

FACES

NEW SONGS FOR KIDS

Tina Meltzer, Voice, Guitar and Banjo
with David Meltzer



DESIGN BY ARTHUR BREZENOFF

PHOTO BY DAVID MELTZER

M
1997
M532
F138
1984

MUSIC LP

FACES**NEW SONGS FOR KIDS**

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Tina Meltzer has been singing with children for twenty years, teaching music in both nursery and grade schools. Some of the songs she has written for children are on this album. She has three grown daughters—Jennifer, Margaret and Amanda—, a six-year-old son, Adam, who inspired many of the songs on this record, and a three-year-old grandson, Casey. Tina is joined on this record by her husband, David Meltzer, and her daughter Jenny sings along on the album's last song.

The songs on the first side are geared for younger children, while the songs on the second side are for older kids. Of course, no boundaries are fixed. I've performed these songs for all age groups with happy results.

This record is dedicated to Marilyn Milos—nurse, midwife, crusader, and dear friend—and to her grandson, Matthew.

T.M.

June 1984

SIDE ONE

1. SWEETIE PIE	1:56
2. MERRY-GO-ROUND	3:02
3. SMILE/FROWN	2:00
4. FACES	2:39
5. ATTACHED	1:31
6. FINGER PLAY	3:11

SIDE TWO

1. MY OLD BLUE JEANS	3:06
2. BODIES	2:43
3. MOODS	1:52
4. BONES	3:30
5. LISTEN	4:30
6. LET THE LIGHT IN	1:15

EDITED BY SAM CHARTERS

Descriptive notes are inside pocket.

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SIDE ONE

1. Sweetie Pie (Tina Meltzer)

This was written for my son Adam when he was a baby.
Young children like to remember when they were sweetie
pie too.

Chorus: You're my little sweetie pie
You're my little dumpling
You're my little sweetie pie
Such a little plump thing
Such a little plump thing

I love to button up your shirt
Love to tie your shoe
Love to watch you laugh and play
It's fun to talk with you
Fun to talk with you

Chorus.

You have such pretty eyes
Such a pretty little nose
First I'll count your fingers
Then I'll count your toes
Now I'll count your. . . one, two, three, four,
(five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten)

Chorus.

I'll put on your 'jamas
Now I'll brush your hair
I'll pop you into bed
With your blanket and Teddy Bear
Your blanket and Teddy Bear

Chorus.

You have such rosey cheeks
I love to hug and kiss
If you weren't my baby
Think what I would miss
Oh, think what I would miss

Chorus.

2. Merry-Go-Round (Tina Meltzer)

When Adam went to pre-school he was fascinated by anything
and everything that went around (and around). One day I
went to the school and twenty-five kids were watching a
movie on the screen -- except Adam. He was watching the
film-reel moving around (and around) on the projector.

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Merry-go-round, merry-go-round
See the wooden horses go round and round
Merry-go-round, merry-go-round
See the wooden horses go up and down
Callope music and colors so bright
Moving really fast, hang on tight!
Round and round, round and round
Round and round and round that merry-go-round

I know a little boy who goes to nursery school
He does many things, he's no fool
He paints pictures, plays with puzzles and toys
He runs outside with the girls and boys
But when the movie screen's up, the lights are out
That little boy will turn about
Round and round, round and round
Watch that movie reel go round and round

Listen all you children, hear what I say
You may not believe it but I'll tell you anyway
We live on a planet, it's a great big ball
It's always moving and that's not all
It moves so fast, it seems so slow
We can't even feel it go
Round and round, round and round
This old world is always moving round

(At the end of the song, I ask children in class to name other things that go round and round and we incorporate them in the song.)

3. Smile . . . Frown (Tina Meltzer)

Once I knew a little boy
He lived in a nearby town
All he ever did was frown, frown, frown
All he ever did was frown, frown, frown

On the other side of this same town
I'd say about a mile
Lived a pretty little girl who'd smile, smile, smile
Lived a pretty little girl who'd smile, smile, smile

In the Summertime they met
They began to play
They skipped and jumped, then sat down, they talked for the
(rest of the day
They skipped and jumped, then sat down, and talked for the
(rest of the day

He said: All I ever do is frown
Please teach me how to smile
She said: I like you very much, he smiled for a long, long while
She said: I like you very much, he smiled for a long, long while

She said: All I ever do is smile
Please teach me how to frown
He thought for awhile and then he said: Why don't you stand
(upside down?
He thought for awhile and then he said: Why don't you stand
(upside down?

Now that boy and girl are the best of friends
You can see them playing around
Often you will see them smile, occasionally you'll see them frown
Often you will see them smile, occasionally you'll see them frown

(For this song, I drew a smiling face and turned it upside-down to make it frown.)

