



**Robin Gibb**

*The Bee Gees*

“I Started a Joke”

One for All – Live Tour in Australia

Saturday, March 13, 1989

Notes, comments, lyrics, music, and pictures

by

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Want to share with you a moving song that deserves to be listened to. Perhaps you have heard this one. For sure, we all know the Bee Gees. We all know Barry, Robin, and Maurice. We all know they were as successful as you can get with their world renowned music...as close to the Beatles, for instance, as you can be.

Why “I started a joke”? What can a song only about three minutes long have something to say about anything? Of course, I can’t answer that. Few have tried. Have some references at the end and you may want to look at them or listen to Robin sing this song in different places and different times.

What it will do is grab you. The song in words, lyrics, lights, smoke, and music will have you singing with him. Afterwards some of us will spend some time with the music singing in our heads...it may not go away for a while.

The problem is to determine what it means for each of us.

In the end you may know, or you may not know, that the singer is Robin – or you.



*I started a joke  
Which started the whole world crying  
But I didn't see, oh no  
That the joke was on me, oh no*

*I started to cry  
Which started the whole world laughing  
Oh if I'd only seen, oh no  
That the joke was on me*

*I looked at the skies  
Running my hands over my eyes  
And I fell out of bed hurting my head  
From things that I'd said*



*'Til I finally died  
Which started the whole world living  
Oh if I'd only seen, oh no  
That the joke was on me*

*I looked at the skies  
Running my hands over my eyes  
And I fell out of bed hurting my head  
From things that I'd said*

*'Til I finally died  
Which started the whole world living  
Oh if I'd only seen, oh no  
That the joke was on me oh no*

*That the joke was on me \_\_\_\_\_*

*Oh \_\_\_\_\_ no, no, no....*

Bee Gees; Robin Gibb - I Started a Joke - live One for All - 1989

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLy8AkDBSA8> (3:17)

Robin Gibb told The Mail On Sunday November 1, 2009:

"This is a very spiritual song. The listeners have to interpret it themselves – trying to explain it would detract from the song."

Robin Gibb's son played this song just after his father died from kidney failure on May 20, 2012. Robin-John Gibb told The Sun: "When he passed away we went out, they took the equipment away and we came back in. I picked up my phone and found 'I Started A Joke' on YouTube and played it. I put the phone on his chest and that was the first time I broke down. I knew that song and its lyrics were perfect for that moment. That song will always have new meaning to me now."

<https://www.songfacts.com/facts/bee-gees/i-started-a-joke>

