

Backroads

Peter Blacksmith · album · 2026

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02	Where the pines grow tall	3:44	4:49
03	Call of the road	8:33	5:20
04	Chrome on my boots	13:53	3:35
05	I get up every time you try to run me down	17:28	3:49
06	It's a long way to nowhere	21:17	5:08
07	I can't promise I'll be true	26:25	5:45
08	Watch me walk	32:10	5:45
09	Don't push me around	37:55	3:37

Total playing time 41:32

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LINER NOTES

About this album

I composed these songs in 2025 and 2026. The vocals are AI-generated, I played the guitars and bass myself, and all the other instruments were entered, one way or another, through MIDI. Every song was recorded and produced in my home studio, TMF – The Music Forge.

The lyrics are about freedom, starting over and never giving up.

Watch Me Walk is a very personal song. I wrote it after a doctor told me I would never grow old on my own two legs. I train every day, and I am still walking around on my own two legs. The album *Fire in the Wire* is about that same subject.

Don't Push Me Around is a bonus track that has never been released before.

All songs are registered with SABAM Belgium, and both the complete album and every individual song are available on all music platforms.

I hope you enjoy listening to this album as much as I enjoyed making it.

— *Peter Smits (Peter Blacksmith)*

01 · LYRICS

Backroads

starts at 0:00 in the video



I grew up where the gravel meets the dust
Where every promise rides on broken trucks
Mama told me, “Son, don’t lose your touch”
But the backroads always pulled me just too much

And every mile I left behind
Still echoes somewhere in my mind

’Cause I got backroads in my blood
Rolling like a rising flood
I keep drivin’ just because
I got backroads in my blood
Yeah, I got backroads in my blood

I’ve been chasing down a little peace of mind
In every town I pass, I leave a piece behind
But when the sun goes low and the sky turns wine
I hear those dirt-road ghosts call out in time

And every place I tried to stay
Just pushed me further on my way

’Cause I got backroads in my blood
Rolling like a rising flood
I keep drivin’ just because
I got backroads in my blood
Yeah, I got backroads in my blood

Maybe someday I’ll settle down
But not tonight, not in this town
The wind keeps whisperin’ soft and low
“Boy, you were born to let it go”

’Cause I got backroads in my blood
Rolling like a rising flood
I keep drivin’ just because
I got backroads in my blood
Yeah, I got backroads in my blood

02 · LYRICS

Where the pines grow tall

starts at 3:44 in the video



The dust is settling on the porch of the general store
I don't think I can stay around these parts no more
The interstate is calling like a ghost in the night
Shining silver ribbons in the dashboard light
I've got a half-empty tank and a heavy wooden case
Looking for a feeling that the years can't erase.

And we're rolling down the line where the pines grow tall
Catching every shadow before the evening falls
It's a long road back to the place we used to know
With the windows rolled down and the radio low
Yeah, we're searching for the truth in the hum of the wheels
And the quiet kind of spirit that the open road feels.

Stopped at a diner where the coffee tastes like rain
The waitress had a story and a tired kind of name
She said, "Honey, every highway leads to somewhere you've been"
I just tipped my hat and stepped out in the wind
There's a comfort in the motion, a rhythm in the heat
Of the sun sinking down on a mid-western street.

And we're rolling down the line where the pines grow tall
Catching every shadow before the evening falls
It's a long road back to the place we used to know
With the windows rolled down and the radio low
Yeah, we're searching for the truth in the hum of the wheels
And the quiet kind of spirit that the open road feels.

It's not the destination, it's the way the gravel sings
It's the freedom and the burden that a wandering heart brings
I'm not running from the ghosts, I'm just running for the light
Tracing out the constellations through the middle of the night
Yeah, I'm finding my direction in the rhythm of the flight.

And we're rolling down the line where the pines grow tall
Catching every shadow before the evening falls
It's a long road back to the place we used to know
With the windows rolled down and the radio low
Yeah, we're searching for the truth in the hum of the wheels
And the quiet kind of spirit that the open road feels.

Whisper... just a whisper on the breeze
Between the golden wheat and the willow trees
A hundred miles behind me
A thousand more to go
Just a thousand more to go.

