

Message from your President - Kristi Gustafson

Since the last newsletter, New Sweden has experienced some unexpected changes which present us with new opportunities and growth. As I write this, we are preparing for possible exponential growth at the Midsummer Festival. The League of Swedish Societies has undertaken half the organizational work for the festival and I'm pleased that three of our newer New Sweden members have assumed committee leadership roles - Tanaka Axberg and Courtnee Riise Averskog shared the lead for Admissions, and Corina Laws spent many hours preparing the layout for the Midsummer program- particularly impressive since she had not done such a layout before. Once again, New Sweden members responded to fill numerous jobs to ensure the festival was a success.



It was with regret but also some relief, that the New Sweden board agreed to cancel this year's Kräftskiva (crayfish) dinner in August. This decision was based on an increase in expenses, adherence to the Nordic Northwest alcohol policy, the amount of volunteer hours required to put on the event, and New Sweden's 30th Anniversary celebration in September. The board is considering what changes we can make to resume the event next year.

We had two very successful cooking classes at the home of GunMarie and Leif Rosqvist, and although it wasn't the intent, we made a profit from both classes and gained new members. We are hoping to offer more cooking classes on a range of topics like holiday cookies, open faced sandwiches and maybe even wild meat sausage. They are a wonderful opportunity for members to get to know each other while learning new skills.

A planning committee is working hard to put together a memorable 30 year anniversary celebration for New Sweden, on September 8th. **I hope all our members will plan to attend.** It would be very helpful for those planning the event to know how many will be attending-please see page 11 and RSVP to GunMarie Rosqvist.

Sincerely,
Kristi Gustafson
President

2019 Events Calendar summary

August 19-24: Trollbacken Swedish language and culture camp. More info: trollbacken.org

September 8: Sunday at 4pm. New Sweden 30th Anniversary. Rosqvist residence.

December 7-8: Scanfair. Check back for details.

December 14: Lucia Fest. Portland's First Presbyterian Church, 1200 SW Alder St., Portland, OR. Check back for details.

For more information, please visit <https://www.newsweden.org/events/>

COMMUNICATIONS

We are relying more on emails to update our members with information that develops after the last newsletter was printed, but would be outdated before the next newsletter.

Change of guards at the Swedish Consulate covering State of Washington and Oregon

Message from Lars Jonsson:

I want to inform you that we had a change of guards at the Swedish Consulate covering State of Washington and Oregon on May 1. Petra Hilleberg has taken over as my successor and she is since May 1 the Swedish Honorary Consul. Please see the new contact information at the Consulate's website: www.consulateofswedenseattle.com

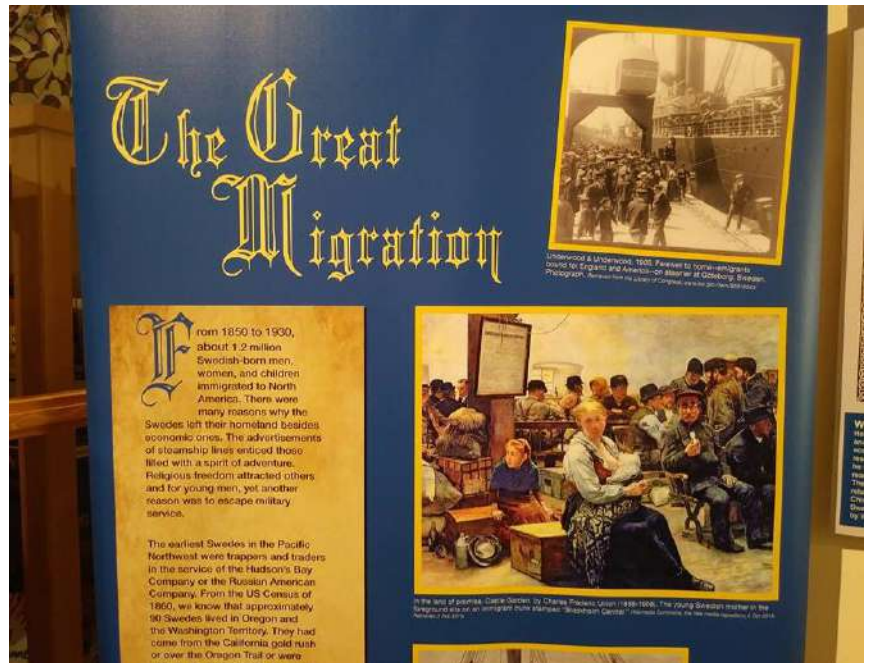
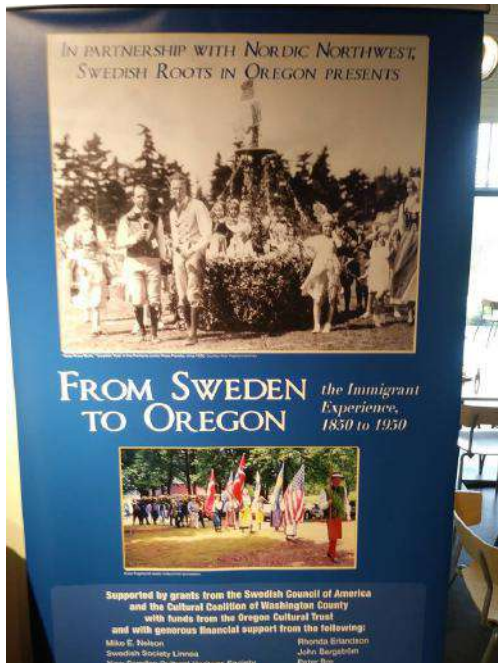
It has been a great honor for me to fill that position for 13 years. First my territory was only Washington State but for the last 9 years it also included the great state of Oregon. Petra has been an active member of the Swedish community in Seattle for many years and has been a strong force behind our very active local Swedish American Chamber of Commerce.

