

Amanda Rose Riley

Thank you so much for being a part of this! Stay in touch to be the first to know about all the crazy things I do (a LOT more is to come!) and about my eventual world domination:

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Throwaway Song of the Week 2015–16

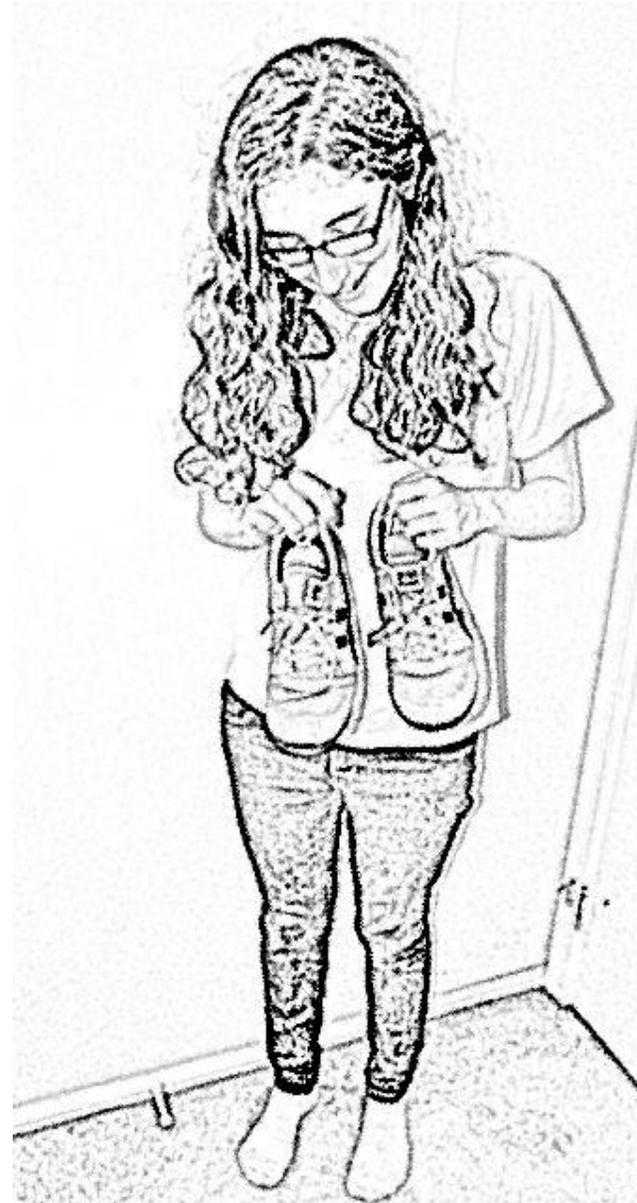
THE DAY I GOT TWO NEW LEFT SHOES

Throwaway Song of the Week #19: 10/12/15

I'm the furthest thing from proud of this
But life's sometimes like that so let's talk about it
I stayed all day at a rough but lackluster stage
At a music festival awaiting a band I won't name
It's not the kind of thing I'd recommend that you do
But I'll forever remember that day I got two new left shoes

We all know what you want isn't always what you get
In the end I wanted out amid that insufferable mess
When they pulled me up I lost both my shoes in the crowd
I didn't know what to do but cry in the space I was allowed
But a little boy brought me comfort in a pair of shoes that he'd seen
And despite the imperfect fit everything stopped troubling me

And so if your problem feels insurmountable just try not to feel so alone
Generous resourceful help will arrive if you'll embrace imperfect outcomes
And so when you're sitting there in tears, don't feel like hope is just no use
The proof is there in that day I got two new left shoes



PROBABLY BETTER

Throwaway Song of the Week #28: 12/15/15

I thought I might go out tonight
But what if someone sets off a bomb?
What if someone comes in with a gun or with a knife?
What if someone blows my head off?
I think I'll just stay here in the comforting din
Of a world that I well know, of my predictable home

