sits in the front row - like a queen in her throne • Her laughter - the sweetest tune I've ever known • But she doesn't know, no she can't see • She's the reason - English means everything to me • So here's to the girl who lights up my day • In the halls of our school, in every way

FRANKIE BEVERLY

Music by Kato Hammond | Lyrics by Kato Hammond

A powerful tribute. Strong close to the anthology, honoring legacy and soul inspiration.

VERSE:

From the first note I heard, you took me away • To a place where the music, forever would stay • In the rhythm of your heart, I found my own beat • In the warmth of your soul, I found my retreat

As a teenager, lost, just trying to find • A melody, a tune, a rhythm to bind • You showed me the way, through every song • In your music, Frankie, I found where I belong

CHORUS:

Frankie Beverly, you're the light in my night • With your soulful sound, you made everything right • In your songs, I found the man I wanted to be • Thank you, Frankie, for setting it free

VERSE:

Every note you played, every word you sang • Brought joy to my life, and a feeling that rang • You taught me the power of a heartfelt song • In your melodies, I knew I could never go wrong

Joy & Pain, the highs and the lows • Through Happy Feelings, my spirit rose • We Are One in the music we share • In Back In Stride Again, I found my care

CHORUS:

Frankie Beverly, you're the light in my night • With your soulful sound, you made everything right • In your songs, I found the man I wanted to be • Thank you, Frankie, for setting it free

BRIDGE:

I Wanna Thank You for the lessons you've shown • In Feel That You're Feeling, I found my own • Before I Let Go, just know that I see • Your influence, Frankie, running deep in me

VERSE:

You and Maze, with a silky smooth flow • Gave life to the dreams I wanted to know • In your passion and dedication, I found my own • Through your music, my love has grown

Running Away from the troubles and strife • Your music has been the soundtrack of my life • In every note, in every line • I honor you, Frankie, till the end of time

CHORUS:

Frankie Beverly, you're the light in my night • With your soulful sound, you made everything right • In your songs, I found the man I wanted to be • Thank you, Frankie, for setting it free

To Everyone Who Listened, Read, and Felt This

Whether you bought the CD, spun the vinyl, downloaded the digital, or just sat back and read these words with the groove in your head... THANK YOU! You are part of this movement now. Part of the rhythm. Part of the reason I keep doing this.

If this music made you smile, made you think, or made you remember what it feels like to feel something, then I did my job.

GoGo isn't just percussion and bounce. It's people. It's stories. It's soul. And as long as I've got strings to strum and words to say, I'll keep telling those stories.

Keep grooving, Keep growing, Stay in the pocket. Always.

— Kato

BOOKS BY KATO HAMMOND TO ALSO CHECKOUT

Visit: www.KatoHammond.com



