



Smithsonian Folkways

# CHIP TAYLOR & THE GRANDKIDS



**GOLDEN**KIDS**RULES**

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All songs written by Chip Taylor, except "Magical Horse," co-written by Chip Taylor and Kate Ennis.  
All songs Back Road Music Inc., BMI.

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Smithsonian Folkways Recordings



## I love this album...

It's not because my brother wrote it. It's not because my wonderful grandnieces sing with him on it (although these things certainly make me proud). I love it because these songs were inspired by love and sung with love—Chip's love of his grandkids, and his love for all kids; and because these songs are just magical.

Chip is no ordinary songwriter. He's an acknowledged master. He's one of the best. He wrote the rock anthem, "Wild Thing." He wrote the beautiful "Angel of the Morning": songs, once heard, no one can forget. He's written lots and lots of great songs for so many great artists. The melodies always leave you humming, and the words are full of surprises and meaning.

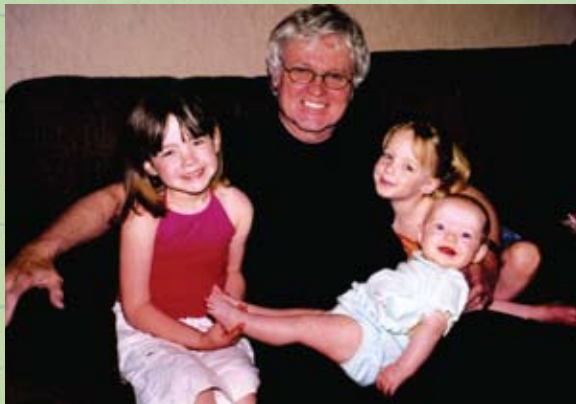
But not all Chip's songs were written for wide audiences. It's a long-standing habit of his to compose songs just for his family on special occasions. A few years ago, for his son Kristian's wedding, he went into a studio with his three grandchildren, Riley, Kate, and Samantha, and they recorded several songs. "Happy Wedding," "Now That Kristian and Anna Have Wed," and the playful "The Possum Hunter" were among them.

I was at the wedding. When the songs were performed, we were all deeply moved and delighted. Chip's voice, full of soul, blended with the pure, untrained voices of the children. The result was magical, and every one of the wedding party cried out for Chip to do more songs like these. Well, I don't think it was in his mind to respond to everyone's wishes, but the songs just came as he spent precious time playing with his grandchildren, and the result is this album.

Charm is an ingredient we seem to have lost in music over the years...and purity. To me, this album is a treasure that comes just at the right time to lift us to a reminder of the power of family and the majesty of children.

I wish I could be with you as you listen to it for the first time. You're going to love it!

—JON VOIGHT



Born James Wesley Voight, Chip Taylor was raised in Yonkers, New York, along with his brothers, Oscar-winning actor Jon and renowned volcanologist Barry.

As a boy, Taylor was entranced by the sounds of country music that he heard on the radio via WWVA from West Virginia. WWVA had a strong AM signal that could be picked up at night all over the East Coast. As country music goes, it was the “real McCoy.” He began playing in country bands and while still a teenager was signed to King Records by famed producer and A&R man Henry Glover.

Finding little initial success as a singer, though, Taylor concentrated on songwriting. His songs began to catch the ear of producer Chet Atkins in Nashville, who found it difficult to believe that the songs came from a New Yorker. “But wherever he’s from,” Atkins wrote Taylor’s publisher, “I want to hear every song he writes.” Taylor’s songs were recorded by Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, Emmylou

## His demo of “Wild Thing” was turned into a worldwide #1 smash.

Harris, and George Strait. In the '60s, Taylor became one of the key components of the legendary New York popular song factory known as the Brill Building—actually a group of a few buildings on Broadway. One, 1650 Broadway, was where Chip proudly hung his hat. Some of the great popular songs of the era were written there and it was the home to such songwriting pairs as Leiber & Stoller, Barry & Greenwich, and Goffin & King, among many. Taylor was in heady company.

As the '60s went on, Taylor's songs continued to be recorded by numerous artists and also began to hit the R&B and pop charts. His demo recording of “Wild Thing” was heard in the United Kingdom by the Troggs, who turned the garage-punk anthem into a worldwide #1 smash. “Wild Thing” has since been recorded by scores of other artists including Jimi Hendrix (Taylor first encountered Hendrix while working in the Brill Building), Cheap Trick, X, and the Muppets.

Shortly afterwards, another Taylor classic, “Angel of the Morning,” began an amazing run that has made it one of the most played songs in pop music history. It has reached the upper echelon of the charts three different times in versions by Merrilee Rush, Juice Newton, and Shaggy and has been recorded by countless performers.



Having reached the pinnacle of success as a songwriter, Taylor returned to performing in the 1970s, recording a series of acclaimed solo albums. In 1973, Chip Taylor's *Last Chance*, was hailed by *Rolling Stone* as one of the year's best albums. However, chart success was elusive due in part to Taylor's reluctance to tour: it took him away from the racetracks, where he was building a second career as a handicapper.

