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Dear reader,

The idea of having a songbook is that people can learn these songs and sing them themselves. It used to be that if people wanted to hear some music, they had to pick up an instrument and play it themselves. Before records, the “music biz” was all about sheet music. These days, as far as I can tell, songbooks aren’t nearly as popular as CDs, but I like the idea of having one to encourage people to play music themselves. Usually the process involves learning lots of songs other people wrote before perhaps venturing into songwriting yourself. From my experience, this is a good process. And when I’m learning other people’s songs I always appreciate it if someone’s taken the time to write down the stuff in some form. It makes learning ‘em easier, whether you’re an advanced picker or not.

My transcriptions here are pretty basic. Just the chords, words and melodies. I’m doing it this way partly because I wouldn’t be able to notate anything much more intricately than this, and also because I never liked to deal with trying to read more complicated notation than this when learning a song myself. If I want to figure out more complex stuff that the guitarist is doing, for example, at a certain point I’m better off just listening and imitating in the oral tradition. I figure if that’s the case for me, and considering that most people probably have even less formal musical education than me, probably most other people would just be annoyed by any efforts at more complex notation, like trying to notate exactly what I’m doing on the guitar, etc.

However, some stuff bears further general explanation, beyond the little notes that accompany some of the songs, explaining one thing or the other peculiar to that song. Namely, all the alternate tuning stuff. Some of the songs, such as “Palestine” and “Occupation,” are difficult for me to put chords to because what I’m doing on the guitar is picking along with the melody most of the time, in an open tuning that lends itself to that sort of thing. With most of the other songs I do in open tunings you could, if you’re chicken, just do ‘em in standard tuning and they’ll sound OK. But if you want to experiment with the open tunings I’m using, it’s not so hard.

I’ve never seen a good book on explaining open tunings, or any kind of standard way of saying what chord you’re doing when you’re playing something in an open tuning, so I’m going to explain this in some detail here. When I refer to “low” or “high” I’m referring to pitch. (Sorry if I’m boring anyone.)

**Dropped D:** This is when you just tune the low E string down a whole step, to a D. Songs like “After the Revolution” are in this tuning. When you play a D chord in this tuning, you start with the low D, using all six strings. For E minor, you finger it like a normal E minor but then you put a finger on the 2
\textsuperscript{nd} fret of the low D string. Most chords in open tunings involve few fingers on the fretboard, and 5 or 6 strings, which is why these tunings are great for real reverberating, powerful chords.
**DADGAD:** This is the most common tuning I use aside from standard. Everything has a suspended feel to it, and there are so many fifths and big-sounding intervals like that, so it sounds really intense, too. Depending on what you do beyond the basic chords, with your noodling around, it can be either major or minor. The basic chords I’m doing in DADGAD are really neither or both, and if you do these songs in standard tuning you might do one or the other depending on the song, but most of the songs are more major. (Such as “Promised Land,” “Resistance,” “The Key,” and “Who Would Jesus Bomb.”)

So to get into DADGAD you tune the low and high E strings down to a D, and you tune the B string down to an A. (So when you’re fingering the 2nd fret of the G string, it’s the same note as the open A string right next to it.) In DADGAD, my version of a D chord is to have my first finger on the 2nd fret of the G string. What I call an A chord involves playing the top five strings, with my first finger on the 2nd fret of the middle D string. To play a G chord, I have my third and fourth fingers on the 5th fret of the low D and A strings. E minor is fingered just like it is in Dropped D tuning. B minor is fingered like it is in standard, but without fretting the high A and D strings.

**Double dropped D, or DADGBD:** The only song in the songbook in this tuning is “The Face of Victory,” but there are lots more you could do with this tuning, it’s really cool. What I’m calling a D chord is fingered like a D in standard, only with the high D string open. As with all the open tunings, there is an insistent, droning quality to it, with so many of the same notes ringing out all the time.

In this tuning, having my third finger on the 3rd fret of the B string is one of the elements providing the droning quality. To finger what I call Asus (A suspended) in this tuning, keep that third finger on the 3rd fret of the B string and put your first finger on the 2nd fret of the middle D string. Csus is just like that but adding your second finger to the 3rd fret of the A string.

That’s about it for my explanation of tunings. For those folks wondering whether I have anything in tab, I don’t, but I’d really encourage those folks just to learn to read music, because it’s really barely more complicated than tablature but much more versatile. Everything you need to know to understand this songbook other than what I’ve mentioned here can be found in an “intro to guitar playing” book by Mel Bay or some other such publisher. There you’ll find the rudiments of reading music (all you need for this stuff) and a description of all the chords in standard tuning that you need to worry about for this stuff. When I write something like Am/G that means you’re fingering the first chord while playing the bass note of the second chord.

Keep noodling, you’ll go far. If you notice any mistakes or you have any questions or comments on any aspect of these songs or anything else, feel free to drop me a line. If you go to [www.davidrovics.com](http://www.davidrovics.com) you’ll find MP3s of most of these songs available for free download, info on ordering CDs that these songs are on, info on my upcoming tours, etc. Send me an email and I’ll put you on my email list so you can hear about developments with all that.

Hope to see you on the road and in the streets!

David Rovics
After the Revolution

1. It was a time I'll always remember
   Because I could never forget
   How reality fell down around us
   Like some Western movie set
   And once the dust all settled
   The sun shone so bright
   And a great calm took over us
   Like it was all gonna be alright
   That's how it felt to be alive
   After the revolution

2. From Groton to Tacoma
   On many a factory floor
   The workers talked of solidarity
   And refused to build weapons of war
   No more will we make missiles
   We're gonna do something different
   And for the first time
   Their children were proud of their parents
   And somewhere in Gaza a little boy smiled and cried
   After the revolution

Note: I do this in Dropped D tuning (see intro for more on that). During the last A7 chord there's a walk-up and walk-down based on A7 which I didn't try to notate here.
3. Prison doors swung open
   And mothers hugged their sons
   The Liberty Bell was ringing
   When the cops put down their guns
   A million innocent people
   Lit up in the springtime air
   And Mumia and Leonard and Sarah Jane Olson
   Took a walk in Tompkins Square
   And they talked about what they'd do now
   After the revolution

4. The debts were all forgiven
   In all the neo-colonies
   And the soldiers left their bases
   Went back to their families
   And a non-aggression treaty
   Was signed with every sovereign state
   And all the terrorist groups disbanded
   With no empire left to hate
   And they all started planting olive trees
   After the revolution

5. George Bush and Henry Kissinger
   Were sent off to the World Court
   Their plans for global domination
   Were pre-emptively cut short
   Their weapons of mass destruction
   Were inspected and destroyed
   The battleships were dismantled
   Never again to be deployed
   And the world breathed a sigh of relief
   After the revolution

6. Solar panels were on the rooftops
   Trains upon the tracks
   Organic food was in the markets
   No GMO's upon the racks
   And all the billionaires
   Had to learn how to share
   And Bill Gates was told to quit his whining
   When he said it wasn't fair
   And his mansion became a collective farm
   After the revolution

7. And all the political poets
   Couldn't think of what to say
   So they all decided
   To live life for today
   I spent a few years catching up
   With all my friends and lovers
   Sleeping til eleven
   Home beneath the covers
   And I learned how to play the banjo
   After the revolution
Alaska

David Rovics

C

G

C

F

Her hair is straight and long

C

Like the fishing docks below

G

C

Her face is pale and soft

F

G

Like the gently falling snow

F

Her legs run like the wind

F

G

Whipping through the mountains

C

Her eyes shed tears of gold

F

Like the precious running fountain

G

And someday

Em

If I take a notion I'll slip away

Em

cross the frozen ocean

F

C

Em
1. Her hair is straight and long
   Like the fishing docks below
   Her face is pale and soft
   Like the gently falling snow
   Her legs run like the wind
   Whipping through the mountains
   Her eyes shed tears of gold
   Like the precious running fountain

   And someday
   If I take a notion
   I'll slip away across the frozen ocean

2. Her heart beats deep and slow
   As the hibernating brown
   She sparkles as the moves
   Like some ancient angel's gown
   And I will be with her
   From the Tongass to the Tundra
   And we'll watch the breezes blow
   From Glennallen to Cordova

   (Chorus)

3. And in the summer months we'll walk
   'Neath the sun at midnight
   And as the evening grows
   We'll bank the stove by moonlight
   And when the morning comes
   I'll drink of your sweet sorrow
   I'll lay there in your arms
   With not a care about tomorrow

   (Chorus)
All The Ghosts That Walk This Earth

I'll tell you what happened

I was walking downtown

Making something for

May Day

Pounding the ground

Some kid pulled a trigger

And then I was dead

'Cause that's what happens

When a shotgun blows off your head

I was just twenty-four

Much too young to die

My reason for living

I didn't know why

I had no time to show

What my life could be
1. I'll tell you what happened
I was walking downtown
Making something for May Day
Pounding the ground
Some kid pulled a trigger
And then I was dead
'Cause that's what happens
When a shotgun blows off your head
I was just 24
Much too young to die
My reason for living
I didn't know why
I had no time to show
What my life could be worth
Now I'm just another
Of all the ghosts that walk this earth

2. Yes, I wander the world
And I see all the others
The dead and forsaken
My sisters and brothers
All of us wondering
What are we doing here
Just stuck on this planet
Who knows how many years
In Auschwitz or Baghdad
It's always the same
Forgotten and restless
No one calling their name
I visit my old friends
They make love and give birth
While I'm just another
Of all the ghosts that walk this earth

3. And I wish I could show you
All the places I've been
Where the flowers grow wild
Where the napalm meets skin
I wish I could trade it
And be back in my life
Maybe we'd live in China
Maybe you'd be my wife
Maybe I would feel something
Not just angry and sad
Always just wishing
For the life that I had
But I just watch you and your lover
In such glorious mirth
For I'm just another
Of all the ghosts that walk this earth

Note: I do this in DADGAD (see intro).
The Alligator Song

David Rovics

Note: There’s a weird chord in here. I’m calling it F# Diminished. You finger it just like a D7, but use your 2nd, 3rd, and 4th fingers for the “D7” part of the chord, and put your 1st finger on the 1st fret of the D string.
1. Everybody's getting cancer
   At a geometrical rate
   Maybe it's something you drank or breathed
   Perhaps this doesn't concern you
   Hey, we've all gotta go sometime
   But maybe I can tell you something
   To make you change your mind

   The alligator dicks are shriveling up
   Soon they'll all be through
   Yeah, the alligator dicks are shrinking fast
   And it will happen to you
   It will happen to you, boys
   It will happen to you
   The alligator dicks are shriveling up
   And it will happen to you

2. They're an indicator species
   Like canaries in the mine
   They're the first to kick the bucket
   When things might otherwise seem fine
   So let's be frank and honest
   As the situation begs
   Boys, what are you gonna do
   About that thing between your legs

   (Chorus)

3. I'm not beating around the bush
   I'm making you a promise
   Say goodbye to Long Dong Silver
   Hello to Tiny Thomas
   You can forget about Viagra
   Boys, what I mean is
   It's all a matter of minutiae
   When you've got a half-inch penis

   (Chorus)

4. PCBs in the water
   Pesticides in the ground
   Radiation in the wind
   There's poison all around
   So if you care about your love life
   And that good old whoop-dee-doo
   You've got to stop pollution, boys
   That's what I'm telling you

   (Chorus)
Ballad of a Cluster Bomb

David Rovics

1. I was born
   Between factory walls
   And I was conceived
   Amongst the ivory halls
   And in this world
   I knew my role
   I went to work
   With a single goal

2. I traveled the earth
   To far-off lands
   From the Asian jungles
   To the African sands
   I flew in planes
   Of camouflage green
   Before I settled
   Upon this scene

3. Like a shooting star
   I came to rest
   And this farmer's field
   Is where I nest
   Just watching the seasons
   Come and go
   Watching the long grass
   Grow and grow

4. Years go by
   And I lay here still
   For my purpose is clear
   For me to fulfill
   The sun was out
   It was the middle of May
   When the farmer's three children
   Came out to play

5. They ventured near
   I lay in wait
   One unknowing step
   Sealed their fate
   One thousand shards
   Of plastic rose
   From where I lay
   And through their clothes

6. Into their bodies
   The shrapnel sank
   Here in this field
   By a river bank
   The blood poured down
   Shone in the sun
   And one cluster bomblet's
   Job was done
Battle of Blair Mountain

David Rovics

1. 1921 was the year
   Seems like yesterday to me
   Let me tell you about what happened then
   Back in the mine country
   We were fightin' hard to build a union
   'Cause at forty cents a ton
   There was no way to feed a family
   When the minin' day was done

2. The strike had lasted for a year
   When they shot down Smilin' Sid
   He was a lawman who stood up for us miners
   That's the only crime he ever did
   A hundred miners locked up with no trial
   There in Mingo-town
   But the last straw came in Sharples
   When the gunned the women down
3. We shouted through the hillsides
   In every union hall
   We're marchin' on to Mingo
   Teach them a lesson, once and all
   We commandeered every freight train
   To the Kentucky line
   Took every car that crossed our path
   And all the guns and ammo we could find

4. The union leaders tried to stop us
   Mother Jones told us to turn back
   But we had learned ourselves from the gun thugs
   There's a time to talk and a time to attack
   We had no leader, we didn't need one
   We all knew the way through Logan County
   And we all knew once we got there
   We're gonna hang Sheriff Chapin from a sour apple tree

5. For three days and nights we fought them
   the front was ten miles wide
   All the cops and scabs in West Virginia
   Were there on the other side
   They dropped explosives from their airplanes
   Such a thing you never saw
   They shot us with machine guns
   It was the operator's law

6. We dug trenches and wore helmets
   That we brought from the Argonne
   All the way from France to Logan
   We fought from dusk to dawn
   President Harding sent in the Army
   And we left our line to them
   But the hills of West Virginia
   Will long remember when

(Chorus)
Behind That Gate

The judge condescended to the people Said you
peaceful protesters are deceptive And to the ideas
of the terrorists I know you are receptive

So we’ve
But we’re here at Fort Benning
Please excuse me when I state
That if you’re looking here for
weapons You’ll find them behind that gate
If you’re looking here for
weapons You’ll find them behind that gate
1. The judge condescended to the people
   Said you peaceful protesters are deceptive
   And to the ideas of the terrorists
   I know you are receptive
   So we've got to throw away the Fourth Amendment
   Keep those protesters on the run
   'Cause we found sandwich wrappers
   Next we might just find a gun

   We're here at Fort Benning
   Please excuse me when I state
   That if you're looking here for weapons
   You'll find them behind that gate
   If you're looking here for weapons
   You'll find them behind that gate

2. But you say some of them are anarchists
   They are wearing black
   While you're loading up the warplanes
   To go attack Iraq
   And we're getting searched here by your wands
   As we stand for human rights
   Outside a terrorist training camp
   Just within your sniper rifle sights

   (Chorus)

3. Yes it's a strange situation
   But it could certainly get stranger
   Now you're looking over here
   For a sign of danger
   'Cause people here are conspiring to trespass
   Yeah, you know what you saw
   So you think that leaves you no alternative
   But to declare martial law

   (Chorus)
Behind the Barricades

1. When the world has gone crazy
   And it's all becoming clear
   When they're gunning down our comrades
   And it seems the end is near
   As they're loading up the launchers
   For the tear gas grenades
   We can take off our bandanas (for a moment)
   And kiss behind the barricades

2. They will try to break our spirit
   And at times they may succeed
   But our love for the world
   Is stronger than their greed
   When the building is surrounded
   And hope begins to fade
   In my final hour
   A kiss behind the barricades

3. When it's madness all around
   You can see this at a glance
   We will cry and we will sing
   And we will laugh and we will dance
   As they shout their marching orders
   Beneath the helicopter blades
   We will seize the moment
   For a kiss behind the barricades

4. As the movement grows
   There will be hills and bends
   But at the center of the struggle
   Are your lovers and your friends
   The more we hold each other up
   The less we can be swayed
   Here's to love and solidarity
   And a kiss behind the barricades

Note: I do this song a cappella. I’ve notated it here as if it had a steady rhythm, but when I sing the song I tend to pause liberally and often in between lines. This kind of thing works fine when you’re not trying to hold down a rhythmic guitar part or (egads) playing with a band.
Benton Harbor

David Rovics

1. What if you were born there
   And you knew how things used to be
   Watching your father come home each day
   From the factory
   What if you had seen the ships come in
   And you thought things might always be that way
   When you awoke one day

2. What if you knew where your landlord lived
   On the other side of the river
   In the resort town where you clean the floors
   Would you feel your lips quiver
   What if it was your brother who had the nerve
   To date a white man's daughter
   What if you found him with rope marks on his neck
   Lying in the water

Note: Dropped D (see intro).
3. What if you'd been in prison for ten years of your life
   For the crime of being black and poor
   What if every time opportunity knocked
   It was a policeman at your door
   What if no one you knew had ever been to college
   But everyone had been to jail
   What if you knew those drugs were planted by the cops
   Could you feel the cold steel rail

4. What if it was yesterday and you were there
   And you saw the high-speed chase
   And you watched the cop car hit him, saw him fall
   Saw the look upon his face
   What if you were a witness and you watched the cops
   Kick him in the head
   What if he was your friend and you knew him well
   And you watched him lying dead

5. What if you had a wake and right there
   You could hear the sirens' blare
   What if they called you criminals and yelled into their bullhorns
   While you were blinded by the floodlight's glare
   What if someone lit a match and the wind blew the flame
   At the abandoned foundry
   Hours from the dawn in the darkness of the night
   Through the fire what could you see

6. What if you were in Benton Harbor
   On those hot nights in June
   Would you have joined your neighbors in the burning of the cop cars
   Beneath the summer moon
   What if you were a city that has been abandoned
   Would you just crumple beneath the load
   Would you die in silence
   Or might you just explode
Best Democracy Money Can Buy  David Rovics

I can't stand the news
It's always the same old song
Another corporate scandal
Another story of bad gone wrong
Another corporate bailout
Another piece of the pie
It's the best democracy money can buy

They rigged the elections
And only millionaires can play
You've got to be cynical
You've got to look into the camera
And say
"I'm serving the public"
When you know it's a corporate lie
But it's the best...

Yeah there they go
Fighting for oil
'Cause there the profits lie
Beneath that foreign soil
And they don't know what they'll do
When the wells run dry
But it's the best...

They're filling the prisons
Their latest industry
Which lines their pockets
And helps us all be free
'Cause you gotta do something with the unemployed
If they won't move to Shanghai
And it's the best...

They're patenting life
Selling our genes
They would patent oxygen
If they had the means
They'll patent their drugs
And some will get you high
And it's the best...

But we've got two parties
Maybe someday we'll have three
Maybe Tweedledum and Tweedledee
But one thing's fairly certain
It won't be you or I
'Cause it's the best...

And when it's finished
And they've finally achieved
The most corporate dollar-ocracy
That could ever be believed
The Martians will come to visit our graves
And when they go back to the sky
They'll say it was the best...

