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2º Advanced English



OUR GRANDPARENTS, OUR SUPERHEROES!

The role of men and women has been changing since the '90s.

If we look back on the past we can see how our mothers and fathers' roles were different than they are nowadays. For example, a regular night in the past, our mothers made dinner, bathed us and took us to bed while our fathers were lying on the couch watching a football match or just idling their lives away. And what did they do during a typical day? I am sure that all our fathers were out at work all day long while our mothers did all the cleaning, went shopping, made lunch, picked up the children from school and our mother was who raised us.

Gradually those roles have been exchanged today.

Every day there are more and more parents who work outside of the home during the day and in most of those cases, grandparents are in charge of taking care of their grandchildren and parents have to share their chores at nights without **much** time to spend with their children.

Our parents, our children's grandparents, those who started to work when they were little, kept working when they became an adult, and even when we were born, our mothers had to work as well. And, on top of that, they didn't work in offices as we do now, they worked in the fields under harsh conditions. Nevertheless, they were always able to take care of us and they managed to find free time for us as well. Finally, our parents, our children's grandparents, got their desired retirements and now they are taking our family forward and, in many of cases, they also provide for us.

So, who will be responsible for the children in 30 years' time? Obviously us. We will be the people who look after our children's children as they will work as we are doing now. The fish that bites its own tail.

B· F· G



Mike Simkins (nicknamed Mike Simii) formed *BFG* in summer 1985, while he was following tours with *the Cult, New Order*, and *the Smiths* as a drummer with *Lavolta Lakota* (Factory Record). Joined by BJ Williams on vocals, Keith Lambert on bass, Acky on guitar and El Thomas on samples, the group from Manchester began to make a name for themselves basing the BFG sound around a thumping bass line and screaming guitars. Andy Clegg (*ex-Chameleon's* member) also joined BFG.

On hearing the early demos, Joy Division and New Order bassist Pete Hook invited the band to support New Order on their summer 1986 Tour. This tour coincided with BFG's first release the 12" single *Paris* and *Amelia*. The limited edition sold out within a 1st week

and was quickly hailed as a *goth* classic BFG's first. Headlining show in hometown was with *the Stone Roses* as support and even at this early stage was being compared with Joy Division for the intensity of their live performance. Also, the band was starting to gain the reputation of being seen as difficult to the press. During the late 80's, the band completed few interviews and even today still refuse to play by the media's rules.



The line-up changed for the next 2nd E.P. with Steve Craig replacing B.J. Williams and Paul Batheram replacing Acky on Guitar. *Western Sky E.P.* and *Higher Than Heaven* was recorded as *the greatest indie single of the year*. The album *Fathoms* was released in 1988, which BFG gained a fanatical followers in

Germany and the West Coast of the United States. At this time, BFG were joining by Utah Saints producer Guy Hatton. This fact culminated in BFG playing at the *Loreley Stadium*, on the banks of the river Rhine, in front of 15,000 German fans, the only time that BFG were officially caught on video.

The original BFG line-up reformed in 1989 and recorded what many feel was the definitive BFG album. *Blue* was released in 1990 and with its mixture of loops and driving guitars mixed with B.J. Williams vocals, always threatening to explode, it set the musical agenda that the likes of *Rammstien* have since followed.

Higher than heaven is lyrics (BFG· Fathoms)

This song contains a great melody. Powerful guitars and bass, post-punk drums, and an attractive singer's voice make a seductive mixture to plunge into this song[1].

Back to the bathroom floor again,	It goes higher than heaven is,
on your knees like a long lost Sunday,	deeper than down.
won't you ever come back down?,	Higher than heaven is,
won't you ever come back down?	deeper than down.
	Higher than heaven is,
You walk, walk, walk around the trees	deeper than down.
never, ever find the woods.	Higher than heaven is,
I talk, talk, talk to my new disease,	deeper than down.
something you never understood.	
	Won't you ever come back down?
It goes higher than heaven is.	Won't you ever come back down?
It goes higher than heaven is.	Won't you ever come back down?
	Won't you ever come back down?
Biting tongues and crawling walls,	
oh, you could disappear here.	It goes higher than heaven is,
If I'd the time and if I had the mind,	deeper than down,
I'd go back to the start,	Higher than heaven is,
break my back to break my heart.	deeper than down.
	Higher than heaven is,
	deeper than down.
	Higher than heaven is,
	deeper than down.

[1] You can hear it at this link: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=np2tyJdhI5E</u> . Another excellent song is **Western Sky** (<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4g6zn_zyGk</u>).