

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

The Sun is Empty

The sun is empty and sky is empty
Though they are above we know they will not fall
The earth is empty and the water's empty
Though they are illusion they support us all

May we know that all things are empty
May we see the way from here to there
The Buddha's wisdom and samsara's fortress
Not one, not two, but completely gone

Pushing empty and pulling empty
The dance of craving can melt like ice
Inside empty and outside empty
These blend together in open space

May we know that all dharmas are empty
May we see the way from here to there
The Buddha's wisdom and samsara's fortress
Not one, not two, but completely gone

The teachings empty and the practice empty
But we need them both because we are confused
The path is empty and fruition empty
But we need them both while we are still confused

May we know the path and means are empty
May we see the way from here to there
The Buddha's wisdom and samsara's fortress
Not one, not two, but completely gone

The sun is fullness and the sky is fullness
Though they are above we know they will not fall
The earth is fullness and the water's fullness
Though they are illusion the support us all

May we know things are all empty fullness
May we see things as they are, unborn
The Buddha's realm and samsara's fortress
Are truly one, but completely gone

The body's fullness and the mind is fullness
And between them speech which is fullness too
These three together are an open fullness
And each one alone is empty fullness too
May we know our world is open fullness
May we see things as they are, unborn
The Buddha's realm and samsara's fortress
Are truly one, but completely gone

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

The teachings of emptiness and teachings fullness
We see them both we will not be confused
Fruition emptiness fruition fullness
When we know they're one we will not be confused

May we know the path is open fullness
May we see things as they are unborn
The Buddha's realm and samsara's fortress
Are truly one but completely gone

The sun is rising and the moonlight falling
And between them both is the greatest bliss
That's the dakas and dakinis calling
The mahamudra coming from their lips

Shunyata and tathagatagarbha
Are not really that far away
The Buddha's wisdom and samsara's fortress
Not one, not two, but completely gone

Tathagatagarbha and shunyata
Are not really that far away
The Buddha's realm and samsara's fortress
Are truly one, but completely gone

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

Buddha Nature

Tathagata
Tathagata
Tathagata
Tathagata

Everybody has buddha nature
No one's without this luminous glow
In many obscured, in some it's shining
Like the sun the whole world it knows

The dharmakaya is all pervading
It makes no difference 'tween you and me
All beings possess this noble potential
Empty open totally free
Like the sage within the lotus
Honey guarded by the bees
Like the seed in husky barley
Gold in the filth beneath our feet

Everybody has buddha nature
No one's without this luminous glow
In many obscured, in some it's shining
Like the sun the whole world it knows

Treasure in earth, tree from the seedling
A golden figure in ragged fray
The king within the peasant mother
A precious statue bound in clay

Tathagatagarbha is taught for bravery
Confidence on the stormy seas
Captains of samsara's waters
Without doubt sail fearlessly

The dharmakaya is all pervading
It makes no difference 'tween you and me
All beings possess this noble potential
Empty open totally free

Everybody has buddha nature
No one's without this luminous glow
In many obscured, in some it's shining
Like the sun the whole world it knows

Tathagata
Tathagata
Tathagata
Tathagata

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

Having Kindness

Having kindness is like loving a sister
Loving a mother, we give happiness
We want them joyful, safe, warm and in comfort
We want for them good friends and strong family

The greatest kindness is to want for all beings
Everything joyful, freedom and peace
Without any bias toward near or toward far
Toward friend or toward foe, we love them as one
Having compassion is like having a sister
Having a mother in anguish or pain
We want just to free them from all of their torment
We want just to free them from anguish and pain

The greatest compassion is to want for all beings
Freedom from suffering, anguish and pain
Without any bias toward near or toward far
Toward friend or toward foe, we care for them all

This world's an illusion, it can fade like a rainbow
When we forget this we fall with despair
This life is a dream, it can end in a moment
When we forget this we wander with pain

The greatest love is a love for all beings
Known or unknown we love them as one
The greatest love is a love for all beings
Known or unknown we care for them all

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

The Eyes Are A Dream

The eyes are a dream and a house is a dream
The eyes together with the house are a dream

That everything is a dream is a dream
Unlimited things and ten directions are all dreams

The state that's free of suffering is a dream
Any thing that's made from other things is a dream

Cessation, space and absence are all dreams
Emptiness, origination and una are all dreams

The spinning world samsara is a dream
Saving all the dreamers from the dreaming is a dream

The dreamlike nature of dreaming is a dream
Every part we name in every dream is a dream

Every attribute of every part is a dream
The time it takes to hear this song is a dream

That there's nothing there behind the dream is a dream
These are the sixteen kinds of dreams

Condensed to four: five skandhas are a dream
Cessation, space and absence are all dreams

The dreamlike nature of dreaming is a dream
To make that nature special is a dream

May everyone know the dream is a dream
May they know the truth in the twenty kinds of dreams

All day long we go and go
Does anybody know? Does anybody know?

