

THE SONGWRITER

ACT ONE

“Why would you leave?” (Alternative Rock)

You said it's time for you to go away.

I wish you take the time to think and stay.

Is it something I did, that's making you leave?

And is there something I could do that will make you cleave?

—Music—

Will you be back for me?

Your mouth says yes, but your eyes tell me no?

Is there something I could be?

Your mouth says no, but your eyes tell me yes.

Why would you leave me? Why would you leave me?

Please don't go I don't want to be a fatherless child

Stay here; stay here just for a little while

I can't bare to see you walk away

I wish you would think and stay

Please don't leave me. Please don't leave me. Please don't leave me.

—Music—

Will you be back for me?

Your mouth says yes, but your eyes tell me no?

Is there something I could be?

Your mouth says no, but your eyes tell me yes.

Why would you leave me? Why would you leave me? Why would you leave?

“Whispers” (Jazz)

Whispers behind my back; I hear whispers behind my back

Whispers about the man who never cared for me

Whispers about the man who never loved me

They think that I cannot hear what they say about him

But I hear every word they whisper about him

Whispers behind my back; I hear whispers behind my back

Whispers of words that I wish were lies and not true

They speak words of whispers and think I have no clue

Whispers behind my back; I hear whispers behind my back

—Music—

Whispers; I hear whispers; Whispers; I hear whispers; Whispers; I hear whispers behind my back. Whispers.

“Beautiful” (R&B)

You are beautiful.

Your eyes are so fine.

I could stare at your eyes everyday.

And your smile makes me happy just to see your face.

Your face; your face I can't get enough of your handsome face.

You are beautiful. Everyday that I see you is a beautiful day. And I am so glad that I have eyes that see your beautiful face.

Your hair; can I touch your hair? What beautiful hair.

Your body; your body is just so fine. Can I touch your body?

Can't you see just how beautiful you are?

I just can't get enough staring at you baby. You are beautiful.

You are beautiful. Everyday that I see you is a beautiful day. And I am so glad that I have eyes that see your beautiful face.

I would die if I could never see your face again. I could never live without seeing you.

I'm in love with your beauty; I'm addicted to you.

You are beautiful. Everyday that I see you is a beautiful day. And I am so glad that I have eyes that see your beautiful face.

You are beautiful. You are beautiful. You are beautiful. You are beautiful.

“Nasty Things” (Heavy Rock)

Your daddy is out; your mommy is gone

It's just you and me and we're all alone

Let's have some fun; some crazy fun; let's do some nasty things we might regret.

Are you ready to try new things? Are you ready to do what is wrong?

Let's get in bed and let's have some fun

Let me pleasure you all night long.

Let's get naked and wrestle in bed

Let's do some nasty things we might regret!

Don't be so shy; come on and take off your clothes

Now that we're all alone baby, it's anything goes.

Let's get in bed and let's have some fun

Let me pleasure you all night long.

Let's get naked and wrestle in bed

Let's do some nasty things we might regret!

Your daddy is out; your mommy is gone

It's just you and me and we're all alone

Mind Reader (Light Country)

*There are days
That I wish you were
Successful at reading minds
So I wouldn't have to
Tell you something
Something that you need to know
Every time I approach you there's a sense of fear that keeps me speaking.
I rehearse everyday what I need to tell you, but the words just stay in my mouth.
I wish you were a mind reader; a reader of minds and their thoughts.
Then I could think what I needed to say and you'd hear me loud and clear.
I hate this fear that comes over me. It cripples me so good.
I intend to tell you, but every time I try I just can't seem to speak the words.
I wish you were a mind reader; a reader of minds and their thoughts.
Then I could think what I needed to say and you'd hear me loud and clear.
Can you understand my mind? Can you read my eyes as they speak?
Can you understand anything I say without speaking any words?
If you did than it would be easier to tell you what you need to know.
I wish you were a mind reader; a reader of minds and their thoughts.
Then I could think what I needed to say and you'd hear me loud and clear.
And then you'd understand what I needed to tell you all along.*

Love Hurts ('60s Oldies)

