

Karen Drucker

All About Love

1. *I've Got The Power*

Words & Music: Karen Drucker

2. *What Would Love Do*

Words: Karen Drucker Music: Karen Drucker & John Hoy

3. *Life Goes On*

Words & Music: Karen Drucker

4. *N-O Is My New YES*

Words: Karen Drucker Music: Karen Drucker & John Hoy

5. *Taming My Inner Critic*

Words: Karen Drucker Music: Karen Drucker & John Hoy

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9. *I Got God*

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Words: Karen Drucker Music: Karen Drucker & John Hoy

"When all your desires are distilled, you cast just two votes: to love, and to be happy"
Hafiz

Someone asked me recently what my message was. Be kind? Lighten up? Follow your dreams? The more I thought about it, every song I sang basically came down to some form of love; self love, love for each other, the joys and pains of love. So I realized that was the message I wanted for this CD - "All About Love." Love continues to teach me, humble me, stretch me and I'm always amazed at it's many facets. I learn new aspects of it every day and will spend my lifetime being a willing student. My intention with this music is that you'll find something here that will touch your heart, will make you want to dance and sing-along, and we can all share in the wonders of love.

For true friendship, laughter, inspiration and support...my heartfelt thanks to:

John Hoy, Maye Cavallaro, Rev David Ault, Eddie Conner, Tina Drucker, Joan Borysenko, Susan Kennedy, Oriah Mountain Dreamer, Robyn Posin, Maggie Cole, Jennifer Mann, Annie Stocking, Rev Karyl Huntley, Philip Parks, Rev David Leonard, Rev. Janet Garvey-Stanvick, Rev Mark Vierra, Rev Edward Vijloin, Janet Ryan, Lauren Mayer, Mary Van Voorhees, Brian Connolly, Mark deVille Jobson, Michael Gott, Donna Michael, Jack Fowler, Daniel Nahmod, Liz Krogsdale, Carol Lynn Fletcher, Allen Yamashita, Matt & Linda, and Carole King for planting the musical seed.

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To all the incredible musicians who played on this CD: Your talent inspired me and helped make the music come alive.

Annie: you are the best. I couldn't do it without you!

Johnny: you are the foundation from which I write and sing these songs. Thank you for your unconditional love, unending support, and your meticulous musical care. Every day I feel grateful and blessed to have you in my life.

Thanks for listening. Blessed Be. Karen

Karen Drucker: vocals

John Hoy: guitar, bass, mandolin, assorted keyboards & percussion

John R. Burr: keyboards, organ

Dave Rokeach: drums on tracks 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11

Jeff Nuss: drums on tracks 2, 5, 13

Marvin McFadden: horn section & solos on tracks 1, 4, 5, 9, 13

Zac Johnson: horn section: sax on tracks 1, 4, 13

Alex Murzyn: horn section: sax on tracks 1, 4, 13

Bob Johnson: sax solos on tracks 11 & 13

John Hoy and Horn section: all horn arrangements

Annie Stocking: all back-up vocals and back-up arrangements

Loralee Christensen: back-up vocals on tracks 1, 4, 6, 8, 9, 13

Larry Batiste: back-up vocals on tracks 1, 6, 8, 9, 13

Produced by: Karen Drucker

Co-produced by: John Hoy

Engineer: John Hoy

Recorded at: Cat Heaven Studio, Mill Valley, CA

Mixed by: John Hoy with Karen Drucker

Piano on "I Need You" recorded at Coventry Studios

Engineer: Jon Herbst

Mastered by George Horn, Fantasy Studios

Graphics: Maye Cavallaro

Cover photo: Carl Studna

Hair: Ann Brewer-Phillips

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"I've been absolutely terrified every moment of my life – and I've never let it keep me from doing a single thing I wanted to do."
Georgia O'Keefe

I've Got The Power

Words & Music: Karen Drucker

I've got the power - to make all my dreams come true
I've got the power - there's nothing I can't do
I've got the power - to be anything I want
I've got the power inside of me...