All day long we go and go
Does anybody know? Does anybody know?

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

Everything That We Know

Every thing that we know is born dependently
Not an object of mind from a thinker is free
May we know the sense of self is illusion's game
May we see the empty nature of our pleasure and pain

No eye, no ear, no nose, no tongue,
No body, no mind, not a single one
Can be added together to make things real
Even though we've got a body that can see and can feel

No view, no doubt, and surely no pride,
No aggression, no ignorance, nor passion inside,
Can be added together to make things real
Even though we've got a mind that can know and can feel

Examine every moment, look carefully
Emotion, thought, and object from self are free
If we study what is looking, examine the mind,
Though it seems to be real, it's like space we find

We're driven by the thinking that we exist
And the paranoid projection that we'd be missed
If no one was there behind the actions and thoughts
If nothing was there, we fear that all would be lost

[Chorus]

But the truth is that the world just doesn't disappear
When we finally look around and see that nobody's here
What ends without self is suffering and pain
What ends is selfish motives for pleasure and gain

And here is the ground where bodhisattvas stand
A river of compassion flows from this land
That comes from knowing self is illusion's game
That sees the empty nature of pleasure and gain

[Chorus]

OM GATE GATE PARAGATE PARASAMGATE BODHI SVAHA

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

When You're Dead

When you're dead these words remember
When you're dead this'll all be gone
When you're dead it's mind and no matter
When you're dead it doesn't matter who's right or wrong

So don't worry 'bout your possessions
Family, house or rings
Start to take a hard look at your mindstream
And start doing some mighty good things

One day your ears'll stop ringing
Or you'll dream of stepping down
These are some signs you're leaving
So be ready to let go of your frown

Say goodbye to all of your loved ones
Say goodbye to all of your friends
Send good vibes to your enemies
And be ready to make amends

Start with your very best practice
And send out wishing prayers
Ask for your teacher to guide you
And cast away all of your cares

When you're dead these words remember
When you're dead this'll all be gone
When you're dead it's mind and no matter
When you're dead it doesn't matter who's right or wrong

Our five senses leave us
Starting with the eyes
Ears, nose, tongue and feelings
Then make their goodbyes

Next you feel mighty heavy
Like you're falling through a hole in the floor
Then you get dry and thirsty
And then your body's warm no more

Next there's no more breathing
And then it's lights in space
That's the time to have yourself together
'Cuz your mind can go all over the place

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

If you're good you'll be mighty luminous
If you're not you'll be mighty black
You'll be out stone cold for three days
And then wondering why you're back

If you miss the dharmakaya
Then arise as a deity
Know the bardo of death as a pure realm
And benefit endlessly

If you arrive in becoming's bardo
Pray to your Rinpoche
To take you by the topknot
And carry you safely away*

You'll arise as nirmanakaya
Or in the purest of pure, pure lands
Like the Kingdom of Shambhala
Or the Great Copper Colored Mountain

If you miss every other exit
Pray for a good rebirth
In a land that's kind and gentle
Where you know what the dharma's worth

When you're dead these words remember
When you're dead this'll all be gone
When you're dead it's mind and no matter
When you're dead it doesn't matter who's right or wrong

May these words free all beings
Remind them that they'll be dead
Please forgive me for my errors
Trying to repeat what I have read

**Alternate verse, closer to traditional instructions:*

If you arrive in becoming's bardo
See your parents as wisdom and means
Overcome all your attachment
And take rebirth for the good of all beings

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

If You're Looking For The Present

If you're looking for the present I'll bet you'll never find it
You try to see this moment but you see the one behind it
You're waiting for the next one, but it's gone before you know it
You're searchin' patiently, but there's nothing there to see

If you're looking for the past I'll bet you'll never find it
Every meal you ever ate, you never ever see again
Every thing you ever did, can you say it didn't stop?
Every thing you ever saw, is it there before you now?