*Why does love have to hurt and cause me so much pain?
Why does love have to hurt I wish that it would rain.
Why does love have to hurt and cause me so much pain?
Why does love have to hurt I wish that it would rain.
Every time I meet with him he causes so much pain.
Oh every time I get with him it brings me so much shame
But he tells me he loves me; he loves me all the same
But I just can't take this hurt and all of this pain.
Why does love have to hurt and cause me so much pain?
Why does love have to hurt I wish that it would rain.
Why does love have to hurt and cause me so much pain?
Why does love have to hurt I wish that it would rain.
I wish it would rain now so no one could see my tears.
I wish the rain would take this man because he such a pain in my rear.
Oh, if this is love, don't know if I want this.
If this is love, then I'd like to be dismissed.
It hurts so badly. It hurts so badly. It hurts so badly. It hurts so badly.*

I'm Addicted to You (Disco)

*Sadly I'll admit that everything you've done to me
Has caused me to be addicted to you
Every touch, every rub, every pleasure that you've caused is making me want
More of you and more of everything that you do to me
I didn't like it once before
But I now can't get enough of you.
I'm addicted; addicted to you. I don't want you to go away
I want you to hold me and I need you to stay
Stay; stay right by my side
Don't you say goodbye
I need you in my arms forever more
I'm addicted; addicted to you. I don't want you to go away
I want you to hold me and I need you to stay
Touch me; caress me; like you've done before
I know it's wrong, but I can't get enough
Hold me closer and kiss me longer
Ooh the feelings are just getting stronger
I'm addicted; addicted to you. I don't want you to go away
I want you to hold me and I need you to stay*

I Must Go (Opera)

*I must go.
It's time for me
To leave this place
It's time for me to leave you
Don't be sad; don't be blue
Let this be a new beginning for us both
I must get away from here
Not for you, but it is for me
I cannot stay I must leave
But I want you to know I need you to know
I love you forever more
So never blame yourself for my departure is do to my own feelings
Feelings that I cannot share but believe me you have done all you can
I must go.
It's time for me
To leave this place; this place called home
I'll return, but not forever
I must leave you now. It is time for me to leave
Amen, Amen, Amen*

Ecstasy (Reggae)

*I don't want to remember and fret
The past that makes me frown
So, I'll do what it takes to forget
And I'll go and get down
I'll get down and up
It feels like ecstasy
I think I'm in the sky
It feels like ecstasy
It only lasts a moment, but the moment feels so good
So good that I think I'll do it again; I'll do it again
And again and again and again
I'll get down and up
It feels like ecstasy
I think I'm in the sky
It feels like ecstasy*

I think

*I think its time for me to cry
It's time to let the tears rain
Won't be afraid I'll let the tears flow
I think its time for me to cry
I think its time for me to say goodbye
Goodbye to all of the pain
I'll take all the pain and let it go
I think its time for me to cry
It's time for me to cry, cry, cry.
It's time for me to cry, cry, cry
A real man is not afraid to cry.
It's just tears that clean your soul.
I'm gonna let the tears come by
So I can be complete and whole.
It's time for me to cry, cry, cry.
It's time for me to cry, cry, cry*

Don't Want Me Now

*I was nothing; absolutely nothing to you.
Wasn't worth staying around for isn't true?
I cried for you to stay right by my side.
But you thought it was time to say goodbye.
And now that I'm everything you're not.
I'm better; you want everything I've got.
But don't you see that it's just too late.
You should have thought of me before you escaped.
The only thing I could say
You didn't want me then so don't want me now.
You didn't like me then so don't like me now.
You didn't need me then so don't need me now.
You didn't love me then so don't love me now.
When I was at the bottom; where were you?
I couldn't find you anywhere and you know that it's true.
Now I'm at the top and you just seem to appear.
But don't you think it's late? I want you to hear
You didn't want me then so don't want me now.
You didn't like me then so don't like me now.
You didn't need me then so don't need me now.
You didn't love me then so don't love me now.
You didn't even want me into existence
So please just keep your distance
You didn't want me then so don't want me now.
You didn't like me then so don't like me now.
You didn't need me then so don't need me now.
You didn't love me then so don't love me now.
You didn't want me then so don't want me now.
You didn't like me then so don't like me now.
You didn't need me then so don't need me now.
You didn't love me then so don't love me now.
Don't want me now (repeat)*

Life's Lessons (Broadway Ballad)

*After you learn your past is just a learning experience
Then you're learn that nothing is a coincidence
You won't cry over what you never had
You'll appreciate and learn to be glad
Life's lessons for you
Your past can't be changed so stop wishing it would
Your past is what you needed for your good
Life's problems are to make you strong
Solve those problems and keep moving on*

TALK SHOW HOST: So we have today on our show Grammy award winning songwriter Jonathan Smith. Thanks for coming on the show.

