

# Falling You HUMAN

## Falling You HUMAN

conception by john michael zorko | manifestation by falling you  
produced by john michael zorko | mastered by robert rich  
photography and design by ashes monroe | typography by michael riddick

i want to thank, firstly, the magicians: jennifer, aimee, dru, erica and suzanne. each of you has taken these sonics and infused them with a particular grace and beauty that i could not have hoped for, and each of you deserve far more accolades than i could possibly administer (but no worries, i'll keep trying). i also want to thank amy c (whom i adore and miss greatly), dj victoria\*, ana / saki / kristin / denesa / abby / marina / shelly / miranda and all of the dancers who have so moved me (by moving to me), sarah (blu) / michelle / rick / dante and everyone in the santa cruz goth community, ari, dave, kurt and vivian, michelle m, daxle, chazz, scott and polly & the ks folks, ashes (true, true friend), andy, gordon sharpe, mike v and the hidden sanctuary, mug, tata & atp, aci & phantasmagoria, automod, satanyanko, stephen hill & all the djs who played us, mom / bro / sis, mike & tara, and pugsley (my floppy-eared best friend)





dru allen

*vocals, lyrics, sound poetry on I and VI*

jennifer mcpeak

*vocals, backing vocals and lyrics on III and VII*

erica mulkey

*vocals, lyrics and cello on VI*

aimee page

*vocals, lyrics and sound poetry on II, V, and VIII*

suzanne perry

*vocal sound poetry on IX*

john michael zorko

*piano, synthesizers, guitars, electronics, loops, programming, atmospheres, noise*

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### *destiny trip* <sup>I</sup>

vocals, lyrics: *dru*  
electronics, programming, synths, noise: *john*

something he said to me · something my heart had needed · filled me and i sang · resonate breathlessly · covering lips with finger · this is his sign · something came over me · that something was all i needed · to put things a right · swimming · feels heavy · he says “it clears with time” · whispers hold me gently under mars’ red light · some kind of destiny thread · unraveling, untied · caught in our destiny trip · we made that night · some kind of destiny thread · unraveling, untied promise of destiny · when we align · collide

### *tribe* <sup>II</sup>

vocals, lyrics, sound poetry: *aimee*  
electronics, synths, guitars, noise: *john*

i have wandered far longer than 40 days and nights · searching for friendly soil · to bury me · envelop me in peace · middle earth to provance · mission town to the high marai kyoto, tokyo · the winds of fate are calling from the end of the earth · home is where the heart lies · safe · in the hands of my tribe arming this tall poppy with the thorns of the wild rose

### *shadow child* <sup>III</sup>

vocals, lyrics: *jennifer*  
electronics, programming, synths, noise, piano: *john*

that’s me under the table · begging for your scraps · that’s me with my hands outstretched through the bars i’m waiting · for something to touch my skin · that’s me, screaming · i’m screaming if someone would listen · like a flower i’m burned by the acid rain · my leaves are so withered · my pedals so stained · insanity at its’ best is this child · shadow child · bitter child · bitter shadow child · i think i’m used to this kind of pain · i’m not sure if i’ll ever come clean again

### *bring down the stars* <sup>IV</sup>

vocals, lyrics, sound poetry: *dru*  
atmospheres, programming, synths, guitar feedback, loops: *john*

bring down the stars and lift the sky · one heart, two minds · two ways, one’s right · love waits in hope’s guise · love fades when faith dies i give you the stars that i pluck from the night i give you myself and awaken your true side one heart, two lives

### *a bird in a cage* <sup>V</sup>

vocals, lyrics, sound poetry: *aimee*  
electronics, noise, piano: *john*

the choke hold has lost its’ grip · the curse has been lifted · i am freeing myself from lock and key · the caged bird sings like no other

### *varenka* <sup>VI</sup>

*~ based on a character from anna karenina*  
vocals, lyrics, cello: *erica*  
guitar, piano, atmospheres: *john*

with your happiness despite your loss · you showed me mine was nothing · but how could i leave you without knowing · what’s important · you are the brightest star · in this town of the dying and despairing · everything i learn i learn from you · who i am becoming

