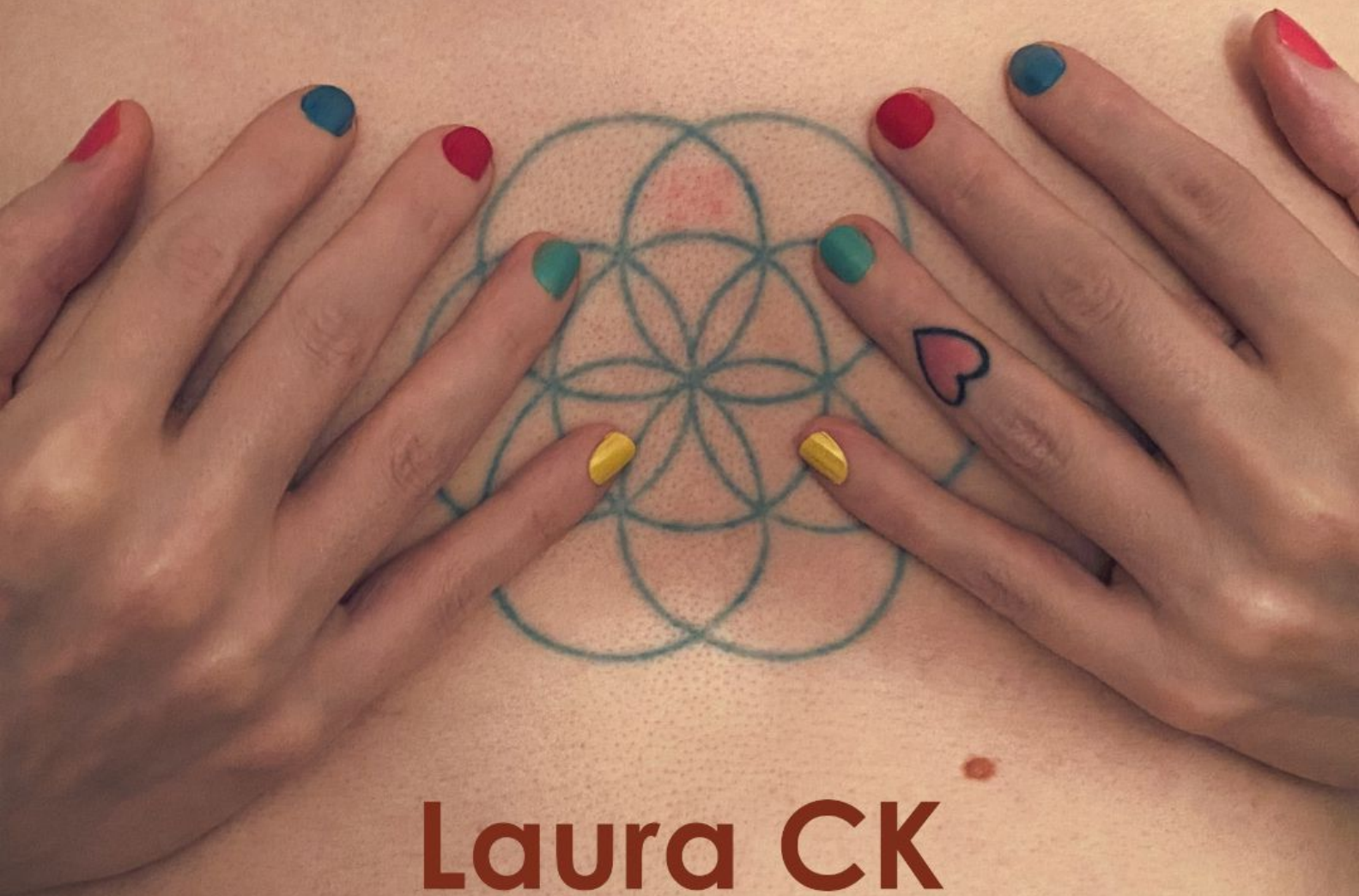


Circles & Hands



Laura CK

Coping Skills

Drunk

She is drunk tonight

A futile way to cope with the lack of her lover's form

She had no game plan

Only following the urges of her body

The guilt had set in

And in pain she spoke of how she had betrayed

Found love, and then she'd thrown it all away

She had the nerve to ask if they would stay

For a while

This rope we've woven bound our arms

We laughed off threats of future harm

Actually let us explain

And never trust again

And after some years spent alone

With regret she did atone

In her heart love she did see

And maybe she might be worthy

This rope we've woven bound our arms

We laughed off threats of future harm

Actually let us explain

And never trust again

Drunk

She is drunk again

A futile way to cope with what her lover's done to her

She saw it coming

Only following the urges of her conscience

Then came denial

And in pain she heard of how she'd been betrayed

Found love, and then they'd thrown it all away

They had the nerve to ask if she would stay

For a while

Emergency Exit

There's a hole in my chest
Cause there's no other way the love could get out
And what you need from me
You can take for yourself

Just reach right in and take what you need
Cause there's nothing stopping you from plundering

Just how long will it take before you leave me
Yes, how long will it take before you're gone
Cause I need to know how much courage I must muster
How long biding my time before you're gone

There's a pool of my tears
That's formed an oasis in the palms of my hands
And right now letting go seems so easy

If I lose this water
There'll be no evidence you ever were here
Cause if I told anyone what you did they would never believe me

Just how long will it take before you leave me
Yes, how long will it take before you're gone
Cause I need to know how much courage I must muster
How long biding my time before you're gone

Sometimes it feels like I am losing my mind
Sometimes it feels like I am gone
When I was lost and I couldn't find myself
That's when I saw your fire burning at me

There's a hole in my chest
Cause there's no other way the love could get out
And what you need from me
You can take for yourself

How long will it take before you leave me
Yes, how long will it take before you're gone
Cause I need to know how much courage I must muster
How long biding my time before you're gone
How long biding my time before you're gone
How long biding my time before you're gone

Three Phases of Divinity

Young of age, grandfather's faith
From mystified to baptized
Left finding flaws in priesthood laws

Adult I stood, grandfather's blood
Led me back home to sing a poem
Sweat and incense was too intense

Every action and book, every path that I took
All to get me back where I'd been
Every symbol and shape, every valley and scape
