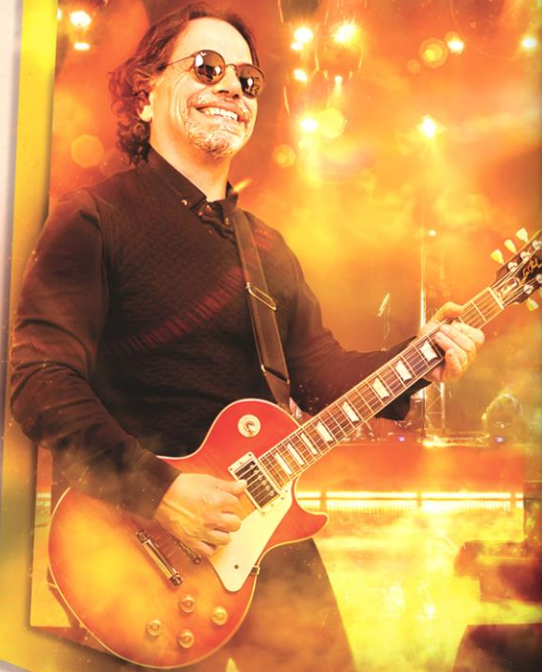


# Resignation &



Ray von Schmalz

# Rebirth



# Album Booklet

# Special Edition

## Album

- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Father                | 7. Life Ain't Easy to Me |
| 2. Everlasting Seeds     | 8. Animals               |
| 3. Feelings Go Anywhere  | 9. Why Have You Gone     |
| 4. Growing Up Ain't Easy | 10. Hope                 |
| 5. Can't Go Away         | 11. Denise               |
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Stay  
tuned!



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Songs

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Recordings

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Hi everyone! My new album, *Resignation & Rebirth*, is the second part of a three-album project that started in 2019, with my first album, *Shadows of the Past*.

This album brings to you songs that I wrote mostly during the second phase of my musical career, after

the end of my band, NOW, in 1990.

Most of the songs on this album depict my emotions and feelings during that period, mostly of “resignation,” which was followed by a more positive phase, when I took a brighter approach to this shift in my career, hence “rebirth.”

I also want to mention the super special participation of my son, Viktor, or Lefty of the band *All in Four*, for helping me with his immense musical talent in the arrangements and recording sessions of this album.

*Resignation & Rebirth* is more than an album. It’s part of my biography translated into music and lyrics. I hope you enjoy it!



**Album:** Resignation & Rebirth

**Artist:** Ray von Schmalz

**Contributing Artist:** Viktor von Schmalz

**About the Album:** Resignation & Rebirth is part of Vintage Project launched in 2018, which consists of three albums: Shadows of the Past (2019), Resignation & Rebirth (2023), and the third album that is in the make, featuring more contemporary compositions. This album brings songs mostly from the phase of my musical career after the end of my band, NOW. Many songs speak of gloomy perspectives of life focusing on unfulfilled dreams (resignation) and later it turns to a more hopeful tone (rebirth). It also brings three songs from my previous phase, *Why Have You Gone* (1985), *Life Ain't Easy to Me* (1986) and *Father* (1986).

**Studio:** MCG Studio – Curitiba, Brazil



**Producer:** Marcelo Gelbke – MGC Studio

**Location:** Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil

**Recording Period:** From May 3 to June 12. Mixing and adjustments made from June 14 to 26, 2023. Final mastering completed on July 5, 2023.

**Photography:** Rafael Forte

**Design and Art:** Lucas Angeloni – Angeloni Design

**Copyright:** 1985 to 2020

**International Distributor:** CD Baby – United States of America

**International Release Date:** August 6, 2023



**ORDER OF SONGS ..... (length in minutes and seconds)**

- 1) Father .....(5m06s)
- 2) Everlasting Seeds .....(2m58s)
- 3) Feelings Go Anywhere .....(4m00s)
- 4) Growing Up Ain't Easy .....(3m32s)
- 5) Can't Go Away .....(3m37s)
- 6) Cry for Those .....(3m36s)
- 7) Life Ain't Easy to Me .....(2m13s)
- 8) Animals .....(3m05s)
- 9) Why Have You Gone .....(4m46s)
- 10) Hope .....(2m53s)
- 11) Denise .....(2m18s)
- 12) I Love You So .....(2m10s)



### Info Sheet

Song title: Father

Length: 5 min. 6 sec.

Written on Jan. 2, 1987

Recorded from May 13 to 29, 2023

Performers:

- Ray von Schmalz: Vocals, guitars, & drums
- Viktor von Schmalz: Keyboards & bass guitar

### ABOUT THE SONG

A family breakup through divorce can take a heavy toll on small children, especially when the father abandons them after it. I've been through that. I was 10 when my parents got divorced, we lost everything and my mother, my sisters and I moved to a faraway place. At 17 I returned to my father's house while I was in college. Soon I understood that he was no longer my father, and I had to move out. That was when I wrote this song... It was January 2, 1987. I could summarize my relationship with my father in a five-minute song. This song is loaded with emotions, and I have to confess that it was hard for me to record it. I had to set my mind to enter the studio as a performing artist, not as the author to be able to do it. My father passed away in 1999 and despite it all, I was

his friend to the end. Over the years, I've heard similar stories from many people, so I decided to put this song in this album, as I'm sure many children of divorce will relate to it.

### **MUSIC & ARRANGEMENTS**

Many small arrangements and lyrical touches were added over the years, including the flute introduction. However, most arrangements were made now, days before the recording, in May, 2023. I wrote the backing vocals and guitar solo, and Viktor made orchestral arrangements for the entire song. If you listen carefully to the background strings and violin lines, you will feel the beauty of his work. This solo cries melodic tears. It's beautiful. Viktor also wrote and recorded the bass track of this song and I did the drums.

### **CURIOSITIES**

I used my oldest acoustic guitar, on which I wrote most of my songs in the 1980's, in the introduction of this song. It was Viktor's suggestion that I immortalized this instrument in this epic song. I bought that guitar when I was 14.

### **LYRICS**

## Father

Father, I still remember when love and flowers used to grow.  
It was a little garden but there we could join in one soul  
I'd follow your steps; when falling I'd hold on your hand.  
You knew when to be tough and also when to be my friend, Father.  
I could see the goings-on but I couldn't understand;  
for my eyes that little garden was then turning into sand  
Couldn't shut my eyes for tears that wouldn't only mean goodbye,  
but the seeds we had grown with our dreams would die

Only memories spread all over the floor and that feeling that we'd lost the war  
I looked at the castles all my friends still had;  
I never cried for gold but for love and care... and I cried oh,



## Resignation & Rebirth – Ray von Schmalz - 2023

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Father, how I need your affection! Father, oh please show my directions!  
Father, the strongest hero I see! Father, oh please...come back to me.....Father.

Growing up alone I learned to love, I learned to fight.  
On the ruins of that garden I saw mom crying thru the nights,  
Didn't understand the things my father once had done;  
living then beside you, I tried to show I was your son.  
But in your new garden there was no place for broken stones. I'd find my way, again alone  
Father, in that old garden friendship is spread,  
but that old flower is completely dead...so now you listen,

Father, I don't need your affection! Dad, I fell so sorry for your actions,  
Father, you mean nothing to me! Father, it ain't the best way to be, I know!  
Father, I don't need your affection, Dad, I fell so sorry for your actions,  
Father, you mean nothing to me! But Father, if you need...you'll find a friend in me... Father...

### TRANSLATIONS

DEUTSCH




## Vater

Vater, ich erinnere mich noch an die Zeit, als Liebe und Blumen wuchsen.  
Es war ein kleiner Garten, aber dort konnten wir eine Seele vereinen  
Ich würde deinen Schritten folgen; Wenn ich falle, halte ich deine Hand.  
Du wusstest, wann du hart sein und wann du mein Freund sein solltest, Vater.  
Ich konnte das Geschehen sehen, aber ich konnte es nicht verstehen;  
Für meine Augen verwandelte sich dieser kleine Garten in Sand  
Ich konnte meine Augen nicht vor Tränen schließen, die nicht nur Abschied bedeuten würden,  
sondern auch den Tod der Samen, die wir mit unseren Träumen gesät hatten

Überall verbreiteten sich nur Erinnerungen und das Gefühl, dass wir den Krieg verloren hatten  
Ich schaute mir die Schlösser an, die alle meine Freunde noch besaßen;  
Ich habe nie um Gold geweint, sondern um Liebe und Fürsorge ... und ich habe geweint, oh,  
Vater, wie sehr ich deine Zuneigung brauche! Vater, oh bitte zeig mir den Weg!  
Vater, der stärkste Held, den ich sehe! Vater, oh bitte...komm zurück zu mir...Vater.