03 · LYRICS

Call of the road

starts at 8:33 in the video



Sun's sinking low behind the silhouette of the grain silo
Dust clouds dancing in the glare of my high beams
I've got three hundred miles behind me and a hundred more to go
This old reliable rig never lets me down, or so it seems
The radio's crackling with a song about regret and wasted years
But I'm just staring at the white lines, washing away my fears

It's the call of the road, the scent of diesel and pine
A heart forged in iron and a soul that's just feeling fine
Driving through the darkness where the stars provide the light
Between the ghosts of yesterday and a dream that haunts my mind
And when the world slows down beneath a silver desert moon
I hear the wind call out my name, playing a traveler's tune

Stopped at a neon diner for a cup of bitter black gold
The waitress gave a heavy sigh, she's seen my story told
A drifter with no anchor, just a seeker of the unknown
With a guitar in the backseat and the seeds of rhythm sown
I paid the tab in silence and I pulled my collar tight
Solitude's a steady friend in the middle of the night

Sometimes the silence gets too loud in this endless stretch of blue
I'm looking for a signpost, something honest, something true
In the shadows of the timber, where the valley starts to bend
I find the kind of peace on which a working man depends
I just listen to the Whispering Wind as it echoes through the trees
It carries every secret, floating on the evening breeze

It's the call of the road, the scent of diesel and pine
A heart forged in iron and a soul that's just feeling fine
Driving through the darkness where the stars provide the light
Between the ghosts of yesterday and a dream that haunts my mind
And when the world slows down beneath a silver desert moon
I hear the wind call out my name, playing a traveler's tune

Just keep on rolling...
I can hear that Whisper in the pines
Yeah, a soft Whisper in the night.

04 · LYRICS

Chrome on my boots

starts at 13:53 in the video



Got a long-legged rhythm in the back of my ride
Chrome on my boots and a grin on my pride
Dust on the highway, heat in the air
I'm a low-down rambler with a rock 'n roll stare

I got chrome on my boots, fire in my soul
Ridin' that line where the wild ones roll
Kickin' up sparks when I'm cuttin' it loose
Yeah, I'm burnin' up the night with chrome on my boots

Got a red-hot mama with a wicked smile
She's trouble in denim but she drives me wild
Turn up the engine, let the good times roar
When she climbs in, I'm beggin' for more

I got chrome on my boots, fire in my soul
Ridin' that line where the wild ones roll
Kickin' up sparks when I'm cuttin' it loose
Yeah, I'm burnin' up the night with chrome on my boots

Steel on the strings, thunder in my hands
I shake the ground everywhere I stand
If you feel that rumble rollin' through your town
That's me and my boots layin' trouble down

I got chrome on my boots, fire in my soul
Ridin' that line where the wild ones roll
Kickin' up sparks when I'm cuttin' it loose
Yeah, I'm burnin' up the night with chrome on my boots

05 · LYRICS

I get up every time you try to run me down

starts at 17:28 in the video



You keep talkin' like you've got me traced
But you don't know the dust I've kicked
I've been runnin' through the borderline haze
Tryna shake off every dirty trick

And every time you shut me out
I find another way around

You can run me down, but I won't break
I've been holdin' on for my own sake
You can steal my time, but not my ground
I get back up every time you try to run me down

You keep pushin' like you own my name
But I don't bend the way you think
I've been drivin' through the wind and rain
Just to find a place where I don't sink

And every road you blocked before
Just made me want it even more

You can run me down, but I won't break
I've been holdin' on for my own sake
You can steal my time, but not my ground
I get back up every time you try to run me down
I've been burned, I've been bruised
But I'm still standin' in my shoes
You can try to cut me loose
But I ain't yours to refuse

You can run me down, but I won't break
I've been holdin' on for my own sake
You can steal my time, but not my ground
I get back up every time you run me down
Yeah, I get back up every time you try to run me down

06 · LYRICS

It's a long way to nowhere

starts at 21:17 in the video



The asphalt's screaming under eighteen wheels
And I'm finally breaking all the rusted seals
Left that quiet valley in a cloud of grey
With a ghost in the mirror that I can't quite slay
The ignition is hot and the wires are frayed
Paying every debt that I never should've paid.

And we're burning down the highway, lightning in the veins
Cutting through the silence and the iron chains
It's a long way to nowhere but I'm going there fast
Building up a future on a broken past
Yeah, we're riding on the thunder, hear the engines cry
Writing our names across a wide-open sky.

I passed a diner and a shut-down mill
Everything's frozen, everything's still
But I'm a rolling fire, I'm a spark in the dark
Leaving behind every permanent mark
Danny's in the rearview, waving from the gate
But I ain't got the patience for a hand of fate.

And we're burning down the highway, lightning in the veins
Cutting through the silence and the iron chains
It's a long way to nowhere but I'm going there fast
Building up a future on a broken past
Yeah, we're riding on the thunder, hear the engines cry
Writing our names across a wide-open sky.

It's the heat of the piston, it's the oil and the grit
I'm a match in the gasoline, and I've just been lit
No more praying for rain on a barren land
I'm taking the wheel with a steady hand!

And we're burning down the highway, lightning in the veins
Cutting through the silence and the iron chains
It's a long way to nowhere but I'm going there fast
Building up a future on a broken past
Yeah, we're riding on the thunder, hear the engines cry
Writing our names across a wide-open sky.

Can you hear the Whisper in the engine's roar?
A Whisper of the man I was before...
Just a shadow on the road...

