KAILEY PRIOR

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WE'RE OKAY EP
LYRICS & INFO

WELCOME TO THE WE'RE OKAY DIGITAL LYRIC BOOKLET!

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I have been living with these five songs at the center of my universe for the past year, getting them ready for you. In this booklet, you'll find a little window into that world.

ASSUME
TRACK ONE

Confrontation makes me sweat and 9 times out of 10 my tongue and brain decide they're not speaking and all the carefully worded points I've worked out in my head get sidetracked on their way out of my mouth and come out my eyes instead as tears of frustration, which is no fun for either party.

I wrote "Assume" after a particularly unsuccessful confrontation that left me feeling powerless and steamrolled. Singing it makes me feel empowered and I hope listening to it makes you feel the same!

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Music & Lyrics: Kailey Prior
Guitar & Vocals: Kailey Prior
Cello: Tallie Gabriel
Bass: Aya Kato
Drums: Max Maples
Sound Engineer: Tom Gardner
Mastering Engineer: Joe Lambert

LYRICS

To assume makes an ass out of you and me
Well you're an ass, and me?
I'm gone

Listen to these words dripping from my lips
I'm done with those lies hiding in your kisses
If I tell you I'm through, don't assume I've changed my mind
Dadada you'll find

That I've danced on your drum and my feet are sore
And I can't make them dance anymore
I've walked this line too many times between I'm fine and I want more

You're stuck in the boxes inside your head
Whatever can't fit is as good as dead
And I'm breaking the rules by telling you I'm moving on
Dadada I'm gone

Dead men walking why bother why try
Dead men walking why bother why cry
Dead men walking why bother why try
Why bother walking when in heaven dead men
Fly

Now I've danced to your drum and my feet are sore
And I can't make em dance anymore
And I've walked this line too many times between I'm fine and I want more
I want more
Dadada

To assume makes an ass out of you and me
Well you're an ass, and me?
I'm gone

THROUGH
TRACK TWO

I am a people-pleaser, until I'm not. Maybe it's the Gemini in me, but I've spent so many relationships doing whatever I could to "make it work" and make everything "okay" until, inevitably and without warning, it was very much NOT OKAY. Maybe it was a fear of "failing" or "giving up" that kept me determined to keep persevering. Who knows! Whatever the cause, it took me a long time to believe that it was possible to find someone who was willing and able to give me as much love and support as I was willing and able to give them.

"Through" is a reminder to myself, and anyone who needs it, that there is no reason to settle for anything less than unapologetic and unconditional love.

LYRICS

I opened my heart, my lungs, my brain
Gave you my umbrella and walked in the rain
Now I'm soaked through
And I'm through with you

My head's not ready to talk to my heart
The mess you made is a work of art
I'm untangling scars, pulling baggage apart
I'm through with you

I am more than enough without you
And I'm saving my umbrellas and my "I Do's"
And I won't and I don't, no more bending, I'm through
Through bending and believing in...

You need space, take my rocket ship
You need time, I don't give a shit
Take time, go find the moon
I've got no room for you

No more lemons, no more lemonade
No more salty, no more shade
These bright, shiny lies are beginning to fade
I see through you

I am more than enough without you
And I'm saving my umbrellas and my "I Do's"
And I don't, and I won't, no more bending, I'm through
Through bending and believing in you

I am more than enough without you
And I'm saving my umbrellas and my "I Do's"
And I don't, and I won't, no more bending, I'm through
Through bending and believing in you
You, you, you

SLEEPWALKER

TRACK THREE

Many moons ago, I fell in love in the wrong direction. It was one of those relationships that starts off with sunshine and roses and then sneakily plummets into thorns and chasing the honeymoon. I found myself isolated from my friends, making excuses, and rationalizing away the red flags as the rest of the world seemed to dance farther and farther away from me.