4. Faces (Tina Meltzer)

Chorus: I look at you, what do I see
I see a face as nice as can be
I see a boy's face, I see a girl's face
So many faces, such nice faces

On top of that face I see hair
So much hair everywhere
Some hair's short, some hair's long
But it's definitely hair, I know I'm not wrong

I see a forehead and a little below
One, two, eyebrows and what do you know?
I see two eyes and all around
Tiny eyelash hairs I have found

Chorus.

Right in the middle is something called a nose
It goes down your face and ends with nostril holes
Yes, I see two, definitely a pair
In and out, you can breathe air

Down a little further, I see an upper lip
A little beneath, I see teeth
Of course a lower lip and under that a chin
Looking at your faces makes me want to grin

Chorus.

I thought I was finished, I almost forgot
It's very important, it means quite a lot
It has a hole and a lobe, it's the reason you hear
Check the sides of your head, it's called an ear!

Chorus.

(During the song, young children can point to the different parts of their faces as they are mentioned.)

5. Attached (Tina Meltzer) This was inspired by a comment Adam made when he was two years old. He discovered, to his amazement, that he was all attached.

I can't take my fingers off
No, I can't take my nose off
No, my head won't come off
It won't even unscrew
I'm all put together, now fancy that
I'm all attached, now fancy that

I can't take my knees off
I can't take my ears off
My lips won't come off
But I can open my mouth
I'm all put together, now fancy that
I'm all attached, now fancy that

I can't take my skin off
I can't take my bones off

I can't look in my belly
To see what I just ate
I'm all put together, now fancy that
I'm all attached, now fancy that

I can't look inside my feet
I can't look inside my head
But I think lots of thoughts
And it feels really good
I'm all put together, now fancy that
I'm all attached, now fancy that

You're all put together, now fancy that
You're all attached, now fancy that
We're all put together, now fancy that
We're all attached, now fancy that

6. Fingerplay (Tina Meltzer)

I'm going to tell you
What I'd like to see you do
Hold your hands in the air
One and two
Hold your hands in the air
One and two

Place your palms together
Go clap, clap, clap
Now put your knuckles together
Go tap, tap, tap
Put your knuckles together
Go tap, tap, tap

Chorus.

Chorus: Wiggle your fingers
Wiggle all ten
Now make them real stiff
Now wiggle them again
Make them very stiff
And wiggle them again

Let me see you make a fist
Make it very tight
Go 'round and 'round
With all of your might
Go 'round and 'round
With all of your might

Now take all your fingers
Wrap them all around
Move your thumbs, both of them
Up and down
Move your thumbs, both of them
Up and down

Chorus.

Can you tap your fingernails
Click, click, click
Now do it very slowly
Now quick, quick, quick
Do it very slowly
Now quick, quick, quick

Chorus.

Chorus.

Wiggle them fast
Wiggle them slow
Wiggle them high
And wiggle them low
Wiggle them high
And wiggle them low

Now count all your fingers
Count all ten
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Very good
Now wiggle your fingers all over again
Wiggle your fingers all over again

Chorus.

Chorus.

(This song can also be applied to other parts of the body
and incorporated in dance movement, especially in relation
to the chorus, i.e., "Wiggle your feet . . . toes . . ." etc.)

SIDE TWO

1. My Old Blue Jeans (Tina Meltzer)

A sad but true story.

Once upon a time I had a pair of jeans
Gee, I loved those old blue jeans . . .

They had patches on their patches, they were so old and worn
Whenever I went out, people would stop, stare and scorn
They were so old and faded, the blue was almost white
A little bit baggy but they felt just right
Oh gee I loved those old blue jeans

I put them on one day
The seat just fell away
I hate to have to say
I buried them last May
Gee, I miss those old blue jeans

Then, you know, I went right out and bought myself a new pair . . .

If I work hard and try
And let time pass by
Be patient, good and kind
Try hard not to mind
Maybe someday, maybe one day
My new jeans, my stiff blue jeans
Oh my new jeans will be old jeans too
I said: someday, maybe one day
My new jeans, stiff blue jeans
My new jeans will be old jeans too

I dream of my jeans . . . Oh, the light blue pair!

2. Bodies (Tina Meltzer)

Under your face, a neck resides.
You have a shoulder on each side.
Feel your upper arm, look a little below
What hurts when you bump it? It's called an elbow.
You have a lower arm and a wrist.
Let's look a little further, if you insist,
A hand with knuckles and a palm.
Your hand has five fingers and one's called a thumb.

Chorus: I look at you and what do I see?
I see a body as nice as can be.
I see a boy's body, I see a girl's body,
So many bodies, such nice bodies . . .