Als ich alleine aufwuchs, lernte ich zu lieben, ich lernte zu kämpfen.  
Auf den Ruinen dieses Gartens sah ich Mama die ganze Nacht weinen,  
Ich verstand nicht, was mein Vater einst getan hatte;  
Ich lebte damals neben dir und versuchte zu zeigen, dass ich dein Sohn war.  
Aber in Ihrem neuen Garten war kein Platz für gebrochene Steine.  
Ich würde meinen Weg wieder allein finden  
Vater, in diesem alten Garten breitet sich Freundschaft aus,  
aber diese alte Blume ist völlig tot ... also höre jetzt zu,

Vater, ich brauche deine Zuneigung nicht! Papa, deine Taten taten mir so leid,  
Vater, du bedeutest mir nichts! Vater, das ist nicht die beste Art zu sein, ich weiß!  
Vater, ich brauche deine Zuneigung nicht, Papa, deine Taten haben mir so leid getan,  
Vater, du bedeutest mir nichts! Aber Vater, wenn du es brauchst...  
wirst du in mir einen Freund finden... Vater...

PORTUGUÊS 

## Pai

Pai, eu ainda lembro do tempo que o amor e as flores cresciam.  
Era um pequeno jardim, mas lá nos juntávamos em um espírito  
Eu seguia os seus passos; quando ia cair eu segurava na sua mão.  
Você sabia quando ser duro mas também quando ser meu amigo, Pai.  
Eu via os acontecimentos mas não conseguia entender;  
para os meus olhos aquele pequeno jardim estava então se transformando em areia  
Não podia fechar os meus olhos para as lágrimas que não somente significavam adeus,  
mas as sementes que havíamos cultivado morreria com os nossos sonhos

Apenas lembranças espalhadas for todo o chão e aquela sensação que havíamos perdido a guerra  
Eu olhava para os castelos que os meus amigos ainda tinham;  
nunca chorei por ouro mas por amor e carinho.. e eu chorava, oh

Pai, como eu preciso da sua afeição! Pai, me mostre o meu caminho!  
Pai, o herói mais forte que eu vejo! Pai, oh, por favor... volte para mim... Pai

## Resignation & Rebirth – Ray von Schmalz - 2023

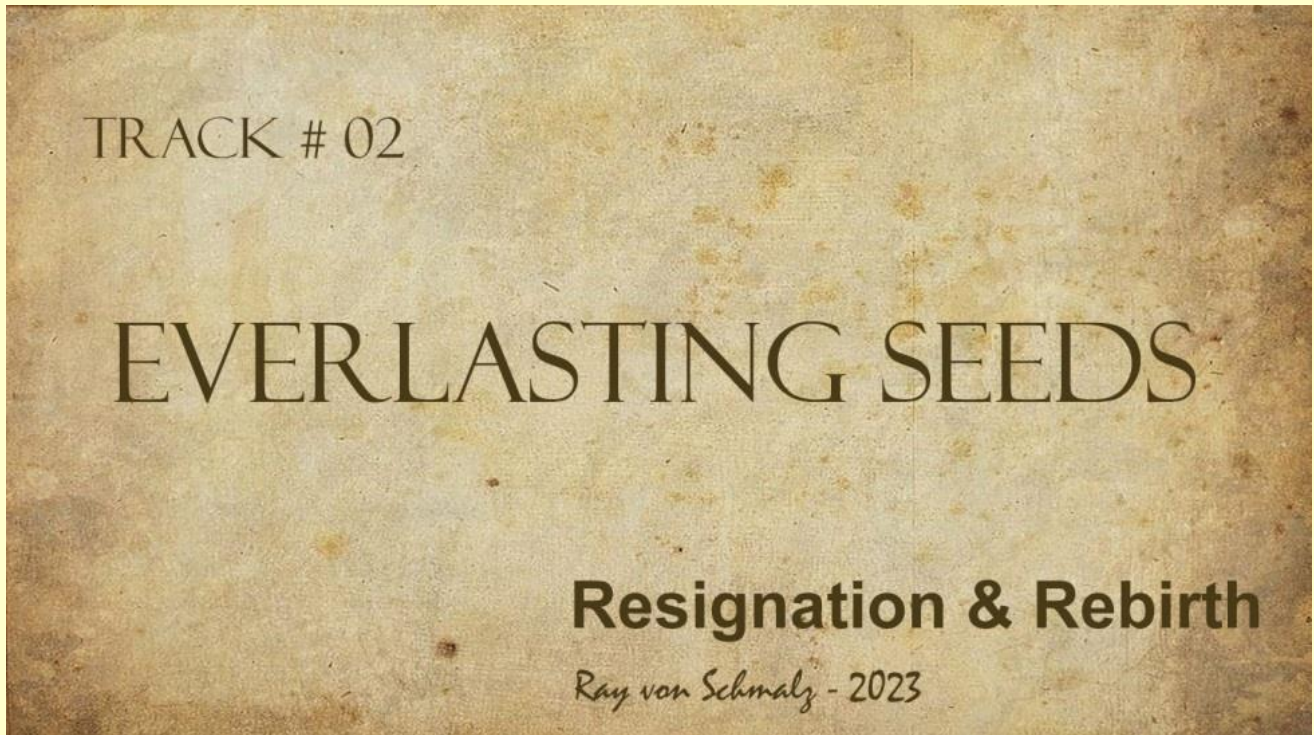
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Crescendo sozinho aprendi a amar, aprendi a lutar.  
Nas ruínas daquele jardim vi mamãe chorar através das noites.  
Não entendia as coisas que o meu pai havia feito;  
morando então ao seu lado, tentei mostrar que era o seu filho.

Mas no seu novo jardim não havia lugar para pedras quebradas.  
Eu buscaria o meu caminho, novamente sozinho  
Pai, naquele velho jardim a amizade está espalhada,  
mas aquela velha flor está completamente morta... então agora escute

Pai, eu não preciso da sua afeição! Pai, eu tenho pena das suas ações!  
Pai, você não significa nada para mim! Pai, essa não é a melhor maneira de ser, eu sei!  
Pai, eu não preciso da sua afeição! Pai, eu tenho pena das suas ações!  
Pai, você não significa nada para mim! Mas Pai, se você precisar,  
você encontrará um amigo em mim... Pai...





### Info Sheet

Song title: Everlasting Seeds

Length: 2 min. 58 sec.

Written on Nov. 16, 2001

Recorded from May 3 to 12, 2023

Performers:

- Ray von Schmalz: Vocals, guitars, & drums
- Viktor von Schmalz: Keyboards & bass guitar

### ABOUT THE SONG

I've had a long history with Canada. Since an early age, I had close Canadian friends and decided to immigrate to that country. I entered it twice as a legal immigrant through Canada's most selective program at the time, and held Permanent Resident Status for ten years. Those, who have been through that, know how hard it can be. Since my late teenage years, I'd been preparing myself to meet every requirement for immigration, as it was my big dream. Unfortunately, personal and family problems brought me back home after my first immigration attempt in 1995. Then in 2001 I wrote this beautiful song that speaks about this unrequited dream. In 2005, I immigrated again, and

business brought me back home, this time for good. That revalidated the message in this song, as all I was left with were "Everlasting Seeds."

### **MUSIC & ARRANGEMENTS**

Musically, this song hasn't changed much since I wrote it. However, Viktor added some beautiful keyboard arrangements to it and I made a nice guitar solo and backing vocal arrangements days before the recording sessions in May, 2023.

### **LYRICS**

## Everlasting Seeds

Life is easy when all you want is what you've got  
Don't be too busy to live the dreams you once forgot  
They may fade away

When you feel it's draining down your soul, keep in mind life is nothing but a show  
Though outside hard gales may blow, it's your spirit that will make you go  
Humiliation, privation, and shame inflicted by the morally lame  
The maple leaf in your heart may have dried  
But it sure has left everlasting seeds

When you feel it's draining down your soul, keep in mind life is nothing but a show  
Though outside hard gales may blow, it's your spirit that will make you go  
Humiliation, privation, and shame

On the summit of a mountain place your heart  
Do your bit as you have done from the start  
Without a reward, just everlasting seeds

## TRANSLATIONS

DEUTSCH



# Ewige Samen

Das Leben ist einfach, wenn man nur das will, was man hat

Seien Sie nicht zu beschäftigt, um die Träume zu leben, die Sie einst vergessen haben

Sie können verschwinden

Wenn Sie das Gefühl haben, dass es Ihre Seele erschöpft, denken Sie daran, dass das Leben nichts anderes als eine Show ist

Auch wenn draußen heftige Stürme wehen, ist es Ihr Geist, der Sie zum Gehen bringt

Demütigung, Entbehrung und Schande durch moralisch Lahme

Das Ahornblatt in deinem Herzen ist möglicherweise getrocknet

Aber es hat sicherlich ewige Samen hinterlassen

Wenn Sie das Gefühl haben, dass es Ihre Seele erschöpft, denken Sie daran, dass das Leben nichts anderes als eine Show ist

Auch wenn draußen heftige Stürme wehen, ist es Ihr Geist, der Sie zum Gehen bringt