Eventually, Taylor became a full-time and highly productive gambler. It wasn't until the mid-1990s when he began playing songs for his seriously ill mother that Taylor returned to music. He came back more prolific than ever, recording eight solo albums, four more highly regarded records with duet partner Carrie Rodriguez, and writing and producing records with Rodriguez, Kendel Carson, Evie Sands, and John Platania.

In his later years, this "life moment" has turned Taylor's prodigious songwriting talent inward, toward his family. In the role of a grandparent, he does what grandparents do best—give of themselves. *Golden Kids' Rules* is the honest product of loving family ties crossed with musical genius. In this creative spirit, Chip Taylor joins the likes of other American musical originals such as Woody Guthrie, Lead Belly, Pete Seeger, and Ella Jenkins who have contributed to the Smithsonian Folklife treasure trove of children's music. This is our chance to experience the music of Chip Taylor as we never have experienced before, as a grandfather enchanted by his grandkids.



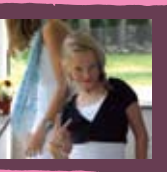
## HOW IT ALL BEGAN

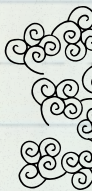
Some of my favorite songs that I've ever written have been for, and about, family members—and for special occasions. Births, marriages, birthdays, and my mom's passing have sparked some songs.

On the occasion of my son Kristian's wedding a few years ago, I wrote several songs with the idea that some of their favorite people on the planet—my daughter Kelly and my grandchildren—would sing them with me.

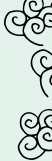
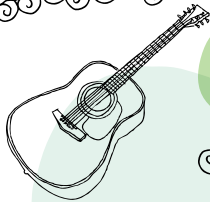
## WERE THE GRANDKIDS “SINGERS”?

Well, I guess at the time of my grandkids' first vocal efforts most people would answer, “Not particularly.” But from my point of view everybody is a singer and a GOOD singer as long as they do it like THEY do it and don't try to sound like anyone else. Then they're unique and that makes them GREAT. To my ears, Riley, Kate, and Samantha were GREAT singers right away. And that makes your kids or grandkids GREAT singers too. Congratulations!









## REHEARSING

These GREAT singers and their Pepa (me) rehearsed and rehearsed to try to capture their GREATNESS in the most pleasing way possible. IN TUNE and IN TIME sounds pleasing to most people, so we tried to do it like that. And that took effort—but it was a wonderfully worthwhile effort. And the best part of that effort was that we were getting to know each other more and more with every note we sang. Every rehearsal was a total joy for me.

After I recorded the tracks for these songs with my amazing band, including John Platania (Van Morrison), we recorded the girls' voices in my small, humble work studio in Mamaroneck, New York. We had those performances on disc in time to be our wedding gift for Kristian and Anna.

## PERFORMING THE SONGS

It seemed a shame to let our good rehearsals go to waste, so we also performed the songs for the wedding guests. It was the grandkids' first live performance, and they were magical. And the audience clapped and cheered, and the girls liked that a lot. Me too.



## **MORE SONGS TO SING**

Singing and rehearsing with Riley, Kate, and Samantha became one of my favorite things to do. So I wrote a bunch of new songs—not silly songs—just songs that put us together in thought and spirit. And I wrote one song based on an amazing pocket-poem that Kate did for school. And that's how *Golden Kids' Rules* began to take shape.

## **GOLDEN KIDS' RULES**

There are lots of smiles here and lots of serious stuff too. And you know what? Kids like singing about serious stuff—because they think about that stuff—whether YOU talk about it or not.

We sing about trust, honesty, kindness, and saving the planet. And also about one parent being a Yankee fan while the other is a Red Sox fan and about old dogs and fears of dying, and dreams for the future.

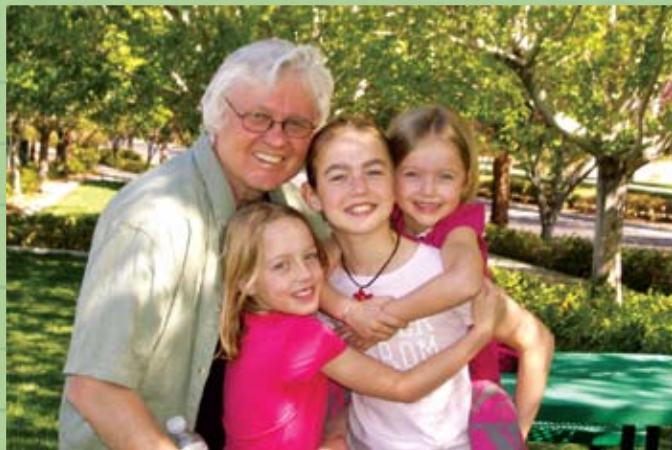
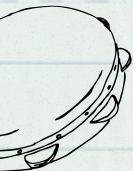
My wife (Mema) loves this album. She has it in her car and listens to it with the grandkids and their friends when she drives them here and there—pretty much all the time.

