

# SWAGGER

lyrics and liners

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THERE ARE LOTS OF THINGS TO LIKE ABOUT THIS LIFE. TO NAME A FEW...A GOOD FIRE, A SHARP KNIFE, A PILE OF WOOD YOU SPLIT YOURSELF, A GOOD FISHIN' HOLE, & GOOD FOLKS TO SHARE IT WITH. THERE'S A LOT FOR ME TO LIKE ABOUT THIS RECORD, TOO... LIKE BEING IN THE STUDIO WITH MY BAND, HAVING SOME GOOD FRIENDS MAKE CAMEOS, AND BEGINNING TO CARVE OUT A SOUND THAT SUITS ME. I AM BLESSED TO BE PART OF SUCH AN AMAZING COMMUNITY OF ARTISTS AND CONTRIBUTORS. THIS RECORD WAS MADE WITH A LOT OF HEART AND A LITTLE GRIT. I THINK THIS OLD WORLD COULD USE SOME MORE OF BOTH.

CARI RAY

## SPECIAL THANKS

...goes to **The Loaners** for your creative integrity and for lending your considerable talents to this project.

**Chuck**, thank you first for your friendship, but also for all of the time in the trenches with me as we worked together to make these songs the best they could be.

**Dionne**, thank you for lending your beautiful voice and creative passion to this endeavor.

**Jeff**, thank you for bringing a fresh approach to groove and for fitting right into our little circus.

**To Fellow Artists** who made special appearances on this record...it's a blessing to have world-class players like ya'll as neighbors and friends.

**Rev**, thank you for bringing vision and a passion to help me bring these songs to life.

**To my Brown County Family**, thank you for embracing me and supporting any and all of my creative fits and random bouts of self-expression.

**To Chelle**, thank you for being lovingly and unwaveringly in my corner at my best and worst...and for always remembering where I left my keys...

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## DON'T GET ME WRONG

CARI RAY

I won't promise you forever  
I don't hang around that long  
Not that that ain't right  
Don't get me wrong  
I don't sit in Sunday service  
But my faith is still as strong  
Not that that ain't right  
Don't get me wrong

**Don't get me wrong  
I know you mean so well  
You work so hard  
Just to ring that glory bell  
But if you've come here to tell me  
Just how to sing my song  
It ain't your right  
Don't get me wrong**

I don't go to work on Monday  
'Cause I never did belong  
Not that that ain't right  
Don't get me wrong  
Seems I'm keen to wander  
While most folks play along  
Not that that ain't right  
Don't get me wrong

CHORUS

Most folks are busy dreamin'  
While I'm playin' all night long  
Not that that ain't right  
Don't get me wrong  
Yeah, some prefer the quiet  
While I love to hear the throng  
Not that that ain't right  
Don't get me wrong

## IT'S ABOUT ME

CARI RAY

Baby, I've been thinkin'  
Life moves way too fast  
By the time you stop to catch your breath  
15 years have passed  
So honey, I've been takin' stock  
As I packed my things to go  
And sugar, just to ease your mind  
I wanted you to know

This ain't about your drinkin'  
Or stayin' out til four  
It ain't about how you don't kiss me  
Or touch me anymore  
It ain't even about your mother  
Or her philosophies  
This ain't about you at all

**It's about me, myself, nobody else  
Gonna make up my own mind  
It's about reachin' for what's next  
And lettin' go of what's behind  
I don't expect that you'll understand  
When you don't have eyes to see  
This ain't about you at all  
It's about me**

This ain't about every promise  
You couldn't seem to keep  
It ain't about your lyin'  
Or talkin' in your sleep  
Once you've had time to reflect  
I know that you'll agree  
This ain't about you at all

## WINE ABOUT IT

CARI RAY

Stuck at work again  
In a game that you can't win  
It ain't easy pickin' up the slack  
When the boss is on your back  
So tell 'em you won't take no more  
Grab your keys and hit the door  
'Cause you know  
You've been waitin' all week long  
To put your favorite blue jeans on

**And go and wine about it  
Take your time about it  
Won't nothin' clear your head  
Like a big ol' glass of red  
And a night just hangin' on the patio  
Come on, wine about it  
'Til you feel fine about it  
Won't nothin' make it right  
Like a little glass of white  
Come on, wine about it**

And if beer is more your style  
Or if tequila makes you smile  
Well honey, you know  
That just suits me fine  
You pick your poison  
I'll pick mine

CHORUS

And if a glass or two  
Won't get you there  
I've a bottle I can share

CHORUS

Your cares are far behind  
When you leave it on the vine  
Come on wine, wine about it

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## NOTHIN'

CARI RAY & TRAVIS HOWARD

Thought I'd write a song about nothin'  
'Cause nothin's what I like better than you  
I drove all over town looking for anything  
But honey, next to you, I got nothin'

And when I tried to tell my friends about us  
You know, I made it plain as it could be  
That in this whole wide world  
Full of something for everyone  
Babe, it's you or nothin' for me

**Nothin' says I should settle for less  
Babe, I'm here to tell you nothin's wrong  
'Cause me and you  
Go together like Ps & Qs  
Only one thing beats you  
Dancin' in my arms  
Nothin'**

I see myself as pretty optimistic  
There's always half of somethin' in my glass  
But if that prom queen in the corner  
Don't quit givin' you the eye  
I might just have to kick that  
Prom queen's ass