Demütigung, Entbehrung und Scham

Platziere dein Herz auf dem Gipfel eines Berges

Leisten Sie Ihren Beitrag, so wie Sie es von Anfang an getan haben

Ohne Belohnung, nur ewige Samen

PORTUGUÊS



# Sementes Eternas

A vida é fácil quando tudo o que você quer é o que você tem

Não esteja ocupado demais para viver os sonhos que uma vez você esqueceu

Eles podem se desvanecer

Quando sentir que isso está drenando a sua alma, lembre-se que a vida é apenas um show

Embora lá for a ventos fortes possam estar soprando, é o seu espírito que o faz prosseguir

## Resignation & Rebirth – Ray von Schmalz - 2023

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Humilhação, privação, e vergonha perpetradas pelos deficientes morais  
A folha de ácer no seu coração pode ter secado  
Mas ela certamente deixou sementes eternas

Quando sentir que isso está drenando a sua alma, lembre-se que a vida é apenas um show  
Embora lá for a ventos fortes possam estar soprando, é o seu espírito que o faz prosseguir  
Humilhação, privação, e vergonha

No topo de uma montanha coloque o seu coração  
Faça o seu dever como você tem feito desde o início  
Sem uma recompensa, apenas sementes eternas



### Info Sheet

Song title: Feelings Go Anywhere

Length: 4 min. 0 sec.

Written on Apr. 4, 1992

Recorded from May 3 to 12, 2023

Performers:

- Ray von Schmalz: Vocals, guitars, bass & drums
- Viktor von Schmalz: Keyboards

## ABOUT THE SONG

Music has always been the nourishment of my soul, and making a good living out of it was my biggest dream. When I was 18, I started a band called NOW. That was back in 1984. Within a year, I was writing songs that were commercial enough to pave our way to notoriety. Some of these songs are in my previous album *Shadows of the Past* and there is even one from that batch in this album: *Why Have You Gone*. The band grew, some members left, new ones joined in, and very talented ones, too. Soon, we were making good music and in 1989 we won a music contest promoted by a local band with national projection, a large local FM station and a recording company, WEA Records. With that came an opportunity to sign a contract with the manager of that band, who told me we'd start a tour in the following week. However, there were some conditions I was not sure I wanted to meet and I decided we should record our songs and push our way up. Many unexpected things happened and NOW broke up in early 1992. All of a sudden our big dream had slipped through our fingers. I felt like my world had fallen apart and at that moment a good friend was very supportive, as she's always been. This song speaks of those difficult moments and of the importance of having true friends.

## MUSIC & ARRANGEMENTS

This was the only song in this album in which I play the bass. When Viktor said he'd write the bass lines for the entire album, I'd already done this one. However, Vik made all the keyboard arrangements, which are absolutely beautiful. I also used a steel-string acoustic guitar throughout the song on one track. The solo that I wrote for this song complements the message in the lyrics. The second half presents a hammered bit that end each of the three times at a higher note, representing my many attempts to achieve my goals, with more effort (higher note) each time. Then it mellows down to a decreasing, gloomy melody representing my resignation.

## LYRICS

# Feelings Go Anywhere

Life ain't so great, most of the time dark and grey  
Dreams won't come true, that makes my heart so blue  
I was so sure that I could fulfil my dreams as I would



Free as a bird I would fly away, if I only dared to

Feelings go anywhere and I'm happy I have you  
Though away you are so true  
Feelings go anywhere and you know I'll always do  
Everything I can to help you, too  
Anything, even when I'm blue

I'm in a cage, I feel like I can't run away  
Time passes by, I keep on asking "oh why don't you fight, say Ray?"

Feelings go anywhere and I'm happy I have you  
Though away you are so true  
Feelings go anywhere and you know I'll always do  
Everything I can to help you, too  
Anything, even when I'm blue  
Everything I can to help you, too  
Anything to send my love to you

### TRANSLATIONS

DEUTSCH



## Gefühle gehen überall hin


Das Leben ist nicht so toll, die meiste Zeit dunkel und grau  
Träume werden nicht wahr, das macht mein Herz so blau  
Ich war mir so sicher, dass ich meine Träume so erfüllen konnte, wie ich wollte  
Frei wie ein Vogel würde ich davonfliegen, wenn ich es nur wagen würde

Gefühle gehen überall hin und ich bin froh, dass ich dich habe  
Auch wenn du weg bist, bist du so wahr  
Gefühle gehen überall hin und du weißt, dass ich es immer tun werde  
Alles, was ich kann, um auch Ihnen zu helfen  
Alles, auch wenn ich blau bin

Ich bin in einem Käfig, ich habe das Gefühl, ich kann nicht weglaufen

Die Zeit vergeht, ich frage immer wieder: „Oh, warum kämpfst du nicht, sag Ray?“

Gefühle gehen überall hin und ich bin froh, dass ich dich habe  
Auch wenn du weg bist, bist du so wahr  
Gefühle gehen überall hin und du weißt, dass ich es immer tun werde  
Alles, was ich kann, um auch Ihnen zu helfen  
Alles, auch wenn ich blau bin  
Alles, was ich kann, um auch Ihnen zu helfen  
Alles, um dir meine Liebe zu senden

PORTUGUÊS 

# Sentimentos Vão a Qualquer Lugar

A vida não é tão legal, na maioria das vezes é escura e cinzenta  
Os sonhos não se realizam, e isso entristece tanto o meu coração  
Eu tinha tanta certeza que realizaria os meus sonhos como eu queria  
Livre como um pássaro eu voaria embora, se eu apenas ousasse

Os sentimentos vão a qualquer lugar e eu estou feliz por ter você  
Embora longe você é sempre tão verdadeira  
Os sentimentos vão a qualquer lugar e você sabe que eu sempre farei  
Tudo o que eu puder para ajudar você também  
Qualquer coisa, mesmo que eu esteja triste

Estou em uma jaula, sinto como se não pudesse escapar  
O tempo passa e eu fico me perguntando, “Por que você não luta, Ray?”

Os sentimentos vão a qualquer lugar e eu estou feliz por ter você  
Embora longe você é sempre tão verdadeira  
Os sentimentos vão a qualquer lugar e você sabe que eu sempre farei  
Tudo o que eu puder para ajudar você também  
Qualquer coisa, mesmo que eu esteja triste  
Tudo o que eu puder para ajudar você também  
Qualquer coisa para mandar o meu carinho para você



### Info Sheet

Song title: Growing Up Ain't Easy

Length: 3 min. 32 sec.

Written on Nov. 29, 1992

Recorded from May 3 to 15, 2023

Performers:

- Ray von Schmalz: Vocals, guitars, & drums
- Viktor von Schmalz: Keyboards & bass guitar

### ABOUT THE SONG

Here's one more song that I wrote after NOW split up, on November 29, 1992. Well, that shows how hard that sad chapter of my life hit me. However, this song also brings a little bit of encouragement and hope, that's the beginning of "rebirth." It approaches the topic of growing up to the real facts of life, that most of the time, go against your dreams. As author Eckhart Tolle once mentioned, "life seems to be made to sabotage your dreams." We tend to put the blame on everyone we can, except on ourselves, for our failures. At that time, Denise, my wife, had said to me: "happiness is

like a butterfly. If you don't chase it, it may come down and land on your life." And I said: "yes, that's my next song!" And here it is!

### **MUSIC & ARRANGEMENTS**

I recorded this song on May 1, 2003 in my home studio and in that same month, I had a contract with a prominent musician who owned a studio, to record it there. The recording started but things didn't move as expected and that recording fell through. For that reason, most arrangements for bass and keyboards, as well as for backing vocals and guitar solo had been defined. Viktor added some small stuff as he had recorded his own rendition of this song in 2017.

### **CURIOSITIES**

The music box sound in the introduction represents one's childhood. When the same melody appears in the middle of the song on a piano, it represents the maturing of those childhood phantasies.