## The songs teach about respect for different ways of living.

Mema says, “All the songs teach kids to feel better about themselves! They are such a good starting off point for grandparents (or parents) to have a conversation about issues that might be on kids’ minds—issues that they don’t talk about so easily. The songs teach about respect for different ways of living.” Mema’s usually right!

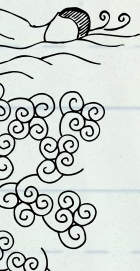
When we finished recording the album, I played the songs for my friend Bruce Lundvall from Blue Note Records. He said the recordings had a special warmth and magic that he had never heard in a kids’ album. He passed it around to his entire family. He said the recording was timeless, and a record company should be found that would treat it that way.

And so here we are at Smithsonian Folkways, and the folks here seem to love it like Bruce and others who have heard it. And these nice folks will pass it around to families forever. What a nice thought.




## THE GRANDKIDS

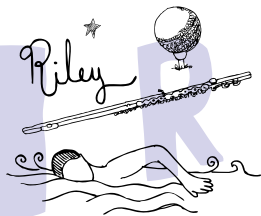
Riley Jo was the first of the three grandkids born to loving parents, Frank Ennis and Kelly Voight Ennis. Dad is an orthopedic surgeon while Mom is Director of Career Services at Yale Law School, and the family lives together in Riverside, Connecticut.







**RILEY** was born in North Carolina. This tall seventh grader is 12 years old and loves swimming, softball, golf, playing flute (listen to “Magical Horse”), learning stuff, and singing with Pepa. Riley is kind and motherly with all children, including her sisters (most of the time).



**KATE**, this 10-year-old feisty, artistic, competitive grandkid, was born in Connecticut. She is in fifth grade and loves swimming, golf, soccer, softball, learning, writing poetry (she co-wrote “Magical Horse”), playing viola, and singing with Pepa. She loves playing hard and working hard during the day and hates to get up in the morning!



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**SAMANTHA** is the sweet, inquisitive one. And, like Kate, she was born in Connecticut. This second grader is 7 years old, loves swimming, playing tambourine, learning things, playing golf (she has a great swing!), wearing cowboy boots (she is very stylish), and singing with Pepa. She likes to root for her sisters when they play sports and soon will be playing soccer and softball. She has the very good habit of asking questions whenever she doesn't understand something. Lots of kids forget to do that.





## GOLDEN KIDS' RULES

CHIP TAYLOR, VOCALS, ACOUSTIC GUITAR, HARMONICA; RILEY ENNIS, VOCALS; KATE ENNIS, VOCALS; SAMANTHA ENNIS, VOCALS; JOHN PLATANIA, ELECTRIC GUITAR; TONY MERCADANTE, BASS; BRYAN OWINGS, DRUMS; SETH FARBER, ACCORDION

I woke up in the middle of the night before an important recording session. I couldn't get the melody and the first lines out of my head ("Always say stuff that you mean – that's golden kids' rules #1). I played it into my mini-disc player, finished it in the morning, and ended up recording the track at my session later that day. The girls love this! It's nice to have honest rules.

Always say stuff that you mean / That's golden kids' rule #1  
It's OK to have a little ice cream / That's rule #2 – for you

Listen to your mommy and daddy / That's golden kids' rule #3  
Get your homework done / They'll be happy – that's rule #4 – here's more

5,6,7,8 – Who do we appreciate? KIDS!  
Even if they're breaking some rules.

### *Instrumental*

5,6,7,8 – Who do we appreciate? KIDS!  
And their golden kids' rules.

Learn stuff about stuff you don't know / That's golden kids' rule #9  
Get ready, get set, there you go / That's rule #10 – here we go again

5,6,7,8 – Who do we appreciate? KIDS!  
Even when they're breaking the rules.

5,6,7,8 – Who do we appreciate? KIDS!  
And their golden kids' rules.

5,6,7,8

## I'M JUST THINKIN' ABOUT WHAT I'M THINKIN' ABOUT

CHIP TAYLOR, VOCALS, ACOUSTIC GUITAR, HARMONICA; RILEY ENNIS, VOCALS; KATE ENNIS, VOCALS; SAMANTHA ENNIS, VOCALS; JOHN PLATANIA, ELECTRIC GUITAR; TONY MERCADANTE, BASS; BRYAN OWINGS, DRUMS; SETH FARBER, B3 ORGAN, KEYBOARD CHIMES

This was the first song I wrote for us to sing. I started humming and singing this on 57th Street and First Avenue, on the way to my health club. I finished it on Second Avenue and called my wife, Joan, to tell her about it. She loved the song, and the grandkids did as well. This was the first song we recorded together.