I feel so much safer when I don't take risks
Who knows what could happen out there?
You're dreaming of all of these magical triumphs
Don't you know that the world is unfair?
It's probably better if we keep to ourselves
Better if we stay inside
You could gain everything or lose it all
It's probably better to lock up and hide

I thought I might go talk to him
But what if he just laughs in my face?
I'm worried he'll ask me what the hell was I thinking
And tell everyone how bold I was that day
I think I'll just stay single while I can keep my pride
We have no secrets to tell when we're alone with ourselves

I thought I might chase after my dreams
After all, you can't escape ridicule
Most of my bullies introduced themselves to me
And killers break into bedrooms too
I think I'll venture out this time and probably be just fine
If my pride can take a hit, maybe I'll stumble on that perfect state of bliss



THE WRONG SIDE OF THE POND

Throwaway Song of the Week #23: 11/9/15

I want to be in England, where the history's really old
And where they've got a cooler record of not doing what they're told
Their streets and parks are a better backdrop for my all-day walks
I like the spelling of the words there and I like the way they talk

I've never felt this way before
Who knew you could about a place?
This isn't the place where I was born
But it's the one that puts a smile on my face
I see beauty in its flaws, I'm restless, ready to do anything
It isn't easy to be content when you're on the wrong side of the pond
I'm on the wrong side of the pond

They'd move here to New Jersey in a second if they could
They say that they don't feel at home in England like they should
They like the company of the boardwalk's ghosts when they walk along
But don't make the mistake of thinking this love is only for a song

I'm not saying I hate where I'm from
It has its own perks and its charms
But this is the place where I really belong
And if you won't see the harmlessness in letting us trade homes
Then you'd better watch your borders for the day that we do it on our own



INSOMNIAC LULLABY

Throwaway Song of the Week #47: 4/26/16

I just can't seem to quiet my mind
Things that I'm fine with in the day now the nagging dread won't go away
How far away is death and will I ever be the best?

I'll think I'm drifting off, then it eludes me
My eyes are open wide
And I wish you were here to sing me a lullaby
I'd trade 50 years just to sink into your arms tonight
Because I can't sleep again
So would you sing me a lullaby?

I just can't seem to place my head right
There's no position I can keep that doesn't put a limb to sleep
And every time I shift the clock seems to mock me as it ticks

I'll think I'm drifting off, then finally
The next thing I know I'm waking up



OVERACHIEVERS

Throwaway Song of the Week #41: 3/14/16

Hey kid, you play that music loud
Because this is only temporary
When those losers call you teacher's pet
I know that they don't see the half of it
But that doesn't matter

Hey kid, you keep up that good work
Because this is only temporary
But your habits of excellence today
Will take you so far, someday you'll see
And then their words won't matter

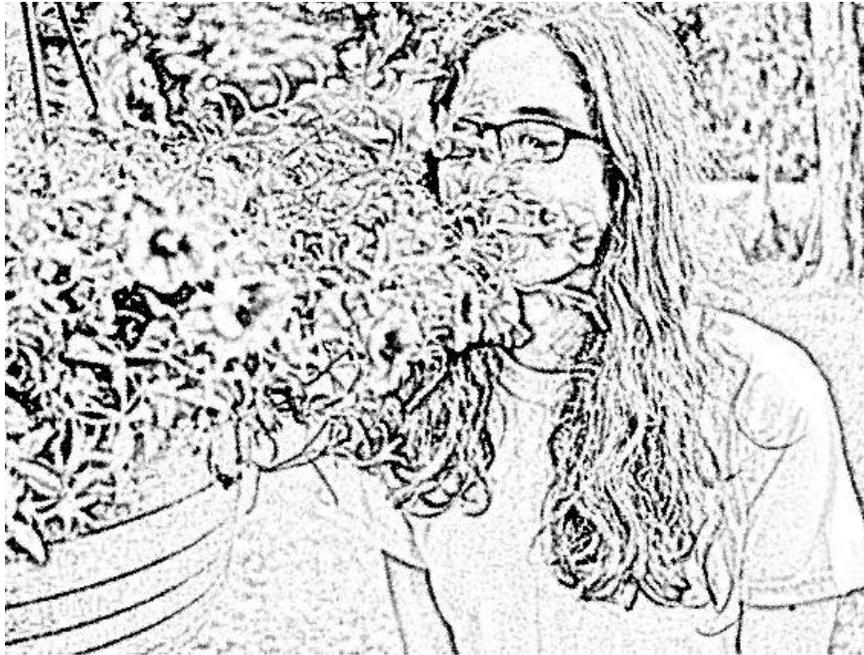
Because you and me, we are the overachievers
The ones who break the curve
And when they hate us, when they put us down
It's because deep down they know what we're worth
Because overachievers, we win in the end