Note:  Dropped D (see intro).
The Bicycle Song

David Rovics

1. Everybody's wondering what they're gonna do
   Everything's a mess and folks are feeling blue
   If your troubles get you down so much you can't abide
   Get on that bicycle and ride
   Yeah, get on that bicycle and ride
   'Neath the sunny skies or along the oceanside
   Just ride, ride, ride, ride, ride

2. They're doing it in Eugene, Havana and Shanghai
   Even folks in Boston-town are giving it a try
   Throwing out their gastanks, the clean air by their side
   Get on that bicycle and ride
   (chorus)

3. It's good for your heart and it's good for your brain
   When those fluorescent lights are driving you insane
   Your toes'll tingle in your shoes, when to the pedal they're applied
   Just get on that bicycle and ride
   (chorus)

4. If you're having troubles with your lovers, the tandem's made for that
   You'll work together wonderfully or else you'll just go splat
   Gonna shut down Main Street, make the bike paths far and wide
   And get on that bicycle and ride
   (chorus)
The Bluegrass Fiddler of London

David Rovics

1. I was wandering around feeling lost
   Wondering what to do
   Tourists everywhere
   With no time to spare
   I was feeling lonesome and blue

2. I looked around in the paper
   For the sights to see
   It seemed a little absurd
   I thought, oh my word
   I'm going to a jamboree

3. Now I got nothing against the punk rockers
   The hot-town women with the belly-button rings
   But when I just got to let loose
   I hop on the caboose
   To listen to that old fiddle sing

   (chorus)

4. Soon I'll head back to Massachusetts
   Though I'll be sorry to part
   Now I loved that beans and toast
   But what I'll remember most
   Was how that fiddle warmed my lonely heart

   (chorus)
Bomb Ourselves

The President got on TV and there was nary a dry eye he said he loved his country mom and apple pie He said he was a proud man and he liked his home-fries grilled and as for countries harboring terrorists those people should be killed He said we'd send our bombers to deal with rogue states and all those evil people will have to meet their fates So it was with some trepidation that I looked up to the skies 'cause I was driving past Fort Benning when I came to realize That I guess we're gonna have to bomb Columbus Georgia home of the infamous S-O-A 'Cause they train the death squads of Colombia who commit a massacre
1. The President got on TV and there was nary a dry eye, he said he loved his country and mom and apple pie
   He said he was a proud man and he liked his home fries grilled, and as for countries harboring terrorists,
   those people should be killed
   He said we'd send our bombers to deal with rogue states and all those evil people would have to meet their
   fates
   So it was with some trepidation that I looked up to the skies, 'cause I was driving past Fort Benning when I
   came to realize
   That I guess we're gonna have to bomb Columbus, Georgia, home of the infamous SOA
   'Cause they train the death squads of Colombia who commit a massacre every day
   Civilians are their targets, folks just like you and me
   I guess that makes them terrorists, any idiot must agree

2. And I was heading further south for a vacation to spend some time hanging on the beach
   Soaking up some sun and playing volleyball with all my troubles out of reach
   And then I saw Brothers to the Rescue flying in the clouds above my head
   And I thought this trip might not be too restful if tomorrow I am dead
   'Cause I guess we're gonna have to bomb Miami, with all those insurgents running loose
   Killing Cubans at the Bay of Pigs and elsewhere, they say they've got some kind of excuse
   But isn't terror terror irregardless if your victim is a fan of Karl Marx
   So let's bring on the cluster bombs and napalm, kill off some people, fish and sharks

3. Well I thought I would head north, go someplace where I might feel safe
   These thoughts all seemed a bit unsettling, I was feeling a bit like a lost waif
   It was then I thought I'd move to Costa Rica, though such a thing seemed terribly uncouth
   Because I suddenly realized with horror, the terrifying clear and present truth
   I guess we're gonna have to bomb Washington, DC, 'cause terrorists are lurking all around
   Sending soldiers, guns and money wherever death squads and dictators may be found
   So let's appreciate the situation, take your Orwell off the shelves
   If we are to listen to our President then we're gonna have to bomb ourselves
By The Time They Nuke DC  David Rovics

1. I want to write this song
   Because it should be written now
   And these thoughts should be between us
   As far ahead as time will allow
   For once the suitcase has exploded
   In this country some call free
   Thoughts like these might not be tolerated
   By the time they nuke DC

2. By the time they nuke DC
   Will it be too late to wonder
   If there might have been another path
   Than that of rape and plunder
   When the mushroom cloud is rising
   And it's all revenge and unity
   Who will ask these questions
   By the time they nuke DC

3. By the time they nuke DC
   And there are millions lying dead
   From the radioactive wasteland
   Will more angry words be said
   Who will recall the empire
   The years of global tyranny
   The millions slaughtered by our bombers
   By the time they nuke DC

4. By the time they nuke DC
   Will the rulers think again
   Before they push the button
   To kill a billion women and men
   Must we wait to find out
   Or might we change history
   Will we stop the madness
   Before they nuke DC
I wish I was up in Vancouver
At the Cannabis Cafe
Smoking good old sensemelia
At the beginning of the day

But here I am in New York City
Hiding out in Central Park
Getting kidnapped by the police
Today sometime before dark

I wish I was up in Vancouver...

2. The judge looked down upon me, frowning
He said, "kid, get on your way
"Just don't start out your morning
"With espresso and a j"

I said I wish I was up in Vancouver...

3. I hitched a ride out to Portland
Caught one up to B.C.
Took a bus over to Hastings Street
To have a bowl with my coffee

Now I'm up in Vancouver...
Children of Jerusalem

David Rovics

1. Did you see them praying
And the Army marching in
As they clubbed old women
Did you see the general grin
Watch the stones fly
And the snipers taking aim
On Shatila's birthday
It's a calculated game
And they're gunning down the children of Jerusalem

2. Did you hear the screaming
See the horror on his face
As he hid for cover
In a tiny, unprotected space
Did you hear his father pleading
"There is a child here"
Trying to protect his son
Who yelled in terror and in fear
That they're gunning down the children of Jerusalem
3. Did you feel the wind blow
   From the helicopter blades
   Did you smell the tear gas
   See the demolition raids
   Did you see the rockets
   And the dum-dum bullets fly
   Did you feel the horror
   To watch one more young boy die
   As they're gunning down the children of Jerusalem

4. Did you see the roadblocks
   Letting nobody go past
   Watch the blood flow
   As time is running fast
   See someone's brother
   Taking his last breath
   So close to the hospital
   But closer still to death
   And they're gunning down the children of Jerusalem

5. Did you hear the fatcats
   Say "It's not what it appears"
   "It's an armed uprising"
   "A realization of our fears"
   "Do you hear them chanting"
   "That this is their homeland"
   "They want what's ours"
   "And we've got to make a stand"
   "So we're gunning down the children of Jerusalem"

6. Some want power
   And it seems the world's theirs to give
   Some just want peace
   And a decent place to live
   Some talk of destiny
   And what their God has willed
   And a mother weeps
   That her nine-year-old's been killed
   They're gunning down the children of Jerusalem
Contras, Kings and Generals

1. Missiles flying in the Third World
   Towards a people stranded on their knees
   Bombs falling over Baghdad
   Killing children who are starving by degrees
   There are those of us who'd question
   What's the goal and what's the cost
   One million dead, malnourished children
   A U.N.-sanctioned holocaust

2. Missiles flying in the Third World
   From Hanoi to Wounded Knee
   Bombs falling over Baghdad
   And each one shouts, “democracy”
   Contras, kings and generals
   Brandish stars and stripes
   From Rangoon to Los Angeles
   Selling oil, guns and crack pipes

3. Missiles flying in the Third World
   And each one will kill a child
   Bombs falling over Baghdad
   And hunger and death is running wild
   We had to destroy the city
   In order to save it
   To help this jungle grow
   First we had to pave it

4. Missiles flying in the Third World
   But fits and starts are everywhere
   From the mountains of Chiapas
   To the streets of Central Square
   Empires fall
   This one will, too
   So here's to the day
   When this one is through
Deadhead In Prison

It was all about living
And the good things of the earth
It was all about loving
This crazy accident of birth
It was all about trav'lin'
And hearing those shoe bells ring
It was all about dancing and hearing the fat man
And it's like a bad trip in hell
Stranded and broke
Twenty years in this cell
It's like a life up in smoke
1. It was all about living
   And the good things of the earth
   It was all about loving
   This crazy accident of birth
   It was all about traveling
   And hearing those shoe-bells ring
   It was all about dancing
   And hearing the fat man sing

   And it's like a bad trip in hell
   Stranded and broke
   Twenty years in this cell
   It's like a life up in smoke

2. Once I sought visions
   With a sweet gypsy tribe
   It was about feeling
   The pulse of a vibe
   And sure I smoked kind bud
   And I did windowpane
   And I soaked up the beauty
   Of the warm summer rain

   (Chorus)

3. I slept in the shadows
   Of Golden Gate Park
   Watched the moon shine
   Felt the breeze in the dark
   The whole world was mine
   But I lived for a song
   Now I'm stuck in this cell
   And all the good days are gone

   (Chorus)
The Death of David Chain

1. Tom Brokaw got on TV
   And repeated the Big Lie
   See the mill all boarded up
   Hear the sympathetic sigh
   He summed it up succinctly
   With these vicious words
   "It's your paycheck or your planet
   The loggers or the birds"

2. Pete Wilson and his cronies
   Were nowhere to be found
   They said "Big Timber is our business
   And to the dollar we are bound"
   Their absence was a message
   "We'll turn a blinded eye
   Don't expect us to give a damn
   If anyone should die"

3. Charles Hurwitz told the nation
   "The battle lines are drawn
   These eco-terrorists won't stop
   'Til all your jobs are gone"
   His PR team worked overtime
   To build up every wall
   "These bomb-throwers and tree-spikers
   Just want to kill you all"

4. A man stood with a chainsaw
   Knowing only what he knew
   Every lesson that he learned
   Said it's either me or you
   His saw lanced through the redwood
   Many hateful words he said
   And several seconds later
   David Chain was lying dead

5. Now some will call this man a killer
   Some will call this man a thug
   Some will cover it with lies
   And try to sweep it 'neath the rug
   But from Oakland to Fortuna
   Sacramento to D.C.
   There is murder in the air
   And there are killers running free

36
Death of Rachel Corrie

David Rovics

When she sat down in the dirt
In front of your machine
A lovely woman dressed in red
You in military green
If you had met her in Jerusalem
You might have asked her on a date
But here you were in Gaza
Rolling towards the gate

As your foot went to the floor
Did you recall her eyes
Did her gaze remind you
That you've become what you despise
As you rolled on towards this woman
And ignored all the shouts to stop
Did you feel a shred of doubt
As you watched her body drop

And as your Caterpillar tracks
Upon her body pressed
With twenty tons of deadly force
Crushed the bones within her chest
Could you feel the contours of her face
As you took her life away
Did you serve your country well
On that cool spring day

And when you went back across the Green Line
Back to the open shore
Did you think that this was just another day
In a dirty war
And when you looked out on the water
Did you feel an empty void
Or was it just one more life you've taken
One more home destroyed
Drink of the Death Squads

David Rovics

Coke came to Colombia
Seeking lower wages
They got just what they came for
But as we turn the pages
We find the workers do not like the sound
Of their children's hungry cries
So they said "we'll join the union"
They began to organize
(So)
(Coke) The baby drinks it in his bottle
When the water ain't no good
The dog drinks it
But he don't know if he should
Some folks say it's the nectar of the gods
But Coke is the drink of the death squads
1. Coke came to Colombia
   Seeking lower wages
   They got just what they came for
   But as we turn the pages
   We find the workers didn't like the sound
   Of their children's hungry cries
   So they said we'll join the union
   And they began to organize

2. So Coke called up a terrorist group
   Called the AUC
   They said "we've got some problems
   At the factory"
   So these thugs went to the plant
   Killed two union men
   Told the rest, "you leave the union
   Or we'll be back again"

3. Now Coke did not complain
   About this dirty deed
   Why give workers higher wages
   When Coke is all they really need
   They phoned the AUC
   Said "thanks, without you we'd go broke
   And to show our appreciation
   Here's one hundred cases of Coke"

4. Well the workers wouldn't take
   This situation lying down
   Some went up to Georgia
   Said "look what's happened to our town
   You American workers got downsized
   And as for us we just get shot
   And those of us who survive
   Our teeth begin to rot"

(Chorus)

5. Well now that's the situation
   What are you gonna do
   'Cause death squads run Colombia
   And they're paid by me and you
   We can let Coke run the world
   And see what future that will bring
   Or we can drink juice and smash the state
   Now that's the real thing

(Chorus)

The baby drinks it in his bottle
When the water ain't no good
The dog drinks it
But he don't know if he should
Some folks say
It's the nectar of the Gods
But Coke is the drink of the Death Squads
1. My name’s Mikhalo
I like to play with shiny toys
I'm just a child
Like other little boys
What's leukemia
Won't somebody tell
Is it as pretty
As this little bullet shell

2. My name is Hanan
I'll be dead within a year
But if I could speak
And if somehow you could hear
I'd ask some questions
Maybe some that you could answer
Like what's uranium
And why was I born with cancer

3. I'm Juanita
For me, life's been short and strange
Born with no arms
Here beside the bombing range
They call it DU
The stuff that made my life this way
And my parents were arrested
At the protest yesterday

4. I have no name
On this military base
Born and died here
A child without a face
To serve his country
My father went off to war
And it followed him home
Back to the Mississippi shore

5. I am your baby
The poisoned children of the earth
And I will haunt you
Wherever you give birth
In the war zones
Whichever side you're on
Because the dust is never settled
Once the battle's dead and gone

6. Yes, I'm the future
Of a planet on its knees
Radiation
Sickness and disease
I'm all the armies
I'm the life that couldn't be
And when you see another baby
Think of me
When you see another baby
Think of me
The Dying Firefighter

David Rovics

Note: When I write Am/F# or Am/G, what I mean is you finger the A minor chord with the second note (in this case F# or G) in the bass. (So for the whole song you play the same A minor chord, with a changing bass line.)
1. I saw the plane hit the building
   The flames and the billowing smoke
   I saw the glass, paper, metal and stone
   Everything shattered and broke
   I was there with my people
   Engine Company 24
   We rushed into the building
   Got as far as the 35th floor

2. The black smoke and the heat was like nothing
   I'd seen in all of my years
   With each step in that blazing inferno
   You could feel destiny near
   In the midst of the falling girders
   The sheet rock and God knows what else
   I tried to find the survivors
   Those who made it to the stairwells

3. I carried the wounded to safety
   If that's what you might call the street
   With bodies and concrete and metal
   All crashing down by your feet
   As #2 was collapsing
   When only ten floors still stood
   Everything was falling around me
   Like it was made out of cardboard and wood

4. It was just then I heard someone
   Trapped underneath the debris
   I started pulling at something
   And that's when the fire got me
   I was pinned 'neath the rubble
   And the flames were licking my coat
   And the pain, the unbearable agony
   And then that was all that she wrote

5. But I just wish I could tell you
   Before I am taken away
   That I've seen a lot of this world
   And there's something that I gotta say
   I don't believe in politics
   I believe in the human race
   I believe in the goodness of people
   In New York or some far-away place

6. I believe in my daughter
   And I believe in my wife
   And may nobody's father be taken
   To avenge the loss of my life
   People may call me a brave man
   And this may very well be
   But the firefighters of Kabul
   Are just as brave men as me

42
Evening News

1. The cities are full of criminals
   And all of them are Black
   They'll shoot you for your shoes
   Or to get a little crack
   But the police are protecting us
   Locking up these thugs
   Making us all safer
   By being tough on drugs

   (Chorus)
   It's hard to believe
   But I know it's true
   I saw it on the evening news

2. There was a truck bomb in Baghdad
   Blew up the UN
   These fanatics do not have a care
   For innocent women and men
   They don't like civilization
   It's just destruction that they crave
   There is no rhyme or reason
   For the way that they behave

   (Chorus)
   It's hard to believe
   But I know it's true
   I saw it on the evening news

3. There's a war on in Colombia
   And it's all about cocaine
   And the FARC is running drugs
   From Mexico to Maine
   It's an ugly situation
   But soon it will be whipped

   We just need to send along
   More helicopter gunships

(Chorus)

4. There was a suicide bomber in Jerusalem
   Blew himself up on a bus
   He was a funny-looking Muslim
   Not like one of us
   He didn't like the Jews
   And he says that God is great
   Don't know what his problem is
   He's just so full of hate

(Chorus)

5. Evil men are plotting
   To blow up Washington, DC
   'Cause they don't like freedom
   And democracy
   They're fans of the Dark Ages
   They are all around
   They're marching from the desert sand
   And coming to your town

(Chorus)
Face of Victory

David Rovics

I lost my job and joined the Army To get an education And I most surely did Want-ed to have some kind-a steady job

Lead a decent life Support me and my wife and kid First

I was based in Texas Then it was off to Germany Then they sent us to Iraq So many ruined buildings So many burned up bodies

Twisted railroad track We were sent off to Falluja Told to keep the peace Amidst such hunger and despair I was only twenty-one I didn't have a clue What I was doing there Now they say the war is over And I'm back at home

Here in the land of the free And you're looking at the face of victory
1. I lost my job and joined the army
   To get an education
   And I most surely did
   Wanted to have some kinda steady job
   Lead a decent life
   Support me and my wife and kid
   First I was based in Texas
   Then it was off to Germany
   Then they sent us to Iraq
   So many ruined buildings
   So many burned up bodies
   Twisted railroad track
   We were sent off to Fallujah
   Told to keep the peace
   Amidst such hunger and despair
   I was just nineteen
   I didn’t have a clue
   What we were doing there
   Now they say the war is over
   And I’m back at home
   Here in the land of the free
   And you’re looking at the face of victory

2. Patrolling thru Fallujah
   Driving on the rubble
   Shattered pavement and shattered glass
   They sent us on the search for weapons
   We looked in every basement
   Never found a single barrel of gas
   And when we saw the cities looted
   While we watched the oil pipelines
   It all began to seem so clear
   We were fighting for Exxon
   And dying for Chevron
   That’s what we were doing here
   They told us we’d be welcomed
   As troops of liberation
   And once again they lied
   We got shot at every day
   Everywhere we went
   A bunch of my buddies died
   A rocket launcher hit my tank
   Started up a fire
   Blew my legs right off of me
   And now you’re looking at the face of victory

3. They sent me back to Michigan
   Put some plastic on my stumps
   Sent me on my way
   And now I roll on down the city streets
   Looking at the people
   While they turn their eyes away
   Down at the Burren
   They were talking about the government
   And how it’s all a ruse
   And I get a little madder
   Every time I see the president
   Smirking on the evening news
   And I think of how they duped me
   And so many more good people
   And I think of the price we paid
   The rich keep getting richer
   And the bastards are already scheming
   About the next nation they want us to invade
   And I just keep on thinking
   About this situation
   I think of Oklahoma City
   Yeah, you’re looking at the face of victory

Note: Double dropped D (see intro).
They tried to pass an amendment in the U.S. Congress

Seems these thugs have some grievance to redress
They said we all must pledge allegiance 'Cause that is what they need
We may not desecrate their symbol of hypocrisy and greed
But the flag is just a rag
Yeah the flag is just a rag
Just a worn out tired dirty blood-soaked rag
1. They tried to pass an amendment in the U.S. Congress
   Seems these thugs have some grievance to redress
   They said we all must pledge allegiance, 'cause that is what they need
   We may not desecrate their symbol of hypocrisy and greed

   **But the flag is just a rag**
   The flag is just a rag
   Just a worn-out, tired, dirty, blood-soaked rag

2. Pledge allegiance to the symbol, well how about the deed
   Allegiance to democracy or blind authority
   It's a flag of war from L.A. to Vietnam
   It desecrates itself each time the Air Force drops a bomb

   *(Chorus)*

3. Like they say in Mexico, "Yankee Go Home"
   Uncle Sam and his club thinks the world's there to roam
   And to make the point well they do the traditional thing
   Light a match and let freedom ring

   *(Chorus)*

4. So burn it, stomp it, tear it up or at least hang it upside-down
   Tie it to your foot and drag it on the ground
   Let everybody know how many lives are gone
   'Cause of idiots who said, "My country right or wrong"

   *(Chorus)*
1. From Guatemala to Korea  
   To the tunnels beneath Hanoi  
   From Tulsa to El Chorillo  
   Fat Man to Little Boy

2. We fought them in Nicaragua  
   And upon the Cuban shore  
   Killed Khaddafi's daughter  
   See what the fatwa's got in store

   We're gonna bomb our way to freedom  
   With the cruise missiles of justice  
   And the spent shells of democracy  
   Oh, say, can you see

3. From Kabul to Khartoum  
   Where Allah's martyrs bled  
   To the Iraqi desert  
   Two hundred thousand people dead

   (Chorus)

4. From the School of the Assassins  
   To Argentina's dirty war  
   From Arizona to Nevada  
   We'll nuke our way to heaven's door

   (Chorus)

Note: I play this in dropped D tuning.
Ghost Dance Lullaby

Sleep, sleep long may you slumber
'Neath the moonlight's beam
In the night Your hard times will be over
In the valleys of your dreams
Close your eyes and let the night wash you into its warm embrace
Feel the stars bathe you and the cool breezes blow softly upon your face
For once you're asleep the owl will fly down from its perch on the moon
It will outstretch its talons and take our house on a trip past the lake's laughing loons
Over cities we'll roam and into the
Sleep, sleep, long may you slumber
'Neath the moonlight's beam
In the night your hard times will be over
In the valleys of your dreams

1. Close your eyes and let the night wash you into its warm embrace
Feel the stars bathe you and the cool breezes blow softly upon your face
For once you're asleep the owl will fly down from its perch on the moon
It will outstretch its talons and take our house on a trip past the lake's laughing loons
Over cities we'll roam and into the mountains where we'll travel so far and so high
Past smokestacks and highways and flickering lights to the snowcapped peaks of night
And there we will stay with our families and lovers while we await the scene down below
Beneath us the world bustles but up in the mountains it's just us and the snow

So sleep...

2. And when the time comes a great flood will wash all of the cities away
While we're up in the mountains biding our time the deserts will turn into plains
The farms will grow forests, the wheat turned to grass and the earth will quake with the sound
Of the buffalo herds that storm through the land, covering earth all around
And the air will be fresh as the running streams and the birds all around will take flight
And the sky will be filled with migrating flocks to make day turn into night
And we'll come down from the mountains and live in the towns or travel along on the plains
With a new start to take and a new world to make, free of these civilized stains

So sleep...
Global Warming Song

Folks are facing off With frowns upon their faces In Kyoto and the Hague And all kinds of other places The oil wells are pumping And the registers are ringing And there are those who dare to question What kind of future this is bringing And they say more study is required We've got to make sure we understand the situation What if we save the world And it affects the rate of inflation (Bridge) But let's look on the bright side and stop all this whining Don't we love to be where the warm sun is shining Now folks in London can cry with elevation No need to fly to Barcelona For your expensive vacation
1. Folks are facing off
   With frowns upon their faces
   In Kyoto and the Hague
   And all kinds of other places
   The oil wells are pumping
   And the registers are ringing
   And there are those who dare to question
   What kind of future this is bringing

2. The ocean tides are rising
   And you'll have to learn to swim
   If you live in Calcutta or Miami
   Things are looking mighty grim
   The facts are all in order
   And the experts all agree
   Except, that is, for those
   Working for the energy companies

   And they say more study is required
   We've got to make sure
   we understand the situation
   What if we save the world
   And it affects the rate of inflation

3. Meanwhile the temperatures are sweltering
   From Turkey to Nebraska
   Property rates are going up
   In Iceland and Alaska
   Everybody's sweating
   In a worldwide heat wave
   And Exxon-Mobile's looking
   For some forest land to pave

   And they say more study is required...

