



**Pernice Brothers**  
***Overcome By Happiness: 25th Anniversary Deluxe Edition***  
**Album Credits & Lyrics**

**ORIGINAL 1998 LP TRACKLIST**

1. Crestfallen
2. Overcome by Happiness
3. Sick of You
4. Clear Spot
5. Dimmest Star
6. Monkey Suit :
7. Chicken Wire
8. Wait to Stop
9. All I Know
10. Shoes and Clothes
11. Wherein Obscurely
12. Ferris Wheel

**BONUS LP TRACKLIST**

1. Jimmy Coma (1997 Sub Pop Single)
2. Monkey Suit (1997 Sub Pop Single)
3. Square World (1997 Summershine Single)
4. In Plain Sight (1997 Summershine Single)
5. Love My Way (Psychedelic Furs Cover / Clear Spot UK CD Single B-Side)
6. Sick of You (Earliest Sketch Demo) 1:48
7. Cut You Free (Demo) 4:00
8. Overcome by Happiness (Earliest Sketch Demo)
9. Clear Spot (Earliest Sketch Demo)
10. Dimmest Star (Earliest Sketch Demo)
11. Song #2 (The Queen of NYC) (earliest demo)
12. Courage Up (Demo) 2:40
13. Let That Show (Demo) 4:00

**ORIGINAL 1998 CREDITS:**

All songs written by Joe Pernice, © Bony Gap Music (BMI), administered by BUG/BMG

The Players:

Joe Pernice - Vocals, Guitars  
Thom Monahan - Bass, Vocals  
Michael Deming - Acoustic & Electric Pianos, Vocals  
Peyton Pinkerton - Guitars, Vocals  
Bob Pernice - Guitars, Vocals  
Aaron Sperske - Drum Kit, Tympanum, Percussion

The Orchestra:

Anhared Stowe - Violin  
Christine Kolberger - Violin  
Katrina J. Smith - Viola  
Kathleen Shiano - Cello  
Susan Cavender Knapp - Harp  
Tim Atherton - First Trombone  
David Sporny - Second Trombone  
Peter McEachern - Third Trombone  
Mike Jones - Flugelhorn

Credits:

Produced by Thom Monahan, Michael Deming, Joe Pernice  
Engineered by Michael Deming, Thom Monahan  
Additional Engineering by Dave Shuman  
Orchestra Arranged and Conducted by Michael Deming  
Recorded and Mixed at Studio .45, Hartford, CT  
Pre-Mastered by Keith Chirgwin at Waveview  
Mastered by John Golden at John Golden Mastering, Newbury Park, CA  
Art by Zoe Blyth.  
Band Photo by Dennis Kleiman  
Design by Hank Trotter

Thanks:

The Pernice Family Tree (which is a fig), Joe "Uncle Ducky" Vitale for the Allen's Ginger Brandy that fell off a truck, Robin, Eva, Erica, The Monahan Family, Christine Brown, Zoe Blyth, Anne Viebig. Autumn, Joel Westerdale, Jeremy Marusek at Wormco Records, Joe Harvard, Ghoul, all at Studio .45, Tim Liptak, Rhoades Alderson to whom "Ferris Wheel" is dedicated, Bill Corbett, James Tate, Charles Simic for inspiring "Wherein Obscurely" with his poem of the same name, Paul Coyne at Lotus Development, Joyce Linehan, Jen Ressler, Jason Reynolds, Josh Grier, Frank Riley, D'Addario Strings, Frank "Actor" Padellaro-luthier/accountant/lover/Italian, Garrett Fontes, New Radiant Storm King, Chuck, Maryellen, Amy, Shawn Annis, The Monkey House, Scud Mountain Boys and those who knew them, Jon Poneman and all the good people at Sub Pop - past and present.

This record is dedicated to Susan Pernice and Eugene Monahan.

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## **25TH ANNIVERSARY DELUXE EDITION CREDITS:**

Overcome by Happiness 25th Anniversary Deluxe Edition:

Executive Produced and Supervised by Brady Brock

Remastered for Vinyl by John Golden at Golden Mastering, Ventura, CA

Pernice Brothers Photography by Dennis Kleiman

Joe Pernice Cassettes, Notebooks, Guitar Photography by Colleen Nicholson

Pernice Brothers Singles, Promotional Items Photography by Joshua Black Wilkins

Liner Notes: Stephen Deusner

Design: Chad Pelton

“Jimmy Coma,” “Monkey Suit,” “Square World,” and “Love My Way” Recorded by Thom Monahan. “Cut You Free (Demo)” and “Let That Show (Demo)” Recorded by Tom Shea & Joe Pernice. All Other Cassette Home Demos Recorded by Joe Pernice.