## BARELY GETTIN' BY

CARI RAY

We was livin' in a loft  
Just made for one  
Sleepin' in a tiny bed  
Havin' so much fun  
Didn't have no money  
All we had was time  
Livin' on macaroni  
And drug store wine

**But oh babe, can you tell me  
How long has it been  
My love, just like my patience  
It is wearin' so thin  
Each night you're as cold  
As a sno cone in July  
I miss the old days  
When we were barely gettin' by**

We live in a highrise  
The hell downtown  
Sleepin' in a king size bed  
Whenever you're around  
Got plenty of bread now  
But got no time  
Washin' down happy pills  
With the finest of wine

## CHORUS

So here we stand  
At the end of the line  
Baby, you just wasted  
Life number nine  
Here we hang  
At the end of my rope  
You're beggin' please  
But the answer's still no

## SO BAD

CARI RAY

Well, I wanted to love you so bad  
I wanted to love you so bad  
You were the sweetest thing I'd ever had  
And I wanted to love you so bad

Well, I wanted to hold you so close  
Lord, I wanted to hold you so close  
To feel you here inside me just like the Holy  
Ghost  
And I wanted to hold you so close

**But I've never been a lover  
For stayin' on too long  
You woke up one mornin'  
To nothin' but this song**

Well, I wanted to give you my hand  
Yeah, I wanted to give you my hand  
Stand on the mountain, sit on the sand  
And I wanted to give you my hand

And I wanted to stay here with you  
Lord, I wanted to stay here with you  
Thought that it might be the least I could do  
And I wanted to stay here with you

## CHORUS

And I wanted to love you so bad  
Yeah, I wanted to love you so bad  
You were the sweetest thing I'd ever had  
And I wanted to love you so bad  
I wanted to love you so bad  
I wanted to love you

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## TIME

CARI RAY

Look in the mirror, what do I see  
The mother of my childhood stares at me  
Is that a wrinkle I see there  
Could that be silver in my hair  
Seems the evidence is clear  
Question is  
How did I get here

Wish that you were on my side  
I'm thinking now you took me for a ride  
I'm mad as hell you left and that's a fact  
I've half a mind to try and buy you back  
Didn't count the days  
You called my name  
Seems that they were numbered  
Just the same

**Time, why have you run from me  
After all that we've been through  
Are you just done with me  
We were so happy once upon yourself  
Now you're busy wastin' you  
On someone else  
I never saw the day  
You'd run out on me**

I was young and I was free  
I traded both for wisdom don't you see  
Now I'm old enough to miss the youth I lack  
And wise enough to want my freedom back  
Somewhere along the way  
You learned to fly  
Should have felt the breeze  
As you were passin' by

CHORUS

It's been said there is a time  
For everything there is a time  
So tell me, where the hell is mine

## NO BACKSEAT DRIVER

CARI RAY

When you met me, you were had  
Wanted to become my lover  
So damned bad  
Now we're standin' down the road  
Baby, those days were  
A million years ago  
You've been tryin' to nag me  
Into someone new  
Baby, here's the old me  
With some news for you

**What I need from a lover  
Is to let me be my own  
Baby, I know where I'm goin'  
And I don't need no backseat driver, no**

I go out, you wonder why  
Don't ask baby if you  
Don't want me to lie  
I stay home, you start in  
Makes me look for reasons  
To go out again  
Don't think you can stand there  
And tell me what to do  
'Cause I got my own mama  
And she don't look like you

CHORUS

Somethin' here has got to give  
'Cause you know baby  
This just ain't no way to live  
Shut your mouth, and let me drive  
Take my hand and you just  
Might enjoy the ride  
You go on, be all of you  
And I'll be all of me  
It might fall apart that way  
Baby, let's just see

## SECOND THOUGHT

CARI RAY

Starin' down the barrel  
Of another dead-end day  
Lord, it just ain't Christian  
Them workin' you this way  
Ain't that what you always say  
Your first thought is to quit  
Take your last week's pay and split  
But on second thought  
You'll stay right where you are  
Lord, you'll only climb as far  
As your second thought  
Your second thought

Checked out for a moment  
Thinking of the night before  
No one ever left you  
In a puddle on the floor  
Begg'in' them for more  
Your first thought is to fall  
Bet your heart and risk it all  
But on second thought  
You'll play it safe again  
Spend a lifetime givin' in  
To your second thought

Climb up on the ledge  
Let your heart lead you instead  
Of your second thought  
If your first thought is to fly  
Spread your wings until you're high  
You might find who you are  
From out behind the bars  
Of your second thought  
Your second thought

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## WADE ON IN

CARI RAY

It's been some time since you've been able  
To lay some bread upon your table  
You've been wonderin'  
How a good Lord could just stand by  
You see, my friend, you've got to trust Him  
Even when your sinkin' boat is rustin'  
Maybe that water's just the thing  
Your spirit needs

**Come my son, come my daughter  
Bring your cares to the Holy water  
Muddy river gonna wash your sins away  
Let the mighty Wabash be your Jordan  
Wade on in, just like the Lord done  
Drown your body, know your soul  
Has been delivered**

I see you're weary from your cryin'  
I see your faith slowly dyin'  
I bet you're wonderin'  
How a good Lord could just stand by  
He wants to heal your situation  
Consider this your invitation  
To add some water to your faith  
And watch it grow