4. Yes, the weather's getting crazy
   And it's a good time to be alive
   If you really like tornadoes
   Or watching hurricanes arrive
   'Cause the storms are multiplying
   And the winds are blowing faster
   While our leaders are lamenting
   Another "natural" disaster

   (Bridge)
   But let's look on the bright side
   And stop all this whining
   Don't we love to be
   Where the warm sun is shining
   Now folks in London
   Can cry with elation
   No need to fly to Barcelona
   For an expensive vacation

5. Antarctica is melting
   And the ozone hole is growing
   But maybe we should trust the men
   At Siemens and at Boeing
   They're doing research with our taxes
   And they're looking to the stars
   Perhaps more nuke plants are the answer
   How 'bout a colony on Mars?

   They say more study is required...

6. Yes, if you listen to the fatcats
   There's just nothing to be done
   But the answers are as simple
   As the wind and the sun
   And if there's hope for life on earth
   We've got to seize the day
   And then we won't have to listen
   To any foolish people say

   More study is required...

Note: From the sheet music it would appear that the bridge follows the chorus – it doesn’t. As in other cases, the thing here is to follow the order of the verses as they appear here in the text section where the verses and numbered. So as on this page, it’s verse 1/verse 2/chorus/verse 3/chorus/verse 4/bridge/verse 5/chorus/verse 6/chorus.
Glory and Fame

David Rovics

1. I pulled the stones for the emperor, stacked 'em up and made that wall
   I thought, a mountain lasts forever but the rain must always fall
   I worked the mines in Chile for conquistador
   Died there in the pitshaft, joined my family with the ore
   I tapped the trees for Leopold, and then he took my hands
   The sap sailed to Brussels and my blood stained the lands
   I cut down the sugar cane on the islands off the coast
   Oh but the sweet taste of freedom is the stuff that I love most

Tell me who am I
Do you know my name
Will I lie forgotten
Or arise in glory and fame
2. I fought with Poncho Villa, stood with him side by side
   When the Bluecoats took the land, I thought how long is freedom's ride
   I was there at Haymarket with the martyrs eight
   For striking in Chicago, death would have to be my fate
   I cut the timber in Centralia, nearly broke my back
   Tried to organize a union and they tied me to the tracks
   I fought in Barcelona, kept the fascists there at bay
   Then when Hitler's tanks came rolling, I knew we couldn't stay

   (Chorus)

3. I mined the ore in Arizona, last of the Navajo
   Got that radium a-glowin' then it was time for me to go
   I marched in South Africa, found myself in Sharpeville
   Once the police came and went I was lying oh so still
   I campaigned for Allende for a nation without fear
   Didn't look behind me for the day I'd disappear
   I spoke at Tiananmen to revive the revolution
   Didn't think for Deng Xiaoping, rolling tanks were his solution

   (Chorus)

4. I grew the mangos in Somalia for the people in the west
   And when the price of fruit went down, I went down starving with the rest
   I worked the plant in Bangkok, breathed the dusty air
   When the cotton started burning, I knew my life would not be spared
   The cops beat me in Los Angeles but I would not be scared
   When they sent the Army in, I thought next time we'll be prepared
   Yes I've been yearning for a new day, all the world wide
   Some day my time will come and you will have to step aside

   (Chorus)

Note: Each verse is made of up four repeating sections (and after each verse follows a chorus).
Good Kurds, Bad Kurds

David Rovics

Sad-dam Hus-sein
gassed the Kur-dish peo-ple
Killed
thou-sands in a sin-gle day
And twelve long years
lat-er
Un-cle Sam said "you can't treat you Kurds that way"
And fur-ther-more all Kurds are free-dom fight-ers
Who'd re-sist this I-raqi tyran-ny
And Un-cle Sam will give them
guns and may-be some-times am-mu-ni-tion
So the brave Kurds can
fight un-til they're free"
Yes ge-o-pol-i-tics is con-fu-sing
In fact it can be quite ab-surd
Es-pe-cial-ly if you va-lue your free-dom
You live in Tur-key and you are a Kurd
1. Saddam Hussein gassed the Kurdish people
   Killed thousands in a single day
   And twelve long years later
   Uncle Sam said "you can't treat your Kurds this way
   "And furthermore all Kurds are freedom fighters
   "Who's resist this Iraqi tyranny
   "And Uncle Sam will give them guns and maybe sometimes ammunition
   "So the brave Kurds can fight until they're free"

2. Meanwhile in southeastern Turkey
   The Turkish Army had a unique plan
   We'll go in and burn down three thousand villages
   Get rid of what they call Kurdistan
   Well some of these pesky Kurds decided
   That they would rather fight instead of die
   So Uncle Sam said, "You are terrorists
   "Because Turkey is our ally"

   Geopolitics is confusing
   In fact, it can be quite absurd
   Especially if you value your freedom
   You live in Turkey and you are a Kurd

3. Yes, when Iraqi Kurds are massacred
   We say this is genocide
   OK, we armed the Army through the eighties
   But now we proudly take the Kurdish side
   But in Turkey it's an internal matter
   And for us to get involved would be wrong
   So we'll sell some tanks and 'copters to Ankara
   And hope these poor folks can get along

   Yes, geopolitics is confusing
   And you can't take the Yankees at their word
   At least that's distinctly how it looks
   If you live in Turkey and you're a Kurd

4. So when they talk about American interests
   And it somehow seems that they're not yours
   Going all over the world
   Bombing countries and starting up wars
   You'd better leave it to the experts
   Go on back to your Playstations
   'Cause our foreign policy only makes sense
   To CEO's of multinational corporations

   'Cause geopolitics is confusing
   And if you feel like you're not being heard
   Just imagine how much worse it could be
   If you lived in Turkey and you were a Kurd
Hang A Flag In The Window  David Rovics

We want a safer country And it's in God we trust
So we'll bomb you during Ramadan

But pull up on your boot-straps Stand on your own two feet As we

Blow them off with cluster bombs Disguised as something to eat

So hang a flag in the window All hail to the chief

Follow the leader And suspend your disbelief

Our country right or wrong You know what to do

Sing God bless America That red white and blue
1. We want a safer country
   And it's in God we trust
   So we'll bomb you during Ramadan
   Turn your world into dust
   But pull up on your bootstraps
   And stand on your own two feet
   While we blow them off with cluster bombs
   Disguised as something to eat

2. We stand for freedom
   And prosperity
   So we'll bomb your schools and hospitals
   And make sure you live in misery
   All you evildoers
   And your children and your wives
   With our B-52's we'll show you
   How we value civilian lives

3. Give us your hungry, your restless
   We'll show you democracy
   A military trial
   Or detention indefinitely
   We'll have homeland security
   Thomas Ridge all hail
   We may not find the terrorists
   But we can throw the left in jail

4. And we will all be safe
   And we shall have no fears
   Once our retinas have been scanned
   And all the walls have ears
   And we're all in good hands
   When the FBI is in the know
   We're sure they'll look after us
   Just like they did with COINTELPRO

   So hang a flag in the window
   And all hail to the chief
   Follow the leader
   And suspend your disbelief
   Our country right or wrong
   You know what to do
   Sing God bless America
   Oh that red, white and blue

5. When facing anyone with boxcutters
   We'll say put up your dukes
   As we spend fifty billion
   On bombers and nukes
   We're a beacon of light
   And just to make the point
   We'll cut taxes on the rich
   And throw the poor into the joint

6. Yes we'll bail out the airlines
   Put on your green fedoras
   And for all the laid-off workers
   We've got maquiladoras
   Yes capitalism will save us
   For have you ever seen a
   More convincing proof
   Than Enron and Argentina

   (Chorus)

7. The Axis of Evil
   We'll bomb 'em down the skids
   There'll be no more terrorists
   Once we kill their kids
   People may starve
   And economies may crumble
   But those folks'll just
   Have to learn to be more humble

8. And give us your money
   Debt repayments with aplomb
   While we scour the map
   For some targets left to bomb
   And as another city falls
   Upon our sacred American soil
   At least we got our Daisy Cutters
   And that Alaskan oil

   (Chorus)
Henry Ford Was A Fascist  
David Rovics

1. Ford built tanks for the Nazis  
   And the Nazis used those tanks  
   To kill off lots of soldiers  
   In the U.S. Army ranks  
   Yes, Henry Ford was a fascist  
   And a nasty one was he  
   He'd build tanks for anyone  
   For the proper fee

2. Henry Ford spoke to his lackeys  
   And he said, "isn't this great?"  
   "We'll attack our enemies"  
   "And we'll retaliate!"  
   Henry Ford was a fascist  
   And a cunning liar, too  
   A brownshirt with a swastika  
   Draped in red, white and blue

3. Henry Ford spoke to his workers  
   And he said, "you dare not strike!"  
   "You must be patriotic"  
   "And take on my Third Reich!"  
   Yes, Henry Ford was a fascist  
   And he had not a care  
   About the dying soldiers  
   That made him a billionaire

4. Ford built tanks for the Nazis  
   And he built many more  
   To kill off lots of peasants  
   In Peru and Salvador  
   Yes, Henry Ford was a fascist  
   I heard that when he died  
   The last words to leave his lips  
   Was "arbeit macht frei"

5. The dollar was his icon  
   On whichever shore  
   And Henry's only motto  
   Was "make money and make war"  
   Yes, Henry Ford was a fascist  
   That's all I have to say  
   I will spit on Henry's rotting grave  
   Until my dying day
Here At The End of the World

Here all the lies Of the political pundits And corporate crooks Their accountants and scientists Cooking the books With hardly an inkling Of what it's about Wedded to profit In flood and in drought I'm talking to you From here at the end of the world
1. Standing here on a highway
   Turned into a lake
   Born on this planet
   That I didn’t make
   The ice caps are melting
   You can measure the rise
   Of the poisoned oceans
   Hear all the lies
   Of the political pundits
   And corporate crooks
   Their accountants and scientists
   Cooking the books
   With hardly an inkling
   Of what it’s about
   Wedded to profit
   In flood and in drought
   I’m talking to you
   From here at the end of the world

2. Standing here on the bayou
   Amidst mountains of soil
   Washed off from the farmland
   And covered in oil
   One ton every acre
   Lost every year
   And along with the pesticides
   It ends up right here
   Millions of miles
   Of chemical wheat
   Challenging all
   To try to compete
   And lay waste to your country
   Like we’ve done to ours
   Let them eat coffee
   Sugar, coca and flowers
   I’m talking to you
   From here at the end of the world

3. And here in the city
   Shrouded in smoke
   Ten million people
   This morning awoke
   To a future of cancer
   Industrial disease
   So let’s build some more suburbs
   And buy SUV’s
   Let’s cut down the mountains
   And burn all the coal
   And put all the money
   In a humungous bowl
   They’ll call it progress
   And they’ll blame it on you
   To enrich the few
   I’m talking to you
   From here at the end of the world

4. Yes I speak to you now
   From an occupied place
   You might call it your home
   Or a terrorist base
   They’ll send your sons and your daughters
   To make sure that it’s theirs
   While they sit in their mansions
   On their plush leather chairs
   And everyone’s waiting
   For us to decide
   From dust we were born
   And in dust we reside
   Will we realize the commons
   Is to shepherd and share
   Here in this war zone
   Called land, water and air
   Yes I’m talking to you
   From here at the end of the world
Hiroshima

David Rovics

Ten thousand children
Played in the playground

Swinging on swings

Didn't hear the sound
Of the single plane

That flew over head

The third shift workers Were just going to bed

There was a flash of light
And a rumbling noise

Gone in an instant

Parents girls and boys

Hi - ro - shi - ma

Hi - ro - shi - ma

62
1. Ten thousand children played in the playground  
   Swinging on the swings, didn't hear the sound  
   Of the single plane that flew overhead  
   The third shift workers were just going to bed  
   There was a flash of light and a rumbling noise  
   And gone in an instant, parents, girls and boys

2. Ten thousand mothers were boiling rice  
   A thousand prisoners of war were rolling their dice  
   Hoping they'd survive this terrible storm  
   When each young man in his uniform  
   Vanished in the air in the blink of an eye  
   One moment they lived, the next they all died
   *Hiroshima, Hiroshima*

3. Ten thousand chickens were sitting on eggs  
   Beaks in their wings, resting their legs  
   Ten thousand farmers were looking at their fields  
   Planning the harvest, guessing at yields  
   Dreaming of life after the war  
   The next second they weren't living no more
   *Hiroshima, Hiroshima*

4. Ten thousand lovers made lover to each other  
   Each one of them thinking there might not be another  
   Living so long with death everywhere  
   Much more than one person alone can bear  
   But there wasn't time for a final kiss  
   Who could've known it would end like this
   *Hiroshima, Hiroshima*

5. A hundred thousand people were living their lives  
   Grandparents, children, fathers and wives  
   Now they're just shadows on the street  
   In such a quick burst of incredible heat  
   Now listen to them talk about doing it again  
   From whence came the souls of these terrible men
   *Hiroshima, Hiroshima*
He has no feelings for the dead
He's just calling out for more

Exxon-Mobile likes it
So he's happy to make war
He'll send your child to die
Somewhere far across the sea
Bombing Afghan villages in the name of liberty
He says you're with us or against us
And he is keeping score
His agents are all over
They might be breaking down your door
He lives for death
He is the evil axis
And I am sick of theory
Let's talk about praxis
'Cause I have seen the enemy
He's right there in the spotlights
And if this song were a rifle
I would have him in my sights

I Have Seen The Enemy
David Rovics
1. He has no feelings for the dead
   He's just calling out for more
   ExxonMobil likes it
   So he's happy to make war
   He'll send your child to die
   Somewhere far across the sea
   Bombing Afghan villages
   In the name of liberty
   He says you're with us or against us
   And he is keeping score
   His agents are all over
   They might be breaking down your door
   He lives for death
   He is the evil axis
   And I am sick of theory
   Let's talk about praxis

   I have seen the enemy
   He's right there in the spotlights
   And if this song were a rifle
   I would have him in my sights

2. He's found his raison d'être
   He is the global cop
   With peace he'd lose his purpose
   So the fight will never stop
   He'll always find the villain
   That's the nature of the game
   He'll always be at war
   In fact, it's his middle name
   He's got a master plan
   It's called global domination
   A new world under God
   And one massive corporation
   He says he's fighting for our safety
   He's an expert at disguises
   But security for him
   Is when the Dow Jones rises

   (Chorus)

3. And let me tell you something
   With each ball that he's cuing
   This old friend of bin Laden
   Knows exactly what he's doing
   It's a family tradition
   To win at any cost
   Never mind the lies
   Or all the lives that must be lost
   And let me tell you something else
   This song is not a gun
   And it will cause harm to no one
   When all is said and done
   'Cause it's just words, and we need action
   So let me clearly state
   This is the time to change the world
   Because soon enough may be too late

   (Chorus)

Note: There are a bunch of “walk-ups” of the bass line variety that I do in the guitar part. So when I say Em/F# and Em/G what I’m referring to is an E minor chord where the bass line goes from the open E to F# to G. So what’s constant is your third finger on the second fret of the D string. First you play E minor, then put your second finger on the second fret of the E string so that the bass line walks up to F# (while keeping your third finger on the second fret of the D string), then for Em/G you can use your pinky to finger the G.
I Remember Warsaw

First they occupied our country
Then they spread their vicious lies
Evil propaganda Filled our ranks with
double-dealing spies
They cordoned off a reservation
Built a wall all around it
Drove us all into this ghetto
And our city'd never be
As the Nazi's found it

I remember Warsaw

We stood side by side
The Star of David flew above the ghetto
There we lived and there we died
1. First they occupied our country
   Then they spread their vicious lies
   Evil propaganda
   Filled our ranks with double-dealing spies
   They cordoned off a reservation
   Built a wall all around it
   Packed us all into this ghetto
   And our city'd never be as the Nazis found it

2. At first no one believed it
   Just what horrors lay in store
   The sound of boots upon the staircase
   Of leather gloves upon the door
   Some of us they sent to labor
   To slave for them to the last breath
   Most of us they sent to Auschwitz
   Half a million people sent to a pointless, early death

3. There were those of us who worked with them
   A desperate effort to survive
   Even when our numbers were so few
   Maybe sixty thousand left alive
   And people said we had no chances
   By then we all knew they were right
   It was 1943
   And we, the walking dead, made up our minds to fight

   I remember Warsaw
   We stood side by side
   The Star of David flew above the ghetto
   There we lived and there we died

4. We cleansed the ghetto of their agents
   Dug a maze of tunnels underground
   We begged the Allies, give us weapons
   But empty words were all we found
   So we saved each precious bottle
   Made bombs of rags and gasoline
   And in this script of mindless carnage
   We waited in the shadows for the final scene

5. It was the month of April
   The SS came marching in
   Singing songs to praise Der Fuehrer
   And all his Aryan kin
   To see the shock upon their faces
   We'd show the world on this day
   We'd not go like sheep off to the slaughter
   With the last blood running through our hearts
   we'd make the devils pay

(Chorus)

6. We had taken our positions
   With each escape route planned
   We rained down molotovs upon them
   With each retreat another stand
   Yes, we killed the Nazi bastards
   They lay dying by the score
   We made each scarce bullet count
   And as the fascist demons ran we killed some more

7. For one full month the battle raged
   And the word spread all around
   That it wasn't over
   'Til every building had been levelled to the ground
   I am the ghost of the apocalypse
   And these few words I have to tell
   Let it never be forgotten
   That for four long weeks we fought and we stood up before we fell

(Chorus)
I Wanna Go Home

David Rovics

1. I was born a refugee
   And I don't know if I'll ever see
   The old farmhouse I've heard about
   But it's where I belong, there is no doubt
   'Cause my whole family is from that farm
   And we never did nobody harm
   And if you're confused by what you've heard
   Let me boil it down to a single word

   (Chorus)
   I wanna go home...

2. And I have heard my grandpa say
   That on the street most every day
   The neighbors' kids would kick a ball
   With my dad when he was small
   We were Christians, they were Jews
   But it was no big deal, religious views
   So it was strange when at the point of a gun
   Across the river we had to run

   Note: DADGAD (see intro).

