



STRIVE :: FIRE :: Songs By Derick Thompson

FIRE [FAHYUHR]

- a state, process, or instance of combustion in which fuel or other material is ignited and combined with oxygen, giving off light, heat, and flame.

- burning passion; excitement or enthusiasm; ardor.

- liveliness of imagination.

Smallest Things is a song I wrote to help me resist the urge to take for granted the simplest elements of life. The sunrise, coffee with good friends, the feel of a summer day after a cool rain. Such beauty compels me to share my life, love, resources and joy with others. Routine can be the end of wonder, which can be brought back to life by once again seeing beauty in the smallest of things.

On Our Way. A close friend of mine from Zimbabwe inspired this song during the course of our conversations about Africa. Several themes kept surfacing, one of which was the tremendous suffering Imperialism wreaked on the Continent. Another was the importance of people coming along side Africa as a brothers and sisters, not as rich saviors. Seeing people from every nations as family generates a compassion which can effect change in lasting way. On Our Way sings of hope for a new day where authentic love can draw us together changing the world forever.

Just a Little More Time Now. Waiting can be a tough part of life. Sometimes waiting for the moment our dreams become reality is as hard as the work it takes to achieve them. This resounding truth has steadied my resolve on dark days of doubt. Nothing is impossible if I hold onto hope, faith, love & patience. Jesus speaks of moving mountains with the faith of a mustard seed. He must have loved hearing the story of how an angel calmed his mother Mary when she was a sacred young virgin with the words “...nothing is impossible with God.” That promise can make even the faintest of heart turn into steel.

Bells Toll is a prayer for the day when “love drives out fear and forgiveness draws us near”. Throughout history so many people have lost their lives to the insatiable lusts of war. A million arguments are made for why war is right or wrong, but no argument erases the horror which leaves mothers, fathers, wives, husbands and children mourning for all that they have lost. Peace can only come if everyone lays their burdens of fear down to embrace love and forgiveness. I feel a call to let my voice and life ring out with this truth in an effort to hasten the day when it is our reality.

Away From Here. Right after my wife and I got married in Brazil, she is Brazilian, we had to be apart due to immigration difficulties. The stress leading up to that separation was intense, causing us to fight with hurtful words. Away From Here was my realization that life is too short to let anything harm the love I have for her. It's a plea for everyone to guard their tongues and liberate their love for one another.

Silent Like a Secret. The idea for this song came after a year of being married to my wife Michelle. She was away visiting family and I was alone wishing I was with her. I had a wonderful moment when I realized the new depth to which our love had grown. It was different than first falling in love. This was sweeter and more intoxicating. Like an interdependence had sprung to life making it hard to breathe, see and live away from her. It didn't need to be articulated to be true, which made it all the more powerful.

Better Way. Off our EP, this song has always been a favorite for STRIVE. We endeavored to write a song with that beat Coldplay always uses. You know the one I'm talking about if you listen to them. As this anthem was birthed the first words I sung were “one day, one day there will be a better way”. Those lyrics stuck and a song formed around it which tells of how humans continually succeed and fail. There exists a longing to be perfect, but we all fall short constantly. We'll never be perfect. That is either utterly depressing or a source of great hope. As a believer in Christ, it is a source of great hope to know that I have a Savior who turns my weaknesses into perfection.

Leave With Me. Possibly one of the hardest things in life is leaving the familiar to risk experiencing something new. When I met my wife, she was living in a tropical paradise, practicing law and on her way to being a Federal Prosecutor. We fell in love and she was faced with the choice to marry me and leave all she'd ever known or stay in Brazil. I still don't grasp what it cost her to leave family, friends, career and home. All I know is that I'm glad I asked and I'm blessed that she said yes. It's the stuff fairy tales are made of.

Good. A classic love story about the first time boy meets girl and his heart is so full it could burst. There isn't really any articulate way to explain the feelings, he just knows that the girl is all that matters in life. She is beautiful, looks so good that if he could spend the rest of his life just staring at her the world would be perfect. Of course, reality is left out of the equation, but sometimes it's a nice escape to dream.

Fire. Undoubtedly the most controversial song I've ever written. Also the purest and most romantic love song I've ever written. It's a celebration of the love, pleasure and intimacy a man and wife were created to share. Our culture paints great sex as happening with strangers, boyfriends & girlfriends. I believe culture needs the opposite message which says great sex takes place in the context of a committed marriage. It's not a soap box, just honesty. And honestly I couldn't write a song about sex and not make it sexy. Fire is meant to inspire young people to wait and first taste sex in marriage. Fire is meant to remind married couples that sex keeps a marriage alive and strong. Fire is meant to glorify the creator who lovingly gave the human race such an intimate language of love.