07 · LYRICS

I can't promise I'll be true

starts at 26:25 in the video



I started out in Nashville with a tank full of gas
And a girl named Billy Sue who said I moved too fast
By the time I hit Memphis, she was out of my mind
'Cause a waitress in Arkansas was being real kind
I'm crossing every border, chasing the sun
Living like an outlaw on a highway run
Got a girl in every state line, or so I like to brag
But it's hard to keep a promise with a shifting gear bag.

I'm rolling down the highway, rubber burning the track
Got a trail of broken hearts from here to far away back
So don't you wait up, darling, beneath that neon blue
'Cos I can't promise I'll be true, but I'll see what I can do!

In Texas it was Texas-sized, a girl named Lou-Ellen
What happened in El Paso, man, there ain't no telling
By New Mexico the radiator started to hiss
But a blonde in Albuquerque sealed it with a kiss
Now I'm speeding through Nevada, Vegas is in sight
I got a cop on my tail and a date for tonight
They say that settling down is a beautiful thing
But I'm allergic to the altar and the wedding ring.

I'm rolling down the highway, rubber burning the track
Got a trail of broken hearts from here to way, way back
So don't you wait up, darling, beneath that neon blue
'Cos I can't promise I'll be true, but I'll see what I can do!

California's calling, I can smell the ocean air
There's a surfer girl named Sandy with the wind in her hair
Yeah, my GPS is crying, it can't keep up with the pace
I'm a cross-country lover in a high-speed chase!
Yeah, I'll try my best, baby... but you know how it goes!
If love is in the air I always follow...
my nose

I'm rolling down the highway, rubber burning the track
Got a trail of broken hearts from here to far away back
So don't you wait up, darling, beneath that neon blue
I can't promise I'll be true, but I'll see what I can do!

Yeah, I'll see what I can do!
What I can do for you
But don't count on it, baby!
'Cos all I can say is maybe

08 · LYRICS

Watch me walk

starts at 32:10 in the video



The clock is ticking like a hammer on a nail
And every step I take feels like walking on a rail
There's a fire in the marrow, a shadow in the bone
A weight I've been carrying, standing all alone
The doctors shook their heads, and they looked the other way
But they don't know the spirit that is walking with me today.

I heard a Whisper in the darkest hour of night
Telling me to settle, telling me to quit the fight
But I've got a stubborn rhythm beating in my chest
A heart that's never learned the way to take a rest
The pain is just a season, a storm before the calm
I'm turning every scar into a healing balm.

And I'm rising from the ashes of the man I used to be
Breaking every chain that was never meant for me
Though the mountain's getting steeper and the air is getting thin
I'm finding all the power that was hiding deep within
Yeah, I'm coming out the other side, indestructible as gold
With a story of a victory that's yet to be told.

The road behind is jagged and the path ahead is blurred
But I'm moving to the music of a truth they haven't heard
Let the lightning strike the summit, let the river run dry
I'm looking at every limit with a fire in my eye
It's a forge in the furnace, it's a sharpening of steel
I'm finally taking back everything the shadows tried to steal.

And I'm rising from the ashes of the man I used to be
Breaking every chain that was never meant for me
Though the mountain's getting steeper and the air is getting thin
I'm finding all the power that was hiding deep within
Yeah, I'm coming out the other side, indestructible as gold
With a story of a victory that's yet to be told.

They counted me out, they drew a line in the sand
But they didn't see the foundation on which I stand
It's more than just a struggle; it's a promise I've made
To walk through every fire and never be afraid!

And I'm rising from the ashes of the man I used to be
Breaking every chain that was never meant for me
Though the mountain's getting steeper and the air is getting thin
I'm finding all the power that was hiding deep within
Yeah, I'm coming out the other side, indestructible as gold
With a story of a victory that's yet to be told

indestructible as gold...
I'm coming out...
Watch me walk...
I'm coming out
Watch me walk...
Oooh watch me walk

09 · LYRICS

Don't push me around

starts at 37:55 in the video



You keep sayin' I should toe the line
But I don't walk the way you planned
I've been runnin' on my own damn time
And I ain't takin' orders from your hands

Every rule you try to lay
Just makes me wanna break away

Don't push me around, I won't fall in line
I've been holdin' out, this heart is mine
You can shout your words, but I won't bow down
I stand my ground — don't push me around

You keep talkin' like you own my name
But you don't know the fire I've fed
I've been burnin' through the smoke and shame
Just to rise up from the things I've shed

Every wall you try to build
Just makes my stubborn blood get filled

Don't push me around, I won't fall in line
I've been holdin' out, this heart is mine
You can shout your words, but I won't bow down
I stand my ground — don't push me around

I ain't breakin', I ain't bendin'
This road's mine and I'm defendin'
You can try to shut me down
But I ain't movin' off this ground