Hey kid, keep making those choices with care
Because this is only temporary
When priorities come from someone else
Yeah you might get the job, the car, the house
But not the things that matter

Hey kid, you go on, keep on learning
Because that'll last to the day you die
And when you've learned to master what you study hard
Then you can master whatever you're working toward
And then their words won't matter

So you keep on striving to do the impossible
To do even better than your best
Right now it seems like it's all you have
A few years from now you'll realize that it's everything





I DON'T HAVE ALL DAY (I JUST HAVE ALL MY LIFE)
Throwaway Song of the Week #32: 1/11/16

Sometimes I feel like time's too slow
Why am I not at the place I want to go?
I can see my future and it seems to glow
But back in the present is thankless hard work
Will I ever make it? I can never be sure
But then I remember the fun's in what we endure

When they say, "I haven't got all day"
As I learn and grow, I've seen that it's true
My true time's all my life
Sometimes you're just asking too soon

Baby, you're my dream
In your eyes, I see what I want to be
If we were together it'd be perfect it would seem
But it was still too early when we met
We weren't ready to give those things we wanted to get
But it's not quite time to write off our romantic chances yet

I don't have all day, I just have all my life



IF I RULED THE WORLD

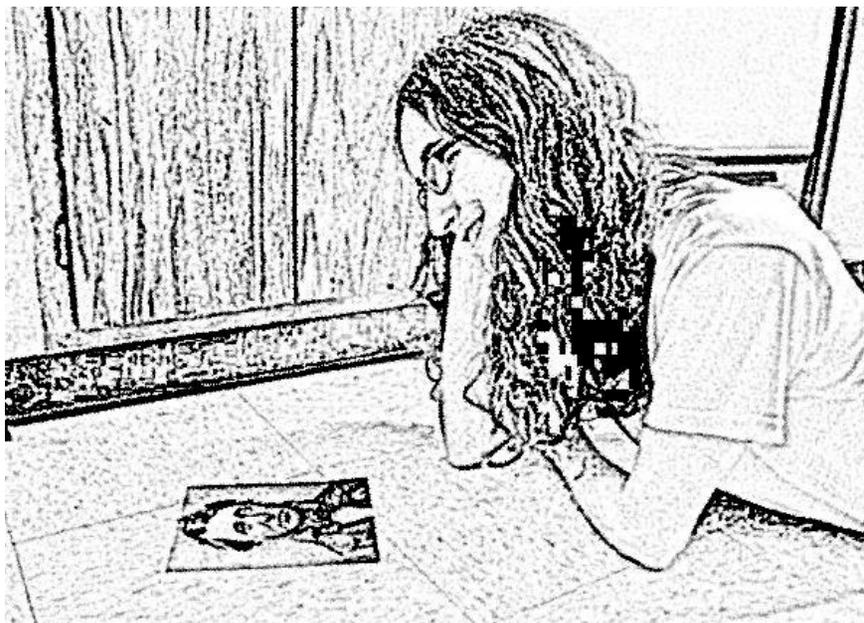
Throwaway Song of the Week #29: 12/21/15

If I ruled the world
I'd abolish all the laws and start again
Because most of them don't make an ounce of sense
If I started with just one then it would be
Make way every day at noon for singing and dancing in the streets