   (Chorus)

3. We had dabkeh, we had songs
   And we all knew where we belonged
   We grew crops, life was good
   There in the land where Jesus stood
   Now we're scattered everywhere
   But there's no peace anywhere
   I'm just searching for some kind of sign
   For some way back to Palestine

   (Chorus)
If I Die Tomorrow

David Rovics

1. If I die tomorrow
   Maybe in a speeding car
   You know I like to travel
   With my notebook and guitar
   But there’s too many cars out there
   Not enough train tracks
   I tried flapping my wings
   But I just don’t have the knack
   Don’t talk to me of accidents
   In this great democracy
   America will be the death of me

2. If I die tomorrow
   My body blown apart
   By some child with a shotgun
   Raging fire in his heart
   Killed in some concrete jungle warzone
   By some kid who never learned to write
   Raised by desperation
   And surviving the long night
   In the wrong place at the wrong time
   In this land of opportunity
   America will be the death of me

3. If I die tomorrow
   From a pipe bomb beneath my seat
   Or from drowning in the bathtub
   Or choking on a piece of meat
   You can rest assured
   I did not mean to slip upon the grass
   It was no one that I knew
   Who rammed the plunger up my ass
   It’s just that I was told
   To speak freely
   America will be the death of me

4. But I may not die tomorrow
   And my death will not give pause
   To the coroner who may say
   That I died of natural cause
   Lungs black from breathing city air
   Cancer coursing through my veins
   I’ll be glowing in the dark
   From the radiation rains
   So here’s a toast to Uncle Sam
   And to mortality, and to
   America, which will be the death of me
In One World

David Rovics

Am
In nineteen forty eight I fled my village The
G
Stern Gang drove my family from the lands We ran
F
In to the desert Where I’ve spent these decades
Am
Living by my hands Life in Haifa wasn’t easy
F
But so much better than this hell hole with the soldiers and barbed wire And the closures and the hunger
Am
The humiliation and the check points The machine gun fire And each day I...
G
...say In one world In one village In one
F
home Let us live together

70
1. In 1948 I fled my village
   The Stern Gang drove my family from the lands
   We ran into the desert
   Where I've spent these decades living by my hands
   Life in Haifa wasn't easy
   But so much better than this hellhole with the soldiers and barbed wire
   And the closures, and the hunger
   The humiliation and the checkpoints, the machine gun fire
   And each day I wonder after Haifa
   The home that we abandoned when the Zionists had won
   Is there a family with a child
   Does it's father love it as I loved my only son
   Before the soldiers shot him down
   Riddled him with bullets in his back and in his head
   Home in Haifa, in my house
   Does someone's father know the pain there is in an empty bed

2. In 1960 I fled my country
   Left the Tigris River for this foreign place
   I had to leave home, I didn't want to
   But they were rounding up the leftists and the papers had my face
   And my son, a student leader
   On the streets of Baghdad was nowhere to be found
   So I walked through the mountains
   Just the shirt upon my back, knowing not where I was bound
   Now here I am, this town of Haifa
   In this little house, but at least I'm still alive
   And each night I wonder how is Baghdad
   Would I recognize my friends if any did indeed survive
   It took a long time, but I made a home here
   And I wished my son could be here in this town upon the shore
   I was with my wife, it was the Sabbath
   When an old Arab couple knocked upon our door

3. We asked them in, gave them tea
   For that's what you do with strangers, and we could see they meant no harm
   They told their story, we told ours
   Us of our life in Baghdad, them of their family farm
   And of this house, which they once lived in
   Where once they raised a family, long before their hair turned grey
   Of their son, and the troopers
   And of ours, who we cry for every day
   So much in common, so much gone bad
   So much running, and never coming home
   You can hear the cards falling down
   See the faces of the children, forever forced to roam
   And here we were, in this house
   Fearing that tomorrow would be just like yesterday
   So much resentment, so much at stake
   And I really don't remember who was the first to say

   In one world
   In one village
   In one home
   Let us live together
International Terrorists

David Rovics

F D2 D D F G D2 D D Am D2 D D

International terrorists are scheming
They want to bring the planet to its knees
They're hiding in their bunkers and they're plotting
With bombs and guns and biological disease
Any means to reach their ends is worth pursuing
If lives are lost that's the way it goes
It's the game of world domination
The stakes are high as everybody knows

72
1. International terrorists are scheming
   They want to bring the planet to it's knees
   They're hiding in their bunkers and they're plotting
   With bombs and guns and biological disease
   Any means to reach their ends is worth pursuing
   If lives are lost then that's the way it goes
   It's the game of world domination
   The stakes are high as everybody knows

2. International terrorists are flying in their jets
   Looking for the city they want to hit today
   For all of the injustice in the world
   They are going to make somebody pay
   They'll make sure their people will support them
   Through the use of their powerful cartel
   If you are to prosper this is their decision
   Whether you will starve or else live well

3. And the international terrorists are busy
   Trying to win your heart and mind
   They're making news and writing press releases
   So that you can have your thoughts defined
   And they say that they're the voice of reason
   And they want to keep the world free
   And they will villify, disappear and torture
   Anyone who would dare disagree

4. The international terrorists are many
   Every color, size and shape and height
   Some are only small and local bullies
   Content to bomb a building in the night
   While some are in each pocket of the world
   Looking for a nation to attack
   They're training in their bases somewhere near you
   And they're flying in the skies above Iraq

5. The IMF is the name of their cartel
   And CNN's their propaganda arm
   And if they don't brainwash and starve you into line
   They'll make damn sure all your people come to harm
   They'll decimate and carpet-bomb your country
   With a million mercenaries and machines
   Striking fear into the people of the world
   The US Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines

73
Poor Al Gore complained most bitterly
The Greens had stole the vote from the Democratic Party
The election was lost 'cause of that three percent
And now you look at how the whole thing went
You say you want the elections to be free and fair
(Chorus)
I - R - V
It rhymes with democracy
I - R - V
Let's hear for a third party

Give me a second, I'll tell you how it works
If you're tired of choosing between two jerks
If the tally doesn't go the way you hopefully reckoned
Your first choice then becomes your second
And if the so-called Democrats don't like the news
They can't blame us next time they lose
(Chorus)

It may not bring us paradise
But perhaps a little competition might be nice
But you know they're worried about domino effects
We get this, what might be next
Pretty soon we might set a new norm
When we pass campaign finance reform
(Chorus)
Jenin

David Rovics

G

D/F#  Em

Child what will you remem-ber

G

When you re-call your six-teenth year

D/F#  Em

The hor-rid sound of heli-copter gun-ships

D  G

The rum-ble of the tanks as they drew near

C

As the world went a-bout it's bus-ness

D/F#  Em  G  D/F#

And I burned a-no-ther tank of gas-o-line

G

The Dow Jones lost a cou-ple points that day While you were cry-ing in the Ci-ty of Je-nin

75
1. Oh, child, what will you remember
When you recall your sixteenth year
The horrid sound of helicopter gunships
The rumble of the tanks as they drew near
As the world went about it's business
And I burned another tank of gasoline
The Dow Jones lost a couple points that day
While you were crying in the City of Jenin

2. Did they even give your parents warning
Before they blew the windows out with shells
While you hid inside the high school basement
Amidst the ringing of church bells
As you watched your teacher crumble by the doorway
And in England they were toasting to the Queen
You were so far from the thoughts of so many
Huddled in the City of Jenin

3. Were you thinking of the taunting of the soldiers
Or of the shit they smeared upon the walls
Were you thinking of your cousin after torture
Or Tel Aviv and it's glittering shopping malls
When the fat men in their mansions say that you don't want peace
Did you wonder what they mean
As you sat amidst the stench inside the darkness
In the shattered City of Jenin

4. What went through your mind on that day
At the site of your mother's vacant eyes
As she lay still among the rubble
Beneath the blue Middle Eastern skies
As you stood upon this bulldozed building
Beside the settlements and their hills so green
As your tears gave way to grim determination
Among the ruins of the City of Jenin

5. And why should anybody wonder
As you stepped on board
The crowded bus across the Green Line
And you reached inside your jacket for the cord
Were you thinking of your neighbors buried bodies
As you made the stage for this scene
As you set off the explosives that were strapped around your waist
Were you thinking of the City of Jenin
The Jewel of Bucharest

David Rovics

C

After half your life spent in the breadlines

F

Watching the world turn

G, C

In a dress of red polyester

Am7/G

So many important things to learn

F

Like never to be in a hurry

G

Life is what you make it

C

And if you get a chance to travel

Am

You'd be a fool not to take it

Am7/G

And that's how I met you

F

Like a bird out of her nest

Am

Five thousand miles from your homeland

C

The jewel of Bucharest
1. After half your life spent in the breadlines
   Watching the world turn
   In a dress of red polyester
   So many important things to learn
   Like never to be in a hurry
   Time is what you make it
   And if you get a chance to travel
   You'd be a fool not to take it
   And that's how I met you
   Like a bird out of her nest
   Five thousand miles from your homeland
   The jewel of Bucharest

2. Yes, it's such a long way
   From your father's factory
   To these lonely strip malls
   And a foreign university
   And that's how I found you
   So far across the sea
   Making sense out of the madness
   With your wistful poetry
   And it's such a pleasure
   To have your head upon my chest
   My sweet Latin lover
   The jewel of Bucharest

3. Outside in New Haven
   The wind it blows so cold
   Inside the smell of cabbage
   Is like a story seldom told
   For the comfort of this bed
   And the blanket that you made
   No treasure trove of platinum
   Would be rich enough to trade
   Ah, there might be many ways
   To have my soul caressed
   But please grant me one more evening
   With the jewel of Bucharest
The Key

David Rovics

Let me tell you 'bout a woman Known as grandma to me She died back in Nineteen Eighty - Two She liked to tell stories Of how things used to be Like other old ladies do

There on a string a-round her neck Dangling in front of her heart The key to her home The key to her people The key to her world blown a - part

Note: DADGAD (see intro).
1. Let me tell you about a lady
   Known as grandma to me
   She died back in 1982
   She liked to tell stories
   Of how things used to be
   Just like other old ladies do

2. She talked about her neighbors
   Muslims and Christians
   Arabs, Britons and Jews
   They'd come over for dinner
   In her house in Jaffa
   And they'd talk about business and news

   (Chorus)
   There on a string around her neck
   Danging in front of her heart
   The key to her home
   The key to her people
   The key to her world blown apart

3. We got along fine
   A long time ago
   Before everything started to change
   I never imagined
   Back in those days
   I'd end up here on this firing range

   (Chorus)

4. I recall the days well
   1948
   The year of the Catastrophe
   With machine guns and torches
   They drove us away
   To the land of the refugee

5. We all thought it would pass
   But the decades dragged on
   And my heart turned to flame
   To those who live in my home
   Where is your conscience
   Do you feel the remorse and the shame

6. Now after two generations
   I and her grandchildren say
   The key is theirs and mine
   And all over the world
   We cry for Al-Awda
   Home in Palestine

7. Maybe we will prevail
   But come what may
   As empires fall and rise
   Nothing will change
   The memory
   Of the tears in my grandmother's eyes

   (Chorus)
King David

David Rovics

All of my life
I've heard the stories
How many thousands of times
How the kingdom was lost and we
had to pay penance
For our forefather's crimes
How we'd seen such oppression
wandered the world
While empires rose and fell
But one day
we'd have peace
When we returned to Israel
1. All of my life I’ve heard the stories
   How many thousands of times
   How the kingdom was lost and we had to pay penance
   For our forefathers crimes
   How we’d seen such oppression, wandered the world
   While empires rose and fell
   But one day we’d have peace
   When we returned to Israel

2. And we died in the pogroms, we died in the Crusades
   We died for some prince to save face
   Killed by the Russians, killed by the Catholics
   Killed for the Aryan race
   But none of that changes what happened before
   Or the unspeakable things that you do
   'Cause King David was a butcher
   And so are you

3. 'Cause I've been to your jails, I've spoken with ghosts
   I've heard the unending calls
   And I've seen your machine guns slaughtering children
   Behind your high ghetto walls
   And just like your friend Mr. De Klerk
   One day you will admit it is true
   That King David was a butcher
   And so are you

4. And you can hide behind money, you can hide behind history
   You can hide behind Capitol Hill
   And all the king's riches and all the king's rabbis
   And the king's orders to kill
   And you can say I'm a fascist or I think like an Arab
   You can call me a self-loathing Jew
   But King David was a butcher
   And so are you

5. You can shake your head slowly, you can walk out in anger
   You can say that you don't understand
   Or in righteous rage you can get in your jet fighter
   And conquer some more holy land
   But I have to say this because I care for our future
   Because I know the things that you do
   Because King David was a butcher
   And so are you
Korea

David Rovics

Fifty years ago today we stood in rubble

The sun rose each morning through the smoke

Our planes flew above us looking for something left to bomb

Our factories our schools lied ravaged and broke

And now you wonder why there is this anger

As we remember all too clearly a time that we once knew

When every home and every dam and so

Many many people were flattened to the ground for the things you had to do

When Korea was just another name

For bombs falling from the sky

And home was just another word

For this place where people die
1. Fifty years ago today we stood in rubble
The sun rose each morning through the smoke
Your planes flew above us looking for something left to bomb
Our factories, our schools lied ravaged and broke
And now you wonder why there is this anger
As we remember all too clearly a time that we once knew
When every home and every dam and so many, many people
Were flattened to the ground by the things you had to do

(Chorus)
When Korea was just another name
For bombs falling from the sky
And home was just another word
For this place where people die

2. Fifty years ago today you killed my mother
I've lived my whole life and I never knew
The love she might have given, the joy she might have felt
To sit in the garden where her grandchildren grew
And now you wonder why we might feel attacked
You wonder at the stand our leaders take
But it was you, I remember, who gave us this lesson
Of the sound of a city when it breaks

(Chorus)

3. Fifty years ago today you killed my father
He was shooting at your planes when he died
Just one of how many million dead soldiers
Fighting and falling side by side
And now you wonder at what you call an evil axis
You throw words that someday will explode
We remember the last time you said these things
When crater was another word for road

(Chorus)
Love Song for the Cops

David Rovics

Wake up in the morning
Give the kids a smack
Make sure to blame your wife for
every social grace you lack
By the time you get to work
Your face is sign-post red
You're stressed out from the moment
You get out of bed
Ah, but you're a real man
Built up brick by brick
You've got issues with your emotions
But you can solve them with a stick
You represented all those above
And below your social class
But you can show them how you feel so well
By kicking their ass
Oh, the cops, the cops, those wonderful cops
Aren't they just a barrel of fun
The cops, the cops, the cream of the crops
Show-ing us just how democ-ra-cy is run
1. Wake up in the morning, give the kids a smack
   Make sure to blame your wife for every social grace you lack
   By the time you get to work your face is sign-post red
   You're stressed out from the moment you get out of bed
   But you're a real man, built up brick by brick
   You've got issues with your emotions but you can solve them with a stick
   You resent all those above or below your social class
   And you can tell them how you feel so well by kicking their ass

   Oh the cops, the cops, those wonderful sops
   Aren't they just a barrel of fun
   The cops, the cops, cream of the crops
   Showing us just how democracy is run

2. There you go, waddling down the street
   Looking to fill that empty space with something greasy to eat
   Maybe a donut or a meatball sub
   Or some random hippie that you beat with your club
   You thought you'd have respect as a man in blue
   But isn't it sad to find that nobody likes you
   You've got a shiny badge with nothing to show
   But you can solve all your problems, blow by blow

   (Chorus)

3. And when the day is over and you've beat your last punk
   Time to go back to the suburbs to the bar and get drunk
   Hang out in the back and count the day's fine
   And stick it up your nose, line by line
   In your tender moments you wonder if there mustn't be more
   Than serving the rich and beating on the poor
   But then you come to your senses and you spit with a curse
   "If I can't have it better I'll make sure they'll have it worse"

   (Chorus)
Make It So

David Rovics

In the twenty-fourth century
Ev'-ry-thing is peach-y
keen
Ev'-ry-bod-y has e-nough
All the re-pli-cat-ors re-pli-cate all
kinds of cool stuff
You can wan-der all a-cross the uni-verse
No quad-rant is too far off to tra-verse
Ex-plor-a-tion is hu-man-i-ty's high-est
goal
They've dis-co-vered all kinds of pla-nets
They're rea-ly on a roll
How can we get there from here
We've lost our way I fear
Oh, cap-tain won't you show us where to go
Make it so
Make it so Oh, make it so

Note: I usually play this in open D tuning (DADF#AD).
1. In the 24th century
   Everything is peachy keen
   Everybody has enough
   The replicators replicate all kinds of cool stuff
   You can wander all across the universe
   No quadrant is too far off to traverse
   Exploration is humanity's highest goal
   They've discovered all kinds of planets, they're really on a roll
   How can we get there from here
   We've lost our way, I fear
   Oh, captain, won't you show us where to go
   Make it so, make it so, oh, make it so

2. In the 24th century
   Men and women live in harmony
   There's peace and justice within the human race
   All shapes and colors floating happily through space
   People run around in trios and in pairs
   Occupy their time with wild, inter-species love affairs
   Ancient history recalls the world wars
   When the rich were rich and the poor were poor
   Gotta sprout wings over this brink
   Will we rise or will we sink
   Captain won't you show us where to go
   Make it so, make it so, oh, make it so

3. In the 24th century
   Even the air is clean
   On the earth sparkling waters run
   All the little kids are having lots of fun
   Petrochemicals are a relic of the past
   All the little hovercrafts are built to last
   There's not a smokestack in the sky
   Just little birdies flying happy and high
   I'm trying to predict through the haze
   Yeah I'm still waiting for those good old days
   Captain won't you tell us where to go
   Make it so, make it so, oh, make it so
Merry Christmas, Mr. Meyers

David Rovics

C

It was a sunny Christmas Eve

F

On Ninety-Third Street

G

People shopping on the Ave

C

Good friends and family to greet

G

greet (Roger...)

F

One more murder in Chicago

G

In Chicago's dirty war

Dm

Merry Christmas Mr. Meyers

G

Watch out those are policemen at your door

1. It was a sunny Christmas Eve
   On 93rd Street
   People shopping on the Ave
   Good friends and family to greet

2. Roger Meyers was forty-four years old
   Sitting in an easy chair
   His two young grandchildren
   And his sister were upstairs

3. Outside he heard a knocking
   And someone ringing on the bell
   Just what would happen next
   How could any sane man tell

   One more murder in Chicago
   In Chicago's dirty war
   Merry Christmas, Mr. Meyers
   Watch out -- those are policemen at your door

4. Someone's trigger hand was restless
   Itching to attack
   Hey, that guy matches our description
   He's a man and he's black

5. Before the door was fully open
   Two gunshots rang out
   Through the wood into the person
   And the children cried and shouted

   (Chorus)

6. They said they were looking for a burglar
   He stole someone's diamond ring
   But lying in a pool of blood
   Roger didn't know a thing

   (Chorus)

7. After half an hour
   An ambulance arrived
   Looked at poor Roger Meyers
   Said it looks like this guy died

   (Chorus)
Mi Amor  David Rovics

1. Mi amor, as you pause beside the lilacs
   I watch you take them in
   You start the morning like a prayer
   That´s the way your days begin
   And if I could be a petal
   Which you touch before you go
   Then with this branch I´ll scratch the dirt
   And that´s the seed I´ll sow

2. Mi amor, as you dive beneath the water
   I watch it cascade down your chest
   You rise upon the wave
   As if it´s molded to your breast
   If I could be a stream that feeds this lake
   Which might rise to kiss your face
   Then I will wind my way between these rocks
   So I might settle in this place

3. Mi amor, as you glide beside the clouds
   I feel the wind beneath your wings
   With such ease you take this gift
   That your friend, la luna brings
   And I hope that in my lungs
   There might be the strength one day
   That you might gather other sparrows
   And chase the crows away

4. Mi amor, the sound that rises from your belly
   Is one I´ve heard before
   It reaches deep behind these walls
   And I want to live some more
   And if I might write a verse
   That you choose to sing one afternoon
   Then I´ll gladly wile away the hours
   Searching for the tune
Minimum Wage Strike

1. When I awoke one morning
   There was a feeling in the air
   Everything was quiet
   Things were different everywhere
   The Wobblies were back again
   With Joe Hill at the mike
   When all the minimum-wage workers went on strike

2. There was no one flipping burgers
   All the grills were cold
   Onion rings were in their bags
   Fries were growing mold
   There were no baristas at Starbucks
   Asking, "how many shots would you like?"
   When all the...

3. There was no one pumping gasoline
   No one driving from town to town
   No one at the registers
   All the highways were shut down
   The cars were stuck in their garage
   Businessmen on bikes
   When all the...

4. The fruit was falling off the trees
   No one to load the trucks
   Corn was rotting on the stalk
   No farm hands to shuck
   The workfare workers were hanging at home
   Spending the day with their tykes
   When all the...

5. Yuppie parents were housebound
   Their nannies left the job
   Wal-Mart workers said enough
   Of our labor has been robbed
   The Foot Locker was locked up
   The boss had to take a hike
   When all the...

(Repeat first verse)
Minnesota Gezstapo
Words by David Rovics
Music by David Rovics and Rich Caloggero

1. The gestapo's on the march in Minnesota
To make the world safe for Monsanto
Goose-stepping down the streets of Minneapolis
Spreading fear and terror as they go
Breaking into homes on false pretenses
Tearing up whatever's in their way
Making threats, swinging clubs and spraying tear gas
Repeating what their corporate masters say

2. And the gestapo's on the march in Portland
To make the city safe for Nike Town
If you're not wearing the right clothing
The gestapo will pick you out and take you down
With barricades around the city center
Eyes peeled through the cold and damp
They say they're watching for those anarchists from Eugene
So they turn the city to an armored camp

3. The gestapo's on the march in New York City
And Wall Street's packed with hordes of men in blue
Three thousand miles from Seattle
But that's just where the gestapo takes its cue
From DC to Philly to Los Angeles
The gestapo is following their line
It's a military tactic known as blitzkrieg
Well-known from the Hudson to the Rhine

4. Some battles will be won and some we'll lose
But all around the globe it's the same fight
From the farmers of Kerala to the landless in Brazil
To the elves pulling crops up in the night
Yes if we will stay and stand together
As our numbers grow in every little town
The machine needs the people to keep running
And it's we the people who can shut it down
Morning at Minnehaha

It's six o'clock and the air is filled with good things
The scent of eggs and coffee drifts upon the wind
Not far away the sacred fire burns
One sentry's shift is over
And another one begins
And it's morning at the Minne-ha-ha Free State
A little strip of stolen native land
On the banks of the Missis-sip-pi
It's right here the Men-do-ta make their stand
The Men-do-ta people lived along this river
Fished among its waters
And hunted on the plain
Now they are a people with no homeland
And they say here beside the river they'll remain

David Rovics
1. It's 6 o'clock and the air is filled with good things
   The scent of eggs and coffee drifts upon the wind
   Not far away the sacred fire burns
   One sentry's shift is over and another one begins

2. People gathered from the four directions
   United by a love of life, pledged to stand or fall
   It's Wounded Knee and People's Park united
   Here will be born a homeland, not a highway to the mall

   **It's morning at the Minnehaha Free State**
   **A little strip of stolen native land**
   **Along the banks of the Mississippi**
   **Right here the Mendota make their stand**

3. The Mendota people lived along this river
   Fish among its waters and hunted on the plain
   Now they are a people with no homeland
   And they say here beside the river they'll remain

   *(Chorus)*

4. And when the cops and dozers come
   To carry off every face
   Will you come to Minnehaha
   Rise up, lock down and take their place?

