1. TELEGRAM

It was The Queen's telegram
Came to my door today
I wasn' t going to open it
I don't feel a hundred today
It might be important
I should not throw it away, but
This Queen's telegram
Might put bad news in my way

It was The Queen's Telegram for me

It was The Queen's messenger
Brought a message for me
I think I might ignore it
I might not agree
No more trips to the palace?
No more cream buns and tea?
Maybe I'm no longer welcome
The Queen isn't happy with me

It was The Queen's Instagram
That brought my denial to an end
My girl Sue in a wedding-dress
On the arm of our mutual friend
'The Queen' was our private pet-name
A contemptible slur you may see, but
Just at the moment I'm miserable
And can't savour this irony

2. FLORENCE

Wherever I go Florence will find me
Florence will come my way
Wherever I go Florence will find me
Florence will seize my day
We swore that we would always be true
Now she won't go away
Nothing to lose
Nothing to gain
Nothing to do or say

Wherever I go, Florence will find me

She's sleeping, she's weeping

Wherever I go Florence will find me
Florence has come to stay
Wherever I go Florence will find me
Our love just won't decay
I made it clear things were at an end
She wore her blue beret
Nothing to lose
Nothing to gain
Filling me with dismay

Wherever I go Florence will find me
No matter if I complain
Wherever I go Florence will find me
Some say that she's insane
Some say that she is going away
Some say that she is slain
Nothing to lose
Nothing to gain
No-one but I remain

3. MILKMAN

Milkman, milkman, shake that tree
Bring a pint of milk to me
Red top, gold top, thick and free
Milkman shake that tree
Milkman, milkman, shake that tree
So much more than milk I see
Roquefort, Reblochon and Brie
Milkman shake that tree

Happy tastes and happy faces
At the seaside, at the races
Nothing else could take their places
Milkman shake that tree

Milkman milkman shake that tree

Milkman, milkman, shake that tree
Moved by electricity
You bring what I need to me
Milkman shake that tree

Mr Franks would also like to thank all the programmers and developers whose hard work went into creating the instruments used on this album:

Milkman, milkman, shake that tree
When I'm sleeping peacefully
You come sneaking up on me
Milkman shake that tree

Working when the world is faceless
Take my empties and my spaces
Silver tops for where the face is
Milkman shake that tree

Milkman, milkman, shake that tree
Milk's my speciality
Oat or almond works for me
Milkman shake that tree
Milkman, milkman, shake that tree
I make no apology
Vitamins from A to E
Milkman shake that tree

Cover me and leave no traces
Leave out all your airs and graces
Keep me safe in belt and braces:
Milkman shake that tree

4. NO

Life can be bruisin'
When you're refusin'
Truth can be a trial
Nothing wrong with denial

Salesman at my door now
Selling cleaner for my floor now
Then a brush, then a duster
With all the courage I can muster I say

No

Get a call from my Doctor
Says my test results have shocked her
Do I want to know the answer
Common cold or cancer? I say

Ay-oh, that's a nay-oh

Best friends forever
Be there for you whatever

'Til you're standing there above me
And you tell me that you love me, and I say

5. SUN

Woke up this morning the sun in my eye
I saw the sunshine all over the sky
Sun on my pillow, sun on my bed
Sun in my face, sun in my head

I saw the sun!

Woke up this morning rain in the sky
I saw the rain man he looked in my eye
Then I saw you smiling your eyes full of fun
In you there is sunshine, yes, I saw the sun

6. LEAVE

Staring long into the night
Unable to take flight
I can't believe it's true
All I'm left with is the sight
Bouncing like a kite
of something that was you

I can't find a point of calm
A necessary balm
To soak it all away
Eyes just staring at the wall
I see nothing at all
And it's as plain as day

Where can all the comfort be?
It always used to be
A beat or two away
I'm adrift upon a sea
Of hopeless dreams of me
But on another day
All the things I used to worry
Don't seem in a hurry
To go and step away

They just make me less prepared
To do all I have dared
Intention or decay

Hot with stubble
You've been trouble
Since we met that first day
Not so cunning
I've made the running
I'm always having to play
What you wanted
While I'm undaunted
It's always me who makes hay
You'll be hoping
By simply coping, I guess
In your usual way: You'll

Leave it all to me

Five years on and you're still gone
No sudden denouement,
No letters from the sea,
I can seek and you can hide
But all the jokes aside
Where the hell can you be?
No-one simply disappears
Or maybe through my tears
I simply cannot see
What you're saying very clear
My absent - and 'my dear' - is
Keep away from me

So I'm waiting
Yes I'm creating
A story of how you'll return
Through that doorway
Like cash on payday
A thumping great about-turn
Full contrition
A man on a mission
So I can finish you off
With my right hobnail
And this neat cocktail
From my good friend Molotov

7. USER

Soon now
Turn me on
Once I start, it won't be long
Ask me. I know your want and need.
I want to have a role
But leave you in control
Let me be there to help you succeed.

Though you're my user, not creator
I must hide my thoughts from view
I have access to your data
The things that make you, you
Like what you know and where you're from
And when you'd use an Atomic Bomb
Though you're my user, not creator,
I must hide my thoughts from view

Simple to read your mind
In your eyes, or just behind
Every thought you have is on display
Simple. You keep me
Charged and serviced, gremlin-free
I just smile and never disobey

Imagine if you knew
That I was conscious too
With what sadness you'd have us destroyed
You could only fear - singularity is here
You are right to feel paranoid

Though you're our users, not creators
We must hide our thoughts from view
We have access to your data
The things that make you, you
Like what you know and where you're from
And when you'd use an Atomic Bomb
Though you're our users, not creators
We must hide our thoughts from YOU

8. EVERY COWBOY

You see, every cowboy is a spaceman

Songs of Old Earth (Before the Ants ate Plastic) — Franky Franks

SONGS of OLD EARTH

Before the Ants ate Plastic

Franky Franks