



## Down the Well

*"What goes down in the well  
comes up in the bucket"*

*-galatians*

*Love You for Living  
As If You Didn't Know  
Burnin' Both Ends  
You Choose You Lose  
Tomorrow  
Enlightened Age  
Make Me Smile  
Pirates of Hatteras  
Pennsylvania  
Opinions  
Superficial Man  
Big Picture*

**Dennis Selfridge**

*'Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans' – John Lennon*

*'Down the Well' is something that just invaded my head one day (not too long ago). My last project before this was last year. A 2024 live recording of a 30-year reunion gig celebrating a 1993 live recording.*

*That was a whole lot of fun. My only two 21st Century albums are both live and both were recorded at the same place, The Kelly Center in Havertown. I have not been in a studio since last century and am not likely to return soon. So, getting to the point:*

*One of the most enjoyable parts of my ride was the ongoing cycle of writing and recording. From 1982 through 1997 I recorded dozens of songs in different studios. Some were first done as sparse demos; others were piano pieces that live in the attic and a few more that just didn't fit on the bigger budget projects I did. That was a prolific writing period in my life.*

*This collection is a representation of the old and obscure versions. I'll be 65 by the time I get this album released so I'm reminiscing and sharing some of the stories behind these songs. Life is good. I'm one extremely fortunate cookie. I hope these bring back some memories for the folks who were there.*

*You can't copyright a title, so even if I wanted to write a song called 'Down the Well', I could. But I'm not.*

*Curiosity led me to google 'down the well' and see what I found.*

*I've discovered that it's also a horror movie, a children's book and an uncharacteristically dark Sponge Bob song.*

*So here are some old, remastered recordings that previously never lived anywhere but on cassette.*

**"Love You for Living" 1989 and "As If You Didn't Know" 1985**

*This is a mashup, though I don't think that term existed in 1990. These were just two songs that I segued together in my live act and decided to try it the same way in the studio.*

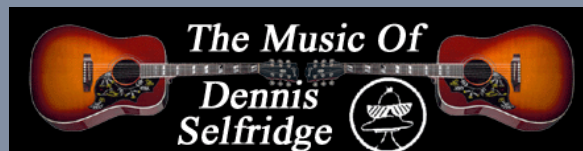
*Recorded at Forge Studio in Phoenixville 1990*

*The rush of falling in love with a new person and for a little while, everything is perfect. The track segues into a song about the ghost of what might have been. I must say, I think "In our lives there's something known as timing" is a pretty good line :)*

**"Burnin' Both Ends" 1984**

*Recorded at Strata Studio in Folsom 1986*

*Scenes from your nightmares. Woke up from a nightmare, got up, drove home and banged this out on the piano. Playing the "romantic, struggling dreamer" .... Had a dream about a goblin type showing me a burning candle. He smiled, flipped it over and I saw the bottom burning, too. Still makes the hair on the back of my neck stand up.*



[www.dennisselfridge.com](http://www.dennisselfridge.com)  
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**"You Choose You Lose" 1990**

*Recorded at Forge Studio in Phoenixville 1990*

*Out of the pan and into the fire. I starting writing this song riding down the PA Turnpike coming back from "Peach Stock". This was a peach farm party that a guy threw out Lancaster way back then but ironically there is now an annual Allman Brothers themed concert in the Poconos. I seriously doubt there is any connection between the two but I didn't want to mislead anybody! LOL*



**"Tomorrow" 1984**

*Recorded at Strata Studio in Folsom 1985  
with Chris McCord*

*I stayed up all night and wrote this song after reading an article that confirmed my initial fears about "Trickle Down Economics". We had shifted gears and the national debt had taken a dangerous and drastic shift upwards. Most people didn't notice or didn't care. How long can we keep this shit up?*

**"Enlightened Age" 1987**

Recorded at Four Star Studios in Media 1988  
with Chris McCord, Jim Stager and John Allen

*Here's when I "passed the age of consciousness and righteous rage" (Billy Joel). I wrote a letter to a local paper about a one issue candidate who was whining about "tax and spend" Democrats. I pointed out that spend was spend (and no, I'm not a Democrat). You either tax for it or you don't. I was in the phone book so I received calls from both sides of the aisle. The one thing they all had in common was they missed the whole point of the letter. I learned that politics trumps math. Funny how we think all of these issues are "new". How long can we keep this shit up?*

**"Make Me Smile" 1982**

Recorded at Strata Studio in Folsom 1986  
with Chris McCord

*I wrote this in Georgia when I started to commit myself to seriously pursuing music as a living. I began a songwriting period that lasted quite a long time. It just made me smile...*