I'm just thinkin' about what I'm thinkin' about / I'm just thinkin' about you.

And son-of-a-gun there's a big red sun / Sittin' up in that sky of blue.

You're a breath of spring – you make the angels sing / For me that's what you do.

And I'm just thinkin' about what I'm thinkin' about / And I'm just thinkin' about you.

You're the puppy I saw – you're my Pepa / You're a goldfish in a bowl.

You're my new best friend after school again / Walkin' down by the fishing hole.

You're an itty bitty frog – sitting on a log / saying "Gulp, How do you do?"

And I'm just thinkin' about what I'm thinkin' about / And I'm just thinkin' about you.

### *Bridge*

Hey you – over there / With your head up in the clouds

Come on back here / Come on back here

What are you thinkin' about? / What are you thinkin' about?

I'm just thinkin' about what I'm thinkin' about / And I'm just thinkin' about you.

And son-of-a-gun there's a big red sun / Sittin' up in that sky of blue

You're a breath of spring – you make the angels sing / For me that's what you do.

And I'm just thinkin' about what I'm thinkin' about / And I'm just thinkin' about you.

About you...



## QUARTER MOON SHINING

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CHIP TAYLOR, VOCALS, ACOUSTIC GUITAR, HARMONICA; RILEY ENNIS, VOCALS; KATE ENNIS, VOCALS; SAMANTHA ENNIS, VOCALS; JOHN PLATANIA, ELECTRIC GUITAR; TONY MERCADANTE, BASS; BRYAN OWINGS, DRUMS; SETH FARBER, B3 ORGAN

This is based on an actual happening. There was a quarter moon shining on the 20th of May a few years back. I saw it while waiting for a train. It was an absolutely beautiful sight. I told the grandkids about it a few days later. Riley said she happened to look out the window after bedtime that night and saw it as well. She woke up Kate to see it too! They thought it was amazing!

### GRANDKIDS:

I saw a quarter moon shining / Venus on the right.  
Pepa told us about it. / They were shining so bright.

What's beyond the sky, Pepa? / We really want to know.  
How high do birds fly, Pepa? / We'd really like to know.  
When old dogs die, Pepa / Where do they go, where do they go?

### PEPA:

I saw a quarter moon shining / Venus on the right.  
It was the 20th day of May, and I'd say it was a magical sight.

What's beyond the sky, children? / No man really knows.  
How high do birds fly, children? / They fly over the rainbow.  
When old dogs die, children, just like you and I / They go to heaven.

Wise men don't understand just what lies above.  
But birds fly the highest, children, when they're looking for  
someone to love.

### GRANDKIDS:

I saw a quarter moon shining / Venus on the right  
Pepa told us about it. / They were shining so bright.

### GRANDKIDS AND PEPA:

What's beyond the sky, children? / No man really knows.  
How high do birds fly, children? / They fly over the rainbow.  
When old dogs die, children, just like you and I / They go to heaven.  
When old dogs die, just like you and I / They go to heaven.



## BIG IDEAS

CHIP TAYLOR, VOCALS, ACOUSTIC GUITAR, HARMONICA; RILEY ENNIS, VOCALS; KATE ENNIS, VOCALS; SAMANTHA ENNIS, VOCALS; JOHN PLATANIA, ELECTRIC GUITAR; TONY MERCADANTE, BASS; BRYAN OWINGS, DRUMS; SETH FARBER, B3 ORGAN, PIANO

This is one of Riley, Kate, and Sam's favorites. It gives them an "equal voice" in so-called "grown-up" things. And it points a finger at us grownups—suggesting we can do better.

"Some people I know—much older than me, they don't have any ideas—they talk a lot about nothin'. What about you? What about you?"

Take a good look at me. / I'm not just a kid.  
I got big ideas. / I don't tell them to everyone.  
What about you? / What about you?

Some people I know / Much older than me  
They don't have any ideas / They talk a lot about nothin'.  
What about you? / What about you?

I want to be a doctor – a lawyer – a mother – a friend.  
I got big ideas. / I got big ideas.

### *Instrumental*

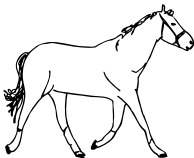
See that boy over there? / He's the same age as me.  
He's got big ideas. / He doesn't share them with everyone.  
What about you? / What about you?

He'd like to be a pilot – a fireman – a father – a friend.  
He's got big ideas. / He's got big ideas.

I'd like to be a swimmer in the Olympics. / You'll say you  
knew me when.

A dancer – a folk singer – again and again  
A teacher – an actress – a mother – a friend.  
I got big ideas. / I got big ideas.  
I got big ideas. / I got big ideas.

Take a good look at me. / I'm not just a kid...