If you're looking for the future I'll swear you'll never meet it
If you stepped into the future you would still call it today
Things just happen when they happen or they never come to pass
And they happen in the present not the future so they say

Cause and condition make this world when they change we call it time
There is nothing underneath them we can point to like a clock
It all happens like a dream, a magic show or a mirage
And it doesn't ever stop 'cuz it never could begin

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

Raindrop Lullaby

Raindrops

Falling down like tears on earth before me
And every time they come I feel like crying
Knowing I can walk upon the way

Sunlight

Golden all around I feel so happy
And every time it comes I am dissolving
Melting into joy upon the way

Rainbow

Sun and rain together make a rainbow
And every time it comes it is illusion
Delightful open truth upon the way

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

The Twelve Links

First, it's a mystery, twelve links that make reality
Then all that appears is seen dependently rising

Beginning with ignorance, a blind old lady
The true nature she does not see, she wanders

Next is formation, clay spinning into a pot
Prior experience, tendencies, push forward

Consciousness is the third, a busy monkey looks outside
This life's known by what precedes, our imprints

The fourth comes as name and form, soon to be the skandhas
A boat rowed into this life is growing

The six senses then arise, five of body and the mind
A house with many windows waiting

A man and woman in embrace shows the sixth one, contact
Object, sense and consciousness create a world felt outside

Seventh, feeling, we enjoy, dislike, or just ignore
An arrow piercing through the eye, we've met life

Craving, the eighth, becomes involved, pushing, pulling or no cares
Towards the object we've become a drunkard

Adoption moves to take it in, like a monkey grasping fruit
It's still in mind, a klesa too, like ignorance and craving

Tenth, becoming, all things click, a woman pregnant with a child
Virtue to joy, the other to pain, be watchful

Now we're trapped within rebirth, in labor toward what begins
This the next and five links between all form our suffering

Finally we age and die, carried toward the funeral pyre
Another live begins again from darkness

The spinning clay and pregnancy show the wind of actions
A wind all our relations ride so helpless

Look round for this mystery, twelve links that make reality
All that appears you'll see is dependently rising

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

Ever Awakening

Ah, ever awakening
Ah, ever unborn

Free of contrivance and elaboration, the truth it cannot be described
With no source for arising, it does not abide with no place for it to depart
So easily forgotten, it can be remembered and Buddhas come into this world

Ah, ever awakening
Ah, ever unborn

Tathagatagarbha abides with the mother, the space with the seed of delight
Empty and fertile, transcendent perfection holds within her the mind of the Sage
Watered with courage, devotion, exertion and wisdom the seed can mature

Ah, ever awakening
Ah, ever unborn

This mind has the essence of moon on the water, it shimmers but nothing is there
This mind has a nature that's luminous, joyful like a baby who revels in bliss
This mind can arise as the form of compassion with no end to its love for the world

Ah, ever awakening
Ah, ever unborn

Like a jewel in the mud once we see it we seize it, this mind that's the buddha within
To meet it and leave it with no thought of its value is the mark of all suffering and pain
To train it in goodness and look at its nature is the source of all freedom and peace

Ah, ever awakening
Ah, ever unborn

May all beings, our mothers, discover their minds hold this source
of all freedom and peace
May the merit from these words release them from suffering,
and set them upon the great way
May all teachers who guide stay for oceans of kalpas,
and may dharma and happiness reign

Ah, ever awakening
Ah, ever unborn

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

There Are So Many Ways We Die

There are so many ways we die
Quick or slow the wink of an eye
Could leave us helpless without a body
Lost and wandering without a body

We all know that we must go
Leaving family, friends and home
Our lives arise when we are born
Craving life we're always born

But start to finish there is pain
And without wisdom it never ends
Falling down or accident
Violence when harm is meant

Storms and earthquakes, hurricanes
Poisonings and airplanes
All of these can take our lives
Family, friends, possessions, we cry

Life arises when we're born
Craving life we're always born
But start to finish there is pain
And without wisdom it never ends

Inside there can be disease
Outside there can be disease
Cancer, stroke and heart attack
Immune disease, mental collapse, Oh

All of these can take our lives
Family, friends, possessions, we cry
Life arises when we're born
Craving life we're always born

But start to finish there is pain
And without wisdom it starts again
It's horrible to live in fear
As an old one, death is near

Always look towards our mothers
Struggling with are our mothers
All who we know and love must go
Leaving family, friends and home
Our lives arise when they are born
Craving life they always born
But start to finish there is pain
And without wisdom it starts again

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

May we understand right now
Wisdom and discover how
Life occurs and what is death
What lies beneath our thoughts and breath

May we practice and realize
And one day when we're truly wise
Free all others from this pain
From wandering helpless again