All Songs written by Joe Pernice, © Bony Gap Music (BMI), administered by BUG/BMG

Except "Love My Way"

Written by John Ashton, Timothy Butler, Richard Butler, Vincent Ely,  
Sony/ATV Music Publishing

I would like to thank the following people for their help in making this deluxe reissue possible: Laura Stein; Sammy Pernice; Joyce Linehan; Brady Brock, John Allen, Matt Etgen, Caroline Barfield & all at New West Records; Jonathan Poneman & all at Sub Pop Records; Jason Reynolds; Andy Childs; Peyton Pinkerton; Bob Pernice; Patrick Berkery; Dennis Kleiman; Colleen Nicholson; Mike Belitsky; Rick Menck; Josh Karp; Liam Jaeger; Michael McKenzie; Rachel Lichtman; Amy Sherman-Palladino, Dan Palladino & Helen Pai.

Though he left this plane four years ago, I would like to mention my late friend Gary Stewart. (If you don't know who Gary was, look for his name on countless great records released by Rhino Records. Gary was a legit, no bullshit prophet of music. Before I was lucky enough to have a friendship with him, I was one of the lucky musicians whose music he championed. When I say he bought—with his own dough—literally hundreds of copies of Overcome By Happiness, I tell no lie. He kept them in the trunk of his car (along with personally-bought boxsets of The Wire), and he gave them away to people he thought should hear it. He worked Overcome harder than just about anyone—myself included. At one point a few years back he offered to give me the money (his own money) to try and buy back the master recordings. I was floored—though not completely surprised—by his generosity, but I couldn't even begin to go down that road with him. But that's how much he believed Overcome By Happiness needed a longer life.

Yeah...a longer life.

For Gary Stewart (1957-2019)

**LYRICS:**

**Crestfallen**

Oh, I need some time to make sense of something  
I lost somewhere on the ride.  
Thought I was fine.  
When she speaks she's like a mime.  
It's hard to read a simple mind.  
Turns me inside out in a way I can't define.  
Oh, I need somebody who won't see through me.  
Was happy living a lie.  
Thought I was fine.  
Then it breaks without a sign.  
It's hard to read a simple mind.  
Leaves me looking back for a thing I'll never find.  
It's a long way to fall  
When you find out how it never was.  
It's a long way to fall  
When you find out it never happened at all.  
Then it breaks without a sign.  
It's hard to read a simple mind.  
Got me looking back for a thing I'll never find.  
It's a long way to fall  
When you find out how it never was.  
It's a long way to fall  
When you find out how it really was.  
It's a long way to fall  
When you find out it never happened at all.

**Overcome By Happiness**

Never think to ever look around.  
Never see it coming at you  
With your head in the clouds.  
Looking like a fool  
Drinking like a clown  
Worried you'd be nobody.  
Not so far from that now  
You don't feel so overcome by happiness  
You're broke  
Do you think you might scrape your life together  
Just in time to find you've got no piece of mind  
When everybody wants a piece of your pretty white ass.

Move around, never moving on  
Waiting for the thing to happen  
When it's already gone.  
Looking like a fool  
Drinking like a clown  
Worried you'd be nobody  
Not so far from that now.  
You don't feel so overcome by happiness  
You're broke  
Do you think you might scrape your life together  
Just in time to find you've got no piece of mind  
When everybody wants a piece of your pretty...  
Even if you held the sun  
In the color of your eyes  
I would never be so blind.  
And you don't feel the weight rushing out of your life.  
Don't see the light dying out of your eyes.  
You don't feel so overcome by happiness  
You're broke  
Do you think you might scrape your life together  
Just in time to find you've got no piece of mind  
When everybody wants a piece of your pretty white ass  
Your pretty...  
I don't feel...

### **Sick of You**

There's a roof over there.  
You could prove it to me there.

### **Clear Spot**

I feel better, now you're gone.  
A minute in the sunlight can  
Take away a whole life still  
There's something about you.  
Once or twice  
Everything was lined up straight.  
There's nothing you could ever trust.  
There's something about you.  
Hit a clear spot.  
Did you think that I would call?  
'Cause sometimes I don't feel like talking at all.  
I feel better, now you're gone

A minute in the sunlight is  
Nothing you could ever trust  
There's something about you.  
Hit a clear spot  
Did you think that I would call?  
'Cause sometimes I don't feel like talking at all.  
I feel better now you're gone.  
A minute in the sunlight is  
Nothing you could ever trust.  
There's something about you...

### **Dimmest Star**

Who were you when I woke up  
With a bad dream on my head?  
How you said I made no sense.  
And you showed me how it was  
All the world broken for me.

I could say that I was less  
When I never knew your face  
How you say I make no sense.  
Can you show me how to live?  
All the world open for you  
Stretched out so far I never knew.  
I flashed my light into your car  
Kiss me dimmest star  
Don't ever leave  
Don't ever leave  
Don't ever leave  
Until I make up my mind  
Don't ever leave my troubled life.  
All the world open to you  
Stretched out so far I never knew  
I flashed my light into your car.  
Kiss me dimmest star  
Don't ever leave...