### *starshine* <sup>VII</sup>

vocals, lyrics: *jennifer*  
atmospheres, synth, loops, guitars, noise: *john*

maybe i am not an artist like some · but someday my voice will find its’ starshine maybe it’s glittery like sweat on soft skin · in the humidity · kiss you like the empty soul hoping for a promise that’s worth keeping i want to be as beautiful · as girls shrouded

in black · dancing to the beating of my broken heart · why can’t i be that beautiful like girls shrouded in black · dancing to the beating of my broken heart · please let me write the words · that speak to every heart · just like a poet clinging to love on his death bed my expressions they grow dimmer · and the feelings they are so faint · i search for the wings to fly, oh why · i’m searching for my starshine

*one-hundred years (of solitude)* <sup>VIII</sup>  
vocals, lyrics, sound poetry: *aimee*  
piano, electronics, atmospheres: *john*

silence has never been so still · unbroken by one hundred years of solitude · yet these ears still burn · yet this skin still burns · from a world away · collapsing by the burden collapsing beneath the weight of honesty cling to me · heavenly spheres · elusive and faint of heart · traveling atoms long to intercept the oracle of self · speak to me in dreams and oceans drowning · overwhelmed with tides and waves of mourning

### *an angel, ameliorate* <sup>IX</sup>

*vocal sound poetry: suzanne*  
*synths, atmospheres: john*

*(for amy)*

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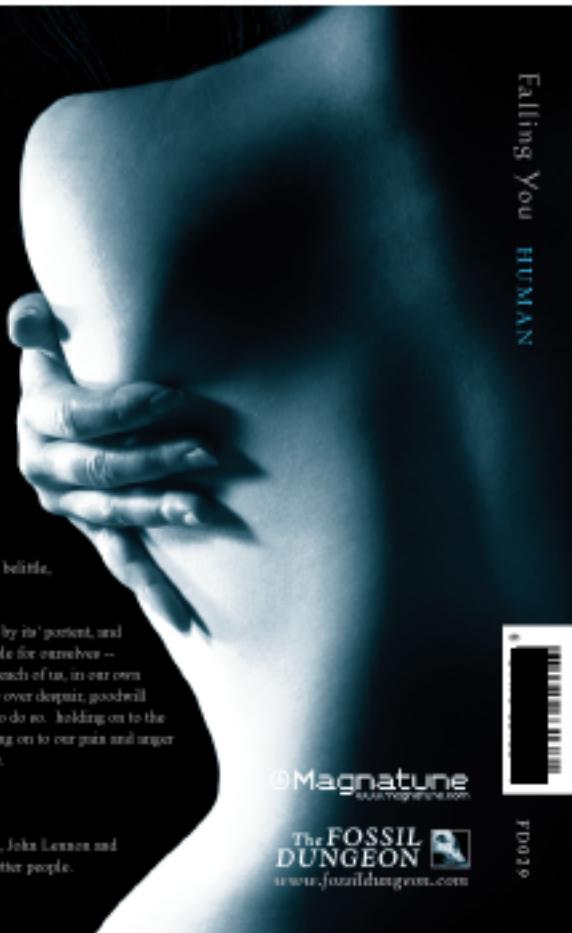
destiny  
trif  
shadow child  
bring down the stars  
a bird in a cage  
varenka  
starshine  
one-hundred years (of solitude)  
an angel, ameliorate

**the flower and the thorn**, the duality of the human condition. we have the capability to love one another very deeply and add a lot of value to one another's lives, but we're also all too capable of hatred, aggression, prejudice and deceit. we can help each other to reach our goals, yet we can be brittle, hurt and even kill one another over the most trivial differences.

yet, this is what we are. **human**. the promise of humanity is equaled only by its' potential, and the path that we choose is completely up to each of us. we are all responsible for ourselves -- our success, our actions, our emotional state. we are our own engines, and each of us, in our own lives and in very real, concrete ways, can choose peace over war, happiness over despair, goodwill over anger -- despite what life hands us. we only need to find the courage to do so. holding on to the positive will benefit one another and makes us joyful and content, while holding on to our pain and anger does nothing but make us grumpy and angry people, and that benefits no one.

it's our choice -- each of us -- and no one else's.

"human" is dedicated to the memories of Jane Addams, Emily Green Balch, John Lennon and everyone who shows the way to a better world, by showing us how to be better people.



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