

Manitou

(Headphone Mix Demo originally uploaded on July 20, 2006)

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Presidential Campaign Train-Whistle Stop in Owosso, Michigan (Autumn 1960)

MANITOU

(1975/1991)

With Old Shep I've chased through time and space
Retrieving the Friction Sticks of a Heavenly Fire that fell
Like young page Tom of Newbold-Revell
I've brought this lantern back from a fathomless wishing well
Upon turbulent streams I've been carrying two dreams worth marrying
This is the tale I have to tell

Manitou, it's in you
Manitou, in all of you
An Eternal Flame

I came of age in the Days of Rage
Boy-rocket blasting off anonymously through nightblack
My mind to me a kingdom was
Frontier-Sailing on the Moon Dream of Boston Jack
A blind spear had been thrown
But from old anguish new strength was growin'
As I climbed that high wall to fetch his cap

Manitou, it's in you
Manitou, in all of you
An Immortal Claim
An Eternal Flame

I sailed upon my Tranquil Mare while storms blew fierce above
Whirl had been crowned High King and hawks were slaying doves
I drank the pain, cold wind and rain when lies and violence ruled
While some gave up the ghost and many more were fooled
Then I dove within my sleep as Flower Children weeped
And the War in Asia ebbed to an end
Breaching the Atom's Core I opened a New Door
Stole True Fire then rose again

I'm the Watchman
Son of a Gun
Blue Chip off the Old Ice Block
I'm the Medicine Man
Your Healing Sun
And I've turned back the Tickin' Clock

Black Iron Prison rusts to ruin
A Golden Promise lights
Pneumatic Knife
Twilight's Last Gleam
Tyrants falling one by one like the Hollow Men they are
Burned by a Breath of Whistling Steam
The time to choose has come
An Old Way's now undone
Everyone can hear the morning call
There is no other choice
So let us all give voice
For Peace on Earth
Goodwill to All

I'm the Watchman
Son of a Gun
Blue Babe of the Widow in Black
I'm the Medicine Man
Your Healing Sun
And I'm bringing the Good Times back

In the Maelstrom of this Old World End's confusion
Churns that New Mystery we demand
Countless souls
Moments pooled
Thrust in all directions
They Green this Greying Wasteland
Hear the children sing: "Let Freedom Ring!"
We're launching this Great Spirit Isle into One Bright Shining Being

Manitou, it's in you
Manitou, in all of you
The Power To Dream



Steering the Coast Guard's "Manitou" (Summer 1962)

When the Berlin Wall "fell" on that historic "11/9" day in 1989, sounding a death knell for those Eastern European satellites of "Mother USSR" toward whom history's larger bell would soon toll too, most journalists on the ground during the crucial period leading up to this historic night reported that those courageous people who actually created this grassroots cultural uprising against East Germany's tyranny were inspired not by the political rhetoric of President's Gorbachev & Reagan, nor even the sermons of Pope John-Paul II, but rather by an innate spiritual dream for simple human freedom.

"Kitche Manitou (The Great Spirit) beheld a vision. In his wisdom, Kitche Manitou understood that his vision had to be fulfilled. Kitche Manitou was to bring into being and existence what he had seen, heard and felt. Last of all he made man. Though last in the order of creation, least in the order of dependence, and weakest in bodily powers, man had the greatest gift—the power to dream." (paraphrased from *Ojibway Heritage* by Basil Johnston -Columbia University Press 1976)