

1 Lysergic Acid

Words by Mike. Music by Ed.

By the end of the summer of 1980 I was becoming concerned that we were getting into a song writing rut. A pattern had developed where Mike and Dennis would write lyrics (separately) and I would then put those lyrics to music. I had hoped that all band members would have more equal participation in writing songs for the band. I came up with a project plan where each band member would write and record two songs of their own (the Joey Did Solo project). Ed and Dennis came through with product shortly before the band split up for about three weeks. Mike and I produced nothing. After the band reformed, however, the project was shelved indefinitely.

This track is one of two that Ed created for the Joey Did Solo project. Ed does all the singing and playing. Admittedly, it's not truly an Ed original because Mike wrote the lyrics and the music is a rip off of the *Public Image* song. But it's definitely headed in the right direction. I especially like the way he pans his vocals by recording through two microphones in continuous motion.

2 Whatever Happened To The 60s

Words and music by Dennis.

This track is the first of two that Dennis submitted for the Joey Did Solo project. Dennis does all the singing and playing. At the end of the song somebody claps and starts talking to Dennis. It sounds like his sister.

3 ...ing mine yon mon goey nay

One day after school, Ed and I tried to do a recording session at his house but we forgot to bring microphones. I knew that microphones and speakers were essentially the same kind of transducer so I tried using a pair of headphones as a microphone. I asked Ed to play drums while I spoke into the headphones. Having recently spent some time listening to a recording of an African guy and his talking drum, I spewed out the phrase, "ing mine yon mon goey nay". I had just made that phrase up.

4 Dog's Life

Words by Dennis. Music by Ed.

The genius that is Ed Dobek shines through in this fabulous track submitted for the Joey Did Solo project. Ed does all the singing and playing. In addition to dynamically panning the vocals he also makes excellent use of vocal dynamics during the line, "Turn on your radio". Not since Captain Sensible have I heard such a brilliant production. Bravo.

5 Eager Young Minds

Words and music by Dennis.

The second song Dennis submitted for the Joey Did Solo project. Dennis does all the singing and playing. I recall him playing a bass line in band practice for this song but he never recorded it on this track.

6 The Tree

Words by Mike. Music by Scott.

This track is a redone version of the same song from *Next Of Kin*. I do all the singing and playing. I had just had my wisdom teeth yanked out and was home for the day with my mouth full of bloody gauze and feeling like a piece of shit. I caterwauled my way through, doing my best John Lydon impersonation while barely being able to open my mouth. Ed thought I was doing an Alice Cooper impersonation on the line, "All was destroyed". Perhaps I was.

7 ...devil in the dark

I stumbled across a record that contained several outtakes from the *Devil In The Dark* episode of Star Trek. As most of the Joey Did members were rabid Star Trek fans, logically I inserted these outtakes amongst tracks on our basement tapes. While practicing, we would often jokingly say "take 79" just prior to starting a song (in reference to the many takes we did of *God Save The Queen* from our first practice). On these Star Trek outtakes they always start out with "take 62" or some similar number. Other than that, these outtakes have nothing to do with Joey Did, but they are fun to listen to.

8 ...what's this rot

This is us arguing between takes of *Modern Times Rot 'n' Roll*. There seems to be some confusion about where the guitar solo is supposed to go. Dennis then tries his best to mess us up during the count off. One of the amplifiers is acting as a radio receiver.

9 Modern Times Rot 'n' Roll

This is our rendition of Queen's *Modern Times Rock 'n' Roll*. We briefly considered playing this song with slightly modified lyrics, but we never managed to play it once all the way through. Also, knowing how fickle the punk crowd was, we thought it best not to play a Queen song no matter how much we mangled it. Mike's vocals are fabulous. He comes across as the epitome of a teenage brat; you just want to walk up and smack him a good one. Fingernails drawn across a chalkboard come in second place to this performance. The track ends with a bit of sarcasm from Dennis, "Boy, are we having fun today".

Many years later, some members of SNFU heard this very recording and thinking it was an original Joey Did song, asked us if they could cover it. When we told them it was a Queen song they also decided not to play it. Screw politics, I say. If it's a good song, who cares who wrote it.

10 ...devil in the dark

Another outtake from the *Devil In The Dark* episode of Star Trek.

11 ...tacks in my system

We often used Ed's stereo system as a P.A. during band practice. One day I discovered that if I held a microphone near the speakers and moved it around while switching it on and off, I could get all manner of pitches, rather like a Theremin. This track is an example of how annoying the effect was.

12 Taxing My System (extended)

Words by Mike. Music by Ed.

A silly version of *Taxing My System* with an extended ending. The song is supposed to end with each instrument stopping in succession over a repeated phrase: first guitar, then bass, then vocals, and finally drums. Ed had made up a complicated drum pattern to play during the ending that was rather tiring to play. In this performance, Dennis doesn't stop playing the phrase; he just keeps going. He motions to me to keep going and I join back in as well. When Ed notices what we're doing he starts yelling "Stop it, shut up, fuck you" and various other things. Ed can yell very loudly. Even without a microphone he can be heard overtop of the instruments. Ed goes into a manic drum solo and the song eventually comes to a halt. Dennis then asks Ed, "Did we go too long for you?"

Anthony can be heard playing harmonica in the background throughout this track. Too bad the song is in A and the harmonica was in C, or G, or some other incompatible key. Yuck.

13 ...devil in the dark

Another outtake from the *Devil In The Dark* episode of Star Trek.

