At one stage I would have said that Radiohead were my favourite band. My fondness for them as dissipated somewhat as the years and albums have gone by, but they still hold a special place in my music heart. The Bends is one of my favourite (if not, my favourite) albums of all time. I was lucky enough to see them at the old Perth EntCent in 1997 with Rhona and Kieran and they were amazing. They sounded just like their recordings, seemingly down to the miniscule effects and guitar squeals. Here are my favourite tracks...

There There
I was positively overjoyed when I heard this for the first time. After the keyboard-heavy and beats-laden sounds of Kid A and Amnesiac it was refreshing to hear some great guitar noise and crashing drums. Fabulous vocal from Thom and the way the song slowly builds is fantastic, delivering a thundering finale.

Let Down
The first song from 1997's OK Computer that really got under my skin. Just a lovely, stirring track with wonderful harmonies and a lush guitar arrangement.

Talk Show Host
Featured on the Romeo + Juliet soundtrack, this song is quite special for me and Rhona. We were driving around in our early courting days and this song came on the stereo. Rhona remarked that she loved the song and I almost burst with excitement: "This is Radiohead!! I love Radiohead!! Do you like Radiohead?" or words to that effect. Opening with a simple guitar riff and Thom's haunting vocal, this song always transports me back to driving in Rhona's old Ford Telstar, Harry.

Fake Plastic Trees
An absolute masterpiece and one of the many highlights of The Bends. I don't really know what it's all about, but the music and the lyrics and just magic.

A Wolf At The Door
Closing 2003's patchy Hail To The Thief album, this song of quiet menace creeps into your brain and rattles around some. Bizarre lyrics, delivered in almost hypnotic fashion, that only add to the unsettling, but somehow pretty mood that is created by the band's arrangement.

Everything In Its Right Place
I was one of many fans who was very purplexed by this track, the first song from Kid A. Devoid of guitars and drenched in effects and keyboards, this was a big departure from their previous three albums. After we all calmed down (I was particularly enraged after seeing The National Anthem on RAGE one night) we realised that it was different, but still awesome. Hey, it's one of my favourite albums of the 00's.

Paranoid Android
Epic in every sense of the word, that possesses arguably the loudest and quietest moments of the band. A wonderfully constructed track that almost makes each new section a song unto itself. It originally ran for over 14 minutes, before they cut it down to a conservative 6 and a half.

Nude
I found the 2007 album In Rainbows quite hard to get into. It was great to hear some flashes of 90's Radiohead, but a lot of the songs seemed unmemorable, and not very easy to sing along to. This song, that was kicking around since that period, and can be heard on the Meeting People Is Easy documentary from 1998, is my absolute highlight of that album. Not quite the arrangement I was hoping for, but pretty damn good. I consider myself lucky that they recorded it for release.

You And Whose Army?
My favourite track from the Amnesiac album. Predominantly Thom and a piano, until the band kicks in at the end, this reminds me of What's The New Mary Jane?, a Lennon song that didn't make The White Album.

(Nice Dream)
An absolute classic. A great mix of musical beauty and tuneful noise, this song has the power to calm and to excite. I can't describe how happy this makes me.

Uncompromising and magical!