Petra is the CEO of Hilleberg The Tentmaker, a Sweden/US based world renowned maker of high quality lightweight tents. Petra will do an excellent job as the new Consul and I know she is eager to connect with the Oregon Swedish community. I have been telling her as well as the Swedish Embassy in Washington DC about the fabulous work that your organizations and the Swedes in Oregon have been doing to keep the Swedeness going and about the great Cultural Center at Fogelbo. I would very much love to come down to Portland at some point in the near future to introduce Petra and to thank you all for the hospitality you have always shown to me in Portland.



Petra Hilleberg is the new designated honorary consul of Sweden in Washington and Oregon, with Lars Jonsson.

Review of past events



From Sweden To Oregon exhibit (by Kristi Gustafson)

This is one of those exhibits that one needs to spend a couple of hours, take a break (Broder's restaurant right there) and go back and look some more. Amazing research. Great job! Many thanks to the Swedish Roots in Oregon organization for your thousands of hours of work, and the Swedish organizations and individuals who providing the financial support for this exhibit.

Karin Olson's story:

Karin Olson's grandfather Per August Nilsson (Peter Nelson) immigrated from Värmland, Sweden. Her grandmother Kristne Jonsdotter Nilson, her father Nils Nilsson (Nels Nelson) and 2 siblings came to America later. Peter worked for the C. A. Smith lumber company in Camden, Minnesota for a total of 8 years until the company moved to Coos Bay, Oregon. Nels was about 8 years old and he also did odd jobs for the C.A. Smith company. Her father remembered the family considering moving to Oregon to follow the job, but they decided to stay in Minnesota.



Karin Olson at "From Sweden to Oregon" reception at Nordia House, April 11

FROM SWEDEN TO OREGON: the immigrant experience, 1850 - 1950

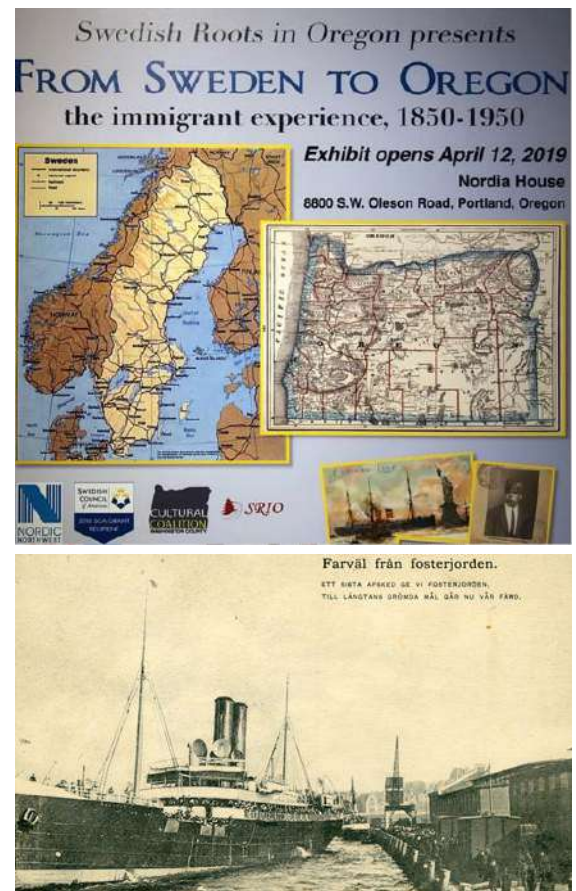
Text by Ann Baudin Stuller. Photos by David Anderson.