## MAGICAL HORSE

CHIP TAYLOR, VOCALS, ACOUSTIC GUITAR, HARMONICA; RILEY ENNIS, VOCALS, FLUTE; KATE ENNIS, VOCALS; SAMANTHA ENNIS, VOCALS; JOHN PLATANIA, ELECTRIC GUITAR; TONY MERCADANTE, BASS; BRYAN OWINGS, DRUMS; SETH FARBER, B3 ORGAN, PIANO

This song is based on a poem that Kate wrote for school. The poem read:

“I am a magical horse. I eat rainbows. / I live on a cloud.... I smell like rain.”

Is that amazing or what!! I wrote the song in minutes after reading that. Obviously Kate is the co-writer!

I am a magical horse. / I eat rainbows.  
I live on a cloud. / I smell like raindrops.

I can see you from here. / Look up at the rainbow.  
You are magical too. / I am prancing for you.

Rum, bum, bum  
I prance and dance to my magical drum – bum, bum.

### *Instrumental (featuring Riley playing flute)*

Rum, bum, bum  
I prance and dance to my magical drum – bum, bum.

I can run like the wind / Without feeling tired.  
I can fly like a bird. / I can sing like a human.

Rum, bum, bum  
I prance and dance to my magical drum – bum, bum.

Rum, bum, bum  
I prance and dance to my magical drum – bum, bum.

I am a magical horse. / I eat rainbows.  
I live on a cloud. / I smell like raindrops.

Rum, bum, bum  
I prance and dance to my magical drum – bum, bum.

Rum, bum, bum  
I prance and dance to my magical drum – bum, bum



## DADDY IS A RED SOX FAN / MOMMY IS A YANKEE FAN

CHIP TAYLOR, VOCALS, ACOUSTIC GUITAR; RILEY ENNIS, VOCALS; KATE ENNIS, VOCALS; SAMANTHA ENNIS, VOCALS; JOHN PLATANIA, ACOUSTIC GUITAR; TONY MERCADANTE, BASS; BRYAN OWINGS, DRUMS; SETH FARBER, B3 ORGAN

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The title of this song is absolutely true! Their mother (my daughter), Kelly, is a huge Yankee fan. Their father, Frank, is a big-time Red Sox fan. The song tells all about the problems it causes for the girls.

*Note: A little home video of the kids singing this song was a big hit on REMDOG - the Sox announcer's website.*



Daddy is a Red Sox fan / Mommy is a Yankee fan  
I don't know just where I stand. / What's a little girl to do?

"Jeter, go for two" Mommy shouts. / Daddy says, "Throw  
the bum out."  
I don't know what that's about. / What's a little girl to do?

Take me out to the ball game / Take me out to the crowd  
Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jacks / I don't care if I never  
get back... but

Daddy is a Red Sox fan. / Mommy is a Yankee fan.  
I don't know just who I am. / What's a little girl to do?

David Ortiz hits that ball. / Daddy says, "Get over that wall. "  
Mommy says, "Matsui, catch that ball." / What's a little girl to do?

Daddy is a Red Sox fan. / Mommy is a Yankee fan.  
I don't know just where I stand. / What's a little girl to do?





## KIDS TO SAVE THE PLANET

CHIP TAYLOR, VOCALS, ACOUSTIC GUITAR; RILEY ENNIS, VOCALS; KATE ENNIS, VOCALS; SAMANTHA ENNIS, VOCALS; JOHN PLATANIA, ELECTRIC GUITAR; TONY MERCADANTE, BASS; TONY LEONE, DRUMS

The grandkids, their mom and dad, and Mema and Pepa (me) sat around talking about things we could do to “save the planet.” I had already begun the song. Their ideas helped finish it.

Don't throw garbage in the street / Recycle plastic, glass, and cans  
Tell everybody that you meet / You're a kid that takes a stand

A kid that takes a stand / Above all else  
We're kids to save the planet / Our neighbors and ourselves.

Don't let that kitchen faucet drip. / Turn off the lights when you go out.  
If bicycles can get you there / Don't put carbon in the air.

No carbon in the air / Above all else  
We're kids to save the planet / Our neighbors and ourselves.

A million children 'round the world / So many smiling boys and girls  
Will raise a flag so you will know / We just can't let this planet go.

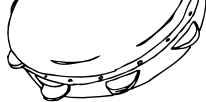
Anyone who makes the rules / Listen to what children say.  
Don't look at them as little fools / They just want a better way.

We want a better way. / Above all else  
We're kids to save the planet / Our neighbors and ourselves.

Put mom and daddy to the test. / What kind of light bulbs are the best?  
What kind of batteries should you use? / And don't step on my blue suede shoes!

Just kidding about the shoes. / Above all else  
We're kids to save the planet / Our neighbors and ourselves.  
We're kids to save the planet / Our neighbors and ourselves





## DID YOU HEAR WHAT JENNIFER DID?

CHIP TAYLOR, VOCALS, ACOUSTIC GUITAR, HARMONICA; RILEY ENNIS, VOCALS, FLUTE; KATE ENNIS, VOCALS; SAMANTHA ENNIS, VOCALS; JOHN PLATANIA, ELECTRIC GUITAR; TONY MERCADANTE, BASS; BRYAN OWINGS, DRUMS; SETH FARBER, B3 ORGAN

The kids like this one. I think it's the "secret" of the song that gets to them. Also, it has that Phil Spector-like contagious groove that everyone gets.

