

# David Elias ~ Crossing

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**DSD**  
Direct Stream Digital

**STEREO**  
Multi-ch



SUPER AUDIO CD

SONOMA

Musicians on this recording include:

David Elias, Sally Van Meter, Matt Flinner, Marc Dalio, Eric Thorin, Eric Moon

David Phillips, Peter Tucker, Chris Kee, John Havard, Reid Dennis

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Crossing is about transition. On a napkin in a Vietnamese restaurant I wrote the outline of what I see as the steps through transition: Realization and Recognition, Forgiveness and Healing, Opening Doors, Letting Go, Seeking the Highest Place Possible, Transition, Accepting the Crossing, Questions, Contemplation and Reflection...I realized then that Crossing's final song list was in the same order.

## 11. Changing Down [4:29]

See my cup go flowing  
See my cup go running over  
See my cup go flowing down

See my colors changing  
See my red go into white now  
See my colors changing down

More than this I can't say how  
Everything else changing  
There's still a light above your brow  
Everything else changing down

See the rest I'm taking  
Rest comes easy outside harm's way  
See the rest I'm taking down

See the walls they're closing  
Close to this I can't say how  
See the walls they're closing down

David Elias ~ Acoustic Guitar, Vocal and Harmonica  
Sally Van Meter ~ Weissenborn Guitar: #1, 2, 5, 9; Dobro: 3, 7  
Matt Flinner ~ Mandolin: #1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11  
Eric Thorin ~ Upright Bass: #1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10  
Eric Moon ~ Keyboards: #7; Accordion: #10  
Marc Dalio ~ Drums: #1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 10  
Chris Kee ~ Upright Bass: #4, 8, 11, 12  
David Phillips ~ Pedal Steel: #4, 12  
John Havard ~ Electric Guitar: #4  
Peter Tucker ~ Drums: #4, 12  
Reid Dennis ~ Percussion: #6  
Erin Humphrey ~ Organ: #9

Tracks #7 and 10 recorded at Immersive Studios, Boulder  
DSD Recording: Gus Skinas, Live Mix: Jeff Shuey  
All other tracks recorded at Slipperworld, La Honda, CA  
DSD Recording and Live Mix: Charlie Natzke  
All songs mixed for stereo and 5.1 surround by Gus Skinas  
Mastering and SA-CD Authoring by Gus Skinas  
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Produced and Arranged by David Elias

## 12. If I Had My Way [5:00]

If I had my way I'd be lying in a field  
Studying the sky, listen to you breathe  
Measuring the blues right up against the greens  
Moving to the stones that lie under my feet

But I don't have a tree to fall under  
Or a bag full of stones to crawl under  
I'll smile for awhile at the thunder  
And dream about the day I can say I had my way

If I stood my ground I'd be taller than I am  
Like running up a hill or running through the sand  
Measuring those blues right up against the greens  
Moving to the stones that lie under my feet

But I don't have a tree to fall under  
Or a bag full of bones to crawl under  
I'll smile for awhile at the thunder  
And dream about the day I can say I had my way

My gratitude goes out to everyone who worked with me on this recording in any way, especially to the musicians who travelled to Slipperworld and put their souls into the songs. Thanks to Charlie for getting up to speed on computers in time, for making things so relaxed at Slipperworld and then nailing the live mixes so well! Many thanks to Gus for his incredible mixing and mastering skills and to Tony for just being there during the recordings.

Most of these songs were recorded as live takes with no overdubs. Exceptions to that approach are tracks #4, 9 and 12 which introduced the electric instruments as overdubs. This SA-CD was recorded directly to DSD and captured the natural ambient characteristics of the band and the room with the intention of mixing for both stereo and 5.1 surround sound. With that in mind, we used a minimal approach to microphones and seated the musicians in a circle.

This recording is dedicated to my mom and dad who brought me here and helped teach me to be creative.





#### 9. Above The Creek [3:17]

They told me kids were to be seen and not to speak  
I heard those wise words once or twice a week  
Come Saturday I'd find my hand in cheek  
In the ash up on that hill above that creek

And those desperados chased me through the corn  
Savages were taking me by storm  
And just as things were getting rather bleak  
I'm in the ash up on that hill above that creek

And those memories come take me don't go crying  
Tragedy forsake me you'll be dying

So if imaginary friends don't come to play  
You're feeling kind of lonesome in the day  
The strong arms that will hold you when you're weak  
Are in the ash up on that hill above that creek

#### 8. One More Savior [4:58]

Sunset flavors, shadows waver  
Only time for one more savior  
Wishful thinking, summer sinking  
It's all in how we labor on

Sunday choir singing higher  
Trying hard to fill the empty hall  
Ash on Wednesday, ash on Thursday  
Dust to dust it's no special thing at all

How well we know ourselves  
How well we know ourselves  
How well we know ourselves