### **LYRICS**

## **Growing Up Ain't Easy**

Growing up ain't easy... it's a tough life you've got to face  
Watching your dreams be blown away by the strong winds of fate  
Growing out of those things you had your heart set on all your life  
Pinning your duds on God and those around, y' know happiness ain't easy to be found

So live your life headlong; forget about the things that make you sad  
You have to be strong, Ray; make the best of it and you'll be glad  
Life is so long and happiness is like a butterfly  
If you don't chase it, it may come down and land on your life

Giving in to dismay or copping out will do no good  
You know you did all you could, now pull yourself together 'cause life is on

So live your life headlong; forget about the things that make you sad  
You have to be strong, Ray; make the best of it and you'll be glad  
Life is so long and happiness is like a butterfly  
If you don't chase it, it may come down and land on your life

(Second voice line)

Live your life, it's up to you  
Dreams may still come true  
It's so long - a butterfly  
It may come down and land on your life

### TRANSLATIONS

DEUTSCH



## Erwachsenwerden ist nicht einfach

Erwachsen zu werden ist nicht einfach... es ist ein hartes Leben, dem man sich stellen muss  
Du schaust deine Träume von den starken Winden des Schicksals verweht werden  
Du bist aus den Dingen herausgewachsen, die dir dein ganzes Leben lang am Herzen lagen  
Gott und die Menschen um dich herum für deine Fehler verantwortlich zu machen - Glück ist nicht leicht zu finden


Lebe dein Leben ohne Verzögerung; Vergiss die Dinge, die dich traurig machen  
Du musst stark sein, Ray; Mach das Beste daraus und du wirst froh sein  
Das Leben ist so lang und das Glück ist wie ein Schmetterling  
Wenn du es nicht verfolgst, kann es herunterkommen und in deinem Leben landen

Der Bestürzung nachzugeben oder wegzulaufen wird keine Lösung sein  
Du weißt, dass du alles getan hast, was du konntest, jetzt rei dich zusammen, denn das Leben geht weiter

Lebe dein Leben ohne Verzögerung; Vergiss die Dinge, die dich traurig machen  
Du musst stark sein, Ray; Mach das Beste daraus und du wirst froh sein  
Das Leben ist so lang und das Glück ist wie ein Schmetterling  
Wenn du es nicht verfolgst, kann es herunterkommen und in deinem Leben landen

(Zweite Sprachzeile)

Lebe dein Leben, es hängt von dir ab  
Träume können immer noch wahr werden  
Es ist so lang – ein Schmetterling  
Es könnte herunterkommen und in deinem Leben landen

PORTUGUÊS 

# Crescer Não É Fácil

Crescer não é fácil... é uma vida dura que você tem que encarar  
Ver os seus sonhos serem soprados para longe pelos fortes ventos do destino  
Ficar velho demais para as coisas que foram tudo para você durante toda a sua vida  
Culpando a deus e os outros por seus fracassos, você sabe que a felicidade não é fácil de se encontrar

Então viva a sua vida de frente; esqueça as coisas que lhe entristecem  
Você tem que ser forte, Ray; tire o melhor proveito da situação e você ficará contente  
A vida é tão longa e a felicidade é como uma borboleta  
Se você não correr atrás dela, ela pode vir e pousar na sua vida

Se entregar ao desencanto ou fugir não vai ajudar  
Você sabe que você fez o que pôde, agora se recomponha, pois a vida continua

Então viva a sua vida de frente; esqueça as coisas que lhe entristecem  
Você tem que ser forte, Ray; tire o melhor proveito da situação e você ficará contente)  
A vida é tão longa; a felicidade é como uma borboleta  
Se você não correr atrás dela, ela pode vir e pousar na sua vida

(Segunda linha de voz)

Viva a sua vida, só depende de você  
Sonhos ainda podem se realizar  
É tão longa - uma borboleta  
Ela pode vir e pousar na sua vida



### Info Sheet

Song title: Can't Go Away

Length: 3 min. 37 sec.

Written on Jun. 16, 2002

Recorded from May 17 to 26, 2023

Performers:

- Ray von Schmalz: Vocals, guitars, & drums
- Viktor von Schmalz: Keyboards & bass guitar

### ABOUT THE SONG

I've spent most of my life moving to or planning to move to Canada or the USA. My family had to endure a lot because of the uncertainty all of that brought into our lives. Well, in 2002 during a long visit here, a good American friend almost got me convinced to move to the USA (it was a little before my second immigration to Canada). Perhaps I should have heard her, as Canada would disappoint me later. Instead of moving, I wrote this song, which turned out to be a nice one. I believe many people will relate to its lyrics, as this is a common dilemma.

## MUSIC & ARRANGEMENTS

I recorded this song in my home studio on June 23, 2002, but never actually finished it completely. It lacked backing vocals and some clever bits. Vik and I had some fun making it shine. Vik's bass line really brought new life to it and our guitar and piano duet turned out better than I anticipated. I was a little concerned about the drumming for this song and considered contacting another drummer to do that for me, but then I went to my studio and tried some rhythms on it and there it is! One of my best drum performances!

## CURIOSITIES

The reference in the song to the sentence “moving from mountain to mountain” is because I live in a mountainous region and my American friend also lives in a mountainous region.

## LYRICS

### Can't Go Away

Talking is easy smooth and fun  
But we know it's easier said than done  
Moving from mountain to mountain, rolling from place to place  
I don't wanna stay... but can't go away


Crawling through my memories  
I catch my heart reviving long dead fantasies  
A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush they would say  
I don't wanna stay... but can't go away

Hearts pound to the beat of dreams  
It's hard to tell your thinking from your whims  
How can you know if you never try?  
Spread your wings and try to fly... or fall



Talking is easy smooth and fun  
But we know it's easier said than done  
Moving from mountain to mountain, rolling from place to place  
I don't wanna stay... but can't go away

## TRANSLATIONS

DEUTSCH 

# Kann nicht weggehen

Das Sprechen ist einfach, reibungslos und macht Spaß  
Aber wir wissen, dass das leichter gesagt als getan ist  
Von Berg zu Berg ziehen, von Ort zu Ort rollen  
Ich will nicht bleiben ... aber ich kann nicht weggehen

Krieche durch meine Erinnerungen  
Ich ertappe mich dabei, wie mein Herz längst vergangene Fantasien wieder aufleben lässt  
Ein Vogel in der Hand ist im Busch zwei wert, würde man sagen  
Ich will nicht bleiben ... aber ich kann nicht weggehen

Herzen schlagen im Takt der Träume  
Es ist schwer, dein Denken von deinen Launen zu unterscheiden  
Wie kannst du das wissen, wenn du es nie versuchst?  
Breite deine Flügel aus und versuche zu fliegen ... oder zu fallen

Das Sprechen ist einfach, reibungslos und macht Spaß  
Aber wir wissen, dass das leichter gesagt als getan ist  
Von Berg zu Berg ziehen, von Ort zu Ort rollen  
Ich will nicht bleiben ... aber ich kann nicht weggehen

PORTUGUÊS



## Não Posso Ir Embora

Falar é fácil, tranquilo, e divertido

Mas sabemos que é mais fácil falar do que fazer

Mudar-se de montanha para montanha, rolar de lugar para lugar

Eu não quero ficar... mas não posso ir embora

Rastejando através das minhas lembranças

Eu me pego revivendo fantasias há muito mortas

Um pássaro na mão vale dois no arbusto, eles diziam

Eu não quero ficar... mas não posso ir embora

Corações batem no ritmo dos sonhos

É difícil distinguir o seu pensamento dos seus caprichos

Como você pode saber se nunca tentar?

Abra as suas asas e tente voar... ou caia

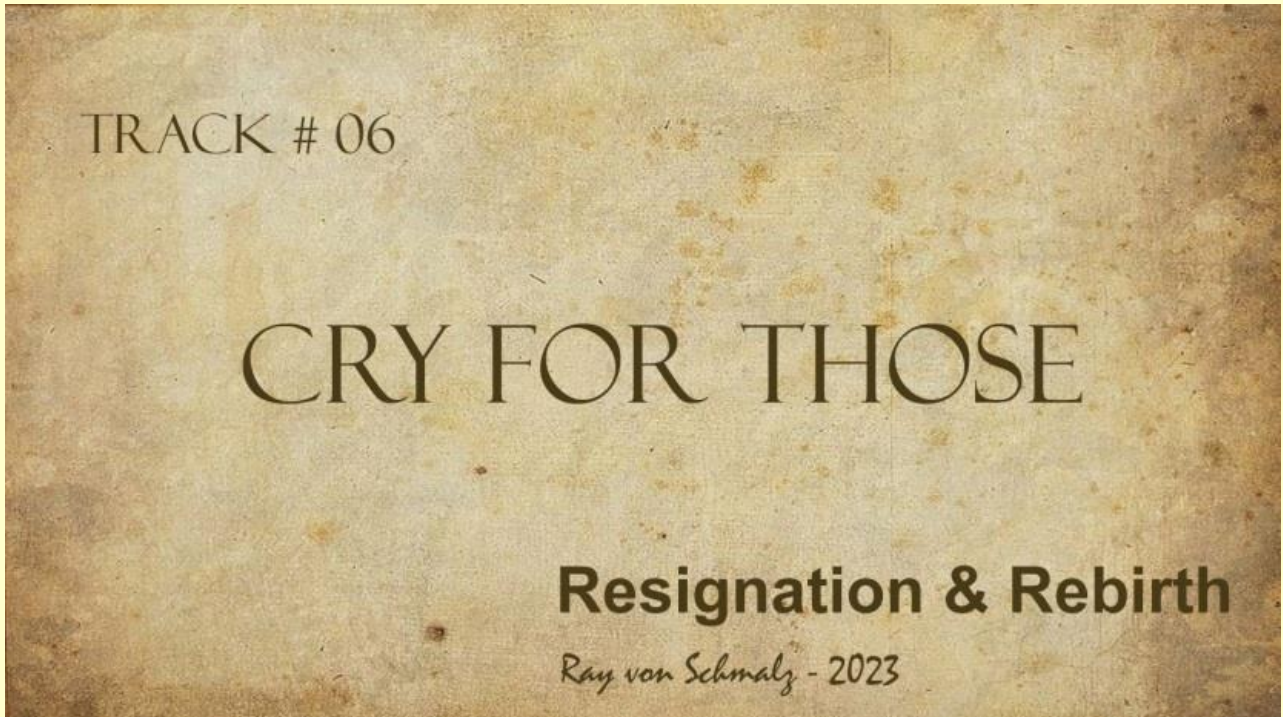
Falar é fácil, tranquilo, e divertido

Mas sabemos que é mais fácil falar do que fazer

Mudar-se de montanha para montanha, rolar de lugar para lugar

Eu não quero ficar... mas não posso ir embora





### Info Sheet

Song title: Cry for Those

Length: 3 min. 36 sec.