Did you hear what Jennifer did? / Did you hear what Jennifer did?  
Oh, oh! Did you hear what Jennifer did?

Did you hear what Jonathan did? / Did you hear what Jonathan did?  
Oh, oh! Did you hear what Jonathan did?

I think I'm gonna tell my mother. / I think I'm gonna tell my daddy.  
It's not gonna make them happy / When I tell them what Jonathan did.

### *Interlude*

Did you hear what Lucinda did? / Did you hear what Lucinda did?  
Oh, oh! Did you hear what Lucinda did?

Jenny pushed Lucinda in the water / Jon slipped and fell down  
the stairs

He broke his arm and got fixed up by the doctor. / And Lucinda  
put gum in Jenny's hair.

I think I'm gonna tell my mother. / I think I'm gonna tell my daddy.  
It's not gonna make them happy / When I tell them what Lucinda did.

Did you hear what Jennifer did? / Did you hear what Jennifer did?  
Oh, oh! Did you hear what Jennifer did?



## YOU CAN COME & PLAY WITH OUR TOYS

CHIP TAYLOR, VOCALS, ACOUSTIC GUITAR, HARMONICA; RILEY ENNIS, VOCALS; KATE ENNIS, VOCALS; SAMANTHA ENNIS, VOCALS; JOHN PLATANIA, ELECTRIC GUITAR; TONY MERCADANTE, BASS; BRYAN OWINGS, DRUMS; SETH FARBER, B3 ORGAN, KEYBOARD CHIMES, GLOCKENSPIEL

One Christmas, a few years ago, we filled several duffle bags with clothes and little gifts and passed them out to homeless people living on the streets of New York City. The kids felt good doing that. This song is special to them as it reminds them how good it feels to help those less fortunate.

We've been talkin' about Christmas / And what it really means.  
If you don't think about others / Well, it don't mean beans.  
So, if you didn't get enough of that Christmas stuff / And you're sad little girls and boys,  
Come on over / You can come and play with our toys.

We're just talkin' about those who / Santa just can't get to.  
If Santa just can't find you / Don't you worry 'bout that.  
And if you didn't get a blast of that Christmas stash / Let's get together and make some noise.  
Come on over / You can come and play with our toys.

You can go to the Web with our webkinz / Learn how to scoot on a scooter  
But don't spend all day on the computer. Hey,  
If there's snow outside / Let's go for a jingle bells sleigh ride.

### *Instrumental (La, la's)*

So if you didn't get enough of that Christmas stuff / And you're sad little girls and boys  
Come on over / You can come and play with our toys.  
Come on over / You can come and play with our toys.

We've been talkin' about Christmas / What it really means.  
If you don't think about others / Well, it don't mean beans.




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**INTRODUCTION TO  
WEDDING SONGS**

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The grandkids love their Uncle Bubba (my son, Kristian). When Bubba and Anna got married, the kids were in the bridal party. We sang the following songs together.

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**THE POSSUM HUNTER**

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CHIP TAYLOR, VOCALS, ACOUSTIC GUITAR, HARMONICA; RILEY ENNIS, VOCALS; KATE ENNIS, VOCALS; SAMANTHA ENNIS, VOCALS; JOHN PLATANIA, ELECTRIC GUITAR; TONY MERCADANTE, BASS; ANTON FIG, DRUMS; SETH FARBER, B3 ORGAN

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This is a true story about when Bubba was afraid of tipping over a doghouse to free a trapped possum, so he got that nickname “The Possum Hunter” as a joke from his future father-in-law.



Something goin' on in the back of the yard / We're gonna call the possum hunter.

Something goin' on in the back of the yard / We're gonna call the big dog down.

Something just snuck in that old doghouse / We're gonna call the possum hunter.

Something just snuck in that old doghouse / We're gonna call the big dog down.

Instrumental - call the possum hunter!

Instrumental - call the big dog down!

Instrumental - call the possum hunter!

Instrumental - call the big dog down!

Now the possum hunter said, "Watch out boys / I seen this thing on TV.

He's got long sharp teeth and claws on his feet.

He ain't gonna be messin' with me – not messin' with me."

Gonna call the big dog down!

Then old Les he said to Bubba Dog, "Hey Dawg!"

Something goin' on in the back of the yard / We're gonna call the possum hunter.

Something goin' on in the back of the yard / We're gonna call the big dog down.

Instrumental - call the possum hunter!

Instrumental - call the big dog down!

Instrumental - call the possum hunter!

Instrumental - call the big dog down!

When Les knocked over that old doghouse / The possum hunter did pray.

