

## Wilderness Years

Music: Herin / Lyrics: Herin

Drums: Jimmy Keegan

Bass: Kevin Chown

Electric & acoustic guitars: Chris Herin

Saxophone: Rick Morrison

Lead vocals: Randy McStine

Backing vocals: Mark Mikel, Chris Herin, Scott Hunt

### The Story

Adrift in uncertain certainty (or should that be certain uncertainty?) sums up "*Wilderness Years*." Cognitive abilities ebb and flow but always continue their inevitable march toward the finish line as *Herin* reflects on his father's slow mental erosion. *Randy McStine* returns on lead vocals and turns in another great performance, while one more contact made at ProgStock in 2019 is enlisted: drummer *Jimmy Keegan* – known for his work with *Spock's Beard* and more recently *Pattern Seeking Animals*. "*Wilderness Years*" also showcases the fine playing of *Rick Morrison* on saxophone. *Brown* had raised the possibility saxophone might be a nice change of pace and both the instrument and the musician were great choices!

*(Herin): "I had read interviews with Jimmy, and he always mentioned Nigel Olsson as one of his major influences – and Nigel is definitely one of my favorites. So, this plus being a fan of his drumming anyway, made me think he's the right guy for this tune. Jimmy took great care asking Terry what microphones he preferred to record with and if there was a certain sound we were looking for. Peter Frampton and Terry Sampson were also very forthcoming with their recording details – which was very educational."*

## Wilderness Years

Locked inside an unseen world  
Destiny dissolving unfulfilled  
Details blur then disappear  
Hazy memories you strain to hear  
Echoes fade away  
Unaware you're in the wilderness

Overlook what we can't see  
Simple answers waiting unredeemed  
Then is now as now demands  
Each tomorrow lost as it began  
Turn back the hourglass  
Lost within the past  
Unaware you're in the wilderness

*Voices linger from the one room school  
of your youth  
Time unmeasured – slow surrender assured  
Sorrow and fear  
will mark these wilderness years*

Night is day and day is dark as night  
Say goodbye to when you had  
A once upon a time

*Voices linger from the one room school  
of your youth  
Time unmeasured – slow surrender assured  
The bells fall silent without hope or reprieve  
Sorrow and fear  
will mark these wilderness years  
Oh..., once upon a time*