Swedish Roots in Oregon (SRIO) is a non-profit organization initially started by Ross Fogelquist devoted to preserving the cultural heritage of Swedish immigrants in Oregon. Previously the organization has shared its research through print media and by maintaining a genealogical database listing names and origins of Swedish immigrants in Oregon. In 2017, SRIO applied for a grant from the Swedish Council of America which would assist in the preparation of an exhibit depicting the Swedish immigrant experience in Oregon. SRIO was one of 15 US organizations to receive a grant in 2017. Additional funding was received from the Cultural Coalition of Washington County, Portland area Swedish organizations including New Sweden, and private contributions. The funding allowed SRIO to enlist the help of a graphic artist, Gail Park, and to employ a professional printing firm. Nordia House agreed to provide the venue for the display.

The exhibit opened April 12, and concludes July 8, 2019. It comprises 19 panels and 70 photo collections depicting the lives and accomplishments of over 200 Swedish immigrants in Oregon in logging, fishing, agriculture, construction, industry, medicine, education, fine arts, religion, journalism, literature, fashion, and government. In addition, historical artifacts are included in the display which are on loan from private collections. Three albums are also associated with the exhibit: one featuring a pictorial record of a traditional Swedish basket maker and two containing the genealogies of the individuals featured on the panels and photo collages.



Swedish society Linnea's corner stone being placed on September 5, 1910.



Göteborg (Gothenburg) was the the main port of emigration.



C.A.Smith's mill in Marshfield (Coos Bay), Oregon



Music was important in the social life of the Swedes in Oregon.

From Sweden to Oregon (continued) Text: Ann Baudin Stuller. Photos: David Anderson

On opening night a short program consisted of a musical performance, a film presentation of Oregon in 1923, and another film presentation of a midsummer celebration from the 1940s. Ross Fogelquist gave the introductions and SRIO president Rhonda Erlandson presented an overview of the individuals featured in the exhibit. Further events during the exhibit included workshops on beginning and advanced genealogy, crafts, and historical lectures.

Photos from the opening event on April 12, 2019 at Nordia House:



SRIO members: Ross Fogelquist as emcee, Rhonda Erlandson making her presentation, and Ann Stuller attending to a last minute detail.



Learning how to make a traditional Swedish Smörgåstårta!

The New Sweden organization in Portland, Oregon, on April 13th, held a class on how to make a traditional Swedish Smörgåstårta. A group of nine excited women gathered to learn how to put together a Smörgåstårta from scratch. It was a really fun event! The class “project” was then enjoyed for lunch!

GunMarie Rosqvist shared her knowledge and a more than 40 year old recipe, which has delighted many guests over the years. The original cake was put together as a big square “Tårta”. When GunMarie was asked to make it for a big fundraising event many years ago, she came up with the idea to present it on several 6 feet long foil-covered 1x4 inch boards. When cut into portions, this keeps the Smörgåstårta looking good to the very end. It can also easily be customized to the number of guests. She has even made a strawberry birthday-cake this way, and had a line of grand-children help her blow out 60 candles!



When making the Smörgåstårta, you start with loafs of bread (white or wheat) sliced lengthwise (you order it that way at a bakery; a Pullman loaf is square, and very suitable for this purpose). You cut off the crust, spread a little butter on all of them, except the ones that will be the top layer. Then you prepare the three fillings. In this recipe one is egg-based, one is tuna-based, and the third is cheese and meat-based. You build up the layers, and when done you will thus have four slices of bread with filling in between. At this point, the cake is wrapped in plastic wrap, and put in the fridge over night, so the flavors can develop and permeate.