JONATHAN (Adult): You're welcome. Thanks for having me.

TALK SHOW HOST: So you are the first person ever to have so many number one hit songs in so many different genres of music. How does that feel?

JONATHAN: Well, it feels wonderful. In fact wonderful doesn't even explain how I feel. I mean, I have always been eclectic when it comes to music. So to be successful in many different genres is such a blessing.

TALK SHOW HOST: now you have written so many types of songs. What inspired you to write these songs?

JONATHAN: Well, actually each song was inspired by a different event or occasion in my life.

TALK SHOW HOST: Oh really. What occasions?

JONATHAN: Oh, I can't go into detail. Each song has its own experience. It would take too long for me to explain each song.

TALK SHOW HOST: Well, maybe you should write a book about each song and occasion.

JONATHAN: You know that's a great idea. I just might do so.

TALK SHOW HOST: I think it'll be great. You know, I am sure your fans would love to know what inspired you.

JONATHAN: Really? Well, I'll definitely think about it.

THE END

ACT TWO

VOICE OVER: Jonathan Smith has released a book entitled, “Jonathan Smith: My Life in Song.” The book gives the details of the inspiration of each song he has written. Critics are raving over the book and believe it will be a fast bestseller.

JONATHAN (Adult): I used to write. I used to write all the time. From the time I was ten to the time I was in college. Any time I felt bad I would sit and write. I remember I entered a songwriting contest after graduating college. I had turned one of my writings into a song and the rest is history.

LAURA: You can’t do this, Gregory. You just can’t leave us like this.

GREGORY: Why can’t you understand my dream? I have every intentions of returning.

LAURA: Grow up, Gregory. Don’t you think this musician thing is childish?

GREGORY: No. I cannot give up and this is a perfect opportunity.

LAURA: What if it doesn’t work. Then what?

GREGORY: I can’t worry about that. I have had this dream forever. I can’t give up on it now.

LAURA: But you can’t just up and leave us. What will your son think?

GREGORY: He’ll understand.

JONATHAN (Child): Daddy, are you leaving?

GREGORY: Yes Johnny. But I’ll be back. I’m only going for a while.

JONATHAN: Where are you going?

GREGORY: I’m going to New York. I got a gig singing at a night club. It could lead to great things.

JONATHAN: But can’t you do that here, daddy?

GREGORY: No, Johnny. But don’t worry; I’ll be back. And I’ll come get you and mommy and move you to New York and everything will be back to normal.

JONATHAN: You promise, daddy?

GREGORY: Yes, Johnny. I love you.

JONATHAN: I love you too daddy.

JONATHAN (Adult): He never did come back.

“Why Would You Leave?” (Alternative Rock)

You said it's time for you to go away.

I wish you take the time to think and stay.

Is it something I did, that's making you leave?

And is there something I could do that will make you cleave?

—Music—

Will you be back for me?

Your mouth says yes, but your eyes tell me no?

Is there something I could be?

Your mouth says no, but your eyes tell me yes.

Why would you leave me? Why would you leave me?

Please don't go I don't want to be a fatherless child

Stay here; stay here just for a little while

I can't bare to see you walk away

I wish you would think and stay

Please don't leave me. Please don't leave me. Please don't leave me.

—Music—

Will you be back for me?

Your mouth says yes, but your eyes tell me no?

Is there something I could be?

Your mouth says no, but your eyes tell me yes.

Why would you leave me? Why would you leave me? Why would you leave?

JONATHAN: After about two months of my father's exit my mother's brother came to stay with us.

LAURA: How long?

STEVEN: Just long enough until I get a job and a place of my own. It won't be long.

LAURA: Well, I guess so.

JONATHAN (Child): Uncle Steve, Uncle Steve!

STEVEN: There's my boy. How are you?

JONATHAN (Child): Good.

STEVEN: That's great.

LAURA: Johnny, go get washed up for dinner.

JONATHAN: Okay, mom.

STEVEN: How are you doing?

LAURA: Okay I guess.

STEVEN: Is he coming back?

