

# **Generous Night, Redeem**

**By**

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**Written by**

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I spent many an hour reflecting forward through Marvels last release that lies within my collection, and here I am once more on the borderlands of a new dimension of solo piano by the artist called **Generous Night, Redeem**, and another musical voyage calls to me from the inner realms of tone and sound.

We start this sojourn through this new offering with a piece called **Lunar Melody**, a really powerful opener, one that seemed to provoke many thoughts through this intrigued mind of mine. There was such a delicious depth to this piece that made it the perfect opener and also the sound track for many a moonlight perambulation.

The ranks of the solo piano genre are jam packed with talent and artists of all standards, but Marvel stands out as one of those special performers, one that has the ability to manifest something special with a thoughtful and crafted performance; music like this next composition called **Whispered Words**, oh how I wished this had been longer, I really fell in love with the major, minor narrative and chord structures on this beautiful opus.

On **Crying Heart at Sleepless Dawn** we have a truly moving arrangement, one that has a real sense of sadness upon its shoulders; there is a mournful refrain that seems almost inconsolable at times and also one that is really addictive to listen to as well, Marvels skill set on the piano here leaves us in heightened anticipation of what is going to come next.

What does actually come next is one of the finest slices of piano I have heard from Marvel, and called **Fleeting Passage**. There is a wonderful sense of calmness built into the narrative here, much in the way you can glimpse a

moment of a sun kissed beauty in autumn, but its presence is fleeting, but always memorable, this performance by Marvel is one of those I never wanted to end.

We are now in the full current of the release and as we reach this piece called **Overwhelm**, it certainly feels that way, a fast running offering that feels like a fresh winter stream is about to burst its banks is upon us; this graphic musical narrative is incredibly compelling and thoroughly enjoyable at each and every twist and turn, a wonderfully inventive piece from Marvel indeed.

One of the hardest things to gaze upon is **The Face of Truth**; this undeniable moment of life's rich tapestry is something quite brutal at times, but it can also bring with it a sense of freedom as well. Here Marvel explores that narrative with a performance that is solemn, mood filled, reflective and above all else brutally honest in its manifestation, a thoughtful musical prose indeed, one tinged with a little hope at the very end as well.

At the half way marker we come across the title track and that of course is **Generous Night, Redeem. Ryan Marvel** is proving to be a master builder of fluent reflective music, and on this very composition I would say that is so true and even to film score standard. One could imagine taking a moonlit walk whilst listening to this offering, perhaps whilst going over emotional moments of the recent past or actions of a future yet to be written, this is without doubt one of the cleverest tracks off the album and beautifully played too.

Interesting that we come to this piece as we take our first musical footfalls into the second half of the album, it is called **Evening Benediction**, perhaps a blessing from the divine to help us along on our way, whatever, this is one very classy composition and performance. Marvel has brought a beautiful fluency to our ears with this piece, one to be thoroughly enjoyed.

**Grounding** - I did this very function a few hours ago, something happened that knocked me off kilter for a short while, so I needed to ground myself; a small meditation and some sage helped then, perhaps I should have played this offering as well, the gentle but firm guidance through the keys here would have been just the medication required, this is one of those offerings that to some may seem easy to perform, but Marvel squeezes such emotion out of

each and every note played, that when finished your left truly moved at what you have just received.

Our musical boat is now sailing in the deeper waters of the release and as it does so we can view the next offering in comfort and safety, it is a track so beautifully composed and played and entitled **Veiled in Tender Warmth**. This piece is like a reconciliation song from a movie, it is like a reassuring arm going around your shoulder when you most need it, and with ease one of the warmest offerings off the album

The exotically entitled offering **Breath of the Vagabond** is up next, here is a really charming musical narrative, one that has an incredible resonance built into its construction, there is an almost cheeky theme that runs through the piece too, one bathed in a stylish Celtic energy.

One of my personal favourites, music and title, is about to unfurl and called **Shifting Sands of Providence**. At just short of 5 minutes it is also the longest offering off the album and certainly a composition that is not only emotive, it has a thought provoking moodiness that I completely adored. Life changes, times change, but with a farsighted awareness one can be at peace with this perhaps. Marvel's performance here is sublimely crafted on a track that could easily be described as anthem like it is manifestation.

Amazingly we have just touched the hem of our penultimate offering and it is called **Sweet Memory Deliver**. The lightness of touch here was so delightful to hear and indeed feel. There is such a sweet sensitivity here that is so appreciated and its calming musical narrative is almost romantic at times in its mood, one most also praise the performance on the keys as simply one of the best I have heard from the artist.

The ending of this epic voyage is upon us, but before we depart the artist has one more musical gift of tone and splendour to give us, it is called **Glance the Stars**. Marvel's thoughtful and thoroughly professional approach leaves us wanting more with this cheer filled finish, one that is so exhilarating and bright in its construction and of course simply the best way to leave the album possible.

I must admit I was eager to listen to this album, let alone write about it, in my opinion **Generous Night, Redeem** is Marvels best work so far with ease. Each and every composition has been very carefully composed, but also with an openness of heart and hands of complete honesty. The reflection allowed by the arrangements gives us music to enrich ourselves with, so much so, that at its conclusion, we feel fulfilled from the presentations given and the performances so beautifully played. If you are a fan of the solo piano genre, you are going to be in utter heaven with this album.