When time to serve, the cake is decorated. It is first covered with a thin layer of sour cream, which has drained over night in a coffee filter or cheese-cloth. Then it is decorated with all kinds of edible “goodies”. Use your imagination and taste-buds! On our class “Tårta” we used shrimp, tomatoes, cucumber, lemon and black fish-roe as garnish.

There are hundreds, if not thousands, of ways to make and impress with a Smörgåstårta! You can find many recipes on line, or mix and match your own recipes for fillings, and experiment to find your own favorite. One thing is sure: Your guests will be impressed!

Swedish Smörgåstårta (by GunMarie Rosqvist)

16 white bread slices, e.g. Pullman loaf sliced lengthwise

Filling # 1:

3 hardboiled eggs, chopped
1 leek (light part only), thinly sliced
1 small tube of caviar

Filling # 2:

1 can of tuna in water, 185 gram
2 – 3 tbsp mayo
2 tbsp dill, finely chopped
Salt, and pepper



Filling # 3:

200 gram (about 8 oz) soft cheese (like Laughing cow)
1 – 2 tsp shredded fresh horseradish (or creamed horseradish)
About ¼ lb pastrami or corned beef, cut in small strips
(maybe 1 – 2 tbsp whip-cream)

Garnish:

3 deciliter (a little more than 1 cup) sour cream
1 jar of black caviar (can be found at Edelweiss)
¼ to ½ lb of cooked shrimp
Dill, cucumber, lemons, tomatoes



Mix the fillings in separate bowls. Taste for salt and pepper. Cut the crust off the bread.

Spread a thin coat of butter on 12 of them. Lay 4 of them next to each other. Then layer filling and bread. Put unbuttered bread slices on top. Wrap in plastic wrap, and put in the fridge over-night.

Drain the sour-cream overnight in a coffee-filter, and the next day spread it all over the cake. Decorate as desired and enjoy!

You can make this cake seasonal by using whatever you desire according to your seasonal event!

Review of past events



Vappu/Valborg/Walpurgis on April 28 (by Anna-Karin Lindbergh-Rednoske)

We had a gorgeous, sunny afternoon on Sunday April the 28th when we had a joint celebration with Nordic Northwest, the Finlandia Foundation and New Sweden celebrating Vappu/Valborg/Walpurgis in the garden of Fogelbo. About 110 people of all ages attended, including several families with children. Some curious people joined us for the first time. Hot dogs and treats were served along with drinks, a lit fire pit was the center of the gathering symbolizing the bonfire that we light in Sweden and Finland to welcome spring. The Scandinavian Chorus did sing the national anthems from each Nordic country with choir director Vance Sele conducting, New Sweden members Anna-Karin Lindbergh Rednoske and Eva Moore led Swedish sing-a-longs of traditional Swedish spring songs and almost everyone joined in for the cheerful tunes. A very nice event which we plan on repeating next year.

Review of past events



Midsummer on June 8

We had a very successful Midsummer celebration at Oaks Park. The food was as tasty as always, for example Swedish pancakes from Harmoni Lodge and yummy varmkorv (hot dog) from the League of Swedish Societies. The Midsummer Pole Parade and Ceremony was also wonderfully arranged. It appears attendance at the event more than doubled which kept our amazing volunteers very busy! We can't thank our New Sweden volunteers enough!!!





Performances by New Sweden members at Midsummer

Catarina New, Gunilla Admund, Agneta Massa and the Swedish School Musicians started the entertainment on the main stage at 11am with a mix of traditional Swedish songs and pop classics from Tomas Ledin to ABBA. They were followed by the Portland Scandinavian Chorus. As usual, Sandra Miller was proudly waving the Nordic flags during the national anthem of each country. After that, it was time for "Jimmy Granstrom & Friends" featuring vocals by Gunilla, Agneta and Brent Rogers. The performance included the new song "La Rio Astoria", which is about Astoria's annual Grand Land Parade during the last day of Regatta Days on August 10th.





