

# Dream Theater, Solitary Shell

She can't stop pacing  
She never felt so alive  
Her thoughts are racing  
Set on overdrive

It takes a village  
This she knows is true  
They're expecting her  
And she's got work to do

He helplessly stands by  
It's meaningless to try  
As he rubs his red-rimmed eyes  
He says I've never seen her get this bad

Even though she seems so high  
He knows that she can't fly  
and when she falls out of the sky  
He'll be standing by

She was raised in a small midwestern town  
By a charming and eccentric loving father  
She was praised as the perfect teenage girl  
And everyone thought highly of her

And she tried everyday  
With endless drive  
To make the grade  
Then one day  
She woke up to find  
The perfect girl  
Had lost her mind

Once barely taking a break  
Now she sleeps the days away  
She helplessly stands by  
It's meaningless to try  
All she wants to do is cry  
No one ever knew she was so sad

Cause even though she gets so high  
And thinks that she can fly  
She will fall out of the sky  
But in the face of misery  
She found hopefulness  
Feeling better  
She had weathered  
This depression

Much to her advantage  
She resumed her frantic pace  
Boundless power  
Midnight hour  
She enjoyed the race  
&lt;/lyrics>

== III. War Inside My Head ==  
{{Song|Live At Budokan (2004)|Dream Theater|star=Green}}  
&lt;/lyrics>  
Napalm showers  
Showed the cowards  
We weren't there to mess around

Through heat exhaustion

And mind distortion  
A military victory mounted on innocent ground

Hearing voices from miles away  
Saying things never said  
Seeing shadows in the light of the day  
Waging a war inside my head

Years and years of  
Bloodshed and warfare  
Our mission was only to get in and kill

A free vacation  
Of palmtrees and shrapnel  
Trading innocence for permanent psychotic hell

Hearing voices from miles away  
Saying things never said  
Seeing shadows in the light of the day  
Waging a war inside my head

Feeling strangers staring my way  
Reading minds never read  
Tasting danger with each word I say  
Waging a war inside my head  
&lt;/lyrics&gt;

== IV. The Test That Stumped Them All ==  
{{Song|Live At Budokan (2004)|Dream Theater|star=Green}}  
&lt;/lyrics&gt;  
Standing in the darkness  
Waiting for the light  
The smell of pure adrenaline  
Burning in the night

Random blinding flashes  
Aiming at the stage  
Intro tape begins to roll  
Igniting sonic rage

Still they keep me between these hollow walls  
Hoping to find in me  
The answers to the test that stumped them all

&quot;The boy is simply crazy  
Suffering from delusions  
We honestly think that maybe  
He might need an institution

He lives in a world of fiction  
And really could use some help  
We have just the place to fix him  
To save him from himself&quot;

Curled up in the darkness  
Searching for the light  
The smell of stale sweat and shit  
Streaming through the night

Random urine testing  
Pills red, pink and blue  
Counseling and therapy  
Providing not a clue

Still they keep me between these hollow walls

Hoping to find in me  
The answers to the test that stumped them all

"We can't seem to find the answers  
He seemed such a clear cut case  
We cannot just let him leave here  
And put all this work to waste

Why don't we try shock treatment  
It really might do some help  
We have just the tools to fix him  
To save him from himself"  
</lyrics>

== V. Goodnight Kiss ==  
{{Song|Live At Budokan (2004)|Dream Theater|star=Green}}  
</lyrics>  
Goodnight kiss in your nightgown  
Lavender in your bed  
So innocent as you lie down  
Sweet dreams that run through your head

Are you lonely without Mommy's love?  
I want you to know I'd die for that moment  
You're just a poor girl  
Afraid of this cruel world  
Taken away from it all

It's been 5 years to the day and  
My tainted blood's still the same  
I can't help acting this way and  
Those bastard doctors are gonna pay

I'm so lonely without baby's love  
I want you to know I'd die for one more moment  
I'm just a poor girl  
Afraid of this cruel world  
Taken away from it all  
</lyrics>

== VI. Solitary Shell ==  
{{Song|Live At Budokan (2004)|Dream Theater|star=Green}}  
</lyrics>  
He seemed no different from the rest  
Just a healthy normal boy  
His mama always did her best  
And he was daddy's pride and joy

He learned to walk and talk on time  
But never cared much to be held  
And steadily he would decline  
Into his solitary shell

As a boy he was considered somewhat odd  
Kept to himself most of the time  
He would daydream in and out of his own world  
But in every other way he was fine

He's a Monday morning lunatic  
Disturbed from time to time  
Lost within himself  
In his solitary shell

A temporary catatonic  
Madman on occasion

When will he break out  
Of his solitary shell

He struggled to get through his day  
He was helplessly behind  
He poured himself onto the page  
Writing for hours at a time

As a man he was a danger to himself  
Fearful and sad most of the time  
He was drifting in and out of sanity  
But in every other way he was fine

He's a Monday morning lunatic  
Disturbed from time to time  
Lost within himself  
In his solitary shell

A momentary maniac  
With casual delusions  
When will he be let out  
Of his solitary shell  
</lyrics>

== VII. About To Crash (Reprise) ==  
</lyrics>  
I'm alive again  
The darkness far behind me  
I'm invincible  
Despair will never find me

I feel strong  
I've got a new sense of elation  
Boundless energy  
Euphoria fixation

Still it's hard to just get by  
It seems so meaningless to try  
When all I want to do is cry  
Who would ever know I felt so sad

Even though I get so high  
I know that I will never fly  
And when I fall out of the sky  
Who'll be standing by

Will you be standing by  
</lyrics>

== VIII. Losing Time/Grand Finale ==  
</lyrics>  
She dresses in black everyday  
She keeps her hair simple and plain  
She never wears makeup  
But no one would care if she did anyway

She doesn't recall yesterday  
Faces seem twisted and strange  
But she always wakes up  
Only to find she'd been miles away

Absence of awareness  
Losing time  
A lapse of perception  
Losing time

Wanting to escape  
She had created a way to survive  
She learned to detach from herself  
A behavior that kept her alive

Hope in the face of our human distress  
Helps us to understand the turbulence deep inside  
That takes hold of our lives  
Shame and disgrace over mental unrest  
Keeps us from saving those we love  
The grace within our hearts  
And the sorrow in our souls  
Deception of fame  
Vengeance of war  
Lives torn apart  
Losing oneself  
Spiraling down  
Feeling the walls closing in  
A journey to find  
The answers inside  
Our illusive mind