Everyday I'm wastin' my time thinkin'
that someone else is gonna do it all for me
I've got to get up, get out, get it, just get started
take one step towards my destiny
I'll define my direction with clear cut intention
Declare what will be and then watch it come to me

Chorus

There are days when I feel that I'm just no good
days when I don't even want to try
But when I stop, look and listen and surrender
I hear a voice of truth I cannot deny
It says "You know you can do it, just get down to it
Have faith in yourself and the will to see it through"

Chorus

In those times when I feel so frightened
and it seems like I just can't go on
I've got to look deep inside cause that's where I find
the power, the power, the power inside of me...

Chorus

What Would Love Do

Words: Karen Drucker
Music: Karen Drucker & John Hoy

Whenever I have hurt in my heart I ask what would love do?
Whenever I don't know where to turn I ask what would love do?
Whenever I don't know what to say I ask what would love do?
What would love do?

Anytime that I am stuck in my pain I ask what would love do?
Anytime that I feel ashamed I ask what would love do?
Anytime I can't find my truth I ask what would love do?
What would love do?

Love has all the answers
Love makes no demands
Love will lead me to the truth
and help me to understand that life is all about love

When I have something hard I need to say I ask what would love do?
When it seems another block is in my way I ask what would love do?
When it seems I can't face another day I ask what would love do?
What would love do?

Love has all the answers
Love makes no demands
Love will lead me to the truth
and help me to understand that life is all about love

In any situation I ask what would love do?
When I'm feeling limitation I ask what would love do?
I have to look into my soul and ask what would love do?
What would love do?

"In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life — it goes on."

Robert Frost

Life Goes On

Words & Music: Karen Drucker

My faith has been challenged to the core
The things that I was so sure of, I just can't count on anymore
But a new strength and wisdom has risen from my soul
Each day brings new lessons and this much I do know....

That life goes on, I'll keep walking over mountains
I'll keep walking through the valleys 'cause life goes on
And now I see, I don't have any answers
I'll just take it day by day, cause life goes on - ooh ooh

I get so scared of life's uncertainty
I keep tryin' to hold on to the people I love
Sometimes I forget God is holding me
Love is surrounding me, it's all part of the journey

Chorus

I wish I had the power or a magic wand
to take away all the suffering and pain
There's nothing I can do but have an open mind
Control is an illusion, we're all living on God's time

Chorus

No matter if I'm happy, no matter if I'm sad
no matter if I'm good or bad
The sun will come up, the sun will go down
we're on this planet just spinning around
The seasons will change, people will die
babies are born and we question why
That life goes on, life goes on

Taming My Inner Critic

She howls she bites, she wants to take me down with all of her might
She snarls she growls, but now I am ready to put up a fight
I've been in therapy for a hundred years, and there's a peace that I've finally found
I've let go of so many fears and she is not gonna kick me around

Chorus: I'm taming my inner critic - You're not welcome here any more
I'm taming my inner critic - Allow me, to kick you out the door

She kvetches, she complains, her demands make me feel so insane
Every detail of my life is analyzed and sliced up with her knife
But I am woman just watch me roar with a force that she can't ignore
Every positive word I say gives me the power to chase her away

Chorus: I'm taming my inner critic - You're not gonna win at this game
I'm taming my inner critic - If this is how you spend your days -
oye - you should feel ashamed!

****Solo****

I'm taming my inner critic - From now on I win and you lose
I'm taming my inner critic - You know the truth -
you are like so yesterday's news!

But she says: "You know you're not very smart, don't even try, you're gonna fail"
And I say - "I am enough!"

But she says: "You shouldn't eat that donut, are you gaining weight? and is that
another wrinkle?"

And I say - "I am beautiful!"

But she says: "You know you're not really that good or talented, why don't you just
play it safe?"

And I say - "I am worthy!"

I say - "Get off, get back, it's now, it's time, to claim this life as mine!"

Chorus: I am taming my inner critic - You have no power over me
I'm taming my inner critic - Knowing my worth has finally set me free!
So back off!

I Need You

Words & Music: Karen Drucker

I never needed anyone, I never needed anything
I never took the time to open up my heart
I never let anyone see that they could hurt me
I never realized what love could be, till I found you

Now I know I need you, now I know I want to
know that you will always be by my side
Now I can't imagine my life without you
I feel so alive since I found you

I need you, I need you
You make me feel whole
I need you, I need you
You've become part of my soul

Every morning I thank Spirit
for bringing your love into my heart
How can I thank you for what you give me
I am transformed since I found you

Chorus

You are an angel sent down to guide me
to the deepest places of my heart
Each day is a miracle the moment I see you
I am so blessed, that I found you...