Dear New Sweden Members – It is time to Celebrate! This year it's 30 years since New Sweden Cultural Heritage Society was established, and welcomed its first members. We are still going strong, and are planning a celebration of this milestone. The date will be Sunday, September 8 at 4pm. GunMarie and Leif Rosqvist have offered to open their home and backyard for this event. It's a parklike setting, overlooking a small lake, and there is ample parking. We are calculating the cost per person to be between \$25-30.

To make this celebration as good and fun as possible, we are now asking you, our members, for any suggestions you might have in regards to food, program etc. We also want to get a feel for how many people we can expect to attend. This information will greatly facilitate our planning of the event. Please get back to us by July 31st.

We are looking forward to seeing as many of our members as possible at this event!

Sincerely on behalf of New Sweden,

GunMarie Rosqvist

503-466-2119

**At the three-way junction between euphoria,
gratitude and melancholy - From Gothenburg With
Love Signed Håkan Hellström and Björn Olsson
(By Jimmy Granström)**

Håkan Hellström is one of Sweden's most popular singer/songwriters. Born and raised in Gothenburg, Sweden's second biggest city which locals often refer to as "the Swedish front side of the Best Coast (Sveriges framsida på bästkusten)". Gothenburg is often considered to be more laid-back than Stockholm on the East Coast, i.e. comparable to the stereotypes between the Pacific West Coast and the Northeastern United States. Håkan started his career in the band Broder Daniel, which provided three songs to Lukas Moodysson's hit movie "Fucking Åmål" in 1998. Broder Daniel was part of the Swedish Indie ("Swindie") movement of the 1990's, which included bands such as Wannadies, Brainpool and The Cardigans - whose song "Lovefool" became a major international hit and was featured in the movie "Romeo+Juliet" starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes - with these Swedish Indie bands often based outside of Stockholm. Broder Daniel's songs often relied heavily on distorted guitars and simple arrangements, with lyrics mostly centered on existential issues and youth angst. In a 1998 ZTV interview (found on youtube), Broder Daniel singer Henrik Berggren and Håkan - who played drums or bass in the band - deliver low key responses, often subdued and with a cynical undertone ("It's not people that hate us, we're the ones hating people"), characteristic of the indie movement which aimed to be a bit "rough around the edges". However, even two years prior to Håkan's often euphoric solo debut "Känn ingen sorg för mig, Göteborg (Feel no sadness for me, Gothenburg)", which is a working class equivalent of Eva Perón's "Don't Cry For Me, Argentina" from the musical "Evita", we can see that glimpse in Håkan's eyes that would eventually result in a departure from the darker Broder Daniel sound to the more cheerful - or at least cautiously optimistic - feeling in many songs on Håkan's nine solo albums. Despite some criticism about singing out of key, Håkan has gained major critical acclaim and commercial success in Sweden, where he is considered one of the biggest domestic artists, since 2000.



Håkan Hellström with Björn Olsson (middle) and technician Hans Asteberg (right). Photo: Lollo Gardtman.

In 2004, Håkan started collaborating with Gothenburg producer/songwriter Björn Olsson, who has produced and/or co-written many songs with Håkan, including his 2016 album "Du gamla, du fria" (also the name of Sweden's national anthem). Olsson commented that the music on the album is "less indie and more ABBA", while music magazines such as Gaffa described the album as more experimental. Regardless of the most suitable description, the album was Håkan's 8th album (out of 9) to reach the #1 spot on the Swedish sales chart. The first single, "Din tid kommer (Your Time Will Come)", sets the tone perfectly for the rest of the album.

In the video for “Din tid kommer”, we see an elderly Håkan in a retirement home (a few decades from now) reminiscing his life in the form of cartoons from his childhood and adolescence to euphoric video footage from two record-setting concerts with over 140.000 spectators at Ullevi in Gothenburg in June 2016. The video has an uplifting message, based on gratitude and pride, but the melancholy of what life could have been, is never far away. An English version of the song called “Bound For Glory” with a translation/ adaptation by River Woodland, can be read below. The English version will be recorded later this year (artist and other details have not been confirmed yet).