LAURA: He said he was, but I doubt it. If New York actually works out he'll stay and forget all about us. I know it.

STEVEN: He can't forget about his son.

LAURA: He didn't even want his son.

STEVEN: What do you mean?

LAURA: After I told him I was pregnant he subtly asked me to have an abortion.

STEVEN: What? Why?

LAURA: He said he wasn't ready for one. He said a child would stop him from his dreams.

STEVEN: Yeah, but I'm sure he realizes how great Johnny is now. I know he loves him.

LAURA: He loves him enough to leave him. he cares more about his dream than he does his son.

STEVEN: Don't say that. It's not true.

LAURA: I feel it is. *(Pause)*. Let's change the subject. I don't want Johnny to hear us.

“Whispers” (Jazz)

*Whispers behind my back; I hear whispers behind my back
Whispers about the man who never cared for me
Whispers about the man who never loved me
They think that I cannot hear what they say about him
But I hear every word they whisper about him
Whispers behind my back; I hear whispers behind my back*

*Whispers of words that I wish were lies and not true
They speak words of whispers and think I have no clue
Whispers behind my back; I hear whispers behind my back*

—Music—

Whispers; I hear whispers; Whispers; I hear whispers; Whispers; I hear whispers behind my back. Whispers.

JONATHAN (Adult): Uncle Steve staid a lot longer than he said he would. He kind of became my dad. I was about ten years old when he came over and I was about twelve when he introduced me to himself. He drank a lot and I think he was to drunk to know what he was doing.

STEVEN: Johnny?

JONATHAN (Child): Yes, Uncle Steve.

STEVEN: Have I ever told you how beautiful you are?

JONATHAN: No. I don't think so.

STEVEN: Johnny, you are beautiful. Your eyes are so fine. I could stare at your eyes every day. And your smile; gosh your smile makes me happy. It gets me excited. You have a handsome face.

JONATHAN: Thank you.

STEVEN: Can I touch your hair?

JONATHAN: Yeah, I guess.

STEVEN: *(Steven caresses his hair)*. You are so beautiful. And you have a beautiful body too. *(He caresses his chest)*. You are beautiful.

“Beautiful” (R&B)

You are beautiful.

Your eyes are so fine.

I could stare at your eyes everyday.

And your smile makes me happy just to see your face.

Your face; your face I can't get enough of your handsome face.

You are beautiful. Everyday that I see you is a beautiful day. And I am so glad that I have eyes that see your beautiful face.

Your hair; can I touch your hair? What beautiful hair.

Your body; your body is just so fine. Can I touch your body?

Can't you see just how beautiful you are?

I just can't get enough staring at you baby. You are beautiful.

You are beautiful. Everyday that I see you is a beautiful day. And I am so glad that I have eyes that see your beautiful face.
I would die if I could never see your face again. I could never live without seeing you. I'm in love with your beauty; I'm addicted to you.
You are beautiful. Everyday that I see you is a beautiful day. And I am so glad that I have eyes that see your beautiful face.
You are beautiful. You are beautiful. You are beautiful. You are beautiful.

JONATHAN (Adult): That was the first time. And basically every time my mother left the house we did it.

“Nasty Things” (Heavy Rock)

Your daddy is out; your mommy is gone
It's just you and me and we're all alone
Let's have some fun; some crazy fun; let's do some nasty things we might regret.
Are you ready to try new things? Are you ready to do what is wrong?
Let's get in bed and let's have some fun
Let me pleasure you all night long.
Let's get naked and wrestle in bed
Let's do some nasty things we might regret!
Don't be so shy; come on and take off your clothes
Now that we're all alone baby, it's anything goes.
Let's get in bed and let's have some fun
Let me pleasure you all night long.
Let's get naked and wrestle in bed
Let's do some nasty things we might regret!
Your daddy is out; your mommy is gone
It's just you and me and we're all alone

JONATHAN (Adult): There were a couple of times that I tried to tell my mother. I knew it was wrong, but no matter how hard I tried it never happened. There were times when I wish she just knew. Without me telling her.

