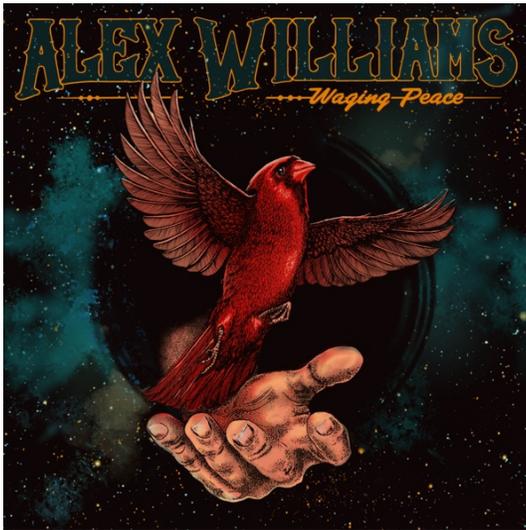




Alex Williams  
'Waging Peace' due Sept. 22, 2022



Tracklist:

*\*Produced by Ben Fowler*

1. "No Reservations"
2. "Old Before My Time"
3. "Rock Bottom"
4. "Fire"
5. "Higher Road"
6. "Waging Peace"
7. "Conspiracy"
8. "The Best Thing"
9. "Double Nickel"
10. "Confession"
11. "The Struggle"
12. "The Vice"

**Williams says of 'Waging Peace'**

A few of these tunes were born during the recent halt to our normal lives we have all experienced. Before I made my first record, I had not toured, I had no road band, and a very slim amount of experience in the studio. These past 4 years since leaving Big Machine to become fully independent, and the release of *Better Than Myself* has been a whirlwind, and I've learned so much from so many great artists and bands that I have had the pleasure of touring with, and unbelievably thankful they provided me with a stage to play on including artists Whitey Morgan, Blackberry Smoke, and Cody Jinks. Taught me the importance of being at the wheel of your own destiny on an independent platform as a musician. I was really on edge for a while about the frustrations of not being able to come out with another album in so long, but I'm very glad that I have waited 5 years to make another record because it's given me the time to really focus on finding my voice as a songwriter, experiencing life on the road and all the pain and joy that has come my way in more ways than one. The pandemic gave me more than enough time to sit and really think about what I wanted to say. As it goes, you have your whole life to write your first record, and I capitalized on a few things that I had experienced and gone through, but it was limited with how green I was at the time, with only a surface level view of where I wanted to go musically.

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### **1. “No Reservations”**

I wrote this song with my friend and fantastic singer songwriter Mando Saenz a few years ago. Basically a song about maneuvering through all the troubles and trials that come with this line of work on the road, meanwhile embracing taking the good with the bad and discovering the pure joy that comes from being able to play music for a living.

### **2. “Old Before My Time”**

Me and my friend got together one day and this one came out. I’d say the title is pretty self-explanatory...A life of traveling around has a way of make you feel like sometimes you’re aging a little bit faster than what you think.

### **3. “Rock Bottom”**

Another song I wrote with my friend/songwriter Mando Saenz. This one just came out of nowhere and basically describes how someone else can pull you out of the trenches and stand beside you through the darkest of times.

### **4. “Fire”**

Wrote this song with my good friend and fantastic singer songwriter from Oklahoma, Tennessee Jet. A song about being easily fooled by surface level beauty, when there’s darker undertones and motives that lie beneath a disguise that’s been put on, that can lead you astray if you choose not to look close enough.

### **5. “Higher Road”**

This is another one I wrote with my good friend and fantastic songwriter in Nashville, Mando Saenz. This song is about learning through the experience of touring and the maturity that naturally comes with doing something for an extended period of time that the journey outweighs the destination. (Letting life run its course and trusting the process, leaving time to take care of itself.)

### **6. “Waging Peace”**

I chose this song as the title track because it seemed like the centerpiece for this whole project as far as the subject matter goes. I wrote this at home in 2020 during the initial part of the pandemic, and It’s a song about finding peace and optimism within yourself in this world, amongst the troubled times we live in, as well as the guilt one may hang on that seems to never let go of the mental game.

Discovering that we are always our own worst enemy, and that making changes to better ourselves is the best thing we can do in order to see and truly cherish the important things that shine the brightest in our lives.

### **7. “Conspiracy”**

Another one I wrote one night out in Oklahoma with my friend Tennessee Jet.

Hard to explain this one...I guess it’s about taking control of your life and realizing you know yourself more than anyone else no matter how you feel.

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## 8. “The Best Thing”

I wrote this song about 4 years back with Mickey Raphael, in my mind, the greatest harmonica player in the universe, and Bobby Tomberlin, a great friend and songwriter in Nashville. Obviously I knew of Mickey from playing with Willie Nelson throughout the 70’s through today. I had no idea I lived right down the road from him, and Bobby mentioned to me about going out there and the three of us writing. We sat down in Mickey’s living room one day and this song came out pretty quick. It’s a song about how leaving someone who not only doesn’t know the other person, but also doesn’t know themselves enough to stay in the relationship, so leaving would be the best thing for the other to find the space to discover themselves.

## 9. “Double Nickel”

Wrote this with my friend and great songwriter Ben Jarrell about I-55 that runs from Chicago to Louisiana. I was pulling out of a Love’s truck stop one day with the band, and my guitar player said, “let’s get back on the ol’ Double Nickel”... Turns out that’s the nickname for I-55, and we spent some time running up and down it constantly, playing shows. It was only fitting we pay homage to the stretch of road that runs through the Midwest.

## 10. “Confession”

Another one I wrote with my friend, producer, and songwriter Marshall Altman a few years back about how the things that we hold dear and are important to us can sometimes feel like a curse and a blessing.

## 11. “The Struggle”

I wrote this song while at home during the pandemic. I wrote it in about 45 minutes and it just kind of fell out of me. During all the madness that was going on, my wife and I had our first child. Just before he was born, I thought about the fact that we all experience from the day we come into this world till the day we die... that To Live is To Struggle. As cliché as it is to say, life is not an easy thing for anyone, no matter how perfect some of us make our lives out to be financially, or visually on the internet Everyone struggles and it’s important to do so in order to find some light at the end of tunnel and feel fulfilled on the other side of it. I want my son to learn to fight through all the hardships that come his way, and keep going no matter how difficult the obstacle, as I feel I have as well as many others.

## 12. “The Vice”

This is another song I wrote at home during the time off the road during the initial part of the pandemic that came to me quickly. It’s basically about all of us having one thing or the other that we use to lean on or take the edge off, in order to take us away from all the external stuff in our lives we choose not to face in our day to day.

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