Let's go back and check your body out.
Some are slender, some are stout.
You have a back and a chest
So sit (stand) straight and tall to look your best.
There's something called a navel in the middle of your belly.
Call it a belly button if you feel kind of silly.
Now you have a rear end, it's cushioned a bit,
That's so it feels softer when you sit.

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Tina Meltzer with David Meltzer

Chorus.

Now, look at your legs, if you please.
The top part's your thigh, then comes your knees.
Your calf and shin and ankle and to make you complete,
At the bottom of your body you have two feet!

Chorus: I look at you and what do I see?
I see a body as nice as can be.
I see a boy's body, I see a girl's body,
So many bodies, so many faces,
So many bodies, such nice faces,
Most unusual faces, such different bodies.
I like all your bodies,
I like all your faces.
They're as nice as can be!

(Another song that lends itself to body movement, hand gesture and surprise.)

3. **Moods** (Tina Meltzer)

Sometimes this song is about me, other times perhaps it's about you.

Sometimes I am sad
Sometimes I am bad
Sometimes I am very, very mad!

Yet often I am sweet
And oh so very neat
To be with me is certainly a treat!

I can be terrible
I really am unbearable
I tear around just like an angry bull . . . MOO!

Ah, then you wouldn't recognize me
I'm as nice as I can ever be
I really am a pleasure to see!

Oh, I can leave an awful mess
I can really be a pest
I make noise when people want peace, quiet and rest (SHHHH!)

Often things are all okay
Everything is going my way
I'm happy, smiling, singing the whole long day!

But sometimes I'm sad
Sometimes I am bad
Sometimes I am very, very mad!

4. **Bones** (Tina Meltzer)

Chorus: Bones, bones, bones, bones
Bones, bones, bones, bones
Bones, bones, bones, bones
Just imagine what life would be without
Bones, bones, bones, bones
Bones, bones, bones, bones
Bones, bones, bones, bones
Just imagine what life would be without bones

I got bones, you got bones
Every body's got bones
Your bones are hard and the other stuff's soft
And the hard bones hold all the soft stuff up

Chorus.

You got long and short bones, flat and curves bones
More than 200 little and big bones
There are bones in your head and bones in your feet
And all kinds of bones in the middle

Chorus.

You got a skull and a collar bone, shoulder, arm, hand bones
Breast bone, ribs, backbone and vertebra
Hip bone, tail bone, thigh bone, knee cap
Shin bone, calf, and feet bones

Chorus.

I got bones, you got bones
Every body's got bones
Your bones are hard and the other stuff's soft
And the hard bones hold all the soft stuff up

(This song, as some of the others, give children a good sense of body-awareness. My music class kids do an animated dance to this song, touching the different bones named, and forming a wobbly "puddle" on the floor, just imagining what life would be without bones.)

5. Listen (David Meltzer)

Listen, let me tell you something that I think will slow you down
Make your eyes uncross, the cross fade away
Nobody's perfect nowhere, no way, no matter what they say
Not even you and me, right now, shining in the dark

All the yins and yangs bang together like bells at dawn
Whatever's happening now can't be hung up on a star to dry
Trying to compete with the slow unfolding of the rose
Won't stop the cuckoo feathers tickling up and down your toes

Nobody's perfect nowhere, no way, no matter what they say
Nobody's perfect nowhere, no way, no matter what they say
Not even you and me, right now, shining in the dark
Not even you and me, right now, shining in the dark

If it's all wrong, all right, who cares, I'm singing this song
It's you, it's me, it's a spark in the dark
Open the door and shut my mouth, let's celebrate, celebrate,
(celebrate
Stop sign, I love my rhyme, it's harvest time

Listen, let me tell you something that I think will
(slow . . . you . . . down
Make your eyes uncross, the cross fall away
Nobody's perfect nowhere, no way, no matter what they say
Not even you and me, right now, shining in the dark
Not even you and me, right now, shining in the dark
Not even you and me, right now, shining in the dark

Listen, let me tell you
Listen, let me tell you
Listen, let me tell you
Listen . . . listen . . . listen

(A favorite song in all my classes, K through 6. The older students sing harmony in the choruses.)

6. Let The Light In (David Meltzer)

The man who found out how the world could run sang this to me
He said in song there is a tone that opens up the sky
Opens up the sky as it opens up your eye
Opens up the sky as it opens up your eye
An open sky, an open eye, will let the light in
Let the light in, let the light in
An open sky, an open eye, will let the light in
Let the light in, let the light in
An open sky, an open eye, will let the light in

(My daughter Jenny joins in the singing of this song. It lends itself to counterpoint as well.)