

Everything Follows This

Crawl into my skin for a couple of days
And find out how it feels to be a rattlesnake
A poisonous tooth with a short little fuse
Crying nobody knows my pain

All I thought that I needed was to be far away
But it turns out there's no place where everything
changes
If I was not so bitter, then I'd be afraid
I'd have no idea who I am

At the top of the mountain, I still feel the same
And the sun burnt my skin in the desert for days
There must be a reason it's always this way
The way that you made it is the way it will stay

Crawl into my skin for a couple of days
No end, no beginning, it's always the same
When he's shedding his skin, a rattlesnake is
Exactly the same way that he's always been

The thoughts inside of my head they are dark
And the voice which I speak to myself with is sharp
Though it's mine, I can't tame it or just shut it down
And everything else follows this
Everything else follows this

Crooked Teeth

If I could choose between a horse
With a coat of black or white
I would take the darkest one
Every single time

Yeah, I know there's an ugliness
And I know that it's in me
The trouble is I just don't give a shit
Are you even listening

They used to say that I was lost
But I always knew where I was going
And when they told me I was wrong
I went and proved I knew what I was doing

Crooked teeth with a crooked smile
And a shameless disposition
I am the only motherfucker standing in this room
Who doesn't need to be forgiven

Oh, I wonder, yes I wonder
When God picked up some old ball of shit
Did he know he was making a man

I never cared if it was nature or nurture
That made me out this way
'Cause either way I looked at it
I found someone to blame

Like the time I insisted I'd bring the beer
Then I just brought enough for me
Put away them fucking board games
When you invite me for a drink

I gotta know, gotta know right now
Who are you to sit and judge me
How could you have ever been so cruel
You know my father never loved me

And when I lay me down at night
I can't sleep for thinking about you
You know I'll never forgive you
For what you've put me through

Oh I wonder, yes I wonder
When God picked up some old ball of shit
Did he know he was making a man

Somebody Else's Name

I've spent half my life trying to figure out
What the hell the other half was all about
I can't take it no more

I wish that I could just blow away
Like a tumbleweed gone without a trace
Into different skin and another face
With somebody else's name

Yeah, you know how it goes when you sold your soul
Back when you were still just too young to know
How the years would fly, leave you behind
And all you got to show is the debt that you owe

When they were never on your side at home
They raised you up to be alone
They taught you with a balled up fist and said
Go and figure this shit out on your own

But the real question is what are you gonna do about
it, Boy?
You just gonna sit around complaining and waiting to
die?
Or maybe you could count up all the reasons why you
couldn't
Just couldn't give it a try.

Just a little patch of woods and a farmhouse ghost
You found your dead dog in a ditch by the side of the
road
There's a Bible verse nailed up to a post
Below it hung a little note that says

How much will you wager, neighbor
I'm a bigger piece of shit than you ever dreamed

What can you do when you ain't got a shot
When the best that you could just wasn't enough
I think I better take a ride out tonight
'Til it's so dark I can crawl out of my head
Try to forget who I am

Mama's Favorite Son

Every fight he ever fought, never could admit he'd
lost
Mama's favorite son never wanted to be no one
Just trying to hold on to something that was already
gone

He ain't one to back down from a fight
Doesn't matter if he's wrong or right
Even if it costs him every last dime that he's worked
for all his life
He'll never put a price on his pride

Does he believe what he's saying 'cause I love every
word

She always knew the day would come
Her little boy was all grown up
Mama's favorite son turned out just like she wanted
She raised him up to see the truth could be whatever
he believed

Does he believe what he's saying 'cause I love every
word

I Took You Up the Mountain

You watched him knock me down and not get up again
You saw in it a chance to get a step ahead
You used to be my partner and it was painful parting ways
It must have been another bond I was not meant to make

I'd rather be a bastard than admit your blood is mine
I know where all this came from cause I've known you all your life
It meant so little to you, how I did what I could do
Is brother just another word that means nothing to you?

I took you up the mountain, you complained about the view
Telling the same stories, oh the hand they dealt to you
I have seen how the flowers die just a little bit sooner each year
As long as you are here

If it was just the way they raised you, why then don't you ever change?
Yeah, I know how hard it is because they raised me up the same
And whose fault is it this time that you shot the windows out?
Another bottle empty in your big old empty house

Don't you ever wonder how you look to someone else?
Not to your latest victim but someone who knows you well
You take that goddamn finger and you point it at yourself
You should have learned the way by now to speak but you just yell

I took you up the mountain, you complained about the view
Telling the same stories, oh the hand they dealt to you
I have seen the flowers die just a little bit sooner each year
As long as you are here

Old Farmhouse

A long and lonesome time ago
In the foothills down in Ohio
In an old farmhouse I raised three boys

The first one always tried to please
The second could talk his way out of anything
The third one was on everybody's side

My wife would alternate between
Loving them and hating me
And hating them and loving me again

There were children stuck
Inside the walls and every night
You could hear them claw
Go back to bed, it's in your head
It's just some rats I said