#### 10. The Riddle Song [2:36]

I took a little piece of thread from the pillow on my bed  
I put it underneath my arm to keep it safe and keep it warm  
It found its way into my heart  
Where it was destined from the start  
That's the way it goes, ain't that the way it goes

I picked a penny from the floor  
Walking through the hardware store  
I put it into my old shoe, it seemed to be the thing to do  
It found its way into my soul filling up an empty hole  
That's the way it goes, ain't that the way it goes

A feather landed on my knee  
When I was leaning 'gainst a tree  
It wasn't any kind of test  
Just looking for a place to rest  
It found its way under my skin  
Grew to spread its wings within  
That's the way it goes, ain't that the way it goes



#### 2. Mend My Mind [4:01]

Mend my mind on a summer day  
Arguello said what he had to say  
No one wants it any other way  
So mend my mind on a summer day

Mend my heart on the open shore  
Where winds will blow then they blow some more  
Colors fade away from rich to poor  
Mend my heart on the open shore

Clear my head on an autumn day  
The sun is strong and the winds are grey  
The party's over ain't no one would stay  
So clear my head on the autumn day

There's nothing wrong with a rainy day  
The skies may cry for yesterday  
Winds will sing to find another way  
There's nothing wrong with that rainy day

#### 1. Crossing (Lonely Bells) [4:16]

I used to hear those lonely bells  
Ringing in the middle of a Sunday morning  
Like from the bottom of a wishing well  
And no one to reach down there  
And turn them down

Then I'd go walking up Blake  
And turn down Evans Street  
Around the corner from those vacant lots  
I learned that loneliness must be where  
Friendship and the road meet  
I was younger then but I learned a lot

You're picking up a well worn load  
You take it down a lonely road  
You need another place to go now

I still think I hear some of them lonely bells  
Ringing in the middle of my daydream  
Then I push on off I think what the hell  
I might as well be right back on Patrick Street

#### 3. Close My Eyes [3:30]

I close my eyes and criticize and sympathize  
Rest upon my dying day  
I breathe the words the ones you heard  
That story blurred  
I watch them as they drift away

And I close my eyes  
To that cold and windy day  
I close my eyes  
I don't want to see again  
Close my eyes  
To the higher window  
I don't know what time it closes

I paint that picture while they lecture pure conjecture  
I deny that river why  
I seek the desert for the love that lusts to wander  
Through the womb of fire and sky

4. Morning Light / Western Town [5:59]

Morning light, western town  
Morning light, western town  
Roadside crosses lay me down

You can read it on the red brick  
When you are up against the wall  
Some said they saw you flying  
Some said they saw you fall  
No matter where you're walking  
You're underneath it all

Is that a piece of paper that you're holding  
Is that a prayerbook in your hand  
Written in some foreign language  
From some obscure promised land  
No matter what they're saying  
You still don't understand

You can't beat the big prediction  
You can't estimate the odds  
You can't treat a false addiction  
With some even falser Gods  
You wander cross the planet  
With your head up in the clouds

5. Rodeo On A Ridge [3:03]

The water under the bridge  
Echos the rain outside  
Morning and sun become one  
Mile after mile  
Wave with a smile  
Rodeo on a ridge

The meadow we climbed was high  
We didn't know how high then  
Glacier cut through that skyline  
Blue ice on blue  
How much of it you  
Rodeo on a ridge

And prayers are for the poets  
This song sings to that mountain time  
All you knew and now you know it  
Everything you left behind

6. Red Tail Guide [5:37]

Red tail guiding me alone  
Red tail guiding me alone  
And how will I know just when it's safe at home  
Red tail guiding me alone

Casts of thousands  
Originals all on their own  
Stalk the countryside  
Looking for someone they've known  
And in the evening time  
Roll it up and roll it out  
For one more red tail healer guide

Redwing burden's laid aside  
Redwing burden's laid aside  
And how will I know  
Just when it's safe inside  
Redwing burden's laid aside

Uptown singers know just how to say the words  
Downtown ring it out beneath the river's dirty rain  
Small time dealer boys roll it up and roll it out for  
One more red tail healer guide  
One more red tail healer guide

7. Heaven's Destiny [3:44]

The moon was golden just like the sun  
Clouds were furrowed just like your brow  
These days of old have just begun  
To catch up back where we are now

And those dreams of gold don't grow on trees  
They seek the bottom of the sea  
When you are old and look like me  
You'll follow heaven's destiny

Dreams of old have just begun  
Shining through the dust and sun  
When you are old and you look like me  
Remember heaven's destiny

That ring of fire may burn some wings  
Sure as the crow and sparrow sings  
Well they'll float on down to easy street  
And call it heaven's destiny

Red sky guiding all my dreams  
Red sky guiding all my dreams  
Burns my memory  
It leaves me in between  
Red sky guiding all my dreams