The one thing that broke through the noise and gave me the courage to come to terms with what was happening and get the hell outta dodge, was a car-ride conversation with my dad. We had just finished a "meet the parents visit," and dad and I found ourselves alone on a drive. He simply told me that, in the short time he had experienced the dynamic between me and my partner, he saw me loving and supporting in a way that didn't seem to be reciprocated. He went on to say that he thought I deserved the most unconditionally supportive love, and that if I felt I was getting all that I deserved from this person, he trusted me and supported the relationship. There were no accusations, no judgments. Hearing that he trusted me to do what was best for my own heart reminded me that I was worth much more than what I was settling for, and that I alone had the power to do something about it. And then I did.

Fast forward a few years and I'm watching a loved one go through the same numbing cycle with her partner. I wanted to bottle up that car ride conversation with my dad so she could hear it and hold onto it and make her way out on her own terms, in her own time. I couldn't, so I wrote "Sleepwalker" instead. I hope it finds you when you need it too.

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LYRICS

I held my own heart so long it broke
I held my breath so long I choked
Sleepwalking, I talked, and I smiled, and I joked
Didn't cry 'till I woke up

I held my own hand when hers squeezed too tight
Eyes closed, still sleeping long after the night
Sleepwalking, I talked, and I smiled, and I joked
Didn't cry 'till I woke up

Sleepwalker, I see you
Sleepwalker, I'm seeing you
Sleepwalker, I need you
To wake up

We mark our hearts and skin with times we don't speak up,
We settle for fine
Trying to find a moving finish line
Eyes closed, flying blind

But "fine" is a four letter word for "not fine"
And "yours" is a five letter word for "not mine"
And not all love's patient, and not all love's kind
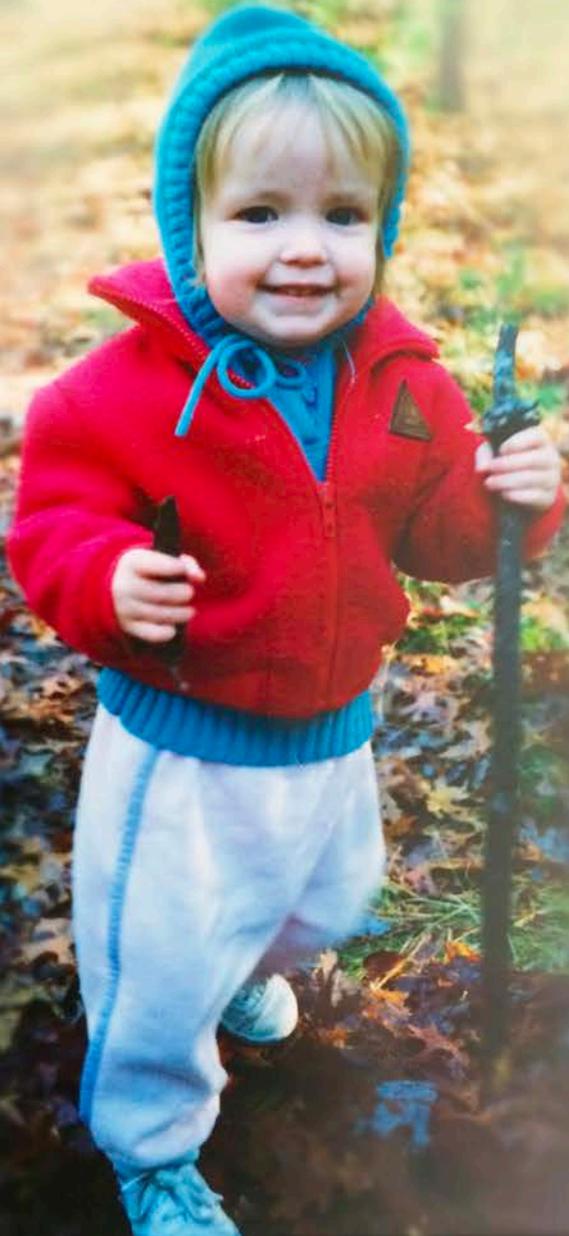Not all love is worth your time