Written on Dec. 14, 1991

Recorded from May 31 to Jun. 9, 2023

Performers:

- Ray von Schmalz: Vocals, guitars, & drums

- Viktor von Schmalz: Keyboards & bass guitar

### ABOUT THE SONG

The idea for this song came from a sad event. When Queen's Freddie Mercury died in 1991, a friend, who is a big fan of that band, wrote a poem about Freddie's death. I don't remember what it said, but it was along this line of mourning for those who passed. Then I thought I had never written anything about this topic, and *Cry for Those* came to be. Unfortunately, that's an experience that most of us go through, so it certainly relates to many people's realities. That's what makes this song so special and meaningful.

## MUSIC & ARRANGEMENTS

Vik's keyboard arrangements for this song are extraordinary. I also wrote a very beautiful guitar solo for it. The drum lines of this song also follow the mood of the melody and the stress pattern of the lyrics, making it a little challenging to perform. I was also especially careful when writing and recording the backing vocals, so that they could convey the feelings of this song.

## LYRICS

### Cry for Those

Why cry for those who have passed away from here?  
Life ain't for good, you know, life easily comes and goes  
Even flowers die, oh dear  
But all these feelings are so near, I just can't hold back my tears

Why cry for those who have passed away from here?  
Good memories remain, nothing will be the same  
Scattered scenes of happy years  
So many words were left unclear, and now you're dead and gone, oh dear

But why so soon? You could have stayed a little bit longer with us  
But why this way? You could have stayed a little bit longer in here, with me

But why so soon? You could have stayed a little bit longer with us  
But why this way? You could have stayed a little bit longer in here, with me  
Why cry for those... why cry for those...

## TRANSLATIONS

DEUTSCH



# Weine um diese

Warum um diejenigen weinen, die von hier gestorben sind?

Das Leben ist nicht für immer, weißt du, das Leben kommt und geht leicht

Sogar Blumen sterben, oh je

Aber all diese Gefühle sind so nah, dass ich meine Tränen einfach nicht zurückhalten kann

Warum um diejenigen weinen, die von hier gestorben sind?

Es bleiben schöne Erinnerungen, nichts wird so sein, wie es war

Vereinzelte Szenen glücklicher Jahre

So viele Worte blieben unklar, und jetzt bist du tot und gegangen, oh je

Aber warum so bald? Du hättest etwas länger bei uns bleiben sollen

Aber warum auf diese Weise? Du hättest etwas länger bei mir bleiben sollen

Aber warum so bald? Du hättest etwas länger bei uns bleiben sollen

Aber warum auf diese Weise? Du hättest etwas länger bei mir bleiben sollen

Warum um diese weinen ... warum um diese weinen ...

PORTUGUÊS



# Chorar por Alguém

Por que chorar por alguém que já partiu daqui?

A vida não é para sempre, você sabe, a vida facilmente vem e vai

Até as flores morrem, oh céus

Mas esses sentimentos são tão recentes, eu simplesmente não posso reter as lágrimas

Por que chorar por alguém que já partiu daqui?

As boas lembranças ficam, nada será igual a antes

Cenas espalhadas de anos felizes

Tantas palavras foram deixadas sem esclarecimento, e agora você morreu e se foi, oh céus

## Resignation & Rebirth – Ray von Schmalz - 2023

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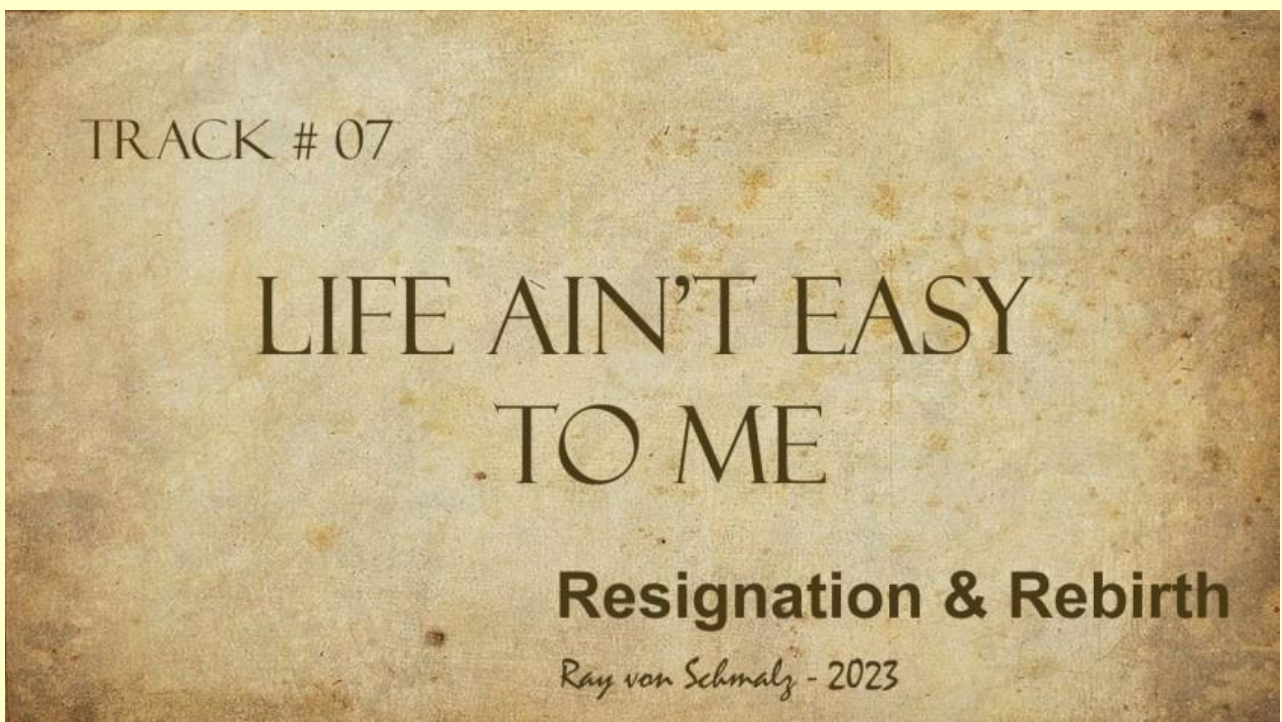
Mas por que tão cedo? Você poderia ter ficado um pouco mais conosco

Mas por que dessa forma? Você poderia ter ficado um pouco mais aqui, comigo

Mas por que tão cedo? Você poderia ter ficado um pouco mais conosco

Mas por que dessa forma? Você poderia ter ficado um pouco mais aqui, comigo

Por que chorar por alguém... por que chorar por alguém



### Info Sheet

Song title: Life Ain't Easy to Me

Length: 2 min. 13 sec.

Written on Dec. 14, 1986

Recorded from May 31 to Jun. 12, 2023

Performers:

- Ray von Schmalz: Vocals, guitars, & drums

- Viktor von Schmalz: Synth harmonica,  
Keyboards & bass guitar

## ABOUT THE SONG

I wrote this one two weeks before I wrote *Father*, when I was leaving my father's house and was not quite sure where I would live. Those were days of high anxiety and those emotions were "photographed" in this song. Again, I believe that this situation is something many people can relate to, so I decided to include this song in this album.

## MUSIC & ARRANGEMENTS

I don't normally write songs in 3/4 time signature, which makes this song the odd man out on this album, musically speaking. I never thought much of this song myself until Vik had the idea to add a harmonica to it, which gave it a new vibe. I also used two different guitars for rhythm: acoustic and my faithful Gibson, with a chorus-like effect from a Boss pedal marking the 3/4 tempo.