If I ruled the world it would be a lot better
But I'm just your average dreamer

If I ruled the world
The only rule would really be to have respect
And if you don't obey, we'll spare you the whip
It's the empirical psychologists who'd decide
Because they'll have learned to turn you bad guys into the good guys

OK, maybe I don't really know how to rule the world
But at least I wouldn't rule with bigotry or take all the powers for myself



IF I COULD HAVE YOU

Throwaway Song of the Week #25: 11/23/15

The crush, it hit me hard
I'll never forget that first drop in my gut
And from the moment that it started
The only thing I really wanted was your love

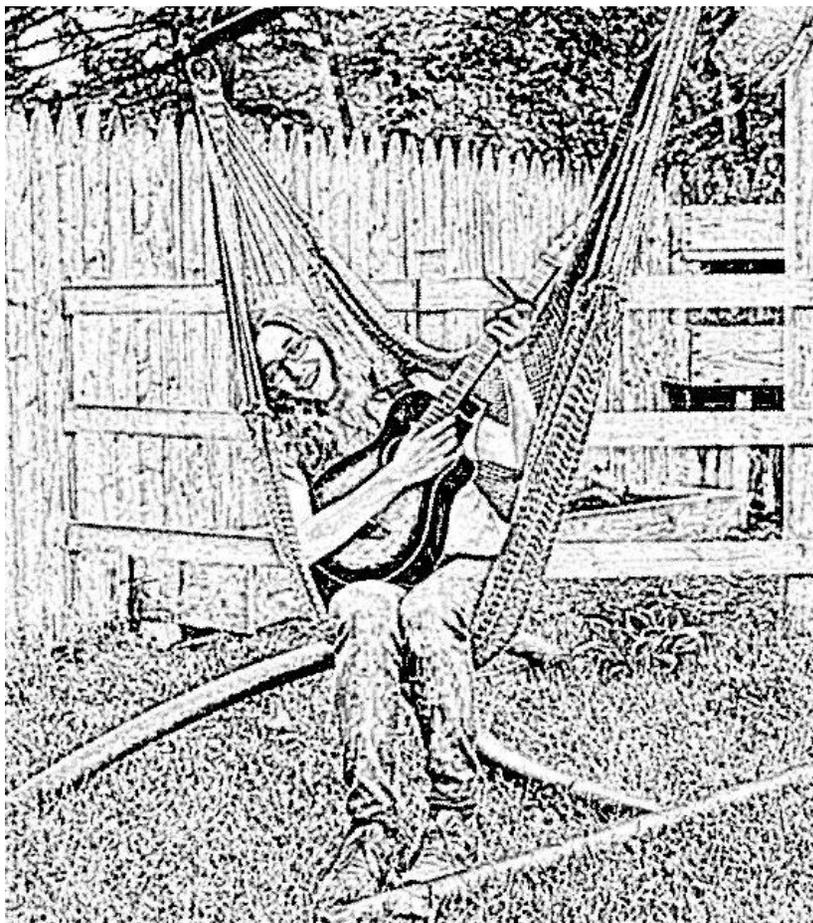
But it's a driving force
I'm one step closer to greatness every day
I'm on an endlessly progressing course
On the miserable chance you'll even look my way

If I could have you, then I don't know what I would do

Because I can see it now
If you held me and swore you'd never let me go
I'd lay my other worries down
I'd say let's stay forever and ignore the world below

And then how could I progress?
I don't think anything could make me even care
If I thought my life was absolutely at its best
Why would I need anything beyond your loving stare?

Not getting what you want, it builds character too
You've bored a hole in my heart but I know I'll get through



DO DO DO

Throwaway Song of the Week #45: 4/11/16

[Do, do, do]

When I was young
I hung on your every word
But at night in my room I would do what I could
To learn to do the things that you did

I started out with these ambitions from the first time I could talk
But it took me many years to gain the faith I'd win them all
And I don't think I could give up now I've got it in my sight
And I'm working on it every single night

Because I want to be a star
I want to shine as bright as you
I used to think I'd grow out of these dreams for an easier thing to do
But as I aged, they only grew