In the basement there the floor was dirt
A meat hook hung and it sometimes swung
All by itself like a pendulum and when the lights were off
You'd hear the diesel run

I'd come home from work and the kids were scared
Naked in my favorite chair and I'd read out loud
From the Bible to them

But none of my three boys were spared
We'd beat 'em with a broken chair
I knew we'd always be together

We Were Lurkers

Hit the ground, spin move
Running through the trees
You can't see me
Camouflaged from my head down to my feet
Don't fuck with me

Kinnikinick, rose hips
roll it in a spliff
By the campfire light
A couple hits off a Rambo knife
Ain't nobody out here tonight

We were in it together
Now we are in it apart
I turned around, you were gone
I don't know who you are

Living in a shack, a loaded gun
A thirty pack - Lukewarm Hamm's
Sitting outside all night choke 'em down
Wait for the dogman

Yes, and we were lurkers
Let nobody else lurk on us
Yes you are still my brother
Even if you don't give a fuck

We were in it together
Now we are in it apart
I turned around, you were gone
I don't know who you are

The Worst Part of Me

All the little animals are doing what they know
The gnashing of teeth when there's blood in the fur
All the parts are equal and they make up a whole
If I was artificial I'd have no way to know

I was just a honeybee who never learned that peace
Was out among the wildflowers that blossom in the spring

I only knew how to sting and I knew I was the best
And if it killed me in the end
Well, there ain't nothing in this life
That satisfies like self defense

Let's go piss on the graves in the cemetery

'Til the ground lights up red and blue and green
Was it a vision or was it just a bad dream
Pinned down in the chaparral by a hand unseen

Is it even worth speaking if no one's listening
The closer you look the less you can see
I tried to find someone else to blame
But every finger pointed at me

So I lie motionless while the night birds scream
My name across the sky
My father was a joyless piece of shit and so am I

The worst part of you is the worst part of me
Quit pretending you're sleeping, I know you can see
I've had something to say to you for a long time
But I could never get through

The lessons we learned over and over again
We'll pass them down again just like the ones before
us did

How are you so strongly opposed
To what just yesterday defined you
You left nothing for me to do
But turn my back on you

Well, we come from a place
Where you're made to lay
Awake most every night
I know you feel the same way about me
But at least I can say I've tried

I've been dragging the devil around by the horns for
all my life
It's fucked up what they did to you, but I'm so tired of
this fight
I'm so tired of this fight

Goddamn it, It's Christmas

In the bed of a beat up old Chevrolet we ride
I didn't have any kind words left to say, so I kept it all inside
Brother, oh my brother what made you this way

We counted the stars 'til they all went away
How could you forget that we're from the same place
Now you're looking at me like you think I'm the cause of your pain

You walk in the door, the dog starts to tremble and shake
No one says a word, but goddamn it, it's Christmas day
If you were anyone else I swear I'd put you in your place

You're drunk in the morning and already starting a fight
You must think I'm an idiot, I see what you're not even trying to hide
I guess I was wrong for thinking we were on the same side
I doubt that you will but I'll be here if you change your mind

Scorched Earth

I just need some time
To empty out my mind
And start all over somewhere far away

Leave this place behind
Where you're made to stand in line
With every last mistake you ever made

While everyone around you has got their teeth gnashing
Over nothing lashing out and always losing ground
Choose every battle boy cause everything's worth fighting for
You can die on every hill if you never back down

But you'd better lock the door tonight
I'm standing right outside
You took it past the point of going back
I talk enough for both of us, you don't speak for me
The loudest mouth raging in your street

Yes, I've got the right always looking for a fight
Everybody else is just like me
You think I don't deserve the very air I breathe
And I am not concerned with how you feel

I quit counting the days behind me
The horizon don't do much for me no more
The stars come out when it's too dark to go outside
I couldn't save it, so I tore it down

And even with my eyes wide open, everything is blurring into one
I wish that I had wings like the vulture
Judging everyone from up above

He won't even see it coming
I woke up one day and burnt the fucker down
Knee jerk scorched earth, only one of us can be
The biggest asshole in this town

High horse, so tall. Prove me right. Prove you wrong
There's nothing left to lose

You don't want help out of that hole
I gave my hand, you just pulled
So I'm coming down there with you

Black Heart

I used to feel the mountains leaning in a little bit
closer
To whisper in my ear you better live a little bit slower
The river still flows by me. It's just running lower
lately
And the flowers die off sooner every year

The birds flew south, they never came back
My heart is still beating but I can feel turning black
How much does it take to just let go and walk away
There ain't nothing left anyway

My heart is black

And so the canyon walls stand high above me
Where the mountains the desert meet as one
The tumbleweeds blow in and go on their way again
And for a moment I am right where I belong

But just when you found someone
You knew you should have been
It's never very long before they
Come for you again
And there's nothing you can do
But finally let 'em win
Until they know they did
They'll never quit

One by one I watched them go
Insisting they were never gone
Return someone I never met
And never would again
While the only one who should have gone
Can't stand the skin he's living in
And it's so far past the point of moving on