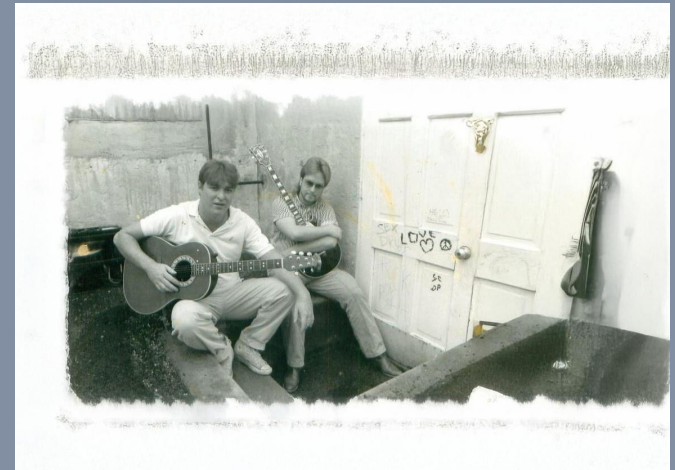


**"Pirates of Hatteras" 1986**

*Recorded at Strata Studio in Folsom 1986  
with Chris McCord*

*Sitting on a deck in Rodanthe, NC listening to the waves. The Outer Banks has an interesting culture and history. These people washed up on the island and had no idea there was this huge land mass on the other side of Currituck Sound.*

*"A modern man can't understand that legend might be wrong  
and some he's gonna praise for years were pirates all along"*



**"Pennsylvania" 1983**

*Recorded at Strata Studio 1985*

*I went to Georgia to take a shot at a music career. I knew I'd come back to PA and it felt good to write this while I was down there. I had an awesome 2 years in "Hotlanta" but it would never be home..*

**"Opinions" 1988**

*Recorded at Four Star Studios in Media 1988  
with Zan Gardner*

*I think this song says it all at times, at least  
for me. Recorded during the WDYRD sessions  
with a Zan Gardner chorale.  
That lady could sing!*



**"Superficial Man" 1982**

*Recorded at Strata Studio in Folsom 1985*

*My creative poetry professor wrote on my portfolio:  
"These appear to rely on the superficial observations  
prominent in song lyrics" Umm...yeah? So I wrote this  
one for him. "Here's a boy out walking in a world he  
can't change". The prof liked Neil Young so I guess he's  
not all bad.... :)*

**"Big Picture" 1989**

*Recorded at Forge Studion in Phoenixville 1990*

*This feels like a prayer. The more we change the more we stay the same. My piano playing style was very "living room". I used to play this as an instrumental to put my kids to sleep.*



*Original Recording credits:*

*All songs at Strata Studio engineered by Dennis Nardi in 1985 and 1986*

*All songs at Four Star Studios engineered by Bob Freed in 1988*

*All songs at Forge Studio engineered by Mark McNutt in 1990*

*Cover Photo by Jessy Bell*

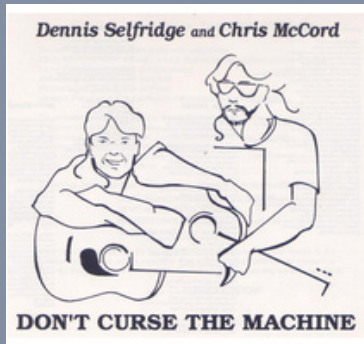
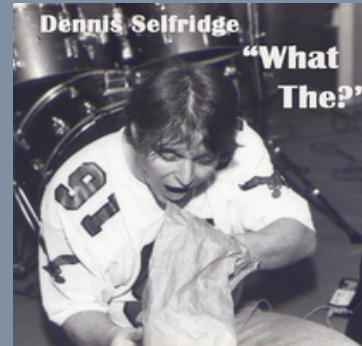
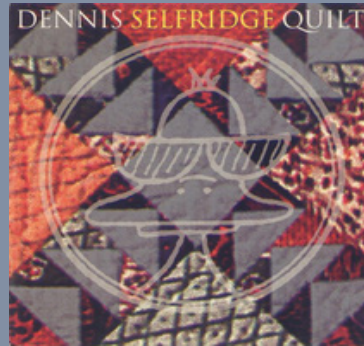
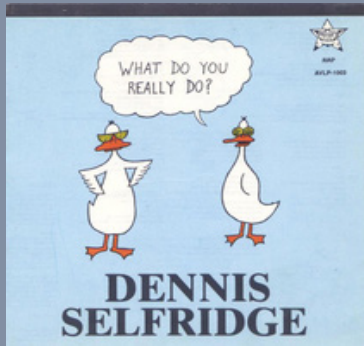
*Down the Well:*

*Mastered at Widget Studios, Denver, CO in 2025*

*Audio Cleanup: Doug Krause*

*Mastering Engineer: Dave Young*





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