## LYRICS

# Life Ain't Easy to Me

Go and tell my baby I have walked on a road  
Where there are so many stones but, you know, here once flowers used to grow

Go and tell my baby to tell the world I won't die  
Gotta fight against the winds, gotta look at all these lies

As you can see life ain't easy to me,  
No home in the street life ain't easy to me  
I got nowhere to live life ain't easy to me

Go and tell my baby all the windows are shut  
Locked up in a room, four walls around and my life is being sucked

Go and tell my baby day is night, night is day  
In a house so many doors, and you look for the one that leads you far away

As you can see life ain't easy to me,  
No home in the street life ain't easy to me  
I got nowhere to live life ain't easy to me

### TRANSLATIONS

DEUTSCH



## Das Leben ist nicht einfach für mich

Geh und sag meinem Baby, dass ich auf einer Straße gelaufen bin  
Wo es so viele Steine gibt, aber hier wuchsen einst Blumen

Geh und sag meinem Baby, sie soll der Welt sagen, dass ich nicht sterben werde  
Ich muss gegen den Wind kämpfen und mir all diese Lügen ansehen

Wie ihr seht, ist das Leben für mich nicht einfach,  
Kein Zuhause auf der Straße, das Leben ist für mich nicht einfach  
Ich habe keinen Ort zum Leben, das Leben ist nicht einfach für mich

Geh und sag meinem Baby, dass alle Fenster geschlossen sind  
Eingesperrt in einem Raum, vier Wände um mich herum und mein Leben wird ausgesaugt

Geh und sag meinem Baby, dass Tag Nacht und Nacht Tag ist  
In einem Haus gibt es so viele Türen, und man sucht nach der, die einen weit wegführt

Wie ihr seht, ist das Leben für mich nicht einfach,  
Kein Zuhause auf der Straße, das Leben ist für mich nicht einfach  
Ich habe keinen Ort zum Leben, das Leben ist nicht einfach für mich



PORTUGUÊS



# A Vida Não É Fácil Para Mim

Vá contar para a minha garota que eu andei em uma estrada  
Onde há muitas pedras, mas, sabe, aqui flores cresciam

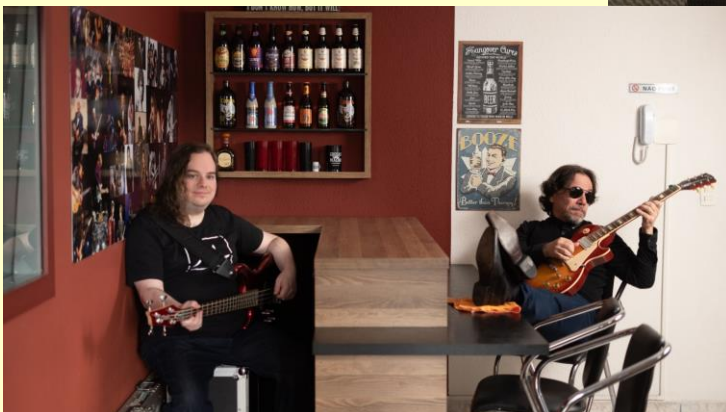
Vá contar para a minha garota para dizer para o mundo que eu não vou morrer  
Tenho que lutar cotra os ventos, tenho que olhar para todas essas mentiras

Como você pode ver a vida não é fácil para mim  
Sem casa na rua a vida não é fácil para mim  
Não tenho onde morar a vida não é fácil para mim

Vá contar para a minha garota que todas as janelas estão fechadas  
Trancado em um quarto, cercado por quatro paredes e a minha vida está sendo sugada

Vá contar para a minha garota que o dia é noite e a noite é dia  
Em uma casa, tantas portas, e você busca a que vai lhe levar para longe

Como você pode ver a vida não é fácil para mim  
Sem casa na rua a vida não é fácil para mim  
Não tenho onde morar a vida não é fácil para mim





### Info Sheet

Song title: Animals

Length: 3 min. 5 sec.

Written on Jul. 13, 1991

Recorded from May 17 to 26, 2023

Performers:

- Ray von Schmalz: Vocals, guitars, & drums
- Viktor von Schmalz: Synth pan flute, Keyboards & bass guitar

### ABOUT THE SONG

In one of my meditations in 1991 I began to feel very disappointed in humanity and turned that feeling into poetry. Of course I know that some animals also have their dark side, but this song is not a dissertation in zoology, just a beautiful song pointing out certain human behaviors.

## MUSIC & ARRANGEMENTS

I had written an interesting introduction to this song on my guitar, then Vik suggested we use something more “jungle-like” and came up with a synth pan flute on his keyboard. Then he added some extra pan flute bits along the song. It was the final touch it needed. I also like the guitar solo I wrote for it – pretty dramatic. The drumming track also required some practice. Many details and pauses. Anyway, I never did more than three takes to nail the drums track.

## LYRICS

# Animals

Animals you don't speak 'cause you don't want words to lie or deceive  
Naked you walk, 'cause you don't have a little bit of our dirty thoughts

You don't kill for fun and you don't hate anyone

You can live in nature, in harmony

How I wish that I were you, how I wish that you were me

How I wish that we all were animals

Animals, you die to feed a greedy and ungrateful humanity

And nowhere you'll find the share of land god once gave you to live in peace

You don't kill for fun and you don't hate anyone

You can live in nature, in harmony

How I wish that I were you, how I wish that you were me

How I wish that we all were animals

How I wish that I were you, how I wish that you were me

How I wish that we all were... animals you don't speak

## TRANSLATIONS

DEUTSCH



# Tiere

Tiere, ihr sprecht nicht, weil ihr nicht wollt, Worte zu lügen oder täuschen  
Nackt geht ihr, weil ihr nicht ein bisschen von unseren schmutzigen Gedanken habt

Ihr tötet nicht zum Spaß und hasst niemanden  
Ihr könnt in der Natur in Harmonie leben  
Wie ich wünschte, ich wäre ihr, wie ich wünschte, ihr wärt ich  
Ich wünschte, wir wären alle Tiere

Tiere, ihr sterbt, um eine gierige und undankbare Menschheit zu ernähren  
Und nirgendwo findet ihr den Anteil an Land, den Gott euch einst gegeben hat,  
um in Frieden zu leben

Ihr tötet nicht zum Spaß und hasst niemanden  
Ihr könnt in der Natur in Harmonie leben  
Wie ich wünschte, ich wäre ihr, wie ich wünschte, ihr wärt ich  
Ich wünschte, wir wären alle Tiere

Wie ich wünschte, ich wäre ihr, wie ich wünschte, ihr wärt ich  
Ich wünschte, wir wären alle... Tiere, ihe sprecht nicht

PORTUGUÊS



# Animais

Animais, vocês não falam, pois não querem palavras para mentir ou enganar  
Nus vocês andam, pois não têm nem um pouco dos nossos pensamentos sujos

Vocês não matam por diversão e não odeiam ninguém  
Vocês conseguem viver na natureza em harmonia

## Resignation & Rebirth – Ray von Schmalz - 2023

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Como eu gostaria que eu fosse vocês, como eu gostaria que vocês fossem eu  
Como eu gostaria que todos nós fôssemos animais

Animais, vocês morrem para alimentar uma humanidade gananciosa e ingrata  
E em lugar algum vocês encontram o pedaço de terra que deus lhes deu para viver em paz

Vocês não matam por diversão e não odeiam ninguém  
Vocês conseguem viver na natureza em harmonia  
Como eu gostaria que eu fosse vocês, como eu gostaria que vocês fossem eu  
Como eu gostaria que todos nós fôssemos animais

Como eu gostaria que eu fosse vocês, como eu gostaria que vocês fossem eu  
Como eu gostaria que todos nós fôssemos... animais, vocês não falam



### Info Sheet

Song title: Why Have You Gone?

Length: 4 min. 46 sec.

Written on Dec. 9, 1985

Recorded from May 31 to Jun. 12, 2023

Performers:

- Ray von Schmalz: Vocals, guitars, & drums
- Viktor von Schmalz: Keyboards & bass guitar

## ABOUT THE SONG

This song actually belongs with the batch of *Shadows of the Past*. I wrote it when I was 19 and was just a nice song speaking about random relationship problems that did not relate to anything I had experienced. However, from the 1985 version, when it was written, to now, there have been small adjustments to the lyrics as well as to the melody.

## MUSIC & ARRANGEMENTS

This song has two rhythm guitars: one is acoustic (my Takamine) and the other my Gibby with a Boss pedal effect. The rhythm is complemented by Vik's keyboard arrangements for strings and organ (in the chorus). Vik also wrote the bass line that is reinforced by two additional electronic keyboard bass line panned to left and right separately. The guitar riffs and solos, typically pentatonic, give our brain what it expects in a basic chord sequence like this, which always ends in a B that is complemented by a backing vocal gradual chord formation.

## CURIOSITIES

This song is one of the first songs that NOW played as a band back in 1985. It was our flagship song for a while, until I wrote *Home to My Arms Again* and *Hand in Hand*.

## LYRICS

# Why Have You Gone?

All the flowers that grew in my heart are dead

My head is down, my soul feels bad

Girl, you are my life, can't you understand

That my love for you will never end?

