

Listen To The Earth

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River Runnin' Through It
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Listen to the Earth
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The Sacred Buffalo



River Runnin' Through It

By Walkin' Jim Stoltz

G Bm C
1) There's a wild wind blowin' o'er the mountain

G Bm D
Untouched land as far as I can see,

C Bm G Em
And it's touchin' deep inside, a stream swellin' deep with pride,

C Am D
It's a feelin' growin' wild that's here in me.

G Bm C
2) It's a feelin' that's flowin' like a river,

G Bm D
Hard to say exactly what that means,
C Bm G
It's a tie that really binds, to the Earth
Em
and all her kind.

C Am D
Time to swap those dollar signs for dreams.

Chorus:

G Em C D
There's a river runnin' through it, and it flows through you and
me,
G Bm C D
Through the wild in us all, stretchin' far as I can see,
C Bm G Em
There's a river runnin' through it, and its flowin' sweet and strong,

G Em C Em
It's the feelin' in our souls that the sleepin' mountain knows.
C D G
It's a freedom, it's a spirit, it's a song.

3) In the wild there's a spirit still a-livin'
Each crimson sunset serves to make it strong,
It's for all that ever roamed and the magic
I have known.,
And I dare to say its been there all along.
(Repeat Chorus)

4) There's a song for you if you listen,
In the river, on the mountain, or the plain,
It's a song for the heart and its there right from the start,
Singin' through the sunshine and the rain.
(Final Chorus)



Walkin' In The Track of the Lion

By Walkin' Jim Stoltz

(Capo to A)

1) ^G Way back in my younger days, ^{Bm}
^C my daddy said to me, ^G
^G "Take up life's wine and drink it, ^{Bm}
^C a better man you'll be. ^D
^C Go where the winds run wild, ^{Bm}
^G and the spirits still prove true ^{Em}
^C Go and walk in the track of the lion ^D
^G before you're through.

^C
Chorus: And if you wonder where I've been,
^G I'll be high in the mountain wind, ^{Em}
^C I'll be walkin' in the track of the lion, ^D
^C Walkin' in the track of the lion, ^{Bm}
^C Walkin' in the track of the lion once again. ^D ^G

2) I've taken the trail of the lone wolf,
and I've walked it from time to time,
I've looked in the eyes of an eagle,
faced a grizzly in his prime.
I guess you might say I'm too far gone,
You know there ain't no turning back,
Once you walk a mile of this life

in the path of the lion's track.
(Repeat Chorus)

3) Some men like to gamble, some like to
search for gold.
Some like boozin and losin', some like
growing old.
But treasures where you find it, it's all in
your eye,
Next time you're feelin' poor, try a
mountain on for size.
(Repeat Chorus)



Listen To The Earth

By Walkin' Jim Stoltz

(Capo third fret)

G C G
Have you ever heard the coyotes howl,
C G
Their ballads to the stars?
C Em
The only sound for miles around,
C D
You can hear it from afar.
C G
The same old song they've been singin' now
C D
Since the lion learned to roar.
C G Em
There's something there I know there is,
C D G
If we listen to the Earth once more.

Have you ever heard the giants fall,

When it's silent in the wood?
Falling down all from their heights,
Three hundred years they've stood.
Time has reaped its harvest now,
Upon the forest floor,
There's something there I know there is,
If we listen to the Earth once more.

Have you ever heard the river talk,
The voices in the stream?
Hear the laughter in the joy,
The terror in the scream.
There's purity just in the flow,
And strength within the roar,
There's something there, I know there is,
If we listen to the Earth once more.

Bridge:

 C D C D
Our age is racin' by, too busy to catch the eye
 C D
Of the sea gull a-racing over the strand.
 C D C D
And we're always racing time, to find our peace of mind,
 C D
But it's all right there, right where it all began.

Have you ever heard the factory roar,
Smelled the sewage in the stream?
Have you ever choked just from the air,
The stuff we've rated "clean" ?
We strip the land, we cut the forests,
We hush the river's roar,
But there's something there, I know there is,
If we listen to the Earth,
If we listen to the Earth,
If we listen to the Earth .□.once more.



Man of the Mountains

By Walkin' Jim Stoltz

G Em
Now when I was a young man, Kentucky was my home,
G Em
I left my kin and family the better for to roam,
C G C G
I made it to Saint Louie in the year of '29
C G C D
And I met Colonel Henry and he signed me on the line.

Refrain: C D G
He said, "I'll make you a man of the mountains,
C D G
A brother to the wind and the rain,
Em G
Oh, you'll track the grizzly bear,
C D
Roam where eagles only dare,
C D
And you're never ever gonna be the same,
C D G
Once you become a man of the mountains.

Our outfit being complete, 60 able-bodied men,
We rode into the West, our faces to the wind,
We crossed the broad Platte, and the Sweetwater, too
Then on to the great rendezvous!
(Repeat Refrain)

The streams were icy cold but the beaver were like gold,
The Rockies seemed to keep us in its heart rendered hold,
Our brother was the land and our sister was the sun,
The Indian was our teacher and we lived by the gun."
(Repeat Refrain)

I nearly died on her desert, the Snake River Plain,
There isn't much shade, and there isn't no rain,
I was eatin' the dust as my water ran low,
Racin' the sun in Idaho.