But the little baby possum just stayed in the corner /

Too scared to run away, too scared to run away.

Gonna call the big dog down! / Then Les he said to Bubba Dog, "Hey dawg!"

Something goin' on in the back of the yard / We're gonna call the possum hunter.

Something goin' on in the back of the yard / We're gonna call the big dog down.

Something just snuck in the doghouse / We're gonna call the possum hunter.

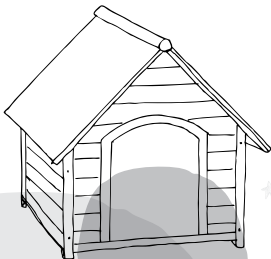
Something just snuck in the doghouse / We're gonna call the big dog down.

Instrumental - call the possum hunter!

Instrumental - call the big dog down!

Instrumental - call the possum hunter!

Instrumental - call the big dog down!





## HAPPY WEDDING

CHIP TAYLOR, VOCALS, ACOUSTIC GUITAR, HARMONICA; RILEY ENNIS, VOCALS; KATE ENNIS, VOCALS; SAMANTHA ENNIS, VOCALS; JOHN PLATANIA, ELECTRIC GUITAR; TONY MERCADANTE, BASS; ANTON FIG, DRUMS; SETH FARBER, B3 ORGAN

The kids smile a lot when they sing this one. Especially the parts that say: If you're a monkey – remember your banana. If you're Bubba – don't forget your Anna. I know, I know, I know..." And "if you've got homework, don't forget to do it. If you've got bubblegum, don't forget to chew it. I know, I know, I know..."

In the shadows / Don't forget your candles.  
In the hot sand / Don't forget your sandals.  
I know, I know, I know.

If you got problems / You talk 'em over.  
He who listens / Wears a four-leaf clover.  
I know, I know, I know.

Happy wedding / Happy, happy wedding  
For everything you're giving / It's double what you're getting  
It's such a good thing / Happy wedding.

In the playground / Don't forget your seesaw.  
If you're Mema / Don't forget your Pepa.  
I know, I know, I know.

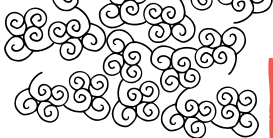
If you're a monkey / Remember your banana.  
If you're Bubba / Don't forget your Anna.  
I know, I know, I know.

Happy wedding / Happy, happy wedding  
For everything you're giving / It's double what you're getting.  
It's such a good thing / Happy wedding.

Hard choices / You call the punter.  
Backyard noises / Call the possum hunter.  
I know, I know, I know.

Anna's sisters / Nieces, nephews, mom, and brother  
So good to see you / And tell you that we love her.  
I know, I know, I know.





If you've got homework / Don't forget to do it.  
If you've got bubblegum / Don't forget to  
chew it.  
I know, I know, I know.

Happy wedding / Happy, happy wedding  
For everything you're giving / It's double what  
you're getting.  
It's such a good thing / Happy wedding.

Kristian and Anna/ Happy wedding...





★ **NOW THAT KRISTIAN AND ANNA  
HAVE WED**

CHIP TAYLOR, VOCALS, ACOUSTIC GUITAR; RILEY ENNIS, VOCALS; KATE ENNIS, VOCALS; SAMANTHA ENNIS, VOCALS; JOHN PLATANIA, ELECTRIC GUITAR; TONY MERCADANTE, BASS; ANTON FIG, DRUMS; SETH FARBER, ACCORDION

Uncle Bubba's real name is Kristian. I loved watching the kids sing this in the studio and at the wedding – so precious and sweet.

You've got your good days / Your bad days, your Sundays  
You've got some other days / Like Wednesdays and Thursdays

But they're all a little different now / A wise man said  
They're all a little more special now / That Kristian and Anna  
have wed.

You got sunny days / Your rainy days, your birthdays  
You've got some other days / Like Tuesdays and Fridays

But they're all a little different now / A wise man said  
They're all a little more special now / That Kristian and Anna  
have wed.

***Instrumental***

You got school vacation days / In April days, 'Vegas baby days  
You got some Knight days / Those choice days  
Waitin' round the corner days.

You got some Christmas days / Happy New Years days  
Kristian, take out the garbage days.  
You got your Super Bowl days / Your March Madness days.  
Anna, that's basketball Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday, Friday and Saturday days.

But they're all a little different now / A wise man said  
They're all a little more special now / That Kristian and Anna  
have wed.