14 ...senseless bickering

This track features several false takes of *Blitzkrieg Bop* with ample bickering. In the first take, Anthony is playing a harmonica that sounds awful because it is in the wrong key for the song. Ed protests the use of the harmonica and stops playing. We try a second take, sans harmonica, and I purposely go off on a tangent citing, "(it's) my turn to be an asshole". Meanwhile, Dennis is having a paranoid trip and accuses us of screwing around on purpose so that he'll quit the band (which was not true). Anthony points out that Dennis only has two strings on his bass. Dennis had broken two strings earlier that day and had no replacements so we had to choose our songs carefully. Not a banner day.

15 Blitzkrieg Bop

Our rendition of the Ramones song, played with only two strings on the bass. But free of senseless bickering and that out of key harmonica.

16 ...tapehead

One day, for no apparent reason, Ed wrapped his head up in duct tape and proceeded to play drums like a maniac with his arms flailing about in the air. It looked hilarious and we were laughing in hysterics. Ed's mom heard us and came down to the basement to see what was going on. She walked into the room and looked straight at Ed. Ed immediately stopped playing, jumped down behind the drums, and tore the tape off his head as quickly as possible. He was very embarrassed. We laughed even more.

17 ...devil in the dark

Another outtake from the *Devil In The Dark* episode of Star Trek.

18 ...live from leeds

There was a brief period in September 1980 when Mike quit the band. During that period Dennis, Ed, and I continued to have band practices but they weren't very productive. On this track, Dennis and

Ed are both playing guitars while I am playing drums. Ed announces, "Live from Leeds presents... The Who" and we break into a ridiculous version of *My Generation* with Dennis on vocals. Following that disaster, Ed trains me to strike various pieces of drum kit on command.

19 Eating Brains

Music by Scott, Dennis, Ed.

This track is an improvisation best described as an exercise in difficult listening. We had recently seen the Braineaters perform at a hall party. We were not very impressed and figured we could make something up that sounded just like them. Recorded during a period when Mike had quit the band, Dennis moans and plays bass lines on a guitar, Ed plays drums, and I play feedback guitar. Feel free to skip ahead to the next track.

20 ...devil in the dark

Another outtake from the *Devil In The Dark* episode of Star Trek.

21 Modern Western World (slow)

Words by Dennis, Scott. Music by Scott.

One day, just for fun, we tried to record an acoustic version of *Modern Western World*. It took us hours because Mike and Dennis couldn't sing the song without laughing their faces off. It was funny in the beginning but I quickly became frustrated at their inability to concentrate on the task at hand. Most of the afternoon was spent playing the first verse over and over as Mike and Dennis laughed and I yelled at them. Several hours after Dennis had left the practice and Mike had sufficiently lost the giggles, we managed to get a basic take down with me playing bass. I then took that recording and overdubbed guitars and a synthesizer. Unfortunately, without Dennis, we were not able to have any vocal harmonies.

22 ...devil in the dark

Another outtake from the *Devil In The Dark* episode of Star Trek.

23 ...shades of band practice

A bit of tomfoolery while getting ready to play the next song. Dennis points at Ed and says, "You, play" and Ed cries "Noooo" in anguish. Ed then follows up with his impersonation of a big dumb guy. Dennis and Ed then treat us to a sample of the upcoming Joey Did Rawk Show.

24 Shades Of Destruction

Words by Dennis, Scott. Music by Scott.

A truly awful and justly reviled song. I don't know what we were thinking when we wrote this one.

25 ...head

This is a snippet from the Monkee's movie *Head*. I found it on the same record that I got the Star Trek outtakes from. It has nothing to do with Joey Did, other than providing some comic relief.

26 ...are you ready to rawk

At one practice, just for fun, we tried to do and say all those stupid things that we saw rock bands do during the 70s. This practice became known as the Joey Did Rawk Show. We considered doing this spoof at a future gig, but we never got up the nerve. Dennis was the only one who could do a convincing job of it. Here he announces *Crude City*.

27 Crude City

Words by Dennis. Music by Scott.

We added background vocals to the chorus in this version. Only Dennis should have been allowed to sing background vocals; I was hopeless, and Ed was even worse. At the end of the song I say to Dennis, “Don’t pick your nose and then play bass” and Ed does his impersonation of a little english boy.

28 ...a bad day trip

This track features some tense moments as we prepare to play *Day Tripper*. Dennis was not having a good day; he was convinced that we were purposefully trying to piss him off so that he would quit the band. This seemed to happen quite often, but it was simply not true.

29 Day Tripper

Without a doubt, this is absolutely the worst version of the Beatles’ *Day Tripper* that has ever been recorded. We never played this song live, and for good reason. Ed very reluctantly played this in practice on this day and this day only. Moments after this recording was made he flatly refused to ever play it again. Mike and I were appalled at the time, but I certainly agree with his decision now.

30 ...more senseless bickering

Mike explains why he sings with his lips in full contact with the microphone at all times. While I’m practicing the guitar solo to *Back In The Archipelago*, Dennis says, “Scott made a mistake again. Can you imagine if somebody found out that Scott makes mistakes?” To which Mike responds incredulously, “What?” Those guys were always teasing me because I was such a perfectionist. Sadly, I still am. We briefly break into Queen’s *Crazy Little Thing Called Love*, and then yell at each other for making too much noise while trying to start the next song.

31 Boredom

A dreadful rendition of a Buzzcocks song. We were never able to figure out the correct words for this song. I found them on the Internet a few years ago. Once again, we had most of them wrong. At the end of the song Dennis asks, “Hey guys, is that a take?” to which Ed replies, “Take 75”.

32 ...are you ready to rawk

Another sample from the Joey Did Rawk Show. I believe this is the encore.

33 My Generation

Yet another performance of The Who’s classic song. In this version we all take a turn at playing something during the bass solo: first Dennis, then myself, then Mike, and finally Ed. During the usual

feedback ending, Mike swirls the microphone in front of the speakers creating the same Theremin like sound that I did on track 11 of this disc.