   *(Chorus)*

   Note: Chords and melody for verse 4 is played like verse 3.
Moron

David Rovics

Françoise Ducros lost her job As Director of Communications
She was representing Canada At a meeting of the NATO nations
When she had the gall To say what was very clear
Something everybody knew Which they didn't want to hear
In the global mafia There's no doubt who's the Don But everybody knows That George Bush is a moron
1. Francoise Ducros lost her job
   As Director of Communications
   She was representing Canada
   At a meeting of the NATO nations
   When she had the gall
   To say what was very clear
   Something everybody knew
   Which they didn't want to hear
   In the global mafia
   There's no doubt who's the Don
   But everybody knows
   That George Bush is a moron

2. Maybe you voted for him
   'Cause you like to shoot your gun
   Or perhaps you own an oil company
   And you're happy that he won
   But if that is the case
   You know you've got to take it on the chin
   And thank the Gods
   For the doctors of the spin
   'Cause if it weren't for soundbytes
   Then just like his Uncle Ron
   There'd be no one left who could deny
   That George Bush is a moron

3. Perhaps you protested
   And said it wasn't fair
   He didn't even win the vote
   He should not be in there
   But maybe you still have some dignity
   And you try to put on the best face
   'Cause you just can't come to grips
   It seems like it just shouldn't be the case
   It's as if there's this really stupid cop
   With a nuclear baton
   Not only is he evil
   But George Bush is a moron

4. Well perhaps you are hoping
   You can make it to the end
   Just a few more years
   And we'll be around the bend
   If the world is still standing
   And not yet blown up into pieces
   With a rally at the ballot box
   We can see that this nightmare ceases
   Until you look over your shoulder
   At what might happen when he's gone
   Once it captures your attention
   That Tom Daschle* is a moron

*Insert here the name of whichever moron appears to be the Democrats' lead candidate.
My Daughter

C

1. She was picking yellow flowers
   Smiling at the sunlight
   Weaving stems to make a necklace
   Working hard to get it all right
   She reached out to trade it
   For the bread her mama brought her
   And when I looked into her eyes, I saw my daughter

2. Her feet were bare as mine were
   When I grew up in the country
   And just like her I watched my mother
   Hanging out the laundry
   Now she's grabbed some clothes and darted off
   And her mama chased and caught her
   And when I looked into her eyes...

Note: For verse 4, play as with the other verses, but repeating chord progression and melody except for the refrain, which only comes at the end of the verse.

3. She's running down the alleyway
   Dust rising up behind her
   She hides beneath the rubble
   Where nobody can find her
   And when she tires and walks back home
   Mama tells her that she loves her
   And when I looked into her eyes...

4. And when the sun sets she is hungry
   But there's no more bread to give her
   The cement floor is cold tonight
   And beneath the rags she shivers
   And as the jet planes scorch the sky
   She's longing for her brother
   As the bombs fall in the distance
   She wonders, will the next one fall much closer
   It's not so far to Baghdad
   And I could be her father
   'Cause when I looked into her eyes...
   When I looked into her eyes...

David Rovics
Next Attack

David Rovics

1. The next attack is coming
   I heard it on the TV
   Some important politician said
   We’ve got to drive them into the sea
   Round up all the Arabs
   Send them back from where they came
   Who cares if they are citizens
   They’re fanatics all the same

2. The next attack is coming
   Said dictators west and east
   And New York can not rest
   Until all the rebels are deceased
   So send along those helicopters
   And we will shoot them all
   And we’ll cut social services
   And build a shopping mall

3. The next attack is coming
   Said the CEO
   So we need to drill for oil
   And build more pipelines, don’t you know
   If these Arabs do not like it
   And we need the military here
   The American people will support us
   Whether out of greed or fear

4. The next attack is coming
   I heard an Afghan child say
   My family was killed
   By a plane the other day
   And when I grow up
   I will get them back
   So I say beware, America
   Here comes the next attack

5. The next attack is coming
   Said Cheney to his men
   And if it doesn’t
   We can make one happen again
   Every war we’ve ever been in
   Was started with a lie
   And this war is good business
   So today’s the day for you to die

The next attack is coming…
No One Is Illegal

The clouds gather in your forests
to my desert town
And I think of far-off places
As the rain is coming down
And you're bent down in the fields

Picking fruit there from the vine
And it ends up on my table
As it moves on down the line
Will we open up the borders

Tear down the prison walls Declare that no one is illegal
Watch the giant as it falls
1. The clouds gather in your forests
   And drift to my desert town
   And I think of far-off places
   As the rain is coming down
   You're bent down in the fields
   Picking fruit there from the vine
   And it ends up on my table
   As it moves on down the line

2. The moon shines brightly in the night sky
   The river flows from south to north
   With the changing of the seasons
   The birds migrate back and forth
   But they say that you can't come here
   Not in the light of day
   Somebody has got plans for you
   Starve at home or hide away

   Will we open up the borders
   Tear down the prison walls
  Declare that no one is illegal
   Watch the giant as it falls

3. So much travels across these borders
   So much is bought and sold
   One way goes the gunships
   The other comes the gold
   Free trade is like a needle
   Drawing blood straight from your heart
   And the border's like a prison
   Keeping friends apart

   (Chorus)

4. Hear the stockholders cheering
   The world's getting smaller
   Hear the drowning child crying
   "Why are the fences growing taller"
   Some whisper in the shadows
   While others count the dollars
   Some have suits and ties
   Others, chains and collars

   (Chorus)

5. May the fortress walls come down
   May we meet our sisters and our brothers
   Stand arm and arm there in the daylight
   No longer fighting one another
   Will we stand together
   For therein lies our might
   Will we understand these words
   "People of the world unite"

   (Chorus)
Occupation

David Rovics

You ask me how it is
That I dare to take a side
You say I loathe myself
For pointing out that you have lied
You say it's tribal warfare
But I disagree
For the dynamics of the situation
Are not difficult to see
On one side is the fighter jet
On the other is the stone
On one side is the slave
The other is the throne
For the many there are checkpoints
While foreign soldiers rule the street
For one side there is victory
But the people don't accept defeat
The word you need to know is occupation
The very definition of a land without a nation
And if
1. You ask me how it is
That I dare to take a side
You say I loathe myself
For pointing out that you
have lied
You say it's tribal warfare
But I disagree
For the dynamics of the
situation
Are not difficult to see
On one side is the fighter jet
On the other side the stone
On one side is the slave
On the other is the throne
For the many there are
checkpoints
While foreign soldiers rule
the street
For one side there is victory
But the people don't accept
defeat
(Chorus)
The word you need to know
is occupation
The very definition of a land
without a nation
And if peace is what you're
after then let us not deceive
It will come on the day the
tanks return to Tel Aviv

2. On one side there is hunger
And bulldozed olive trees
On the other is the Army
Ruling by decrees
Caterpillars maul the streets
And destroy entire city
blocks
While children swallow
shrapnel
For the crime of throwing
rocks
Fences are erected
Around the towns they
flatten
And Herzl's own fanatics
Sleep on sheets of satin
And they water their
plantations
Drilling ever-deeper wells
While the displaced children
of the hopeless
Are filled with bullet shells
(Chorus)
...It will come on the day the
settlers return to Tel Aviv

3. On one side there is the
Mossad
Rounding up the men
Thrown in jail with no trial
Being tortured once again
On the other there is rage
Helplessness and fear
And a growing realization
That another holocaust is
near
On the outside there are
prisons
Inside detainees
Being stripped of their
humanity
Beaten naked to their knees
Outside ghetto prison walls
There are stormtroopers all
around
While inside the hungry
people
Yearn for liberated ground
(Chorus)
...It will come on the day the
jailguards return to Tel Aviv

4. All across the world
You can hear the people say
The children of Jerusalem
Will be free one day
In overcrowded camps
Amidst the stench of death
and flies
To the suburbs of Detroit
You can hear the anguished
cries
While in the land of Israel
With God ever on their side
Walls and fences are
constructed
And papers are denied
People fight for their
existence
While we turn a blinded eye
And those who should know
better
Insist on asking why
(Chorus)
...It will come on the day the
refugees return to Tel Aviv

Note: My notation for
this is really
inadequate. What I’m
doing on the guitar is a
lot of minor single-note
stuff, and the chords
described here,
especially in the
verses, are more single
notes than chords.
One Night In Greece

1. I’ll tell you a story, I swear it’s true
   It was a sunny afternoon
   September 10th, 2001
   We were minding our business, having fun
   Hanging out on the coast of Greece
   A long way from the belly of the beast
   We were drinking and talking and things were good
   Living it up as best we could

2. Then a yacht so big it blocked the sky
   Entered the view of our collective eye
   It was ostentatious beyond description
   It made old Greek ladies have conniptions
   And as this bloated behemoth trundled past
   We got a square view of the mast
   And at the top, ten meters high
   Was a sight that made the village cry

3. An American flag of such massive girth
   It seemed to take up half the earth
   Now maybe it had to do with the dictatorship
   But the Greeks among us began to flip
   We were women and men of various stations
   An international delegation
   And all of us there on the sand
   Knew this situation couldn't stand

4. As the yacht set down it's anchor
   And sat there like some oil tanker
   Well we drank and talked and talked and drank
   The sun went down and then it sank
   By midnight we'd reached a solution
   How to deal with this air pollution
   We thought we'd swim out and we'd check
   If there was a staircase to the deck

5. So we stripped down and swam out there
   And sure enough there were the stairs
   Then a Libyan student named Osama
   Took the lead role in the drama
   He climbed the stairs and then the flagpole
   It was a sight to feed a weary soul
   Hanging naked with us beneath
   He bit the flag off with his teeth

6. And flag in hand he jumped down
   And we dragged the flag back into town
   A small victory one may note
   Just a flag upon a boat
   Revolution it was not
   But one more rich prat in his yacht
   Might think twice before he sets sail
   With a flag the size of a fucking whale
   And our reward for this little caper?
   A year's supply of toilet paper!
We've got a situation and it calls for a solution that uphold
holds our domination of the planet We're gonna make our case and we're
gonna make it well And if you don't like our logic you can can it We'll
use impeccable intelligence from any country in the world As
long as we all see eye to eye And if we can't find just what we need
we know what to do Just look into the camera and lie It's Operation
Iraqi Liberation Tell me what does that spell Operation
Iraqi Liberation
1. We’ve got a situation and it calls for a solution
   That upholds our domination of the planet
   We’re gonna make our case and we’re gonna make it well
   But if you don’t like our logic you can can it
   We’ll use impeccable intelligence from any country in the world
   As long as we all see eye to eye
   And if we don’t find quite what we need we know what to do
   Just look into the camera and lie

   (Chorus)
   It’s Operation Iraqi Liberation
   Tell me, what does that spell
   Operation Iraqi Liberation
   O – I – L

2. And we’ll lie about the missiles and the nuclear research
   We’ll lie about uranium
   We’ll build military bases and smile for reporters
   As we give away bubble gum
   And we’ll lie about bin Laden and his connections with the Saudis
   And we’ll lie about 9-1-1
   And we’ll lie about the Baathists and their connections to Al Qaeda
   Because we know there’s none

   (Chorus)

3. And we’ll lie about the North Koreans and we’ll lie about Iran
   And don’t mention Israel
   Keep those nuclear weapons out of this song
   And it will all hold together swell
   And now we’ll liberate these people, we’ll liberate their money
   We’ll liberate their soil
   We’ll liberate their airports, we’ll liberate their harbors
   And we’ll liberate their oil
Oppositional Defiance Disorder  David Rovics

Alex was a member of my record label Teenager though he is He joined Ever Re-viled Records and the indie music biz His parents didn't like such turns of events So they called up a couple of thugs Sent him back to Utah locked him up and pumped him full of drugs They say he's got problems with authority Yeah this is what they claim And their psychiatric analysis has even got a name Oppositional Defiance Disorder I think I got it too Oppositional Defiance Disorder He's sick and so are you

Note: DADGAD (see intro).
1. Alex is a member of my record label
   Teenager though he is
   He joined the Ever Reviled Records collective
   And the indy music biz
   Well his parents didn't like such turns of events
   So they sent off a couple of thugs
   To bring him back to Utah, lock him up
   And pump him full of drugs
   They say he's got problems with authority
   Yes this is what they claim
   And their psychiatric analysis
   Has even got a name

   (Chorus)
   Oppositional Defiance Disorder
   I think I got it, too
   Oppositional Defiance Disorder
   He's sick and so are you

2. If you think George Bush is a moron
   And Tony Blair's a liar
   If you fantasize about setting
   Your local Wal-Mart on fire
   If you don't like Tom Brokaw
   And you think he's full of it
   And you feel that a Rush Limbaugh punching bag
   Might be kinda fun to hit
   If bombing other countries
   Makes you feel appalled
   You have got a problem
   And this is what it's called

   (Chorus)

3. If you think school is boring
   And your teacher is a fool
   If you don't like your congressman
   And you called him a corporate tool
   If you were not standing
   To sing save the Queen
   If you turned down hamburgers
   And ate rice and beans
   We've got a diagnosis
   No matter whether you agree
   Just do what the doctors tell you
   And thank God for psychiatry

   (Chorus)
Outside Agitator

David Rovics

C

It was one summer evening

G
When I

sallied forth

C
Headed up to Calgary

C7
On the road up north

F
So I feel I

should inform you In case it's something that you missed

C
Now it is official And I'm

F
on the list If you've ever wondered what they

C
look like Then let me take a bow

F
'Cause I'm an outside agitator You're looking at one now
1. It was on one summer evening
   When I sallied forth
   Headed up to Calgary
   On the road up north
   The leaders of the free world were meeting
   To decide the planet's fate
   So there were some things I wanted to mention
   To this Group of Eight

2. I went up to the border
   And was greeted with a smile
   Until they looked my name up
   And showed to me my file
   The guard said that freedom
   Canadians hold dear
   But it says right on this paper
   That we don't want your kind around here
   
   So I feel I should inform you
   In case it's something that you missed
   Now it is official
   And I'm on the list
   If you've ever wondered what they look like
   Then let me take a bow
   'Cause I'm an outside agitator
   You're looking at one now

3. They said I had no record
   Of crimes that they could find
   But their data told them
   That I might have some in mind
   They copied all my papers
   Searched all around my truck
   Took my picture and informed me
   That I was out of luck
   
   (Chorus)

4. Now I'm no Emma Goldman
   Or Commandante Che
   But someone up in Ottawa
   Said I should be turned away
   So it leaves me wondering
   What have I done wrong
   Perhaps it is a crime
   I committed in a song
   
   (Chorus)
Note: I do this song in DADGAD. What I refer here to as "Dsus" is an open chord with only the 2nd fret of the G string fretted. "Csus" is an open chord starting with the A string, with the 2nd fret of the D string fretted. You can mess around with this and do a version of it easily enough in standard tuning, or just in dropped D tuning, but the chords above are very approximate. The way I’m doing it is more modal and sticking to the melody on the guitar.
1. My daddy was an Arab from Beersheva
   A situation so unkind
   My momma was a refugee from Ramallah
   Had to leave her land behind
   I grew up in this refugee camp
   In this unwelcome land
   In this little parcel of Lebanon
   We were dealt a losing hand

2. Then one day the soldiers came
   A tired old refrain
   I'll try to tell you what happened next
   But there's no way to explain
   The soldiers raped my mother
   Then they killed her dead
   Along with the rest of the Shatila Camp
   While I hid beneath my bed

   Now I'm a-wanderin'
   No place to call my home
   Palestine
   All around the world I roam

3. My aunt came over from Jordan
   Brought me there to live
   And together we've moved to half the world
   Oh for peace what I would give
   In Beirut, Greece and New York town
   I've watched the world churn
   But my home is Palestine
   Someday I will return

   (Chorus)

4. This is my situation
   Here in the heart of the empire
   Sent the 'copters and bulldozers
   Turned Ramallah into a funeral pyre
   You've heard my story
   And time will not allow
   Soon my visa will expire
   What will you do now

   (Chorus)
Parking Lots and Strip Malls  David Rovics

1. Well, plastic forks are fun and paper cups are cool
   I like to be on the move when I eat my gruel
   Don't get me wrong, disposable diapers are really great
   But my favorite feature of these United States are
   Parking lots and strip malls, parking lots and strip malls
   The world needs more parking lots and strip malls

2. Well, clearcut forests make me want to pray
   Cut down those trees, let in the light of day
   And those condos spread out so far and wide
   But nothing beats parking lots, strip malls and the ocean tide
   (Chorus)

3. I love to see those factories making useful stuff
   And I go to the cineplex when life is getting rough
   Driving down the highway, Mickey D's is where I get my rest
   But parking lots and strip malls are the places I love best
   (Chorus)
Pirate Radio Song

David Rovics

C C C C C C F

This is how it started It's not hard to understand From coast to coast they're lying

C G C

At a CEO's command From Nationalist Public

F

Radio C N N and N B C Big brother's spewing propaganda From the Disinformation Ministry (They say the...)

Seize the Am F

air-waves

F

Seize the time 'Cause lying to the people is the real crime When it's all owned by corporations And theirs

G

is the only word We will seize the air-waves Speak freely and be heard

C F C G C

heard We will seize the air-waves Speak freely and be heard

113
1. This is how it started
   It's not hard to understand
   From coast to coast they're lying
   At a CEO's command
   From Nationalist Public Radio
   CNN and ABC
   Big Brother's spewing propaganda
   From the Disinformation Ministry

2. They say the economy is booming
   We hear the homeless beggar's cries
   They say we help poor countries
   We see bombs falling from the skies
   Reality doesn't exist
   They're trying to say
   But some of us decided
   There is another way

   Seize the airwaves
   Seize the time
   Lying to the people
   Is the real crime
   When it's all owned by corporations
   And theirs is the only word
   We will seize the airwaves
   Speak freely and be heard

3. Someone got a transmitter
   Started up a station
   Then the idea spread
   Right across the nation
   Like the land and water
   The air must be free
   So let us shout together
   "Fuck the FCC"

4. And we'll do it all together
   In a grassroots style
   Breaking down the fences
   Throughout this whole square mile
   It's the new Town Meeting
   It's the way the news should be
   The rulers call it chaos
   We say it's democracy

5. So when you turn on the radio
   And you've had it with this shit
   From 88 to 107
   Makes you want to have a fit
   When you listen to the music
   And it's all the same pop song
   Start up a pirate station
   'Cause that's where you belong

   (Chorus)
Polyamory Song

David Rovics

I heard a woman talking And to me what she said just made sense She was lamenting the state of affairs How some people can be so dense

She said she had three wonderful children Two girls and their little brother And nobody gave her problems for loving Each child as much as the other But they'll say you are bad Or perhaps you are mad Or at least you should stay undercover

Your mind must be bare If you would dare To think you can love more than one lover
1. I heard a woman talking
   And to me what she said just made sense
   She was lamenting the state of affairs
   How some people can be so dense
   She said she had three wonderful children
   Two girls and their little brother
   And nobody gave her problems for loving
   Each child as much as the other

   But they'll say you are bad
   Or perhaps you are mad
   Or at least you should stay undercover
   Your mind must be bare
   If you would dare
   To think you can love more than one lover

2. I really dig the redwood forests
   But the desert makes me want to sing
   And those little Irish villages
   When the churchbells ring
   I like to busk in Boston
   And hang out in the cafes in Berlin
   Yes, I like lots of different places
   And nobody tells me it's a sin

   (Chorus)

3. I like Italian espresso
   But I also like French wine
   And now and then that BC bud
   Leaves me feeling oh so fine
   I like to get a buzz sometimes
   I like sobriety
   Most people understand this
   They also like variety

   (Chorus)

4. Each one of the four seasons
   Leaves me feeling good
   Sitting in the shade in summer
   In the winter chopping wood
   Sometimes I love cloudy days
   But I also dig the sun
   But I don't think I'm crazy
   For having so much fun

   (Chorus)
Pray for the Dead and
Fight Like Hell for the Living

They bombed Philadelphia
Killed women and children and men
It's an old story we see it again and again
They shot into houses while people burned inside
So many have fought and so many good people have died
They murdered and put Move in prison
Now they're bringing more forces to bear
Are we gonna let them strap Mummy to the electric chair
Or will we Pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living
Stand up on our feet or
1. They bombed Philadelphia, killed women and children and men
   It's an old story, we see it again and again
   Shot into houses while people burned inside
   So many have fought and so many good people have died
   They murdered and put MOVE in prison -- now they're bringing more forces to bear
   Are we gonna let them strap Mumia to the electric chair?