Sleepwalker, I see you
Sleepwalker, I'm seeing you
Sleepwalker, I need you
To wake up

I know it feels good to sit in the dark
I know it feels easy to stay where you are
And waking up is hard, I know
But it's easier once you let go

So until you can open your eyes and walk,
Sleepwalker, I'll walk with you
Until you can open your eyes and see,
Sleepwalker, I'll see for you
Until you can open your eyes and see yourself making it through
Sleepwalker, Sleepwalker,
I'll see you through
Sleepwalker, Sleepwalker,
I'll see you soon

NOT A TREE
TRACK FOUR

Growing up, I always felt like I was missing something. Like there was some handbook to being a kid that I hadn't read. I couldn't figure out what it was, I just had this feeling that I was "other," and that everybody knew it.

It wasn't until I found my queer family that this feeling started to fade. Up until that point, I spent a lot of time trying to figure out how to "fit in." How to find the path of least resistance, how to narrow in on what was expected of me, and then figure out how to be the best of whatever that was that I could be.

I still have no idea who the hell I am, and I anticipate that I likely never will. But I'm realizing that I don't need to figure myself out definitively, and certainly not on someone else's terms. However I feel, whoever I am in any given moment, is more than enough. Enter, "Not a Tree."

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Music & Lyrics: Kailey Prior
Guitar, Violin,& Vocals: Kailey Prior
Bass: Aya Kato
Drums: Max Maples
Sound Engineer: Tom Gardner
Mastering Engineer: Joe Lambert

LYRICS

I tried to make myself a tree
Grow up much taller than me
Make my leaves soft and green
I tried to make myself a tree

I thought that I should plant some roots
I went and bought those ugly Ugg boots
And I never knew
How to be a tree

I am not the waves crashing down
I am not the breeze swirling round
I am not a tree
I am me
I am not a tree

I tried to make myself a book
Colored in my covers and my spine so I would look like the others on the shelf
I tried to make myself a book

But I am not something to be red
I like blue much better and somethings are better left unread

I tried to shape myself for you
There is nothing that I thought that I wouldn't do
Now I've gone and turned all my bones to goo
Trying to fit inside what I meant to you

Oh no no no no
No no no no no
No no no no no
Nooo nooo nooo nooo

I am not a tree
I am not a book
I am simply me
If you care to look
And I will be much more
Then you ever, I ever had thought I could be
Cause I'm not trying to be a tree

LITTLE BIRD
TRACK FIVE

Oddly enough, I don't remember my original inspiration for "Little Bird." She has been so consistently the musical hug I've needed throughout so many dark moments, that it's hard to say it's "about" any one event or person. She's just there when you need her.

Everyone hurts, everyone heals, and no one should feel alone as they navigate their own individual struggles. I hope that "Little Bird" can be the hug you didn't even realize you needed.

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Music & Lyrics: Kailey Prior
Guitar & Vocals: Kailey Prior
Cello: Alex Cummings
Sound Engineer: Tom Gardner
Mastering Engineer: Joe Lambert

LYRICS
Hey little bird with the broken wing
Too tired to soar too tired to sing
Don't sing anything

Hey little bird with the broken song
You sang another's song too long
But you're not wrong
You're not wrong

Oooooh

Hey little bird with the lonely nest
Sometimes empty feels the best
So tuck your head against your own chest
Rest

Oooooh

And I miss her too, little bird
I know it hurts
But it's okay
Yeah I miss her too, little bird
I know it hurts
But it's okay
You can let it hurt today

Ooooooh

Hey little bird, it's ok
Not to want to sing today
Hey little bird, it's ok
Not to want to sing today

We're okay

Thank you Mom, Dad, Elizabeth, Nicalena, my
Russell family, my Prior family, my queer family, Aya,
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happen. And thank YOU for listening.

Love,
Kailey