

# Janis Ian

## "Honor Them All"

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THEY SAY THAT YOU CAN CHOOSE YOUR FRIENDS  
BUT YOU CAN'T CHOOSE YOUR FAMILY  
AND IT'S A LUCKY MAN WHO ENDS UP IN GOOD  
COMPANY  
I'VE DONE MY SHARE OF LOOKING BACK  
REGRET'S MY MIDDLE NAME  
BUT THE TIME GOES BY SO FAST  
YOU TURN AROUND, TOMORROW'S PASSED  
AND THE ONES YOU LOVE WILL NEVER BE THE SAME

SO WHY DON'T YOU HONOR YOUR FATHER  
HONOR YOUR MOTHER  
HONOR YOURSELF ABOVE ALL  
HONOR THE GIFTS  
YOU BRING ONE ANOTHER  
EACH TIME YOU RISE OR YOU FALL  
HONOR THEM ALL

THERE'S NOT A FAMILY ON THIS EARTH  
DOESN'T SLING A LITTLE MUD  
HANDS GET WEARY, HEARTS GET HURT  
WE BOW TO THE FLESH AND BLOOD  
OH, PEOPLE CAN BE CRUEL SOMETIMES  
IT LEAVES A LASTING SCAR  
BUT WHEN YOU PUT IT TO THE TEST  
YOU USUALLY FIND THEY'VE DONE THEIR BEST  
AND AS BAD AS THAT MAY BE  
IT'S TURNED YOU INTO WHO YOU ARE

SO WHY DON'T YOU HONOR YOUR FATHER  
HONOR YOUR MOTHER  
HONOR YOURSELF ABOVE ALL  
HONOR THE GIFTS  
YOU BRING ONE ANOTHER  
EACH TIME YOU RISE OR YOU FALL  
HONOR THEM ALL

I HAVE THREE NEPHEWS, ALL MY CHILDREN  
AND MY MEMORIES  
IF THERE'S ONE THING I WOULD ASK  
IT'S THAT THEY KEEP ALIVE THE PAST  
SO THE FUTURE DOESN'T HAVE TO END WITH ME

I WANT THEM TO HONOR THEIR FATHER  
HONOR THEIR MOTHER  
HONOR THEMSELVES ABOVE ALL  
HONOR THE GIFTS  
THEY BRING ONE ANOTHER  
EACH TIME THEY RISE OR THEY FALL  
HONOR THEM ALL  
HONOR THEM ALL

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