Tried to match it to what I'd seen

At my peak nothing did I seek
I was a punk who played a monk
Inspecting clue of residue

Every action and book, every path that I took
All to get me back where I'd been
Every symbol and shape, every valley and scape
Tried to match it to what I'd seen

Every action and book, every path that I took
All to get me back where I'd been
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Every action and book, every path that I took
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Every symbol and shape, every valley and scape
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Every action and book, every path that I took
All to get me back where I'd been
Every symbol and shape, every valley and scape
Tried to match it

I Like Boobs

I like boobs
They're all shapes and sizes

They're squishy and they're bubbly
I think they're kind of lovely

I like boobs
I like boobs

Yelling Boy

I love the way that you played fetch
The way you laid upon my chest
I love the dusty way you smelled
I even love the way you yelled

You gave high fives right on the spot
And you freaked out at the red dot
You used to wrap around my neck
You stole my snacks man, what the heck?

Saguna / Nirguna

We've sown seeds in the bones of yesterday's tears

Intentionally shown my mistakes
As good as they get
Dance honest with pretensions
Wonder if they met

We've sown seeds in the bones of yesterday's tears

Adrift between death and life
The state not certain
No achievement or mistake
No dreams, not again

Awaken states as they are

We've sown seeds in the bones of yesterday's tears

Circles & Hands started as a response to the pressure of determining a follow-up to The Great Emptiness. The crux of my influence was summed up in a playlist I had made of songs I had loved in my relative youth: 50s R&B and rock n' roll to early 80s punk and hardcore. The title came from noticing most of my artwork in recent years had involved the symbols of circles and hands, and so this project embraced the union of those two symbols.

I liked the idea of creating a duality in the songs: which songs were hands, and which were circles? The first half of the album is spent on lengthier, more moody pieces dealing with my past. The second half of the songs are shorter, more upbeat, and more present. There was a conscious effort to develop a instrumental tone for the album that would unite the disparate elements. Although I didn't have as much time to prepare this album as the last, I have strong feelings about all of these songs, and I hope they make you feel something too. Even the boobs one.

All music and lyrics by Laura CK except tracks 1 & 5 which have additional lyrics by River Harper.

"Emergency Exit" written and recorded July 2016.

All other songs written and recorded from June 2021 to February 2022.

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