

# FAR KINGDOM - THE GRAY HAVENS



The Gray Havens centers around husband/wife Dave and Licia Radford. Since their beginning in 2013, their projects have been hailed as “an imaginative treatment of faith...[having] a visionary quality that’s both playful and enraptured.” They have a knack for creating a listening experience similar to paging through your favorite book, with richly textured compositions and multi-layered lyrics. Releasing their debut EP on Noisetrade in 2013, and their first full-length album, *Fire and Stone*, in 2015, the duo has gained a steady following of listeners nationwide.

Their newest release, *Ghost of a King*, debuted at #3 on the iTunes singer-songwriter charts, rewarding listeners with immersive soundscapes and lyrical imagination. From poetic – almost Shakespearean – imagery to grand epics fit for a darkened concert halls, to pop music infused with loops and infectious beats, the album possess a remarkable range. In the context of that refreshing variety, the album stays cohesive thanks to its exploration of the human condition of longing.

Today, The Gray Havens are making the most well-crafted music of their career. Their “Ghost of a King Tour” is a mixture of acoustic duo and full band performances that include string players from colleges across the country.

Information from: <http://www.thegrayhavensmusic.com/>

## LYRICS

There is a far kingdom  
A ways from here  
Beyond the storm and the sea  
There will be no need of darkness  
And none for tears  
When that far kingdom I see

There’s a river we will know  
Ever clear and ever full  
From the fount that overflows  
In the light of the King  
And when we drink it we will find  
That this joy, ever full, will ever rise  
And it’ll rise on, in the kingdom  
In the kingdom

There is a far kingdom  
On the other side of the glass  
And by a faint light we see  
Still there is more gladness  
Longing for the sight  
Than to behold or be filled, by anything

There’s a river we will know  
Ever clear and ever full  
From the fount that overflows  
In the light of the King  
And when we drink it we will find  
That this joy, ever full, will ever rise  
And it’ll rise on, in the kingdom  
In the kingdom

There is a far, far kingdom  
There at the end of the sea  
Where they know my name  
And until that far, far kingdom  
Calls me home  
Oh, my soul, I will wait

For the river we will know  
Ever clear and ever full  
From the fount that overflows  
In the light of the King  
And when we drink it we will find  
That this joy, ever full, will ever rise  
And it’ll rise on, in the kingdom  
In the kingdom  
And it’ll rise on, in the kingdom  
In the kingdom

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## John 4:7-13 New International Version (NIV)

4 Now he had to go through Samaria. 5 So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

11 "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

13 Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

1. Looking at the lyrics, what would you say the song is about (And no, this time, the title isn't the answer)?
2. What stood out to you within the song lyrics? Did anything catch your attention?
3. Let's read John 4:7-13. In your own words, what is happening here?
4. What is a well and what were some of the main purposes of wells?
5. Why do you think this Samaritan woman came to draw water from the well at noon?
6. What was the issue with Jesus asking the woman for a drink?
7. In verse 10, Jesus mentions water... What is different about the water He offers?
8. What do you think the Samaritan woman starts to question Jesus in verse 11 and 12?
9. When Jesus replies in verse 13, he says, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again..." what water is He referring to?
10. He then says, "...whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst." What water is He referring to here?
11. Looking at the song lyrics and Jesus' words in verse 14, what does this "fountain" or "spring" give us?
12. How should our lives change when we seek the Living Water that only Jesus can provide?
13. What will it take for you to start seeking Living Water to quench your eternal thirst?