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*Songs based on the novel Born Confused
by Jimmie Desai*

Back in the day when the world was upside down...

INTRODUCTION

B&T

By Tanuja Desai
Hidier & Robert
Dunn

I got holes in my new jeans, henna in my hair/ A hole in my two hearts, an apathetic stare/ Although I'm a good girl Maasi says Saturn's luck/ It's just 'cause I'm single and won't wear a frock ♪ CHORUS: They say we're desi, they say we're so/ Culturally clueless but our roots still show/ All the ways we cross the bridge and tunnel ♪ They rag on my clothes; I gag on my nose rings/ Always say who you protesting with those things/ Why don't you love the Shankars, why

don't you do the oms/ But I'm down with Tony Bennett and I'm hot for Norah Jones/ Yeah! ♪ CHORUS: They say we're desi, they say we're so/ Wannabe blond-blond baby but our roots still show/ All the ways we cross the bridge and tunnel ♪ They've been going at it since we were born/ Confused Desi Messy American/ And we wonder how to get relief/ When we got our own thing going on/ They say: Baby, hey I read the Kama Sutra/ I say: Maybe I read Vogue, Time Out, and Nietzsche/ They say: Honey, eating with the hands, that's sexy/ I say: Funny, I

just always found it messy/ I got Krishna in my kitchen and Bobby in my bed/ Sometimes I think I'm Christian 'cause I give such guilty headaches/ They say, Baby, how you gonna choose your world/ I say, Lately, I'm just not that kind of girl/ Confusion and solution seem to me to be the same/ See me for me not you, the culture's new, and then you'll know my name/ Yeah! ♪ CHORUS: They say we're desi, they say we're so/ Bollywow tao of now but how our roots will show/ All the ways we cross the bridge and tunnel.

CHAPTER 2 SMILE! IT'S OVER

Words by Tanuja Desai Hidier & Robin Price

Music by Jon Fiber & Robin Price

A photograph in black, I'm blue/ It was the one that meant the most to you/ The one you'd choose/ And now I'm hearing all these lies/ A gift for grief I recognize the true/ Hallmark of you ♪ CHORUS Well now I know that it's over/ So I won't wait for an answer from you/ Like they all wait for an answer/ Like they all wait for an answer from you/ Smile! Just smile/ 'Cause it's over/ Smile 'cause it's over/ Ever so over ♪ You

snapped me in, you shot me out/ You thought you'd spotted someone you could use/ Is that your view/ But all illusions that you sold/ I'll dodge and burn till you're exposed: It's you/ Born Confused/ CHORUS / And so I find myself again/ Third wheeling round the bend/ It's never clear as black and white/ Shades of grey are playing in her eyes/ So now I hear you want me back/ Well thanks for that, tell you what I'll do/ Just for you/ I'll hang around so you can want/ And want until your jealous eyes are full/ Nights are cruel ♪ CHO-

RUS: Wait till hell freezes over/ And you might just get your answer from me/ Until hell freezes over/ You can wait there for the answer you seek/ Smile! Just smile! 'Cause it's over/ Smile 'cause it's over/ Ever so over/ You're getting older/ Yeah, it's over.

CHAPTER 3 BORN TWO

By Jeff Cohen,
Tanuja Desai Hidier,
& Mike Shimshack

Lean in a little nearer/ And let me whisper it into your ear/ It is this everything and nothing burning under my skin/ A stranger or a sane twin, well have you got a minute/ Or a lifetime to tell/ Well, I used to

GLOSSARY

ABCD n (now) 1: All Born Creative Dreamers 2 : archaic (then): American Born Confused Desi

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Chapter 3 by UNSUITABLE GIRL.
Afterwords made by MUKUL.

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Jeff: www.PanchosLament.com.
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B&T (Mukul's Hoboken Boho Dub)© 2004 Tanuja Desai Hidier (BMI)/Mukul Patel (Copyright Control). Do the Dimple Lala© 2004 Tanuja Desai Hidier.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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two blue emeralds/ You will forget the way to that place/ Or the curve of his heart when he loved you/ When he loved you/ When he loved you/ Be afraid of the forest/ Seek only comforting angels/ Be afraid of tomorrow/ No one will ever have loved you/ When you loved you/ And now you want it all in thrall/ Hold still/ Don't say a word/ Hold still/ Try not to blink/ Hold still/ Haven't you heard/ It's time to forget what you woke up to dream/ You will get used to this, you will/ You will get used to this bitter pill/ On the tip of your tongue, don't you say it.

