

Friends At The End Of The Line - Neil Innes

The telephone rings you pick it up you say "hello, hello"
"This is an old friend how are you?"
"I'm fine" you say "and you?"
There's a little awkward small talk and then the bad news
"Have you heard? So and so caught the big one
It was just like that right it was out of the blue"
You wanna know how bad?
Just a matter of time is the clinical view

Oh my - nobody wants to die
But it can hit you right between the eyes
When you're talking about friends at the end of the line

You put the phone down thinking "oh God not another one"
Then close to tears
You selfishly begin to count up all the loved ones you have lost
Over the years
You try to picture their faces while there's something going on
In the place where your stomach used to be
Then you realize it's the oldest and the coldest feeling ever known to humanity

Fallen fruit must decompose
Feed the birds and busy those
Who squirm around in the graveyard mud
Empty bedpans and wash away the blood

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On a cold and sunny late November day you walk around under clear blue skies
Kick some leaves, sniff the bonfire smoke and attempt to philosophise
How will it be when it's your turn to go?
Will you find a few famous last words to say?
Or will you simply fall asleep knowing nothing in the universe ever really goes away?

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Here come all the suns
Here comes all the light
Everything and nothing
In one sweet kiss goodnight

Everything and nothing
All creatures great and small
Everything and nothing
God bless us all

Worn out shoes and rusty cars
We are all the stuff of stars
Sub-atomic carbon-based
Everything is made in space
As it was before your birth
Nothing lasts forever on earth

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