BNP PARIBAS

... AND WE'RE HAPPY TO MEET YOU,

... IN THE INDUSTRY  
BNP PARIBAS

THE ADVOCATE  
... into a day, don't miss a thing

## CREDITS

PRODUCED BY CHIP TAYLOR

RECORDED AND MIXED BY HUCK BENNERT

RECORDED AT DUBWAY STUDIOS, NEW YORK CITY AND SOUL CITY STUDIOS, MAMARONECK, NY

MASTERED BY MARK DONAHUE AT SOUND MIRROR, BOSTON, MA

ANNOTATED BY CHIP TAYLOR, JON VOIGHT, AND JEFF PLACE

PHOTOS BY DAVEY WILSON (P. 3, 6 [LEFT], 11 [TOP, RIGHT], 12, 18, 31 [RIGHT], 33, INSIDE FRONT OF PACKAGE); ALL OTHER PHOTOS BY KELLY VOIGHT

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PRODUCTION MANAGER: MARY MONSEUR

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**Additional Smithsonian Folkways staff:** Richard James Burgess, director of marketing and sales; Betty Derbyshire, financial operations manager; Laura Dion, sales and marketing; Toby Dodds, technology director; Sue Frye, fulfillment; León García, web producer and education coordinator; Henri Goodson, financial assistant; Mark Gustafson, marketing; David Horgan, online marketing specialist; Helen Lindsay, customer service; Keisha Martin, manufacturing coordinator; Margot Nassau, licensing and royalties; Pete Reiniger, sound production supervisor; Ronnie Simpkins, audio specialist; John Smith, sales and marketing; Stephanie Smith, archivist.

## ABOUT SMITHSONIAN FOLKWAYS

Smithsonian Folkways Recordings is the nonprofit record label of the Smithsonian Institution, the national museum of the United States. Our mission is the legacy of Moses Asch, who founded Folkways Records in 1948 to document music, spoken word, instruction, and sounds from around the world. The Smithsonian acquired Folkways from the Asch estate in 1987, and Smithsonian Folkways Recordings has continued the Folkways tradition by supporting the work of traditional artists and expressing a commitment to cultural diversity, education, and increased understanding.

Smithsonian Folkways recordings are available at record stores. Smithsonian Folkways Recordings, Folkways, Collector, Cook, Dyer-Bennet, Fast Folk, Monitor, and Paredon recordings are all available through:

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Washington, DC 20560-0520  
*Phone:* (800) 410-9815 or 888-FOLKWAYS (orders only)  
*Fax:* (800) 853-9511 (orders only)

To purchase online, or for further information about Smithsonian Folkways Recordings go to: **[www.folkways.si.edu](http://www.folkways.si.edu)**. Please send comments, questions, and catalogue requests to **[smithsonianfolkways@si.edu](mailto:smithsonianfolkways@si.edu)**.





### THANKS FROM THE GRANDKIDS

Special thanks to Bubba and Anna for getting married and inspiring the first songs. Thanks to the musicians: John, Tony, Anton, Bryan, Tony, and Seth for their great playing and to our engineer, Huck, for making us sound good. Thanks to Mema, Mommy, and Daddy for their smiling support. Thank you to all the nice people at Smithsonian Folkways who worked so hard to put this album out. And a *SPECIALER*\* thanks to Pepa for being Pepa—and to all of you for listening!

**RILEY, KATE AND SAMANTHA**

*\*Specialer invented by Kate*



**CHIPTAYLOR & THE GRANDKIDS**  
**GOLDEN KIDS RULES**

SFW CD 45071

<b>01 GOLDEN KIDS' RULES</b> .....	<b>2:41</b>
<b>02 I'M JUST THINKIN' ABOUT WHAT I'M THINKIN' ABOUT</b> .....	<b>2:14</b>
<b>03 QUARTER MOON SHINING</b> .....	<b>3:46</b>
<b>04 BIG IDEAS</b> .....	<b>3:35</b>
<b>05 MAGICAL HORSE</b> .....	<b>4:02</b>
<b>06 DADDY IS A RED SOX FAN / MOMMY IS A YANKEE FAN</b> .....	<b>1:41</b>
<b>07 KIDS TO SAVE THE PLANET</b> .....	<b>2:39</b>
<b>08 DID YOU HEAR WHAT JENNIFER DID?</b> .....	<b>3:01</b>
<b>09 YOU CAN COME &amp; PLAY WITH OUR TOYS</b> .....	<b>2:49</b>
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<b>10 INTRODUCTION TO WEDDING SONGS</b> .....	<b>0:06</b>
<b>11 THE POSSUM HUNTER</b> .....	<b>3:14</b>
<b>12 HAPPY WEDDING</b> .....	<b>3:41</b>
<b>13 NOW THAT KRISTIAN AND ANNA HAVE WED</b> .....	<b>4:18</b>

When renowned musician and songwriter Chip Taylor (“Angel of the Morning” and “Wild Thing”) became a grandfather, he directed his creative energy to writing new songs with and for his grandkids. Golden Kids Rules melds the husky, time-worn vocals and the musical instincts of a seasoned performer with the charming artistry of his three young grandchildren. The album overflows with love of family and the musical bonds that hold them together. Taylor’s brother, actor Jon Voight, offers an insightful introduction to the artist and the album. 38 minutes, 36-page booklet with lyrics.