CHAPTER 6
WHEN WE WERE TWINS
Words by Tanuja Desai Hidier & Robin Price

Music by Jon Fiber, Robin Price, & Anne-Marie Tueje

Back in the day/ When the world was upside down/ Sky blue conversation playing/ Till the rain came down/ Through our skin/ How did this begin/ And a part of me you fit in
CHORUS: And we were twins/ When we were twins
CHORUS: Back to today/ Got my two feet on the ground/ Head unclouded; heart now shrouded/ Can't hear a sound/ Thicker skin/ Stop the world; get in/ Nothing more to lose nor to win/ CHORUS / And the world was glittering/ And we never missed a thing/ I'll for-

ever miss you/ You/ What would I do/ In a world without you/ You will never be without me/ Wasn't that the rule/ They came in/ And we lost something/ Where I'm leaving off you begin/ CHORUS

CHAPTER 7
DANCING BY MYSELF

By Tanuja Desai Hidier, Jen Reader, & Anne-Marie Tueje

Hostage but don't be scared now/ Breathe in but don't be scared/ I just can't let you go/ These things take you unaware now/ But these things make me so aware/ That I can't let you go/ I just can't let you go
CHORUS: Because I am sick of dancing by myself
CHORUS / One time 'cause it's on me yeah/ I just want to feel complete/

Wanted a debonair ride/ We swing and then we sway
CHORUS: ... You know I am sick of dancing by myself/ I'm sick of dancing
CHORUS / I hear my star sign/ Sounds like you/ Reminded me of something/ My head jumbles up with nothing/ A memory of a dream/ Swinging thump of bass to drum/ The heart of someone waiting/ Or so it seems/ Yes it seems/ We were one and we were all/ And we always want it all/ And this DJ's got my song/ Everyone was dancing.../ With myself/ We are caught in our own web/ We are caught, can't stop dancing/ We are caught, sick of dancing/ CHORUS

CHAPTER 8
SARI
By Tanuja Desai Hidier, Atom Fellows, & John Fig

...there's no place like home. Sari plays/ From her room out to the stars/ But they'll never hear her heart (Dhage na Dha, Dhage na Dha, Dha Dha, tiri kita)/ It beats behind/ Suffocate that lullaby/ She can't get out of her mind/ And she dreams/ Ye mere dilka sangeet hain
CHORUS: On the stage it's just a show/ But they never care to know/ Sari/ On the stage it's just a show/ But it starts to feel like home/ Sari
CHORUS: Sari knows/ Home is just a hole inside/ A stitch that's never in time/ (Hey, they say/ Come out and play/ Undress

your wounds we're here to taste/ But they'll never know her name/ (Sari, are you sorry now)/ And she screams/ Ye mere dilka sangeet hain
CHORUS: On the stage it's just a show/ All it takes is one to know/ Sari...
CHORUS: There's no place no place no place that's yours/ There's no face no face no face that's sure/ It's a phase a phase a phase (of course)/ It's a phase a phase a phase (it's more)/ Maybe there's no place no trace no core/ There's no place like home...
CHAPTER 9
COSMOPOLITAN
By Sebastian Breugnot, Tanuja Desai Hidier, & Atom Fellows
Wide-eyed won-

der and the city is mine/ Tall tall buildings cut their teeth in the night/ Manhole unfolds rolling out steam/ All your genies and demons are trapped just beneath/ Hot flash tunnel, a vampire is born/ Turnstile touch really turns me on/ Window blue glow sych-blink sitcom/ All the lights on and nobody home
CHORUS: Cosmopolitan in hand/ You seem stranger in a strange land
Billboard girls bored skinning the roofs/ Their smiles tell lies but the price tells the truth/ Red hot, you're not, who's got the most/ And this boy in my bed is fighting your ghost / CHORUS / You're a

stranger/ But the country makes me worry/ The owl's persistent who/ Roar-roar of the lawnmowers/ When I think of you/ Always washing your car/ You seem stranger in a strange land/ Why I wonder did you chose to defect/ To pine-lined drives, your trash uncollected/ While here I feast on these black-veined streets/ You are turning suburban so casual/ CHORUS / You're a stranger/ Across the river makes me shiver/ The terrifying sky/ The door to door Jehovahs/ And the cooling pies/ In the no-stick pans...