Håkan as a retiree in “Din tid kommer”

Jag har letat, sen jag var liten
Efter stigen, till toppen av världen
Mamma sa, lille bastard
Du är en gåva, från en prins på genomresa
Gör nåt jag aldrig klara

Been on the run, since I was so young
After a place, where I can touch the sun
My Mom said “Listen my son
To your heating heart, do the things I couldn’t do
Thunderstorms beat inside of you”

Stig till toppen av världen,
Där änglar leker
Res dig efter varje smäll
Du har en ängel på din axel
Din tid kommer, din tid kommer

You will find your promised land
The world is in your hands
Guarded by an angel’s grace
Let no one never ever doubt your fate
‘Til your time comes, bound for glory

Jag är född av stormen
Jag ser fågeln
Som river upp världen
Jag ser havet bli rött, en säng på dårhuset
Väntar på mig någon gång
Som oceanerna i mina ögon

I was born in a storm
The world was torn
When the waves were swept ashore
I see the river turn red, darker times ahead
There are things I can’t disguise
The oceans in peril flow in my eyes

Det finns en plats, jag vet att ingen
Bryr sig om den, den är bara min
Bakom ögonlocken, skulle tatt dig dit
Om vägen var rak, men vägen
är skruvad som en psykopat min vän

There is a place, I know no one cares
To look inside, only I am there
Close my eyes to see, how dreams came to be
The road wasn't straight, instead it turned
down every single dead-end one must learn



Håkan at Ullevi, Gothenburg, June 2016



Håkan at New York's Gramercy Theater



The movie "Jätten (The Giant)" with Olsson's music

In addition to the record-setting concerts at Gothenburg's Ullevi, Håkan played at New York's Gramercy Theater on April 29 and 30 that year. This was the first time that Håkan had played outside of Scandinavia, and what better place to do it than in one of the world's music capitals? Also in 2016, Björn Olsson composed the music for the movie "Jätten (The Giant)", which got three Guldbaggar (the Swedish equivalent of the Oscar) in 2017 for "Best Movie", "Best Script" and "Best Make-Up". The story centers around Richard, who is an autistic and severely deformed man who was separated from his mother at birth. Thirty years later he is convinced that he will get her back if only he wins the Scandinavian Championship of pétanque (boule). He tries to do the impossible, despite his fragile physique and a harsh judging environment, with the help of a 200 foot giant on his side. Björn's soundtrack for the movie has a distinct "Wild West" feeling to it, which is consistent with many of his own songs featuring the characteristic whistling and/or Western feel of Ennio Morricone who composed the music for movies such as Sergio Leone's epic 1966 Spaghetti western "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly" starring Clint Eastwood. The sound is characteristic for many of Olsson's own songs and solo releases.



Håkan's album "Illusioner" (2018) Håkan's single "Vänta tills våren (Wait Until Spring Comes)"

Björn also co-wrote songs on Håkan's most recent album "Illusioner", which was released in December 2018 and quickly reached the top of the album sales chart. The album features ballads accompanied by the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra. The first single, "Vänta tills våren (Wait Until Spring Comes)", is both a quirky and deep collection of memories and metaphors, involving everything from space travel to Cleopatra and a Jesus who never seems to show up for signing bibles at the mall. However, there is also melancholy in many of the lines. An English version of the song (with lyrics by River Woodland) can be read below. In the YouTube video "håkan & björn gör musik (håkan & björn makes music)", Håkan captures the underlying melancholy when he says: "(Björn and I) have nothing better to do (than to make music). What else would we do? We would have to apply for jobs at (the food store) ICA. None of us have an education. We've got no such experiences at all. And now we got the opportunity to make music, so of course we hold on to it for as long as we can. We hold it convulsively in our hands". At the three-way junction between euphoria, gratitude and melancholy, Håkan and Björn have created a musical legacy deeply rooted in their humble Gothenburg beginnings, which have served both as an inspiration and a reminder throughout their careers.

"Wait Until Spring Comes (English translation/adaptation of Hellström's/Olsson's "Vänta tills våren" by River Woodland)

Det var strax innan våren som aldrig kom
 Bilen grät sig fram när jag rullade ut från Stockholm
 Där succé rimmar på plocka ner honom
 Och där låg vägen med munnen öppen
 Och jag hade inget bättre på gång
 Jag var en trollkarl utan framtid
 Och jag var på väg till paradise
 Men när jag kom dit var paradise nerpissat
 Och helgonen hade åkt fast för fylleflygningar
 Och ingen bad längre, nej de bara predikade

De sa: "Vänta tills våren, Men vänta inte längre
 För åren väntar inte på någon"