When I was with you I was all right

You were my joy, you were my light

I would spend every minute of my life with you  
And now I know I was a fool

Baby, baby, why have you gone?  
Baby, baby, I have to be strong  
Baby, baby, don't leave me alone  
Baby, baby, where did we go wrong?

I keep counting the drops of rain on my windowpane  
Hoping you'll come back to take away my blues  
But deep inside my heart I know it's all in vain  
Now I have to start my life anew... and I will never know...

Baby, baby, why have you gone?  
Baby, baby, I have to be strong  
Baby, baby, don't leave me alone  
Baby, baby, where did we go wrong?

### TRANSLATIONS

DEUTSCH



## Warum bist du weggegangen?


Alle Blumen, die in meinem Herzen wuchsen, sind tot  
Mein Kopf ist gesenkt, meine Seele fühlt sich schlecht  
Mädchen, du bist mein Leben, kannst du das nicht verstehen?  
Dass meine Liebe zu dir niemals enden wird?

Als ich bei dir war, ging es mir gut  
Du warst meine Freude, du warst mein Licht  
Ich würde jede Minute meines Lebens mit dir verbringen  
Und jetzt weiß ich, dass ich ein Narr war

Baby, Baby, warum bist du weggegangen?  
Baby, Baby, ich muss stark sein  
Baby, Baby, lass mich nicht allein  
Baby, Baby, was haben wir falsch gemacht?

Ich zähle ständig die Regentropfen auf meiner Fensterscheibe  
Ich hoffe, dass du zurückkommst, um mir den Blues zu nehmen  
Aber tief in meinem Herzen weiß ich, dass alles umsonst ist  
Jetzt muss ich mein Leben neu beginnen ... und ich werde es nie wissen ...

Baby, Baby, warum bist du weggegangen?  
Baby, Baby, ich muss stark sein  
Baby, Baby, lass mich nicht allein  
Baby, Baby, was haben wir falsch gemacht?

PORTUGUÊS 

## Por Que Você Partiu?

Todas as flores que cresceram no meu coração estão mortas  
A minha cabeça está na pior, a minha alma está se sentindo mal  
Garota, você é a minha vida, você não entende  
Que o meu amor por você jamais acabará?

Quando eu estava com você eu estava bem  
Você era a minha alegria, você era a minha luz  
Eu passaria cada minuto da minha vida com você  
Mas agora eu sei que fui um tolo

Querida, querida, por que você partiu?  
Querida, querida, eu tenho que ser forte  
Querida, querida, não me deixe sozinho  
Querida, querida, onde foi que erramos?



## Resignation & Rebirth – Ray von Schmalz - 2023

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Fico contando as gotas de chuva na janela  
Esperando que você volte para tirar a minha tristeza  
Mas no fundo do meu coração eu sei que é tudo em vão  
Agora eu tenho que começar a minha vida novamente... e jamais saberei

Querida, querida, por que você partiu?  
Querida, querida, eu tenho que ser forte  
Querida, querida, não me deixe sozinho  
Querida, querida, onde foi que erramos?



### Info Sheet

Song title: Hope  
Length: 2 min. 53 sec.  
Written on May 30, 1991  
Recorded from May 17 to 26, 2023  
Performers:  
- Ray von Schmalz: Vocals, guitars, & drums  
- Viktor von Schmalz: Keyboards & bass guitar

## **ABOUT THE SONG**

This song was born out of my experiments with new harmonies and chord sequences inspired by a feeling of hope that everything was going to be fine. That was a little before NOW broke up. It is a beautiful song with a great message.

## **MUSIC & ARRANGEMENTS**

I used a sort of “folk style” approach in the way the instruments were used. Two guitars, one acoustic and one with a pedal effect for rhythm and Vik added a xylophone effect in the chorus. The guitar solo is also interesting. Not about speed, but more focused on the melody. Vik wrote the bass line and recorded it. It turned out better than I actually expected it to be.

## **LYRICS**

# Hope

As the early morning sun arrows its rays through my window pane  
Birds chirp tones of joyful songs making believe there is love again  
It's good to feel there is hope to change the course of this evil drive  
As loveless people just sit and mope, nature proclaims love is still alive

Let's make a better world, a new earth will be our reward

Let's change evil into good, let's live in brotherhood

Let's share our loneliness, and make it happiness

As nature points out the paths where life..... returns from death

## TRANSLATIONS

DEUTSCH



# Hoffnung

Während die frühe Morgensonne ihre Strahlen durch meine Fensterscheibe schießt  
Vögel zwitschern fröhliche Lieder und lassen glauben, dass es wieder Liebe gibt  
Es ist gut zu spüren, dass es Hoffnung gibt, den Lauf dieses bösen Triebs zu ändern  
Während lieblose Menschen einfach dasitzen und Trübsal blasen, verkündet die Natur, dass die  
Liebe noch lebt

Lasst uns eine bessere Welt schaffen, eine neue Erde wird unser Lohn sein  
Lasst uns das Böse in Gutes verwandeln, lasst uns in Brüderlichkeit leben,  
Lasst uns unsere Einsamkeit teilen und sie glücklich machen  
So wie die Natur die Wege zeigt, auf denen das Leben vom Tod zurückkehrt

PORTUGUÊS



# Esperança

Quando o sol do início da manhã lança os seus raios pela janela  
Os pássaros cantam tons de canções alegres, fazendo de conta que há amor novamente  
É bom sentir que há esperança para mudar a direção dessa jornada maligna  
Enquanto as pessoas se sentam e se queixam, a natureza proclama que o amor ainda vive

Vamos fazer um mundo melhor, uma nova terra será a nossa recompensa  
Vamos trocar o mal pelo bem, vamos viver em irmandade,

Vamos compartilhar a nossa solidão, e transformá-la em felicidade  
Pois a natureza nos mostra o caminho por onde a vida retorna da morte



### Info Sheet

Song title: Denise

Length: 2 min. 18 sec.

Written on Oct. 28, 1993

Recorded from May 3 to 12, 2023

Performers:

- Ray von Schmalz: Vocals, guitars, & drums
- Viktor von Schmalz: Keyboards & bass guitar

### ABOUT THE SONG

On October 28, 1993, I wrote this song for my wife, Denise, after the birth of our first child, Viktor, who had been born two weeks before, on October 11, 1993. *Shadows of the Past* (my previous album) also features a song that I wrote for her on the day after we started dating (*Every Bit of You*). One per album! She deserves every note of these songs.

## MUSIC & ARRANGEMENTS

Believe it or not, this song contains traces of Bossa Nova. Then I added this pop beat to it. The instrumental goes down to the basics: drums, bass, rhythm guitar, solo guitar. The backing vocal lines were also carefully written, so that they wouldn't be very intrusive. Vik's bass line is also worth mentioning. Perfect and awesome! It turned out to be a light, upbeat and nice song.

## CURIOSITIES

Viktor ended up writing the bass line and helping record the song that was written to celebrate his own birth.

## LYRICS

# Denise

From the bottom of my heart, Denise, you're everything to me  
You're the one who makes the sun shine down on me  
Through the hardships of the days  
Striving hard to push my way, you ease me up

I could never do without your loving, oh you are my light  
You're the one who backs me up to win this fight  
When a tear rolls down my face  
It's in you I find the embrace that wipes it off

Denise, it's only with you I share my dreams  
Denise, this song is much more than words may ever seem to mean

Denise, it's only with you I share my dreams  
Denise, this song is much more than words may ever seem to mean

From the bottom of my heart, Denise, you're everything to me  
You're the one who makes the sun shine down on me  
It doesn't matter what takes place  
'Cause my heart will always just beat up for you... for you

### TRANSLATIONS

DEUTSCH



## Denise

Aus tiefstem Herzen, Denise, du bist alles für mich  
Du bist diejenige, die die Sonne auf mich scheinen lässt  
Durch die Strapazen der Tage  
ich bemühe mich mit aller Kraft, meinen Weg zu finden, und du hilfst mir, mich zu beruhigen

Ich könnte niemals ohne deine Liebe auskommen, oh du bist mein Licht  
Du bist diejenige, die mich dabei unterstützt, diesen Kampf zu gewinnen  
Wenn eine Träne über mein Gesicht rollt  
In dir finde ich die Umarmung, die sie abwischt

Denise, nur mit dir teile ich meine Träume  
Denise, dieses Lied ist viel mehr, als Worte jemals zu bedeuten scheinen

Denise, nur mit dir teile ich meine Träume  
Denise, dieses Lied ist viel mehr, als Worte jemals zu bedeuten scheinen

Aus tiefstem Herzen, Denise, du bist alles für mich  
Du bist diejenige, die die Sonne auf mich scheinen lässt  
Es spielt keine Rolle, was passiert  
Denn mein Herz wird immer nur für dich schlagen... nur für dich

PORTUGUÊS



## Denise

Do fundo do meu coração, Denise você é tudo para mim  
É você que faz o sol brilhar sobre mim  
Através das dificuldades dos dias  
Lutando para vencer, você me tranquiliza

Eu nunca conseguiria sem o seu amor, oh, você é a minha luz  
É você que me apoia para ganhar essa luta  
Quando uma lágrima rola do meu rosto  
É em você que eu encontro o abraço que a enxuga

Denise, é somente com você que eu compartilho os meus sonhos  
Denise, essa música é muito mais do que as palavras jamais poderão significar

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Denise, essa música é muito mais do que as palavras jamais poderão significar

Do fundo do meu coração, Denise você é tudo para mim  
É você que faz o sol brilhar sobre mim  
Não importa o que aconteça  
Pois o meu coração sempre baterá somente por você... por você





### Info Sheet

Song title: I Love You So

Length: 2 min. 10 sec.