   Will we pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living
   Stand up on our feet or die in slavery
   Is there somebody here whose live is not worth giving?
   Who's it gonna be if it isn't you and me?

2. They killed Crazy Horse, drove his people onto the reserve
   Killed children and buffal, some lower power to serve
   The people starved and they died behind the impassable wall
   In tipis and churches, even ghost dancers would fall
   Now from Ecuador to Big Mountain, relocation is rearing it's head
   Will we turn our backs or recall what the good woman said?

   (Chorus)

3. They poisoned the water, poisoned the air and the earth
   Who here believes that the dollar is all that our planet is worth
   They cut down the forests, cut down the mountains and anything else they could take
   What a cynical greed to do business, knowing all life is at stake
   Now as they destroy all that remains, who here will part with the last
   Will we raise our voice to the madness -- rise up, lock down, stand fast?

   (Chorus)

4. From Manilla to Managua, how many have died in our names
   From Santiago to Santo Domingo, it is a murderous game
   From Baghdad to Belgrade, mass murder from ten thousand feet
   But from Hanoi to Havana, there is talk of the tiger's defeat
   Will we wait for the next time, to kill kids on some far-away shore
   Or will we throw a wrench in the gears as we shout, "no mas, no more"

   (Chorus)

Note: Title/first line of chorus is by Mother Jones.
1. Life could've been different
You think I don't know
I could've been born in Paris
Or in the Wisconsin snow
But I'm from this desert
And here I will stand
And I will meet you in the promised land

2. You know I went to college
To be an engineer
Thought I'd do something useful
But what good is that here
When your jet fighters bomb
Any buildings that stand
I will meet you in the promised land

3. The life of the fighter
I didn't choose
But I love my people
And I can follow your cues
If destroying our world
Is your leader's command
Then I will meet you in the promised land

4. My name is Mohamed
But I don't know if it's true
If we go anyplace better
When our life here is through
But you have butchered my family
You must understand
So I will meet you in the promised land

5. I know it's not pretty
But for all that you've done
For all the widows and orphans
And all the wars that you've won
I must teach you a lesson
Maybe you'll understand
I will meet you in the promised land

6. So I will get in this plane
And when it's in the air
To your symbols of power
And our source of despair
I'll look out through the cockpit
And steady my hand
And I will meet you in the promised land

Note: DADGAD (see intro).
Reichstag Fire

David Rovics

The planes hit in New York City
Thousands now are dead

It was Arab terrorists
This is what you said
Well if that is the truth
Then what have you got to hide
And what were you doing
On the day all those people died
Where the fuck were the fighter jets
Ordered by the FAA
And what is your explanation
For what you were heard to say
When you told the Air Force to stand down
Not to intercept
Did you plan to let it happen
Or are you just insane

And I am left to wonder
As the flames are rising higher
Is this our latest Lusitania
Or another Reichstag Fire
1. The planes hit New York City
   And thousands now are dead
   "It was Arab terrorists"
   This is what you said
   Well if that is the truth
   Then what have you got to hide
   And what were you doing
   On the day all those people died
   Where the fuck were the fighter jets
   Ordered by the FAA
   And what is your explanation
   For what you were heard to say
   When you told the Air Force to stand down
   Not to intercept
   Did you plan to let it happen
   Or are you just inept

2. There's some distressing information, sir
   Which I think should be explained
   Just which things have been lost
   And just what has been gained
   Like the thousands of put options
   Bought days before the crash
   If the money were collected
   It would make quite a pretty stash
   And the only stocks they bought
   Were American and United
   Deutsche Bank knows the answer
   But the names have not been sighted
   And is it just coincidence
   That this firm in the private sector
   Was once run by "Buzzy" Krongard
   Ex-CIA Director

   (Chorus)
   I am left to wonder
   As the flames are reaching higher
   Was this our latest Lusitannia
   Or another Reichstag Fire

3. There's something fishy in Virginia
   And I want an explanation
   Why did they get the contract
   What is Britannia Aviation
   A one-man operation
   Corporation with no history
   He said he worked in Florida
   But there he was a mystery
   So is there a connection
   I think it bears investigation
   When the FAA found boxcutters
   Does this cause you consternation
   Hidden behind the seats
   In these Delta planes
   That had been fixed in Lynchburg
   With Britannia at the reigns

   (Chorus)

4. You said Bin Laden was your friend
   But he isn't anymore
   Now that he's not fighting Russia
   In your proxy war
   Who called the FBI
   Off the Bin Laden family trail
   When so many times you had the chance
   To re-write this sordid tale
   Sudan in '96
   The Taleban in 2001
   Offered to turn him over
   And right then you coulda won
   But perhaps it is the case
   That you're avoiding victory
   That to justify your exploits
   You must have an enemy

   (Chorus)

5. If you were not hiding from the truth
   Then you'd have a truth commission
   And not some masquerade
   Kangaroo investigation
   Hiring Henry Kissinger
   The ancient master of deceit
   To make sure all stones are left unturned
   And the ruse is kept complete
   And now you carry out your plans
   Which you have had for decades
   Conquering the world
   With your troops and bombing raids
   I see an evil regime
   Led by an evil man
   On Pennsylvania Avenue
   Where this evil war began

   (Chorus)
You can say that it's about the savages
You can say you have a better way to live
You can call it

Manifest Destiny
You can talk of all your civilization will give
You can say that we're a thing of history
And progress is the future you will bring
You can send your armies to these mountains
You can say we'll prosper beneath your king

But there will always be resistance
The next battle will always be near
As long as you have everything There will be
1. You can say that it's about the savages
   You can say you have a better way to live
   You can call it Manifest Destiny
   You can talk of all your civilization will give
   You can say that we're a thing of history
   And progress is the future you will bring
   You can send your armies to these mountains
   You can say we'll prosper beneath your king

   But there will always be resistance
   The next battle will always be near
   As long as you have everything
   There will be those who have nothing to fear
   And little by little, or maybe all at once you will lose
   Because our future is not yours to choose

2. You can say that you've got to stop the communists
   You can say that our ideals can't succeed
   You can say that competition is the only way
   And a global system based on greed
   And you can call yourself a democrat
   You can call yourself whatever you will
   And you can keep on stamping out the fires you start
   So you might stay on top of the hill

   (Chorus)

3. And you can say that all of us are terrorists
   Madmen bent on destroying all that's free
   You can say that we are building weapons
   As your bombers fly from sea to bloody sea
   You can say you're with us or against us
   And to die quietly is what we now must do
   You can maintain your innocence
   You can say that you are many, as you represent the few

   (Chorus)

Note: I play this song in DADGAD, but it works OK in standard or dropped D, too.
Rinky Dink Song

1. It’s a pedal-powered radio station
   It’ll fire up your imagination
   It’s a sound system, it’ll make you dance
   Might make you jump right outta your pants
   Traveling roadshow microphone
   With a bicycle seat as the throne
   If you see it you’ll agree
   It’s right there on your frequency
It’s the Rinky Dink, the Rinky Dink
When you’re feeling on the brink
It’ll make you laugh, it’ll make you think
Talking about that Rinky Dink

2. The soap’s a-bubbling, breeze is blowing
   Ain’t no telling where it’s going
   The windmill’s swinging with the tribe
   It’s that day-glo, solar vibe
   Stop a riot, it’s been done
   It’ll part the clouds and bring the sun
   It don’t matter where you’ve been
   Just sit on down and tune right in

   It’s the Rinky Dink, the Rinky Dink
   Just might be the missing link
   It’ll make you nod, it’ll make you wink
   Talking about that Rinky Dink

3. They’ll come rolling through your town
   You might go up and never come down
   It’s the cure for air pollution
   It’s the Rinky Dink solution
   Folks’ll wonder, folks’ll stare
   Kids’ll jump into their chair
   Before they go you know the rub
   Put a quid into the tub

   It’s the Rinky Dink, the Rinky Dink
   It’ll ease up any kink
   It’ll make your troubles shrink
   Talking about that Rinky Dink

   The Rinky Dink, the Rinky Dink
   Give those folks something to drink
   Turn the pedals, clackity-clink
   Talking about that Rinky Dink

Other optional chorus lines:

   …It’s got it all but the kitchen sink
   Ain’t no liar, ain’t no fink...
   …Purple, red, yellow, pink
   Steel, wood, rubber, zinc...
The Saint Patrick Battalion  

David Rovics

C

My name is John Rile 

C

y I'll have your ear on ly a 

while

Am

I left my dear home in I re land It was 

death starvation or exile And when I got to A 

C

me rica It was my du ty to go 

C

En ter the ar my and slog a cross Tex as to join in the 

war against Mexi co From Dub lin City to San Di 

e go We wit nessed free dom de nied 

So we formed the Saint Pat rick Bat tal tion And we 

fought on the Mex i can side We formed the Saint 

Pat rick Bat tal tion And we fought on the Mex i can side
1. My name is John Riley
   I'll have your ear only a while
   I left my dear home in Ireland
   It was death, starvation or exile
   And when I got to America
   It was my duty to go
   Enter the Army and slog across Texas
   To join in the war against Mexico

2. It was there in the pueblos and hillsides
   That I saw the mistake I had made
   Part of a conquering army
   With the morals of a bayonet blade
   So in the midst of these poor, dying Catholics
   Screaming children, the burning stench of it all
   Myself and two hundred Irishmen
   Decided to rise to the call

   From Dublin City to San Diego
   We witnessed freedom denied
   So we formed the Saint Patrick Battalion
   And we fought on the Mexican side

3. We marched 'neath the green flag of Saint Patrick
   Emblazoned with "Erin Go Bragh"
   Bright with the harp and the shamrock
   And "Libertad a la Republica"
   Just fifty years after Wolftone
   Five thousand miles away
   The Yanks called us a Legion of Strangers
   And they can talk as they may

   (Chorus)

4. We fought them in Matamoros
   While their volunteers were raping the nuns
   In Monterey and Cerro Gordo
   We fought on as Ireland's sons
   We were the red-headed fighters for freedom
   Amidst these brown-skinned women and men
   Side by side we fought against tyranny
   And I daresay we'd do it again

   (Chorus)

5. We fought them in five major battles
   Churubusco was the last
   Overwhelmed by the cannons from Boston
   We fell after each mortar blast
   Most of us died on that hillside
   In the service of the Mexican state
   So far from our occupied homeland
   We were heroes and victims of fate

   (Chorus)
Shut Them Down

David Rovics

1. We shall fight them on the beaches
We shall fight them on the shore
They will bring us exploitation
We'll bring them their class war
We'll lock down to the gates
As they're spreading vicious lies
They want to dominate the world
And we see through their disguise

2. If they'd have one big multinational
With their corporate flag unfurled
Searching everywhere
For the lowest wages in the world
Then we'll have One Big Union
From Melbourne to Prague to Seattle-town
Wherever they may go
We will shut them down

We'll shut them down
We'll shut them down
We will shut them down
3. And CNN will spread the lies
   This is just how it's gotta be
   Well they can have their CNN
   'Cause we got our IMC
   And we will tell the truth quite clearly
   Though they don't want to hear it
   And they'll try to stop our broadcasts
   'Cause the truth is that they fear it

   (Chorus)

4. They want a world full of strip malls
   Plants grown by biotech
   As long as they get richer
   They just don't give a heck
   But we don't want their ecocide
   We want a world we can live in
   That's why we're here to stay
   And we're not gonna give in

   (Chorus)

5. And they'll infiltrate us
   Provocateurs within our ranks
   And if they can't divide us
   They'll send in the tanks
   But we will stand together
   Pacifists and Zapatistas
   Workers, farmers, the indigenous
   Tree-huggers and baristas

   (Chorus)

6. And we will build a new world
   Without the corporate elite
   And we will see the day
   Of their international defeat
   We'll have self-determination
   And equality for all
   For what choice do we really have
   But to rise up and see them fall

   (Chorus)
This world's full of challenges
Some are big and some are small
War, greed, pollution
Might take some time to solve 'em all
But if a long march starts with just one step
There's one I'd like to mention
If you live with your nostrils open
Perhaps it's come to your attention

You may be fighting for freedom
All the night and day
But when you come back home
Someone's bound to say
"You wanna change the world, man
Believe me, I do, too
But in the meantime is it required
That we live in a fucking zoo"
’Cause the revolution starts at home  
*Let me tell you this*  
*Stand up for your rights, boys*  
*But sit down to piss*

3. If you've ever lived with other people  
   You may know what I mean  
   Who's gonna wash the dishes  
   And get the bathtub clean  
   As we scrub the tear gas from our eyes  
   The issue may seem so little  
   But what might make or break the movement  
   Is exactly how you piddle

   *(Chorus)*

4. If you just love to clean the toilet  
   I say that is really neat  
   But you could still save yourself some effort  
   By pulling up a seat  
   However if you claim your aim is true  
   And you don't have to sit  
   All I've got to say, son  
   Is you are full of shit

   *(Chorus)*

5. Yes if you really like to clean the loo  
   That's all well and good  
   But if you're like most guys  
   You don't do it like you should  
   So just make this tiny move  
   Towards gender equity  
   Try it for a couple months  
   And I'm sure you'll agree

   *(Chorus)*

6. Well I don't want to cramp your style  
   Or keep you from doing your thing  
   In your own apartment  
   You can surely be the king  
   But if you're indoors, sharing space  
   I hope by now you see  
   That the respectful thing to do  
   Is to sit down when you pee

   *(Chorus)*
So Many Years Ago

David Rovics

It was so many years ago
But it seems like yesterday
When we would walk along the water
And I would melt each time you'd say
"Te quiero mi amor"

And all my troubles would drift away
Like a flower down the creek

The very last line of the song, "on the day the soldiers came," you do twice. The second time, instead of C-D you play C-D-G. The melody of the last line also resolves, C-B-A-G: C ("on the day") B ("the sol-") A ("diers") G ("came").
1. It was so many years ago
   But it seems like yesterday
   When we would walk along the water
   And I would melt each time you'd say
   "Te quiero, mi amor"
   And you would kiss my cheek
   And all my troubles would drift away
   Like a flower down the creek

2. It was so many years ago
   But the memory's so clear
   I see the sparkle of your eyes
   I feel your lips upon my ear
   The scratchy stubble on your chin
   The roughness of your hands
   In my heart I see you and I wonder
   Who really understands

3. It was so many years ago
   That we lay side by side
   Our naked bodies mingling
   With nothing left to hide
   I'd watch the ripples of your muscles
   Beneath the soft glow of the stars
   While we'd listen to the distant sound
   Of voices and guitars

4. It was so many years ago
   The sweat upon your forehead glistened
   I recall the words you spoke
   And how the people listened
   I remember where I sat
   Looking at your long black hair
   The debates would last til dawn
   And change was in the air

5. It was so many years ago
   But what's most etched upon my mind
   Was the hour when you left me
   And our little home behind
   Ever since that awful moment
   Things have never been the same
   The leaves were falling on the rooftops
   On the day the soldiers came
1. He grew up right in this neighborhood
He was on his way to going far
He could throw a ball like no one
He was gonna be a football star

2. And when he had a chance to travel
And go to a far-off shore
He packed his bags and went
Away to fight the war

And you can see him in the alley
with a bottle in his hand
Ready at attention for an officer's command
He's waiting for a discharge
but it never seems to come
Used to be a soldier
now he's a soldier on the bum

Note: I play this in dropped D tuning.

3. He was proud to be a Navy Seal
To be part of the team
Following the dictates
Of this American dream

4. He threw boys out of airplanes
To combat the commie threat
Now he spends each day
Just trying to forget
(Chorus)

5. And some days when the vodka
Can't keep the visions from his thoughts
Of the horror he has seen
And the terror he has wrought

6. He limps up and down the sidewalk
Yells out all he has to say
But the empty storefronts do not listen
And all the people turn away
(Chorus)
Song for Ana Belen Montes  

David Rovics

D G D

Twenty-five years what what the judge said then he banged his gavel and shook his head You've done wrong you broke our trust now we caught you and this is a bust Now you'll...

A7

But here beneath this Cuban sun I just want to thank you for all you've done Today I'm torn a-part Anna Belen Montes

D A7

You are a spy After my own heart

Note: I do this in Dropped D (see intro). At the end there's a walk-up based on A7 which I didn't try to notate here.
1. Twenty-five years was what the judge said
   Then he banged his gavel and shook his head
   You've done wrong, you broke our trust
   Now we caught you and this is a bust

2. Now you'll spend these decades behind bars of steel
   You thought you could play with us, but this is for real
   He said you gave away secrets to the enemy
   Now you'll live in prison in the land of the free

   (Chorus)
   But here beneath this Cuban sun
   I'd just like to thank you for all you've done
   My heart today is torn apart
   Ana Belen Montes, you are a spy after my own heart

3. "I obeyed my conscience rather than the law," so you said at your secret trial
   You took no money for your work, so says your declassified file
   You warned the Cubans of the plans of the assassins from the US
   Just what other good deeds you did, they may never tell us

   (Chorus)

4. High up in the ranks of the DoD you served the common good
   Working alone, night and day, you did just what you should
   Of all the great people I have known, there are few that I'd call greater
   Than one woman who obeyed a higher law, who the judge called traitor

   (Chorus)
Song for Basra

David Rovics

G

If I could sing a song for every bomb that flies
I'd sing each and all the days If there

were to be a verse for every dying child's cries For ev'ry
helpless father's gaze And if I wrote a

love letter to each corpse as it's carried I'd
never still my pen If I had to stop a moment for

each one that's been buried I'd never move a-

again And the stocks are going up

in some safe place in America

Sing a song for Basra
1. If I could sing a song for every bomb that flies
   I'd sing each and all the days
   If there were to be a verse for every dying child's cries
   For every helpless father's gaze
   If I wrote a love letter to each corpse as it is carried
   I'd never still my pen
   If I had to stop a moment for each one that's been buried
   I'd never move again
   And the stocks are going up somewhere in America
   Sing a song for Basra

2. If I could shed a tear for every home that bombs destroy
   I'd never stop crying
   If every broken brick were a heart of a little girl or boy
   All the world's children would be sighing
   If I could hold each shattered body, each baby stilled at birth
   I'd have no time for loneliness
   I'd spend all my time embracing the people of this savaged earth
   Feeling the poisoned wind's caress
   And the billionaires are laughing in some safe place in America
   Sing a song for Basra

3. If each barren pharmacy were a woman's shining eyes
   I'd fall in love forever
   If every bombed-out kindergarten were a factory in disguise
   Wouldn't that be clever
   But bricks are only bricks, and dust is only dust
   And death is all around
   Each day another missile falls and sometimes the only thing to trust
   Is the shaking of the ground
   And they're loading up the warplanes in some safe place in America
   Sing a song for Basra
Song for Big Mountain

Our grandparents were born here
Their ancestors lived with this earth
The land is the people and the people are the land
And this is the land of our birth
But now you want to move us off this mesa
As if you can take a body from a soul
You want to take from us our paradise on earth
And trade it for a mountain of coal
What if they were coming for your grandma
What if they were coming for your child
What if they were tearing up the ground beneath your feet
Even taking the rivers that were once running wild

What would you do
If they were coming for you
1. Our grandparents were born here
   Their ancestors lived on this earth
   The land is the people and the people are the land
   And this is the land of our birth
   But now you want to move us off this mesa
   As if you can take a body from a soul
   You want to take from us our paradise on earth
   And trade it for a mountain of coal

   What if they were coming for your grandma
   What if they were coming for your child
   What if they were tearing up the land beneath your feet
   Even taking the rivers that were once running wild
   What would you do
   If they were coming for you?