Mind Reader (Light Country)

*There are days
That I wish you were
Successful at reading minds
So I wouldn't have to
Tell you something
Something that you need to know
Every time I approach you there's a sense of fear that keeps me speaking.
I rehearse everyday what I need to tell you, but the words just stay in my mouth.
I wish you were a mind reader; a reader of minds and their thoughts.
Then I could think what I needed to say and you'd hear me loud and clear.
I hate this fear that comes over me. It cripples me so good.
I intend to tell you, but every time I try I just can't seem to speak the words.
I wish you were a mind reader; a reader of minds and their thoughts.
Then I could think what I needed to say and you'd hear me loud and clear.
Can you understand my mind? Can you read my eyes as they speak?
Can you understand anything I say without speaking any words?
If you did than it would be easier to tell you what you need to know.
I wish you were a mind reader; a reader of minds and their thoughts.
Then I could think what I needed to say and you'd hear me loud and clear.
And then you'd understand what I needed to tell you all along.*

STEVEN: Johnny, your mom's gone.

JONATHAN (Child): I don't want to today.

STEVEN: Why not? Don't you like it? Don't you like the way it feels?

JONATHAN: Not all of it. When you get behind me it hurts. It really hurts. I don't like that. Why do you do that anyway?

STEVEN: Because I love you. That's what people do when they love each other.

Love Hurts ('60s Oldies)

*Why does love have to hurt and cause me so much pain?
Why does love have to hurt I wish that it would rain.
Why does love have to hurt and cause me so much pain?
Why does love have to hurt I wish that it would rain.
Every time I meet with him he causes so much pain.
Oh every time I get with him it brings me so much shame
But he tells me he loves me; he loves me all the same
But I just can't take this hurt and all of this pain.
Why does love have to hurt and cause me so much pain?
Why does love have to hurt I wish that it would rain.
Why does love have to hurt and cause me so much pain?
Why does love have to hurt I wish that it would rain.*

*I wish it would rain now so no one could see my tears.
I wish the rain would take this man because he such a pain in my rear.
Oh, if this is love, don't know if I want this.
If this is love, then I'd like to be dismissed.
It hurts so badly. It hurts so badly. It hurts so badly. It hurts so badly.*

JONATHAN (Adult): As crazy as it may sound after some years of being with my uncle I got used to it. I got so used to it that I began to want it. Want it more than he wanted to give it. I became addicted to him.

I'm Addicted to You (Disco)

*Sadly I'll admit that everything you've done to me
Has caused me to be addicted to you
Every touch, every rub, every pleasure that you've caused is making me want
More of you and more of everything that you do to me
I didn't like it once before
But I now can't get enough of you.
I'm addicted; addicted to you. I don't want you to go away
I want you to hold me and I need you to stay
Stay; stay right by my side
Don't you say goodbye
I need you in my arms forever more
I'm addicted; addicted to you. I don't want you to go away
I want you to hold me and I need you to stay
Touch me; caress me; like you've done before
I know its wrong, but I can't get enough
Hold me closer and kiss me longer
Ooh the feelings are just getting stronger
I'm addicted; addicted to you. I don't want you to go away
I want you to hold me and I need you to stay*

JONATHAN (Adult): When I became eighteen I knew that it couldn't last. I knew the only way for it to stop was to go away for college. My mom and I lived in Maryland. I decided to go to college in Montana. I wanted to make sure I was really far away from Uncle Steven. My mother didn't like it so much.

LAURA: Why so far away?

JONATHAN (Child): It's a great school.

LAURA: Every school is a great school.

JONATHAN: Mother, why can't you be happy for me?

LAURA: First your father leaves me, now you.

JONATHAN: Mother, I am not leaving you. At least not forever. It's just four years. I'll be back for winter and summer breaks. Mother, please don't make this hard.

I Must Go (Opera)

I must go.

It's time for me

To leave this place

It's time for me to leave you

Don't be sad; don't be blue

Let this be a new beginning for us both

I must get away from here

Not for you, but it is for me

I cannot stay I must leave

But I want you to know I need you to know

I love you forever more

So never blame yourself for my departure is do to my own feelings

Feelings that I cannot share but believe me you have done all you can

I must go.

It's time for me

To leave this place; this place called home

I'll return, but not forever

I must leave you now. It is time for me to leave

Amen, Amen, Amen

JONATHAN (Adult): When I was in college I was introduced to some recreational substances. I must admit I was afraid at first, but when I realized how high it took me. I was glad to take them. I could forget about my dad and Uncle Steve while I was flying. Flying high.