Written on Jun. 10, 1990

Recorded from May 31 to Jun. 9, 2023

Performers:

- Ray von Schmalz: Vocals, guitars, & drums

- Viktor von Schmalz: Synth banjo, synth fiddle,  
& bass guitar

### ABOUT THE SONG

After NOW won a music contest in July of 1989 and played alongside *Blindagem*, a local Brazilian band with some national projection, and whose manager offered her management services to me, but some of the conditions would affect members of the band, so I turned it down. NOW played two nights of country music in *Blindagem's* bar, *Bebedouro*, downtown Curitiba. That was August, 1989. Many people had mentioned that NOW was good at making country music, then I decided to write a song in a kind of "Bluegrass Country style" just for fun.



### MUSIC & ARRANGEMENTS

Viktor wrote the bass line and the keyboard arrangements, including the fiddle lines and solo and the banjo track, which he played note by note, not using any pre-set function on the keyboard. That was really astounding! His fiddle solo is so good that it really sounds like a real fiddle. Then I had to do some “chicken picking” guitar bit and solo. Not really my cup of tea, though I really like it. Vik gave me some scale tips and I spent three days *chick'n-picking* on my old guitar to come up with something that would make the grade..

### CURIOSITIES

I've always enjoyed good country music. One of my secret dreams was to live in a rural area in the USA and make a living out of playing country music while taking care of a small farm. You can't get more country than that.

### LYRICS

## I Love You So

This morn I told myself I'd say to you "I love you so"  
But girl, when you're around, the words just don't flow  
Then I get back to my place really down and low 'cause my feelings I can't show

Hey doll, I fell in love with you a long, long time ago  
But I could never figure how this love would grow  
Now I try so hard to find a way to let you know that, oh babe, I love you so

It's so hard to love this way, when you can't find the right words to say  
With all my heart I sing this tune, stay with me, don't go  
And let me be your full-time beau

You're my pretty flower and I'll love you endlessly  
Though you never even look at me  
So if I stare at you be sure my eyes are saying "hello"  
And my heart "I love you so"

### TRANSLATIONS

DEUTSCH



## Ich liebe dich so sehr

Heute Morgen habe ich mir gesagt, dass ich dir sagen würde: „Ich liebe dich so.“

Aber Mädchen, wenn du in der Nähe bist, fließen die Worte einfach nicht

Dann komme ich wirklich deprimiert und deprimiert nach Hause zurück, weil ich meine Gefühle nicht zeigen kann

Hey Süße, ich habe mich vor langer, langer Zeit in dich verliebt

Aber ich konnte mir nie vorstellen, wie diese Liebe wachsen würde

Jetzt versuche ich so sehr, einen Weg zu finden, dich wissen zu lassen, dass ich dich so liebe, oh Baby

Es ist so schwer, auf diese Weise zu lieben, wenn man nicht die richtigen Worte dafür findet

Von ganzem Herzen singe ich dieses Lied, bleib bei mir, geh nicht weg

Und lass mich dein Vollzeitfreund sein

Du bist meine hübsche Blume und ich werde dich unendlich lieben

Obwohl du mich nie ansiehst

Wenn ich dich also anstarre, sei sicher, dass meine Augen „Hallo“ sagen.

Und mein Herz „Ich liebe dich so“

PORTUGUÊS



## Eu Te Amo Tanto

Hoje de manhã eu falei para mim mesmo que diria para você “eu te amo”  
Mas, garota, quando você aparece as palavras simplesmente não fluem  
Então eu volto para o meu canto, realmente deprimido, pois não consigo mostrar os meus sentimentos

Ei, querida, eu me apaixonei por você há muito tempo atrás  
Mas nunca imaginei o quanto esse amor cresceria  
Agora eu me esforço tanto para encontrar um jeito de lhe dizer, que, querida, eu te amo tanto

É tão difícil amar assim, quando você não consegue encontrar as palavras certas para dizer  
Com todo o meu coração eu canto essa música, fique comigo, não vá  
E me deixe ser o seu namorado

Você é a minha bela flor e eu lhe amarei infinitamente  
Embora você nunca sequer olhe para mim  
Então se eu olhar para você tenha certeza que os meus olhos estão dizendo “olá”  
E o meu coração “eu te amo tanto”

# Pictorial



Original book sent to the registration office in Rio de Janeiro in 2020. The songs are listed in alphabetical order, not in the order they appear in the album. Some of these songs had already been registered before, some as far back as 1985.



In one of my home studios on April 30, 2023, recording the guides for the drums. That's the very first step in the production of a song. Most musicians record this guide in the professional studio where the song will be produced. But my home studio has very good sound quality, so I sped up the process by doing that during the weekend. It was a Sunday morning.

## Resignation & Rebirth – Ray von Schmalz - 2023

Recording the drums for the first batch on May 3, 2023 at MGC Studio.



With my producer, good friend and amazing musician and guitarist Marcelo Gelbke, owner of MGC.

With Viktor, AKA Lefty, of the awesome band *All in Four*. One of the most amazing musicians I've ever played with (and boy, have I played with a lot of people!), who also happens to be my son. Think of someone with absolute pitch, who can recognize any note just by listening to it! That's him! He claims he has "relative pitch," meaning he needs a reference, but so far, every time I played something, he never asked for any reference and immediately identified the note. Every musician that meets Vik gets absolutely flabbergasted. Marcelo for one. During the edition, Vik listened to one of my multi-voice backing vocals and spotted a note that was off when listening to all instruments and voices together. He even named the note, like "there's a G# there, where it should be a G" or something like this. He made orchestral arrangements for *Father* and other songs with multiple different violin lines without writing any of that stuff and recorded in one single take. A real master! Way to go, Vik!



## Resignation & Rebirth – Ray von Schmalz - 2023



Master Lefty at work! Vik did all keyboard lines and bass. I didn't know he was such a great bassist. I'm not a bad bassist myself, but after Vik showed me the bass lines he had written for the album, I stepped down, bowed to him and said: "go ahead! The bass is yours!" In this album, I only did the bass track for Feelings Go Anywhere, which was the first song we recorded.

Master Lefty on the bass!



Making arrangements with Vik in my Home Studio #2 on May 21, 2023. Our Sundays were dedicated to all this preparation for the recording sessions during the week. It was a veritable six-week marathon. Marcelo Gelbke even said that he never produce such a large album, with elaborate songs, in such a short time. I joked with him and said that "this album was a record," pardon the pun.

This is my "creative den."  
That's where I wrote most  
of my vocal arrangements,  
guitar riffs and solos.



That's the acoustic guitar I  
used in *Feelings Go  
Anywhere*. My Takamine.  
It's a great instrument.

And, of course, I couldn't  
leave out my precious  
"Gibby." I've had it for over  
15 years. When I was a  
young musician I dreamed  
of one of these, but I could  
only afford one many years  
later.



## Resignation & Rebirth – Ray von Schmalz - 2023

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Recording vocals at MGC

One more important picture. This one shows my oldest guitar, which I used to write most of my old songs, including *Father* and *Feelings Go Anywhere* and basically all songs from *Shadows of the Past*. I bought this guitar when I was 14 and had to save a lot to do it. I had a talented classmate when I was in the eighth grade, who made beautifully carved decorative pictures. I helped him sell them and got a share on the sale price. I also received a small allowance from my granny and saved every penny I could. That's how I bought this guitar.



Vik & I at MGC



# Resignation & Rebirth – Ray von Schmalz - 2023

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Vik & I at MGC



# Resignation & Rebirth – Ray von Schmalz - 2023



Preparing some last-minute arrangements



Marcelo Gelbcke & I



## Resignation & Rebirth – Ray von Schmalz - 2023

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Marcelo Gelbcke, Vik & I

In my home studio #2, where I have my acoustic drums set. I recorded all the drums tracks for Resignation & Rebirth.



In my home studio #2 –  
Photos by Rafa Forte





In my home studio #2 –  
Photos by Rafa Forte





This is my best acoustic guitar. I've recorded many of my songs with it. *Feelings Go Anywhere*, *Prisoner of Your Heart* and *Every Bit of You* (the last two from *Shadows of the Past*) highlight this instrument.