For my mom

Calling All Angels

Words & Music: Karen Drucker

I'm calling all angels to surround the one I love
Let her know she is safe and taken care of
Hold her hand and rock her and whisper in her ear
that angels now surround her, there's nothing to fear

I'm calling all angels can you help me to let go
and understand the meaning of the words "I don't know"
I've been walking right beside her but her path will be alone
So I'm calling all angels to lead her home

Let her know that she is safe
Let her know that she is loved
Let her hold on to your wings of faith
and help her to fly

I'm calling all angels surround her in your light
I can feel that you are with her even though you're out of sight
Let her feel your warm embrace as you lead her on her way
I'm calling all angels to be with her today
I'm calling all angels...

Altar Of Love

Words & Music: Karen Drucker & David Ault

Lay it down, set it free
Let my heart rest and let it be
Lay it down, set it free
Lay it down on the altar of love

I was walking through the season of dark and lonely change
where the world was on my shoulders
and my faith was rearranged
I knew I'd never be given more than I could bear
but Spirit reassured me there was an answer to my prayer

Chorus

So every single moment I am left with the choice
to stay in separation or listen to the voice
that beckons me to open and be grateful for every day
it simply reminds me that there can be another way

Chorus

Love is all there is - and love will lead the way

Chorus

*A song written for a friend of mine who lost her child in a custody case.
This is dedicated to her and her daughter and anyone who has felt great loss.*

Dear Ellie

Words & Music: Karen Drucker

Dear Ellie, I want you to know
that you're here in my heart wherever I go
Though we're miles apart and ten years have gone by
I've filled up a river with the tears I have cried

Dear Ellie - what can I say?
The love in my heart grows stronger each day
Do you know that I love you? Do you know that I care?
Do you know that I'm dreaming of the day I'll be there
to love you and hug you
and be the one to show you the way
I long to kiss you and know you
and share those little things that make up your day

Dear Ellie, I long to tuck you in bed
kiss you good night, caress your head
But now you're older, I hear you're almost all grown
I grieve for the child I wish I could have known

Dear Ellie, I send you this prayer
that no matter what happens I will always be there
You are my heart, you are my soul
All these years I've wanted you to know
that I love you and miss you
and pray we'll be together again
I will be waiting and praying
and I'll greet you as a mother and a friend
Dear Ellie, I want you to know...

"You yourself, as much as anybody in the entire universe, deserve your love and affection." Buddha

You Are Loved

Words: Karen Drucker

Music: Karen Drucker & John Hoy

Here it comes again that feeling of not enough
I see you struggle, I feel your pain
How can I convince you that you are a radiant child of God?
You are worthy, deserving, loving and caring, a shining light of love

If only you could see yourself as other people do
You would see the light of love that shines to everyone
You would understand the reason why people care for you
You would see that, you would know that you are loved,
You are loved...

You look in the mirror and all you do is criticize
But take another look and see the soul that's in your eyes
You have everything you need it's all inside of you
Step into your power, open your heart
and let your love shine through

Chorus

My favorite song from John's solo piano CD - he graciously allowed me to add words to this sweet melody.

Christmas Lullaby

Words: Karen Drucker

Music: John R. Burr

Late in the evening when everything's quiet

I can hold you close in my dreams

I can feel you around me and hear your sweet laughter

and I know that I'm not alone

You are my deep soul connection

and you are always here in my heart

When I think of you, you heal my soul

You rock me and soothe me like a Christmas lullaby...

You Are My Family

Words: Karen Drucker

Music: Karen Drucker & John Hoy

I don't care if you're straight, I don't care if you're gay
I don't care who you love - I'm here to love you anyway

I don't care if you're black, I don't care if you're white
I don't care what color you are - I'm here to love you with all my might

You are my sister
You are my brother
You are a part of me
Let's face it - You are my family

I don't care if you're thin, I don't care if you're fat
I don't care what you eat - My love is so much larger than that

I don't care if you're rich, I don't care if you're poor
I don't care how much money you got - Lovin' you is what I was put here for

Chorus

There's no difference between you and me
No boundaries as far as I can see
No separation or alienation
We are all one...

Chorus