### **Monkey Suit**

See myself off in my monkey suit each day  
And I walk a slow fish ladder  
Made of concrete and the bones of people.

Ten more minutes till my monkey train pulls in.

Where the bums all shine like poisoned angels.  
The smell of diesel's stronger than mine.

Don't want to live inside it  
Don't want to waste it dreaming.  
Don't let me disappear  
Inside this monkey suit that I'm wearing.

How much longer till my monkey ship pulls in  
And I sail off to the siren voice?  
I sail into the white moon?  
Someone's rattling on my monkey cage all day  
Where I peck away the ant hill numbers  
Peck away my best years.

Don't want to live inside it.  
Don't want to waste it dreaming.  
Don't let me disappear  
Inside this monkey suit that I'm wearing.  
It takes so much to bring me around  
Without so little as  
The thing where you could anchor yourself down.

Don't want to live inside it.  
Don't want to waste it dreaming.  
Don't let me disappear  
Inside this monkey suit that I'm wearing.

### **Chicken Wire**

With a drink in her hand  
She will start her car and then  
Seal herself for good in the garage.  
She's never leaving.

There were times to be sure  
It was so pure you might choke.  
But it's too late in the garage  
The falling ceiling

And all the walls will fade to black.  
Could she be thinking of another now?

Take my hand. Pull me through.  
There's so much I left undone.

But it's too late now in the garage.

And all the walls will fade to black.  
Could she be thinking of another?

They found her car  
Still running in the garage.  
She'd come so far  
To end her life  
By the rusty mower and chicken wire.  
By the chicken wire and a studded tire.  
By the rusty mower and chicken wire.

### **Wait to Stop**

It could be so easy on you.  
You don't know what it's like to  
Want to cry.  
And I want to be with you so bad  
I feel like I'm dying  
Or I died.

That time you held me by the hand so slow  
I thought that I was getting close.  
What did I know?

It could be so easy on you  
You don't know what it's like to  
Want to cry.  
And I want to be with you so bad  
I feel like I'm dying  
Or I died  
That time you held me by the hand so slow  
I thought that I was getting close.  
What did I know?

Now I'm waiting for the wait to stop.  
Waiting for the wait to stop.  
But I could not wait my whole life for you  
What did I know?  
Now I'm waiting for the wait to stop.  
Waiting for the wait to stop.  
But I could not wait my whole life for you.



### **All I Know**

Tell yourself nothing's happened.  
You feel okay when you're asleep.  
It's the same mistake you keep making.  
You wake alone but you're not free.  
All your friends may go.  
And your luck may go.  
But you never feel as bad as when she goes.  
It's all I know.  
All the time you were happy  
It makes the end so hard to take.  
How her voice could fill a room like singing.  
The crooked moon upon her face.  
All your friends may go.  
And your luck may go.  
But you never feel as bad as when she goes.  
It's all I know.  
All I know.

Some move like they were blinded.  
Some never let it show.  
I knew somehow I'd have to let it go.

### **Shoes And Clothes**

I was one  
Long before you came around.  
You nailed it in  
I won't deny I felt that hammer pound.

It's not the way it started.  
But that's it goes.  
I woke up sick in my shoes and clothes.

Beg me to  
Right before your yellow grin.  
I'm not so sure  
I haven't grown to lose my taste for it.

If that's the way you want it  
Hold on, here it goes.  
I woke up sick in my shoes and clothes.

From the mouth of a baby  
Came a warning light.

Even if we could be everything  
How nothing still would be right  
How to read your features  
In a warning light.  
Even if we could be everything  
How nothing still would be right.  
Nothing still would be right.  
I was one  
Even though you were my friend.  
I don't believe  
I have the strength to go through that again.

### **Wherein Obscurely**

Your colored eye and a lipstick voice  
And a cough you could never shake.  
I thought I'd find you in that place.  
Don't wake from a restless sleep  
And the plan you could never make.  
The evening sunlight on your face.  
And then it fades.

Find me.  
I'm sick and I can't escape  
The way the sunlight touched your face.  
And then it fades.

There were so many times  
I had to wake you from crying.  
So many times I could not make you cry.  
I hoped to find  
Your feet on the headboard, eyes in the moon.  
I always think of you that way.

### **Ferris Wheel**

Ring in the new one.  
Break off the seal.  
I'm dizzy and lit up  
Like a Ferris wheel.

Tea in the Sahara.  
I cut up my hand.  
Can't see for the brightness.

How the moonlight is a bitter gold.  
I don't want to die.  
But you never know till you fail.  
Ferris wheel.

How the moonlight is a bitter gold.  
Oh, I don't want to die.  
But you never know till you try  
Ferris Wheel  
And you fail.

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