2. The coal is the liver of our Mother
   And it must remain in the ground
   The trees are her lungs and the rivers are her blood
   And they should all be left as they were found
   But now you slurry coal across these pastures
   And your trees all go to feed your hungry mill
   You would have us live in rows of shacks without our sheep
   On your Church Rock uranium spill

   (Chorus)

3. Like some cancer spreading ever westward
   Coming to knock down our hogan's door
   And we will say to anyone who'll listen
   Relocation, nevermore
   So won't you come to Big Mountain
   Bring everything you can, but come today
   This is the land where we belong
   And this is the land where we will stay

   (Chorus)
Song for Boxcar Betty

David Rovics

I got no time for the aisles of fashion Or the bikinis of Malibu Beach

Don't take me to where the pool water's splashin' Where everybody's skin is soft as a peach

The woman for me doesn't live in a mansion—Taking baths in a hot tub drinking whiskey and cream

The woman for me is a fighter with passion Boxcar Betty is the woman of my dreams

She was a hobo and a tramp And a rebel through and through Boxcar Betty

I am yours for the O. B. U.
1. I've got no time for the aisles of fashion
   Or the bikinis of Malibu Beach
   Don't take me to where the pool water's splashing
   Where everybody's skin is soft as a peach
   The woman for me doesn't live in a mansion
   Taking baths in a hot tub, drinking whiskey and cream
   The woman for me is a fighter with passion
   Boxcar Betty is the woman of my dreams

   **She was a hobo and a tramp**
   **And a rebel through and through**
   **Boxcar Betty, I am yours**
   **For the OBU**

2. She refused to marry rich
   Or kiss anybody's ass
   She was proud to be a union woman
   And a leader of the working class
   She hopped the freights from state to state
   With revolution in her eyes
   'Cause she couldn't stand to hear the sound
   Of a hungry child's cries

   *(Chorus)*

3. Boxcar Betty didn't give a damn
   About what some people said
   They called her a free lover
   They called her a dirty red
   But if I could do anything in life
   I would hope to make my stand
   Hanging around the jungles
   As Boxcar Betty's right-hand man

   *(Chorus)*
1. Every time I see that street, I think of you
   And I think of the mornings
   And your long red hair
   You're rolling out of bed
   Though you'd rather stay right there
   But your housemates are up
   And there's so much to do
   Every time I see that street, I think of you

2. And I think of the afternoons
   Lost together in thought
   Long walks in the park
   All the answers we sought
   With a mind and heart
   Of the wonderous few
   Every time I see that street, I think of you

3. And I think of the evenings
   All the stories you told
   Out driving your cab
   Barely twenty years old
   But with such ancient eyes
   Oh the wisdom you knew
   Every time I see that street, I think of you

4. And I remember that night
   The tequila we drank
   Laughing for hours
   With a world to thank
   And you told me you loved me
   And I said, "Eric, I love you, too"
   Every time I see that street, I think of you

5. And I think of the wee hours
   Long before dawn
   Determined to wander
   'Til the darkness was gone
   San Francisco at night
   And the warm summer breeze
   Walking back alleys
   Just as free as you please
   And I think of those poor boys
   Who drove up to say
   "Give us your money"
   And then they blew you away
   With one pull of a trigger
   Your sweet life was through
   Every time I see that street, I think of you

Note: In last verse, repeat F/C/F/G chords and melody until "And I think of those poor boys" – from that line to the end it is pretty much just like the normal-length verses.
1. Hugh Thompson was a pilot, just like many more
   Fighting for Old Glory on a far-off, foreign shore
   He was on a lethal mission, only one of many
   Following his orders to kill the enemy, to kill the enemy

2. He flew low above the village, searching for the foe
   When he saw a wounded child on the path below
   He thought this to be a sure sign that the enemy was near
   So he radioed for back-up and more choppers did appear, more choppers did appear

3. "Help the wounded," he cried out, "and beware of an attack"
   And then the child died by a bullet through her back
   And when he looked around for the culprits of the scene
   It was a company of men in U.S. military green, U.S. military green

4. The dead were in the hundreds, strewn all around
   In this place called My Lai, which once had been a town
   There was a hut of huddled children, soldiers had them in their sights
   Hugh decided at that moment to fight for what was right, to fight for what was right

5. "Train your weapons on the G.I.'s," and his 'copter crews obeyed
   And stood among the children, tattered and afraid
   The whole town had been murdered, but for some kids and widowed wives
   And Hugh Thompson made sure that those remaining would survive
   That those remaining would survive

6. It was a fifteen-minute stand-off in a knee-deep sea of red
   Amidst the moaning of the dying and the silence of the dead
   Hugh Thompson was a soldier and he served his country well
   On the day he saved the lives of a dozen kids in hell, of a dozen kids in hell
Nothing's changed for me
When I see your face
I see the dawn
And like you, it's filled with grace
When I look into your eyes
I see all that I have known
I see a red sunrise
And the kindness you have shown

4. But nothing's changed for me
I still yearn for your embrace
Sometimes I close my eyes
And then I gaze upon your face
I know everything must end
But I remember our last kiss
I recall your parting glance
And there's so much more I miss

5. 'Cause nothing's changed for me
Except you went away
You're moving on
And I'm stuck in yesterday
So I'll wish you all that's good
And I'll make a toast for you
For all the places you may travel
And for whatever you may do

6. 'Cause nothing's changed for me
I'm still in love so much
I know I'll be OK
But I miss your gentle touch
There are songs for victories
Songs for things that fall apart
This is just a song
For my broken heart
See the man in his limousine In his tie and well-pressed shirt Hoping that he's not been found on the lookout for desert
He knows that he is guilty And a visit might be paid By the vegan vigilantes of the biotic baking brigade
What's that sailing through the air In the boardrooms see them shiver You can spend your life hoping for pie in the sky but the baking brigade delivers
1. See the man in his limosine
   In his tie and well-pressed shirt
   Hoping that he's not been seen
   On the lookout for desert
   He knows that he is guilty
   And a visit might be paid
   By the vegan vigilantes
   Of the Biotic Baking Brigade

   What's that sailing through the air
   In the boardrooms see them shiver
   You can spend your life hoping for pie in the sky
   But the Baking Brigade delivers

2. If you sell your city's soul
   To the landlords' greedy pack
   You my friend have earned yourself
   A tasty pastry snack
   You can call yourself a liberal
   And hope your crimes will fade
   But your sell-out soul will be exposed
   By the Biotic Baking Brigade

   (Chorus)

3. So if you cut down the last of the forests
   Spew poison in the air
   Don't you be surprised to find
   That cheesecake in your hair
   Yes if you are a corporate criminal
   You've surely made the grade
   To receive a fresh-baked goody from
   The Biotic Baking Brigade

   (Chorus)

4. Beware all you scoundrels of industry
   We know of your disgrace
   So smile for the camera
   With the cream pie in your face
   You can hope that we won't find you out
   As you're hiding in the shade
   But someday soon you'll live to meet
   The Biotic Baking Brigade

   (Chorus)
Song for the ELF

David Rovics

Civ-il dis-obed-i-ence has man-ty per-mu-ta-tions
You can block the streets in front of the Uni-ted Na-tions
You can lay down on the track Keep the nuke train out of town
Or you can pour gas on the con-do And you can burn it down

So here’s a toast to the night Three cheers and a grunt
To the Earth Li-be-ra-tion Front
The Earth Li-be-ra-tion Front

Note: Insert pregnant pauses wherever you see fit, such as after “Keep the nuke trains out of town.”
1. Civil disobedience
   Has many permutations
   You can block the streets in front of
   The United Nations
   You can lay down on the tracks
   Keep the nuke trains out of town
   Or you can pour gas on the condo
   And you can burn it down

   So here's a toast to the night
   Three cheers and a grunt
   To the Earth Liberation Front
   The Earth Liberation Front

2. You can go to Senate hearings
   Wait til they call your name
   My hat is off to anyone
   With the will to play that game
   But if you want to know the truth
   What warms my aching heart
   Is to see the masked avengers
   Come to tear the road apart

   (Chorus)

3. They'll tell you that it's violent
   To destroy a logging truck
   These are the very people
   Who'd kill the planet for a buck
   Talk to the governor
   Be reasonable, they say
   Maybe we can talk tomorrow
   But we can pull the crops today

   (Chorus)

4. There are so many things of beauty
   In this world to see
   A wild, running river
   Or an old-growth redwood tree
   But in such an ugly situation
   So sinister and dire
   There's nothing quite so lovely
   As a Wal-Mart on fire

   (Chorus)
You can load us in your buses
And behind your prison door
And when you think you've silenced us
There will be a thousand more

We are gathered here today
To put our bodies in harm's way
At this school of death and shame
No more murder in our name

1. You can load us in your buses
   And behind your prison door
   And when you think you've silenced us
   There will be a thousand more

   We are gathered here today
   To put our bodies in harm's way
   At this school of death and shame
   No more murder in our name

2. From Panama to Georgia
   We'll be ever in your sight
   With so much blood upon your hands
   How do you butchers sleep at night?

   (Chorus)

3. You dare to call them freedom fighters
   Call the butchers what you will
   But from Jara to Allende
   It is freedom that you kill

   (Chorus)

4. All across this country
   The news spreads from town to town
   Every day a new voice shouting
   Shut this school torture down

   (Chorus)
Song for the SOA #2

David Rovics

1. Well I pulled up there at the gate
   Had to come and keep a date
   With ten thousand of my friends
   Here to right some wrongs and make amends
   Folks came in buses, bikes and cars
   With voices, fiddles and guitars
   And all kinds of people, shapes and styles
   Burned those frequent flyer miles

2. First thing I see's a singing nun
   At the frisky age of 91
   She's here fresh out of jail
   Told the judge "I ain't got no bail"
   "I'm bearing witness right here and now
   'Cause we've got to change the world somehow
   So with you all right here I pray
   WE'LL SHUT DOWN THE SOA

3. There's this year's crop from Oberlin
   And there's the folks from Warren-Wilson
   But they're not all eighteen to twenty-two
   They brought along their neighbors too
   There's grandpa, baby, mom and dad
   An ARA kid, fighting mad
   What are we gonna do today?
   WE'LL SHUT DOWN THE SOA

4. There's some in pink, some in black
   There's one wrapped in a coffee sack
   There's t-shirts, stickers, pins and more
   Saying we don't want your oil war
   There's a labor lawyer from Walla Walla
   With some Mayan folks from Guatemala
   See, north and south the people say
   WE'LL SHUT DOWN THE SOA

5. Pouring blood, crossing lines
   Holding crosses, making signs
   There's priests and punks in groups and pairs
   Along with a gang in wheelchairs
   There's Josh and Abi, Bill and Sue
   Charlie, Tao and you know who
   Giant puppets, paper mache
   Saying WE'LL SHUT DOWN THE SOA

6. Yes, we'll keep coming to this town
   Til this torture school's shut down
   Then we'll march as we intone
   You do not walk alone
   To the next symbol in our sights
   In the global fight for human rights
   But for now we're here in this Georgia clay
   Saying WE'LL SHUT DOWN THE SOA
Song the Songbird Sings  
David Rovics

It was another Friday morning I was among the olive trees Out looking for birds to catch My father his friends and me I had my string and net And a nimble eye There beside the farmer's field Where the songbirds fly You can see the birds beneath the clouds Watch them spread their wings Listen to the wind

And the song the songbird sings

Note: DADGAD (see intro).
1. It was another Friday morning
   I was among the olive trees
   Out looking for birds to catch
   My father, his friends and me
   I had my string and net
   And a nimble eye
   There beside the farmers' fields
   Where the songbirds fly

2. When you're catching birds
   The world disappears
   And a thousand songs of autumn
   Are all that fills your ears
   They sing their songs so brightly
   At the dawning of the day
   They fly back and forth over the fence
   Where we must stay away

(Chorus)
You can see the birds beneath the clouds
Watch them spread their wings
You can listen to the wind
And the song the songbird sings

3. It's so good to come here
   So far from all the sound
   Of all the shooting and the shouting
   And the tanks upon the ground
   I just wish I could live here
   Within this olive grove
   Just me, my friends and family
   And a small wood-burning stove

(Chorus)

4. Last week I caught three sparrows
   It was quite a day
   Now I'm bound for glory
   That's what they say
   I hear them talk about me
   Shedding tears upon a sack
   Inside there lies a child
   With four bullets in his back

(Chorus)
Stranded

You've got such a lovely sparkle in your eye So wise and undiscovered
Flirting with the earth
Living in the sky Leaving so much uncovered

And I just want to get stranded with you

On a little desert isle
As long as we had some water to drink There'd be nothing to do but

Nothing to do but smile
1. You've got such a lovely sparkle in your eye
   So wise and undiscovered
   Flirting with the earth, living in the sky
   Leaving so much uncovered

   And I just want to get stranded with you
   On a little desert isle
   As long as we had some water to drink
   There'd be nothing to do but smile
   Nothing to do but smile

2. I know it's a tired old tale
   I've got nothing but words
   Old, broke and bound to fail
   Like a snail chasing hummingbirds

   But I just want to get stranded with you
   We could get to know one another
   You know we'd never meet any other way
   Only if I had my druthers
   Only if I had my druthers

3. I'd find some reason to say hello
   Like if the town was on fire
   We'd have to hide in the valley below
   If the scene was sufficiently dire

   I just want to get stranded with you
   Maybe in a big winter storm
   If the power was out, it wouldn't matter
   With each other to keep warm
   Each other to keep warm

4. My talents are few and my pockets are empty
   And the world awaits your next move
   The gap between us is as wide as the water
   Between Starbucks and the Loeuvre

   But I just want to get stranded with you
   Then I'd find something to say
   And you'd hold me close in this forsaken dream
   On the blanket upon which we lay
   The blanket upon which we lay
Strike A Blow Against The Empire  

David Rovics

When the rich man on the TV 
Said this world's mine
When he asked which side you're on 
Told you to step in line
When he gave his reasons 
For his war of conquest
When he talked about your wallet 
Said it was in your interests
Did you shrug your shoulders 
And do as you were told
Hang a flag in your window 
Buy the goods that you were sold
Or did you shut off his craven image 
Call the man a li - ar
Did you strike a blow against the empire
Did you strike a blow against the empire
1. When the rich man on the TV
   Said this world's mine
   When he asked which side you're on
   Told you to step in line
   When he gave his reasons
   For his war of conquest
   When he talked about your wallet
   Said it was in your interest
   Did you shrug your shoulders
   And do as you were told
   Hang a flag in your window
   And buy the goods that you were sold
   Or did you shut off his craven image
   And call the man a liar
   Did you strike a blow against the empire

2. When they were rounding up your neighbors
   You know the ones with darker skin
   Clerks and teachers, engineers
   With names like Sami and Mazin
   When they were breaking down the doors
   And taking them away
   Holding them on secret charges
   Hidden from the light of day
   What did you tell their children
   When you had a chance to meet
   Could you look them in the eye
   Or did you walk past them on the street
   Could you say that you stood up
   When their lives were on the wire
   Did you strike a blow against the empire

3. As the bombs were falling
   And the children lost their lives
   Lying broken on the pavement
   As the ambulance arrives
   As the soldiers opened fire
   With their heavy guns
   Could you hear the demonstrators hit the ground
   See how their red blood runs
   What were you doing
   In those fateful times
   Did you raise your voice
   Against these awful crimes
   Were you hiding in your bedroom
   When the situation was so dire
   Or did you strike a blow against the empire

4. And when the time had come
   And the Reich was at your door
   When the fascist state was here
   And they brought home the war
   When the Gestapo was in the city
   And they had really taken power
   When there was nothing left to do
   Here in the final hour
   Did you find a place to run to
   And hope to live a few more years
   When the slaughter was around you
   Did you cover up your ears
   Or did you set your sights
   Take your aim and fire
   Did you strike a blow against the empire
Tennessee

David Rovics

I met a young woman in a dinner one day
someplace in Tennessee
She asked me what I wanted and she
brought me my breakfast of eggs biscuits and coffee
saw the "for sale" sign on the window and I asked her how come, what
for
She said you can see the way that this town's gone by the
boards on ev'ry door
She said the company came and it went And I
guess they reached their goal
There used to be a beautiful mountain

Now there's just a pile of coal

And ev'rywhere you look you can see The countryside they stole

The biggest tree in this old forest is a telephone pole

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1. I met a young woman in a diner one day, somewhere in Tennessee
   She asked me what I wanted and she brought me my breakfast of biscuits, gravy and coffee
   I saw the "for sale" sign in the window and I asked her howcome, what for
   She said you can see the way this town's gone by the boards on every door

   'Cause (well) the company came and it went
   And I guess they reached their goal
   Used to be a beautiful mountain here
   Now there's just a pile of coal
   And everywhere you look you can see
   The countryside they stole
   The biggest tree in this old forest
   Is a telephone pole

2. She said this used to be a company town not so very long ago
   Now the most common car that you see has a U-Haul trailer in tow
   It's so sad to watch a town grow up just for it to fall apart
   To think of all the good and the hard times we had, it's enough to break my heart

   (Chorus)

3. The only thing worse than the company being here was watching it wave good-bye
   You know we had to fight so damn hard just to get a little piece of the pie
   But there's nothing left here for me now but memories and things gone wrong
   Don't know where I'll go, all I know is I'm gone

   (Chorus)
Terror In The Skies

David Rovics

1. Night-time comes and everybody wonders
   Will tomorrow bring the light of day
   Will our house be rubble blown asunder
   In the cellar we will hide ourselves and pray

2. Will the smoke clear in the morning?
   Will the city all go down in flame?
   Will the factory be standing?
   Will life here ever be the same?

   There's terror in the skies of this city
   Fear is in the hearts of children,
   women and men
   And you never see the faces of the killers
   As the smart bombs fall again

   3. Will there be a job for me to go to?
      Will there be food upon my plate?
      After so many years of hungry sanctions
      What did my child do to earn this fate?

   (Chorus)

4. The Yankees talk of Gaza and of Algiers
   They wring their hands when Irish shoppers die
   But if you want to know a life of terror
   Look up at night into the Baghdad sky

   (Chorus)
Times Gone By

David Rovics

Driving down this highway once again on my own
Makes me think of other times I wasn't so alone
When coming to this country
Mind-ed me of you Made me think about your eyes
And all the things we used to do
I think about the river I think about the park
And all the things we did with a candle in the dark
I think about our bedroom and the cafe down the street
Where I spent so many hours weathering the heat
I remember you
Here beneath the cloudy sky
And times gone by
1. Driving down this highway once again on my own
   Make me think of other times I wasn't so alone
   When coming to this country reminded me of you
   Made me think about your eyes and all the things we used to do
   I think about the river and I think about the park
   And all the things we did with a candle in the dark
   I think about our bedroom and the cafe down the street
   Where I spent so many hours weathering the heat

   (Chorus)
   I remember you
   Here beneath the cloudy sky
   I remember you
   And the times gone by

2. I think about the passion and the things you said to me
   When the world was ours and we were lucky just to be
   I think about your tears and the gulf that seemed to grow
   I think about the winter sky and how it seemed to know
   I think of our final words and how you looked at me
   Like some sailor for the last time going out to sea
   I got into the taxi, saw the look within your eye
   You were saying see you soon, but you really meant goodbye

   (Chorus)

3. Now I'm going down this lonely road, this land we used to share
   But if I go to your apartment I know you won't be there
   'Cause I'm stuck here in this car with too much time to think
   And I can see you clearly every time I blink
   I'm looking at the asphalt, thinking of the past
   How things just seem to change and good things often do not last
   Life can be a bed of roses or a board of darts
   But it seems to me so often like a trail of broken hearts

   (Chorus)
"Too Proud To Beg"

He walked the streets of this neighborhood
As long as anyone knew
Used to work in construction
But those days are long through
On this hot summer morning
Ev’ryone lowered their head
The heat wave is over
And Pat O’Leary is dead
He was too old to work
And he had a bum leg
But they cut him off welfare
And he was too proud to beg
1. He walked the streets of this neighborhood
   Long as anyone knew
   Used to work in construction
   But those days are long through
   On this hot summer morning
   Everyone lowered their heads
   The heat wave is over
   And Pat O'Leary's dead

   He was too old to work
   And he had a bum leg
   But they cut him off welfare
   And he was too proud to beg

2. For a roll and some coffee
   He'd be up at sunrise
   With a joke for the vendors
   And a smile in his eyes
   With the other old-timers
   He'd wile the years
   With a wink for the children
   And a listening ear

   (Chorus)

3. His neice and his sister
   They asked him to stay
   But he liked the old neighborhood
   He said "it's better this way"
   He said "soon I'll make it"
   "To sixty-five
   "And I got my old Buick
   "Til that day arrives"

   (Chorus)
Trading With The Enemy

1. I saw her in the city center
With a thermos full of coffee
Making the local brew
On a street called Salvador Allende
I gave her a peso and took a sip
And sat beneath a palm tree
It's so easy to be a criminal
When you’re trading with the enemy

2. I sat down on a park bench
Beside a statue of John Lennon
And as I watch the children dancing
It's so easy to imagine
A world without borders
Here, so close to Miami
As I smoke a Cigarro Popular
Once more trading with the enemy

3. Biking down a country road
Only one of many others
The people call me companero
And greet me as their brother
One man has a basket full of mangoes
And I'm sure Jesse would agree
With each bite I undermine my country
By trading with the enemy

4. Watch the oxen pull the carriage
And the organic farms abound
All the fertilizer’s gone
But there are other ways to feed the ground
Inspiring the world
With the strength of creativity
See the past and future come together
Trading with the enemy

5. And I just want to tell you
That the enemy’s so lovely
Such a proud and beautiful people
From the mountains to the sea
From the clinics to the schoolyards
Che Guevarra to Marti
We have only our chains to lose
From trading with the enemy
T-Stop Café

David Rovics

1. There's that guy in his bow-tie going off to maitre de
   There's Richard ranting a rave saying
   Jesus don't you see
   There's old Mrs. K carrying an apple pie
   Behind the green-haired girl hanging on the sly

2. There's Dennis and Jorge pulling along their rig
   Oh and here comes Mary Lou
   Judy's gone to school to misdirect the youth
   Spaced-out kid with comic books
   is dreaming of a phone booth
   Have a good ride, come again someday
   And thanks for stopping by the t-stop café

3. The mayor's stumbled off the train
   he's looking for a dime
   There's Jim searching in his brain
   for a decent rhyme
   The ghost of top-hat Dana never leaves the place
   Every time I see a park bench
   it's hiding out his face