It was right before springtime that never came
 The car screeched as I left where the city limits fame
 Where success rhymes with "we gotta cut his wings"
 I saw a fork in the road, chance or fate?
 I had nothing better served on my plate
 I was a wizard with no future
 And I was on my way to paradise
 But when I arrived, found paradise slick as ice
 And the saints were caught flying drunk, their holiness had sunk
 Prayers didn't ease burdens, everyone preached their sermons

They said: "Wait until spring comes, but wait too long and it's gone
 The years that passed by won't wait for no one"

Fick motorstopp på fel sida av himlen
Oden låg utanför hard times bar, utslagen
Valhall är inte på modet mera
Vråla han, låst i bitter paranoia
Han sa: "Vi drar, det finns ett grymt universum här intill
Var är min rymddräkt? Jag beställde den för längesen"
Jag hörde en röst, bakom mig nånstans
Utan pengar kommer ingen från paradise
Kleopatra satt blek och trasig på ett trappsteg
Jag var inlåst i en pyramid, i en evighet med ett hundlik
Om ni ska nånstans snälla ta med mig dit
Jag ska bara skriva världens bästa avskedsbrev

Hon sa: Vänta tills våren, men vänta inte för länge
För åren väntar inte på någon

Vi rökte upp gårdagen och drack upp framtiden
Tills vi var helt lost och bänga i våra huvuden
Och moln hängde över våra samveten
Och jag kände mig som månen, ärrad och avlägsen
Vi rånade en pilgrim, och sen en flock änglar med
Och jag visste, att dem visste, att jag visste, att vi var på fel väg
Men vi bara fortsatte, vi skulle hela vägen in i kaklet
Och aldrig se oss om på vraket

Vänta tills våren, men vänta inte för länge
För åren väntar inte på någon

Oden ville bli påve i Colombia
Kleopatra was talking voodoo, guld och algebra
Min högra hand sträckte sig mot solen
Och min vänstra liftade tillbaks till jorden
Jag lämnade dem där, nedrökta på buddhism
De var bara för mycket, att bära runt på till sist
Men jag hade kvar ett sista trick
Vad som var tomt i mig, skulle bli musik

Jesus skulle signera biblar i gallerian
Men han dök inte upp, nej det har han aldrig gjort
Och jag skulle nog blivit kvar i paradiset
Om det inte funnits en bit GBG, ja du vet

Vänta tills våren, men vänta inte för länge
För åren väntar inte på någon

My car broke down, where angels are all locked out
Outside of "Hard Times Bar", Odin was all knocked out
Valhalla just ain't in fashion these days
He bitterly roared, disgrace on his grim face
He said: "Let's leave, there is a great universe we ought to go"
Where is my space suit, that I ordered a long time ago
I could hear a voice, behind me somewhere
Without money you ain't leaving for anywhere
Cleopatra sat pale and broken on a staircase
I was locked into a pyramid for eternity in a dark place
If you're going anywhere please take me there
They will know that I wrote the world's greatest farewell note

She said: "Wait until spring comes, but wait too long and it's gone
The years that passed by won't wait for no one"

Our yesterday was smoked up, our future spilled in drinks
'Til we were all lost, and our heads too blurred to (even) think
And guilt hung above our minds like thick, dark clouds
And I felt like the moon so scarred, distant, wrapped in a shroud
We robbed pilgrims and angels, off the beaten path we rode
And I knew it, that they knew it, that I knew it, we were on the wrong road
But then we just carried on, we would keep going even if the wall hits
If there's a wreck, we'd never haul it

"Wait until spring comes, but wait too long and it's gone
The years that passed by won't wait for no one"

Odin wanted to be Pope of Colombia
Cleopatra was talking voodoo, gold and algebra
My right hand reached for the sun's rays of light
And my left one hitchhiked back to the Earth at night
I left them right there, their faith went up in smoke
They were too much to carry, they watched as my spirit broke
But I had a last trick up my sleeve
To fill the void inside, with songs I conceived

Jesus was supposed to sign bibles at the local mall
Be he did not show up, he's never shown up at all
And I'd likely stayed there in paradise my whole life
If there was not a bit of my home town left inside

"Wait until spring comes, but wait too long and it's gone
The years that passed by won't wait for no one"