CHAPTER 10
DEFAULT HAPPINESS
By Robin Price

Default happiness/ Can you hear me calling/ I am in distress/ Love needs re-installing/ Sometimes I'm skipping off of the rails on the wrong track/ But if you talk me through it I could get it back/ Before happiness/ I was burning/ I don't understand/ Mist returning/ You say you love me now but I can't find the heart to repeat it/ Can't look you in the eyes though I've tried, I'm defeated/ Love was not found/ Love/ Unavailable/ Love was not found/ Love/ Unavailable/ Was not found/ Unattainable/ Is it sound/ To follow what my heart says or listen to my

head/ Should I stick around or is it time to back away/ And if I hit return would I feel the same again/ Feel sane again/ Default happiness/ I stop falling/ Now I understand/ Love is reinstalling/ I came through every trial to the one last thing that I needed/ Somewhere inside your smile I belong - I completed/ Love, yes I found/ Love/ Is available/ Love, yes I found/ Love/ Unassailable/ Yes I found/ Love is the best sound/ L-O-V-E please flow through me/ All you need is to believe me truly/ She is not wise who tries to analyze a feeling/ Look too hard and you lose the

meaning/ So dream with me what I am dreaming/ Dream with me what I am dreaming/ Dream with me what I am dreaming/ Dream with me/ I am dreaming.

CHAPTER 11
PIECE OF SKY
Words by Tanuja Desai Hidier

Music by Tanuja Desai Hidier, Jon Fiber, Robin Price, & Anne-Marie Tueje

Uncloud your Aladdin lamp/ A wish is burning in your hand/ And I don't recognize this place/ Running out of strata/ Well I'm losing all the data/ And we're heading into outer space/ I wish I could believe in every word from your mouth/ Heaven hidden in us and we're letting it out/ And

it's glowing/ And we're showing/ Don't know which way this one's going/ But now I'm smoking you out
CHORUS: Do you want to buy a piece of sky/ Do you want to be a part of me/ Do you want to wait for my reply/ Do you want to buy a piece of sky
CHORUS: Upon a lifetime we just didn't connect/ Scattering our lifelines; I'm a cause you effect/ But this feeling/ Got me going/ Now I see the pattern growing/ I'll keep holding my breath/ Do you want to try/ Do you want to try/ CHORUS / Checking out the cumulus/ Now I know why there's such a fuss/ And you're put-

ting on a funny face/ Now can you see the cirrus/ Coming out of both of us/ And we're heading to your inner grace/ Trying day and night not to feel anything/ Figured you'd fly off on another love's wings/ But you're grounded/ I'm astounded/ I'm a high kite whipping round you/ But still you're reeling me in/ CHORUS / Won't you wait for me?

CHAPTER 12

COME TRUE By Tanuja Desai Hidier & Atom Fellows

Once upon a time/ Child wished on a planet/ A wish undefined/ But she knew you were in it/ And now I find you/ Right here like you've always been beside me/ My love, my

light/ It was worth all of the wondering years to find you/ And this/ Once upon a time/ Girl wished on a candle/ While they sang Happy Birthday, baby/ She closed her eyes, wishing you well/ When it rained I wondered/ Did he carry his big enough umbrella/ On my dark street I stood knowing/ It would lead winding to the lucky lane where you dreamed/ Of her/ I hope my dream comes true/ I hope my dream comes true/ I wish my dreams come true/ Once upon a time/ Fallen lash that I wished on/ Blew it into the night, thought maybe/ I'd ask it to see you home/ When I

lay me down, dear/ I saved a special seat for you in my prayers/ I missed you for so long/ Before I'd ever even known you/ And now I'm holding you/ And now that wish has come true/ Come true.

EPILOGUE

GENERATIONS

By Rajiv Desai,
Tanuja Desai Hidier,
& Atom Fellows

She lies down laughing/ And I tear myself away/ Bombay to Brooklyn/ Newspapers from yesterday/ Headlines and numbers/ What do they really mean/ It's one or the other/ But I'm not sure which is really me ♣ CHORUS: And generations loom/ Will they bless us/ Will they cry out in pain, will they/

A heart is a home/ Preserve it / And remind me of today ♣ Ring on her finger/ Village gets in my dream/ The circle draws clearer/ Clues layer my reverie/ Trees sing in whispers/ A tale of year upon years/ Belly grows listening/ And now I find you were always here/ CHORUS / So make a wish upon this star, child/ It's the same one that she wished upon/ Hair long and heart wild/ When she cast her prayer/ And a generation later you appear/ Haven't I met you/ Someplace someface before/ History or destiny/ Your eyes remind of tomorrows/ Timelines and borders/ Where

did it all begin/ Love's sweet disorder/ The only state that I find us in/ CHORUS