4. That baby's singing along with a little plastic stork
   Oh and Gordon's sniffing the platform
   for a bottle to uncork
   Crazy Jane's blaming the CIA for giving her a rash
   Nisha's poking around the corners
   for a quiet place to crash

   (Chorus)

5. Well the T's a fine place to visit
   long as you don't have to stay
   So I hope you'll deign to drop on by
   on some other day
   Next time you have some time that's free
   or you're on a wild shopping spree
   You can rest assured you just might be
   dropping in on me

   (Chorus)
Unrequited Love Song

David Rovics

C - G - F

I've heard people talk of love
And con-

G - F
nec-tions of the soul
And I've heard talk of se-

G - C
paration whole

C - F
Heard people talk of u-

C - G
Bet-ween our lungs and the air

C - F
How some-where the grass be-

C - G
At the end of your long brown hair

G
But such an em-

C/C - Am7 - Am7/G
bo-di-ment of life

C - C/B - Am7
I ne-ver thought to see

F - G - C
I'm dream-ing of a wo-

In a red-wood tree
1. I've heard people talk of love
   And connections of the soul
   Heard talk of separation
   And how the world is whole
   Heard people talk of unity
   Between our lungs and the air
   How somewhere the grass begins
   At the end of your long brown hair
   But such an embodiment of life
   I never thought to see
   *I'm dreaming of a woman in a redwood tree*

2. I've heard people talk of passion
   And the feelings that there are
   When there isn't any difference
   Between the near and the far
   When nobody is a stranger
   And everything's right here
   Sometimes words just get in the way
   And silence is so dear
   I've seen you close your eyes
   And just disappear and be
   *I'm dreaming of a woman in a redwood tree*

3. I've heard people talk of sadness
   To be in the lonesome few
   When the destruction's all around
   And it might as well be you
   When they're cutting down your siblings
   And everything's just falling
   When you know time does not exist
   But you can hear the urgent present calling
   When all you can do is cry
   And make a desperate plea
   *I'm dreaming of a woman in a redwood tree*

4. And I've heard people talk of hope
   And the power of emotion
   Of the overwhelming beauty
   Of a universe in motion
   How a single flame can start a fire
   How the fire can give birth
   How the soil can be nurtured
   And fill up all the earth
   I've heard people talk of vision
   And what it means to be free
   *I'm dreaming of a woman in a redwood tree*
1. I was young once  
   It was a long time ago  
   Things were different then  
   I thought that you should know  
   This old building  
   Was once a factory  
   We made Stetsons  
   Your grandpa and me  
   It wasn't easy but at least  
   Life was going down  
   There used to be a city in this town

2. This rusted railyard  
   Had a hotel and a couple of stores  
   We had good times here  
   Between the wars  
   It wasn't paradise  
   But there was music in the street  
   Right there is where your grandparents  
   First had a chance to meet  
   They got married in that church  
   I can still see her wedding gown  
   There used to be a city in this town

3. When the change came  
   It started one by one  
   First the layoffs  
   Then the factory was gone  
   Then came the highways  
   The suburbs and Wal-Mart  
   That was the final blow  
   That tore this place apart  
   But it seems like just last year  
   When there were people all around  
   There used to be a city in this town

4. The census says there's people here  
   But I think someone's confused  
   Just look out at these sidewalks  
   They're not being used  
   You know when a city dies  
   It doesn't die with grace  
   It just becomes a ruin  
   Shouting this was once the place  
   Guess it's time to leave  
   But I don't know where I'd be bound  
   There used to be a city in this town
Vanguard

Am

Worker's World says they have all the answers

And Mil-

C

lo-sevic is a guy that they admire

The I-S-O says

E

Trot-sky is the man

And they'll de-bate it un-til they all ex-

F

pire

The in-dus-trial work-ers will lead the revolu-

C

tion

G

So says the S-W-P

E

No the

truth lies with the lum-pen

R-C-P 'Cause I am the lead-er of the

F

work-ers

And I'll tell you why the left is sus-

C

pect

G

'Cause there's some-thing you don't un-

F

der-stand

E

my line is cor-

rect 'Cause I am the
1. Worker's World says that they have all the answers
   And Milosevic is a guy that they admire
   The ISO says Trotsky is the man
   And they'll debate it until they all expire
   The industrial workers will lead the revolution
   So claims the SWP
   No, the truth lies among the lumpen
   That's the RCP

2. The Sparts say the rest can go to hell
   And everyone else is a Stalinist
   The CP will just do their thing
   And pretend the others don't exist
   Well I had a realization this morning
   When I looked into the red and dawning sun
   I've figured out the truth
   And I'm forming a party of one

   I am the leader of the workers
   And I'll tell you why the Left is suspect
   Because there's something you don't understand
   Only my line is correct
   'Cause I am the vanguard of the masses
   And all of you should just follow me
   If you doubt my analysis
   You must be in the petty bourgeoisie

3. But I am not sectarian
   It's all the rest who are
   I work fine in coalitions
   As long as I'm the shining star
   The lastest V.I. Lenin
   And off to the camps to all of you
   Who'd say, "not this again"

(Chorus)

4. And I'll have no music at my protests
   And none of that goddamn puppetry
   I'll just have some somber slogans
   No decadent frivolity
   My chants will be the right ones
   Just the ones that should be said
   And my banners we'll wave proudly
   Just the proper shade of red

5. And I will build the party if it kills me
   I am solely dedicated to the cause
   If I have to stab you in the back
   This won't give me pause
   'Cause my platform will take us forward
   And the ends always justify the means
   And you must step aside behind me
   Be you Quakers, Jews, anarchists or greens

(Chorus)
The Village Where Nothing Happened

David Rovics

C F G C

The Army Commander spoke to the media. He said

F C F G

this is a nation of laws. We do not target civilians.

C F C

And he said as he looked into the camera. With a
cold bone-chilling stare.

G C

As for the village of Kama A-do. Nothing happened there.
1. The Army commander spooke to the media
   He said, "We are a nation of laws
   "We do not target civilians
   "And we only bomb with cause"
   And he said as he looked into the camera
   With a cold, bone-chilling stare
   "As for the village of Kama Ado
   "Nothing happened there"

2. In the village where nothing happened
   Most people had risen from bed
   Women were preparing to cook
   And make sure every mouth would be fed
   Just before the beginning of Ramadan
   Water was set out to boil
   Little fires were heating tin kettles
   Upon the dry Afghan soil

3. In the village where nothing happened
   Children played in the street
   Men were bending in prayer
   Some with no shoes on their feet
   It was another day like so many
   That had gone down before
   And nobody told Kama Ado
   Just what horrors lay in store

4. In the village where nothing happened
   Nobody knew
   That this place would be changed forever
   By an American B-52
   The bombs fell all around them
   So many a deafening blast
   And the people of Kama Ado
   Learned that life can end so fast

5. In the village where nothing happened
   The houses collapsed in the morn
   Not one terrorist died there
   But maybe some were born
   In the village of Kama Ado
   There are no underground caves
   There's just rubble and dust and craters
   And 115 new graves

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The War Is Over

David Rovics

C

The president stood in front of the jet planes The rubble's all settled and democracy reigns We've defeated their army and taken control Dropped thousands of bombs Now they've taken their toll The oil's on fire Just like the blood of a billion Muslims dragged through the mud And the world is safer with the dictator gone And their lot will improve with our corporate pawn And the war is over that's what he said Just go back to your bus'-ness we've buried the dead And the war is over
1. The President stood in front of the jet planes
   The rubble's all settled and democracy reigns
   We've defeated their army and taken control
   We dropped thousands of bombs, now they've taken their toll
   The oil's on fire, just like the blood
   Of a billion Muslims dragged through the mud
   And the world is safer with the dictator gone
   And their lot will improve with our corporate pawn

   (Chorus)
   The war is over, that's what he said
   Go back to your business, we've buried the dead
   And the war is over

2. Fatherless children have taken the street
   All that remains is the sting of defeat
   Homes are in ruins, cancer is rife
   For soldiers and newborns, the end of a life
   Kids grown up with just hunger and fear
   But lo, behold, the Yankees are here
   And now all you people are gonna be free
   'Cause this land was made for Chevron and me

   (Chorus)
   The war is over, that's what he said
   Just turn on your TV, we've buried the dead
   And the war is over

3. The government files are all up in flames
   His victims of terror, who remembers their names
   The past doesn't matter but the future is bright
   As the Exxon refinery lights up the night
   History's looted like the library's shelves
   But we'll fill them with Bibles and be proud of ourselves
   We'll turn your schools into compounds and make room for us all
   If you're missing your legs you can learn how to crawl

   (Chorus)
   The war is over, that's what he said
   Forget it all happened, we've buried the dead
   And the war is over

4. And the price was worth it, yes we'd do it again
   With bombs or with sanctions -- kids, women and men
   'Cause we have national interests and they must be met
   We will enforce them by treaty or jet
   And when time has passed and you've had time to rest
   We'll find a new villain 'cause that's what we do best
   Maybe a sultan or a grandson of Mao
   But don't trouble your conscience because as of now

   (Chorus)
   The war is over, that's what he said
   Just put it behind you, we've buried the dead
   And the war is over
We Are Everywhere

When I say the hungry should have food
I speak for many
While some don’t have
Though I may find myself stranded in some strange place
With naught but a vacant stare
I remember the world and I know
We are everywhere
1. When I say the hungry should have food
   I speak for many
   When I say no one should have seven homes
   While some don't have any
   Though I may find myself stranded in some strange place
   With naught but a vapid stare
   I remember the world and I know
   We are everywhere

2. When I say the time for the rich, it will come
   Let me count the ways
   Victories or hints of the future
   Havana, Caracas, Chiapas, Buenos Aires
   How many people are wanting and waiting
   And fighting for their share
   They hide in their ivory towers
   But we are everywhere

3. Religions and prisons and races
   Borders and nations
   FBI agents and congressmen
   And corporate radio stations
   They try to keep us apart, but we find each other
   And the rulers are always aware
   That they're a tiny minority
   And we are everywhere

4. With every bomb that they drop, every home they destroy
   Every land they invade
   Comes a new generation from under the rubble
   Saying "we are not afraid"
   They will pretend we are few
   But with each child that a billion mothers bear
   Comes the next demonstration
   That we are everywhere
1. When we're living in the White House
   And debating on the hill
   Of all your crazy antics
   We'll all have had our fill
   We'll be closing down munitions plants
   And Old Glory will be furled
   'Cause we don't want your big machines
   We just want the world

4. We'll be closing down the jails
   Fixing up the schools
   Distributing those stocks and bonds
   Changing all the rules
   We'll elect a CEO
   Maybe a rabbit or a squirrel
   'Cause we don't want your money
   We just want the world

2. And a bill will be proposed
   Section number one
   We're shutting down the oil rigs
   And turning towards the sun
   The air will be clean
   For all the boys and girls
   'Cause we don't want your oil tankers
   We just want the world

5. We'll be swimming in the rivers
   And running to the hills
   Reading in the history books
   Of wars and oil spills
   If it's linear we'll bend it
   If it's a straight line it'll curl
   'Cause we don't want your dead-end highways
   We just want the world

(Repeat first verse)

3. Face the executioner
   Shut the chip mills all down
   Get busy planting hemp
   Leave the trees there in the ground
   Life is so precious
   On this little, spinning pearl
   We don't want your bulldozers
   We just want the world

We Just Want the World

David Rovics
I landed in Denmark and there was Burger King
And a red and white sign saying "Coke's the real thing"
The Titanic was sinking at the local cineplex
And the kids were chomping on corn chex
In the city center the stores were closing down
Things just haven't been the same since the Wal-Mart came to town
In the growing suburbs folks were driving minivans
And it's all gone according to the best-laid plans

Welcome to the European Union
It's evolving every day
Getting more and more like the USA
2. Well I thumbed a ride to Hamburg, saw the homeless in the street
The mayor had to build more houses to make room for the elite
The cops were rounding up the immigrants, sending them to other places
It was plain to see the desperation on their faces
When I got to Brussels you could feel the scheming in the air
Corporate executives in suits were everywhere
And they were very happy for all the plans they made
And you could hear them chanting, "free trade free trade free trade!"

(Chorus)

3. And in London men were saying, "We need more fighter planes
And we need more motorways with some extra lanes
We need Washington to teach us how an economy runs
And spend lots more money on cars and bombs and guns
When Euro-Interests are threatened we must be prepared
To invade some backward country if the United States is scared
Africa may shake and the peaceniks will glower
But what the world plainly needs is another superpower"

(Chorus)

4. Once we were so proud of social democracy
Welfare for all and long vacations by the sea
But now we have seen the errors of our ways
There is no alternative, no way back to the old days
If you want a living wage, we’ll tell you where to go
As we welcome China into the WTO
Yes if you want an honest job your prospects might not look sunny
But there’s never been a better time if you’ve got lots of money

(Chorus)

5. Yes in the halls of power from Athens to Par-ee
You can hear the rulers shouting "no more subsidy
So fuck off all you workers, farmers, greens and all
It’s time to turn the world into a giant shopping mall"
From Rasmussen to Shroeder, Blair to Berlusconi
It’s all the same old show, same old dog and pony
If you need me to spell it out, what’s the matter with them
It’s called C-A-P-I-T-A-L-I-S-M

(Chorus)
What If You Knew

David Rovics

If you knew the earth was dying
If they said this on the news
If they would clarify the picture
'Stead of seeking to confuse
If you could see the ice-caps melting
If you could watch the oceans rise
If you could see the consequences
Right before your eyes
If you knew the kids were dying
If you could look inside The river where their food comes from
Filled with cyanide
If you could hear the parents pleading
If they were looking right at you
If you could feel the anguish in their hearts
What if you knew

Note: DADGAD (see intro).
1. If you knew that the earth was dying
   If they said this on the news
   If they would clarify the picture
   Instead of seeking to confuse
   If you could see the ice caps melting
   If you could watch the oceans rise
   If you could see the consequences
   Right before your eyes
   If you knew the kids were dying
   If you could look inside
   The river where their food comes from
   Filled with cyanide
   If you could hear the parents pleading
   If they were looking right at you
   If you could see the anguish in their hearts
   What if you knew

2. If you knew the bombs were falling
   If they showed them hit the ground
   If you could see the bodies flying
   If you could hear the sound
   If you could see the rubble
   Where the hospital once stood
   If you saw the child's lifeless limbs
   Would you hold them if you could
   If you knew that they were lying
   Every time they spoke
   For every laser-guided pinprick
   There were lives lost in the smoke
   If instead of just the generals
   They had doctors, too
   To describe the carnage of the cluster bombs
   What if you knew

3. If you knew what they were saying
   When they think you cannot hear
   If you understood what they do
   If for you it was so clear
   If you knew they shut down the factory
   In an economic ruse
   If you could kiss the cheek of the child
   In the sweatshop that made your shoes
   If every time we went to war
   To fight our evil foes
   They told you we were really fighting
   For the good of CEOs
   If you could feel the hunger of the many
   And see the riches of the few
   If they told it like it is
   What if you knew

4. If you knew that you were living
   In a huge conspiracy
   Would you leave your suburbs
   Get out of your SUV
   Would you hold your ground
   When the stormtrooper arrives
   If you knew that the whole planet
   Depended on what you do now
   Would you take command
   And wipe the sweat off of your brow
   If the pundits told the truth
   For just a week or two
   And real life was shown on TV
   What if you knew
Who Will Tell The People

David Rovics

Am    F

The C - I - A is sel - ling crack in the ghett - oes of L - A While the

G    F      G    Am

food crops in Co - lom - bi - a get sprayed by the D - E - A The F - B -

F

I is read - ing your e - mail with some - thing called the Cat - ni - vore And the

G    F       G    Am

rich are get - ting rich - er while the poor are stay - ing poor They're launch - ing

G

nu - clear pow - ered ships up in - to space One lit - tle

F       G    Am

ac - ci - dent could wipe out half the hu - man race They're put - ting ra - di - o - ac - tive

G

waste in - to your sil - ver - ware Or may - be your toast - er or per -

F       G       Am

haps your wheel chair

Who will tell the

Am    F

people that free speech is a ruse The cor - por -

E

a - tions run the coun - try And then they make the

F   G      Am    F

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1. The CIA is pushing crack in the ghettos of LA
   While the food crops in Colombia get sprayed by the DEA
   The FBI is reading your email with something called the carnivore
   And the rich are getting richer while the poor are staying poor
   They're launching nuclear-powered ships up into space
   One little accident could wipe out half the human race
   And they're putting radioactive waste into your silverware
   Or maybe your toaster or perhaps your wheelchair

2. The Air Force is bombing people in Iraq every other day
   They don't like the government so the children have to pay
   The ozone hole is spreading and the sheep are going blind
   While the US spends more on arms than the rest of the world combined
   Journalists are getting fired from San Jose to Atlanta
   When they write about reality, not a fluff piece for Fanta
   A death threat every week and sometimes life is short
   When the truth is too dangerous for someone to report

Who will tell the people that free speech is a ruse
The corporations run the country and then they make the news
Is it media or mind control, heroic victories or crimes
Who will tell the people that we're living in these times
3. The cancer rates are skyrocketing though people are smoking less  
   If you live near a nuke your life is bound to be a mess  
   Clean water's almost gone all over the earth  
   And what's left they want to privatize and see how much it's worth  
   Chevron is gunning down the students of Nigeria  
   Turning the land to waste while the babies die of dyptheria  
   And the weather's getting hotter, the world's forests are on fire  
   Pretty soon Brazil will be one giant funeral pyre

(Chorus)

4. One in three adult Americans cannot read or write  
   And their children go to bed hungry every night  
   And two million US citizens are rotting behind bars  
   And while they're there they're working hard building parts for cars  
   And the Army's running torture schools to keep the earth under control  
   And they're relocating Navajos so they can mine some extra coal  
   Our taxes pay McDonald's to sell tumors in Shanghai  
   While a hundred thousand poisoned vets are just about to die

(Chorus)

5. And the people are resisting wherever you may go  
   And this is the single biggest fact they don't want you to know  
   From New Delhi to New Mexico there are battles going on  
   And the darkest hour is just before the dawn  
   And in Berkeley and New York they're raiding radio stations  
   Trying to turn the voice of the people into the voice of the corporations  
   Will we seize the airwaves, wipe the sweat off of our brow  
   Stand and face the beast and shout, "Democracy Now!"

(Chorus)
Who Would Jesus Bomb?

I've seen you in the markets I've seen you in the streets And
at your political convention Talking of your crusade

Talking of your nation And other things too terrible to
mention And you proclaim your Christianity You pro-
claim your love of God You talk of apple pie and mom Well

I've just got one question And I want an answer Tell me who would Jesus
bomb

Maybe Jesus would bomb the Syrians 'Cause they're not Jews like him

Maybe Jesus would bomb the Afghans On some kind of vengeful whim

Maybe Jesus would drive an M-1 tank And he would shoot Saddam

Who would Jesus bomb
1. I've seen you in the markets  
   I've seen you in the streets  
   And at your political convention  
   Talking of your crusade  
   Talking of your nation  
   And other things too terrible to mention  
   And you proclaim your Christianity  
   You proclaim your love of God  
   You talk of apple pie and mom  
   Well I've just got one question  
   And I want an answer  
   Tell me, who would Jesus bomb?  
   Maybe Jesus would bomb the Syrians  
   'Cause they're not Jews like him  
   Maybe Jesus would bomb the Afghans  
   On some kind of vengeful whim  
   Maybe Jesus would drive an M1 tank  
   And he would shoot Saddam  
   **Tell me, who would Jesus bomb?**

2. I've seen you on the TV  
   And on the battleships  
   I've seen you in the house upon the hill  
   And I've heard you talking  
   About making the world safer  
   And about all the men you have to kill  
   And you speak so glibly  
   About your civilization  
   And how you have the moral higher ground  
   While halfway around the world  
   Your explosives smash the buildings  
   Ah, if you could only hear the sound  
   But maybe Jesus would sell land mines  
   And turn on his electric chair  
   Maybe Jesus would show no compassion  
   For his enemies in the lands way over there  
   Maybe Jesus would have flown the planes  
   That killed the kids in Viet Nam  
   **Tell me, who would Jesus bomb**

3. Yes I hear you shout with confidence  
   As you praise the lord  
   And you talk about this God you know so well  
   And you talk of Armageddon  
   And your final victory  
   When all the evil forces go to hell  
   Well you'd best hope you've chosen wisely  
   On the right side of the lord  
   And when you die your conscience it is clear  
   You'd best hope that your atom bombs  
   Are better than the sword  
   At the time when your reckoning is here  
   'Cause I don't think Jesus would send gunships  
   into Bethlehem  
   Or jets to raze the towns of Timorese  
   I don't think Jesus would lend money to  
   dictators  
   Or drive those SUV’s  
   And I don't think Jesus would ever have  
   dropped  
   A single ounce of napalm  
   **So tell me, who would Jesus bomb?**

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**Note:** DADGAD (see intro).