

Take It Back

words and music by Kathleen Sloan

Do you remember back when we were kids?
We were artists and dancers and musicians all
We sang because we needed to, we danced because it gave us joy
(We) made art to share our very selves with the world
Then as we grew older it became very clear
Not all of us were good enough to make the grade
Our singing was sometimes off key, our dancing had a few mis-steps
Our art was judged a bit too odd to share with the world (*but we can*)

Chorus:

Take it back! Take it back!
Take back the right to sing and play
It will fill your heart, it will feed your soul
When you take back the right to sing and play!

Bridge:

In a dozen other countries, no matter your age
You're encouraged and expected to create
Here in the west we've been robbed of that choice
Come join our revolution, we've found our own solution
You're all invited to participate! (*when we*)

Chorus

We have broken the rules, we have carved out this space
Where skill is not the only measure of our worth
We're free to sing in circles here and dance if the spirit calls
Make art once again and share ourselves with the world

Chorus

Welcome to our diverse little clan
Don't worry you're not good enough, come grow with us
We'll help you with your melody, we'll catch you if you trip and fall
We'll celebrate the art you choose to share with the world! (*we will*)

Chorus

Take it back! Take it back!
Take back the right to sing and play
It will fill your heart, it will feed your soul
When you take back the right to sing and play and make art
Take back the right to sing and play

Home to FilKONtario

Words and music by Debbie Ridpath Ohi

I used to feel the lyrics slide inside my head
The music filled me up, and I felt I would explode in a
burst of coloured static, and the people all around, their eyes
on the ground.

CHORUS:

Bring me home to FilKONtario
Stay, sing with me we'll
be all right, sing all night
with my friends at FilKONtario.

One fateful weekend, my friend took me to a filk, "What's a
filk", I said, and she laughed and took my hand, led me
to a room of people with guitars and easy smiles,
and I stayed a while.

CHORUS

So now I'm hooked, I go to filk cons every year, never
get much sleep, why sleep? I could be filking...
The circle changes but the smiles are still the same, and the
song remains.

BRIDGE (*a capella*):

(but each time, I) find it harder to say
goodbye at the end of day,
may our paths cross again,
my friend.

Our voices may not be all perfectly on key, but we
lift each other up, and share the melody as we
fill the room with music, and I know I'll be all right as we
sing into the night.

CHORUS (twice)



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