(Repeat Chorus)

There's a place that I know in the Sawtooth Range,
The Spangle Lakes, I hope it never does change.
It's a little piece of heaven all locked up in snow,
That's why I'm crazy about Idaho.

(Repeat Chorus)



Montana Moon In The Pines

By Walkin' Jim Stoltz

G Em
Up in Montana on the high Divide
C D
Where the mountains stand like Gods in the sky,
G Em
Where the air is so clean you can drink it, it seems,
C D
And the snow stays on 'til July,
G Em
There's strength in the sights and the Montana nights,
C D
That even a blind man could see,
G Em
And a man all alone could find his way home
C D
To something that he's never seen.
Em D
Where the sun pores pure 'cross your sunburnt brow
Em D

And the mountains all seem to shine
Em
Where the grizzly is king,
C
And the coyotes still sing
D
To the Montana moon in the pines.

Refrain: So if your life has gone stale
C
How 'bout hittin' the trail
G
F C G
And leavin' your street lights behind.
C G
'Cause that high country wind is a-singin' again,
F C G
Through the Montana moon in the pines.
F C G
Montana moon in the pines.

Now I'm just a singer with miles in my eyes,
I'm a rich man with nothing to show,
I spend all my nights singing love songs
To ladies that I'll never know.
I once lived the life of a rambler
I lived off the fruit of the land
But now I'm living on burgers and ol' skunky beer,
And I get my kicks in a can.
But in my memory's eye I go flyin'
Back to that some other time,
When the owls are a hootin',
And the wind comes a shootin'
Through the Montana moon in the pines.
(Repeat Refrain)



Straits of Mackinaw

By Walkin' Jim Stoltz

Now when I was a younger lad : Solo
Scrape and we'll haul : Chorus
Well, I took the good and left the bad, : Solo
We're bound for Mackinaw : Chorus
But now I call myself a man : Solo
Paddle 'til we're raw : Chorus
And I take whatever I God damn can : Solo
We're bound for Mackinaw. : Chorus

Chorus : Yes, we'll scrape and we'll haul
And we'll paddle 'til we're raw
'Cuz we're bound for the Straits of Mackinaw
Yes, we're bound for the Straits of Mackinaw.

(Add alternating chorus lines to following verses)

We left Montreal four months ago
And the rivers were high from the melting snow,
The flies were thick they'd make you sick,
And ropin' the rapids well you had to be quick,
(Repeat Chorus)

The lakes were rough we'd fight the wind,
And once you got wet 'twas as cold as sin.
The whitecaps wash us night and day
But the boy's will stroke if they want their pay.
(Repeat Chorus)

My canoe is packed with goods of trade,
And I got my eyes on a Chippewa maid.
She's the fairest in the northern land,
And I'll return whenever I can.
(Repeat Chorus)

Now, I left my kin and I left my home,
But someday I will cease to roam.
But the port ahead she calls me now,
I can make her out clear across the bow.
(Repeat Final Chorus)



The Ballad of Willie and Millie

By Walkin' Jim Stoltz

C Am
The brass band was playin', and sweethearts were swayin'
F G
To the light of the Montana moon.

C Am
There was joy in the air, seemed the whole town was there
F G C
To step to them old country tunes.

I was only eighteen, but I felt like a king,
When I saw you up watchin' the band
And just on a chance, I asked you to dance,
And you smiled when you took my hand.

Chorus: C
Come out tonight, Millie, we'll go dancin'
C Am F
'Cause tonight is a night for romancin'.
C Am C F
Out through the gardens and out o'er the hills
C G C
How I wish we could be there still.

With the paint brush in bloom, with the help of the moon,
I courted you all summer long.
And we'd run off at will, to the top of the hill
While the band kept on playin' our song.
(Repeat Chorus)

The band kept on playin', but Time it rolled on,
We had children to bounce on our knee,

He was a living vision of the sacred chosen few.

Am G
A strong young bull, to lead the buffalo,
G Am
Like a ghost on the plain, hide as white as driven snow.

Refrain: Am C G Am
He was the pride of the buffalo nation,
C D Am
He was the spirit of the Earth's very soul,
D G Am
Good medicine for all creation,
C G Am
He was the last of the sacred buffalo.

Part animal, part God; all seeing and all wise,
He knew the web of Life, how all things were tied,
He gave to the wolf, and he gave to the native man,
He gave back to the Earth and prospered o'er the land.

(Repeat Refrain)

The years rolled by, free and untamed,
He led his tribe of millions to and fro across the plain.
The marching of their hooves was the thunder in the rain,
The blood of the prairie, flowing through their veins.

(Repeat Refrain)

And then the white man came, a swirling blood red tide,
They cut his nation down, and swept 'em to the side,
Death was their God, they never got their fill,
As one by one they hunted down the last herds to kill.

(Repeat Refrain)

'Twas a fine summer day in 1888,
They found his little band, hidden all away,
Word spread like wildfire, they ran to get their guns,
For the buffalo's last stand, a-grazin' in the sun.

He'd known what was coming, he'd seen it in the stars,
He felt the bullets strike, he saw them from afar.

Such rich red blood on that snow white hide,
And then that noble, mighty buffalo layed down and died.

(Repeat Refrain)

Now there are those who wonder where the mighty herds have gone,
If you look up to the heavens, their spirits livin' on.
For as the moon's faces darken, and the shadows come and go,
It's just the racin' of them herds and that sacred buffalo.

(Final Refrain)