

THE WEIGHT OF LIGHT – libretto by NIGEL FEATHERSTONE
SONG TWO: ON THE HIGHWAY

On the highway
I leave it all
behind

On the highway,
with the steering-wheel
in my eagle grip,
I let go

On the highway
I turn off

Emptiness
yes, emptiness
fill me
to the brim

On the highway,
when I reach the end,
I'll hold the three of them:
my Ma and Pa
and little brother

On the highway,
when I reach the end,
I'll breathe for the first time
in months, in months

I want you, emptiness,
like I've wanted
to slip and slide
between the legs
of a lush

On the highway,
when I'm on the right side
of the range, I'll be

alright

THE WEIGHT OF LIGHT - libretto by NIGEL FEATHERSTONE
SONG NINE: BLACK SHADOWS

In the night
a dingo waits

In the night
my mistake becomes
a mountain

In the night
I see your
cold, still face

Black shadows
I'd run with you
if I could
but I can't
because I am
duty-bound

In the night
a dingo cries out

In the night
my mistakes
my mistakes
they rise up and roar

my bullet
that tore open
a girl's
throat

the other
my brother
who felt too alone
to live

Black shadows
I'd run with you
if I could
but I can't
because I am
duty-bound

In the night
I kiss your
cold, still face

In the night
I give up
I cry out

for help

THE WEIGHT OF LIGHT - libretto by NIGEL FEATHERSTONE
SONG ELEVEN: WEIGHTLESS

Once, in my arms,
I carried you and
you were weightless

Once, in my sleep,
I looked at you and
you were weightless

So often, in my love,
I've listened to you and
you have been weightless

So it is now,
as I turn you to the wind,
as I turn you, turn you, turn you to the wind

you are...

a boy in the river
a boy on the sand
beneath the sun

you are...

a girl
in Kandahar
shouldering a sheep

I'm sorry

I failed you both –

I am no man

Always, in my blood
and bones, I carry you both
for life, for life