Ecstasy (Reggae)

I don't want to remember and fret

The past that makes me frown

So, I'll do what it takes to forget

And I'll go and get down

I'll get down and up

It feels like ecstasy

I think I'm in the sky

It feels like ecstasy

It only lasts a moment, but the moment feels so good

So good that I think I'll do it again; I'll do it again

And again and again and again

I'll get down and up

It feels like ecstasy

I think I'm in the sky

It feels like ecstasy

JONATHAN (Adult): After college I came home and as I was unpacking I found my notebook with all my writings. I read them and forgot about a lot of them. The memories had me so depressed.

I think

*I think its time for me to cry
It's time to let the tears rain
Won't be afraid I'll let the tears flow
I think its time for me to cry
I think its time for me to say goodbye
Goodbye to all of the pain
I'll take all the pain and let it go
I think its time for me to cry
It's time for me to cry, cry, cry.
It's time for me to cry, cry, cry
A real man is not afraid to cry.
It's just tears that clean your soul.
I'm gonna let the tears come by
So I can be complete and whole.
It's time for me to cry, cry, cry.
It's time for me to cry, cry, cry*

JONATHAN (Adult): After getting a job I worked for about a year before moving out of my mother's home. Uncle Steve had moved out by then. One day I heard a songwriting competition on the radio and I decided to enter the competition. I entered "Why Would You Leave" and of course I won. The prize was money and a chance of a recording artist recording the song. After winning the contest I became well known in the music industry and I began to shop my songs around different artists and as you know I became an award winning songwriter. It was about three years after much success that my father returned into my life.

GREGORY: Johnny!

JONATHAN: Dad?

GREGORY: Yeah, it's me.

JONATHAN: You came back!

GREGORY: I told you I was coming back. How's mom?

JONATHAN: She's fine.

GREGORY: That's good. I see you're doing well. I'm proud of you, son; getting all those Grammy's and music awards.

JONATHAN: Yeah.

GREGORY: I was wondering maybe you could write me a song. You know. So your old daddy can be just as famous as you.

JONATHAN: Is that why you came back; to get something from me?

GREGORY: No, that's not the only reason. I love you Johnny. I told you I would be back.

JONATHAN: You said that you would be back for me and mom and that you would take us to where you were living. It's a bit late for that.

GREGORY: Don't be angry, son. Let bygones be bygones; now how about you do this little favor for your daddy. I'm the only father you have.

JONATHAN: Even after every thing Uncle Steve has done to me he was still a better father than you.

GREGORY: What did he do?

JONATHAN: Good bye daddy.

Don't Want Me Now

*I was nothing; absolutely nothing to you.
Wasn't worth staying around for isn't true?
I cried for you to stay right by my side.
But you thought it was time to say goodbye.
And now that I'm everything you're not.
I'm better; you want everything I've got.
But don't you see that it's just too late.
You should have thought of me before you escaped.
The only thing I could say
You didn't want me then so don't want me now.
You didn't like me then so don't like me now.
You didn't need me then so don't need me now.
You didn't love me then so don't love me now.
When I was at the bottom; where were you?
I couldn't find you anywhere and you know that it's true.
Now I'm at the top and you just seem to appear.
But don't you think it's late? I want you to hear
You didn't want me then so don't want me now.
You didn't like me then so don't like me now.
You didn't need me then so don't need me now.
You didn't love me then so don't love me now.
You didn't even want me into existence*

*So please just keep your distance
You didn't want me then so don't want me now.
You didn't like me then so don't like me now.
You didn't need me then so don't need me now.
You didn't love me then so don't love me now.
You didn't want me then so don't want me now.
You didn't like me then so don't like me now.
You didn't need me then so don't need me now.
You didn't love me then so don't love me now.
Don't want me now (repeat)*

JONATHAN (Adult): There was a time in my life when I would wish for my life to be different: for my dad to have raised me and for me to never have been molested. But I soon realized that all of my hardships and my ugly past have made me the successful songwriter I am today.

Life's Lessons (Broadway Ballad)

*After you learn your past is just a learning experience
Then you're learn that nothing is a coincidence
You won't cry over what you never had
You'll appreciate and learn to be glad
Life's lessons for you
Your past can't be changed so stop wishing it would
Your past is what you needed for your good
Life's problems are to make you strong
Solve those problems and keep moving on*