All we know and love must go
Leaving family, friends and home
Their lives arise when they are born
Craving life they are always born

But start to finish there is pain
And without wisdom it never ends
Train the mind in loving wisdom
Train the mind in loving wisdom

This chance we have won't last forever
This chance can't last forever

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

Blessings Wisdom

This little song of Mahamudra
Came at the end of one starry night
For what is good, I take no credit
The guru's words did me ignite

Blessings wisdom is mind awake
Yogas the four stages practice

To an object mind's a lover
It becomes a floating world
Held together with no effort
Peace and insight will unfurl

Blessings wisdom is mind awake
Light beam flies out into night skies

Simple knowing of the nature
Settles mind in perfect ease
All is empty, oh so spacious
Stars and moon upon the seas

Blessings wisdom is mind awake
Joyful simplicity opens in space

Subject object are one flavor
Never known to be apart
In this union there is freedom
Unborn union greatest bliss

Blessings wisdom is mind awake
One taste a child plays there always

No more learning, books are useless
Nothing left but luminous
Ever rising water lotus
Liberation frees herself

Blessings wisdom is mind awake
Mahasukha buddhakaya

May the merit from these words go
Out toward all and free their minds
From bondage to all thoughts and thinking
Set them upon the greatest way

Blessings wisdom is mind awake
Certain knowledge never can be cut

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

Highland Eyes

I miss the father with highland eyes
This day he left and made us wise
His banner's carried by the first-born son
His heart and ours do beat as one
Looked upon as Majesty
Poet, monk and Victory
He cared for each and he cared for all
He brought weak and strong to the warriors' hall
May he know our love and longing

I miss the monk from Dudtse Til
The lama dancing on the grassy hills
Born in Tibet as a nomad child
In that lovely land so fierce and wild
There he met Dilgo Khyentse
Sechen Kongtrül, Rikpe Dorje
And Khenpo Gangshar who from death was free
They taught our Trungpa the way to be
Chögyam filled with love and longing

I miss the man who's from Tak Tsang
Who brought East to West in a triple HUM
Driven from home by barbarian hoards
He came to the land of the English lords
Studied religion and finest arts
Flowers, words, and broken hearts
Flew further west about 'seventy
Without robes, but with a Lady
May he know our love and longing

I miss the poet of the Sugata's mind
A lover, a storm of a different kind
First, he grabbed us by the Tail
Then he showered us with Milarepa's hail
From Naropa's heart on Arapahoe land
He showed young and old generosity's hands
With friend Suzuki he gave maitri
He brought the Karmapa 'cross the western sea
May he know our love and longing

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

I miss the guru called Rinpoche
Who taught Vajrayana in the USA
Canada too and Mexico
England, France, and Germany, Oh
So many places, too many to name
So many who will never be the same
Dathün and the dathün walks
Oryoki and the seminary talks
These gifts do cry for tears of longing

I miss the General who's called Vic'try
Who cut aggression to set us free
Compassion's soldiers easily know
Peace does come from the warrior's glow
Khaki shoulders with golden hearts
From Mukpo none would ever part
Guarding Dharma from wind and rain
Protecting him to end earth's pain
May he hear our shouts of longing

I miss the King called Druk Sakyong
The Lord who showed the Great Eastern Sun
He gave Shambhala to poet and priest
And danced in rain with Indian chiefs
His every move made dralas smile
He brought his world to the North Land Isle
And there he chose to pass away
Into nirvana this very day
May he know our love and longing

I miss the father with Highland eyes
This day he left and made us wise
To know that someday we must go
Like our father, Love's Rainbow
His banner's carried by the first-born son
His heart and ours do beat as one
Looked upon as Majesty
Poet, monk and Victory
He cared for each and he cared for all
Brought weak and strong to the warriors' hall
May he see our tears fall down
May he know our love and longing

Highland Eyes Complete Lyrics

Mind Is A Luminous Mirror

Mind is a luminous mirror
May it reflect dignity

Mind is a luminous mirror
May it reflect confidence

Mind is a luminous mirror
May it reflect TLGD

Mind is a luminous mirror
May it reflect the Sakyong King*

Standing on the highland peak
The warrior possesses dignity

Facing toward Great Eastern Sun
Vanquishing the enemy

Doubtless eternal confidence
The way of lonely longing

Mukpo has risen in the heart
The smile of the Tiger

Roaming this world the Lion roars
Mighty Garuda flies above

Hear the Dragon's thunder ring
The Kingdom of Shambhala

**Alternate Verse*

Mind is a luminous mirror
May it reflect the Rigden King