AFTERWORDS

BONUS REMIX: B&T (MUKUL'S HOBOKEN BOHO DUB), FEAT. DJ REKHA ON THE ABC

B&T by Tanuja Desai
Hidier & Robert
Dunn

DO THE DIMPLE LALA by Tanuja Desai Hidier

Switch your head side to side/ Namaste and flip the thumbs up/ The bird's next; don't hide/ You just hike your sari skirt up/ Shake your dhagri till it's sugary and the jaggery turns to gur/ Let your eyes Kathakali to Saturday Night Fever/ Swing and shoot the arrow catch the demon like

you're Durga/ Rock lobster to the ground and just chill out a little wouldya/ Dance get enhanced like you've never danced clever before/ Take a chance second glance now or never's ever happily for/ Now that you found your color/ Go way beyond get other/ We're all sisters and brothers/ Our blood's all the same color/ Just do the Dimple Lala/ They all say aaray waah waah/ Just do the Dimple Lala/ They all say aaray waah waah/ If we make money off ya/ Well waah waah what's it to you/ Just do the Dimple Lala/ Just do the Dimple Lala...

steer clear/ Good girl parole that they sold me for years/ Fearing a world undone, asunder, don't it make you wonder/ The barriers and blunders, we draw the lines and run from/ Even trusting ourselves/ Hell, I was ♣ CHORUS: Born Confused/ Seeking signs, reminders, clues/ Neither here nor there/ Is now at last a You Are Here/ And I guess you could say I'm falling in love with you/ All that time in between the lines, well I thought you knew/ Truth be known, now I've grown there's nowhere I'd rather be/ And guess what ♣ You're a kindred spirit/ And I sure am digging all the

parts that don't fit/ So well: Unselectable selection, but beautiful connection/ It's stranger than the fiction, we only got to live it/ No more goodbyes to tell/ Hello! ♣ CHORUS: ... there's no one I'd rather be/ And guess what/ ♣ It's staring baring daring me even as we speak/ I'm wishing blissing missing you even when you sleep ♣ CHORUS: Born to Fuse/ Now I know that I can choose/ So my dear we're nearly there/ And now at last you are here/ No doubt you can shout I've fallen in love with you/ The weather's fine on the borderline 'cause you feel it too/ In your soul is your home and

your om's where I wanna be/ And guess what/ You know what/ I'm even liking me.

CHAPTER 4

COWGIRLS & INDIE BOYS I, II, III

By Tanuja Desai
Hidier, Atom Fellows,
& Anne-Marie Tueje

PART I You roused the ghost town in my heart/ Lowdown: show-down, go down smart/ True, didn't you say/ We come to things in our own way/ No float you rode in this parade/ Yes, you guessed, I was dismayed/ Slow down/ Two of us, big enough, still you bluff/ I loved you so/ I loved you so even though/ They told me so ♣ CHORUS: Kavita/ Your eyes your eyes/ Oh no one could miss them/ Your

smile of smiles/ Now will a boy kiss them/ I tried I tried/ Philosophized ♣ A fine time you picked to dick the field behind/ A bed to lie, the bills two timed/ Mine you never were/ My inner child is out of lies/ I loved you so/ I loved you even though/ You told me so/ CHORUS / Goodbye, ride off, rise on my sunset/ The west is won but is this fun yet/ Grow under a true sky/ I lost the reins but I love you so/ I'll always hold you close/ I love you so/ And so I let you go/ I told you so/ Cowgirls & Indie Boys PART II Cowgirls & Indie Boys leave us no other choice/ Cowgirls & Indie Boys leave us no

other choice/ The girls who love girls and the boys who love boys/ Girls who hide worlds made of salt wound and hot spice/ Cowgirls & Indie Boys sing in another voice/ The girls who love girls and the boys who love boys/ Got in my world found my lost tale, you taste nice PART III ♣ CHORUS: ... your eyes your eyes/ Oh no one could miss them/ Your smile of smiles/ Will somebody kiss them/ I tried I tried/ Philosophized.

CHAPTER 5

HOLD STILL

Words by Tanuja
Desai Hidier

Music by Tanuja
Desai Hidier &
Anne-Marie Tueje

You will get used to this,

you will/ You will get used to this bitter pill/ On the tip of your tongue, don't you say it/ Bitter's not ever without sweet/ You will get used to this, you will/ You will rise another a.m./ To get there on time, to wait until the end of the day/ That didn't seem strange/ The girl in the picture has rings around her eye/ The color of the sky is not unusual/ You will get used to this, you will/ Smile for the camera, try to hold still/ For the ones who are too tired to know you/ Better forget it was once sweet/ The girl in the mirror has dreams around her eyes/ The color of the sky was