

# Lake Marie

John Prine

We were standing  
Standing by peaceful waters  
Standing by peaceful waters  
Whoa, wah, oh wha, oh  
Whoa, wah, oh wha, oh Many years ago along the Illinois-Wisconsin border  
There was this Indian tribe  
They found two babies in the woods  
White babies One of them was named Elizabeth  
She was the fairer of the two  
While the smaller and more fragile one was named Marie  
Having never seen white girls before And living on the two lakes known as the Twin Lakes  
They named the larger and more beautiful lake, Lake Elizabeth  
And thus the smaller lake that was hidden from the highway  
Became known forever as Lake Marie We were standing  
Standing by peaceful waters  
Standing by peaceful waters  
Whoa, wah, oh wha, oh  
Whoa, wah, oh wha, oh Many years later I found myself talking to this girl  
Who was standing there with her back turned to Lake Marie  
The wind was blowing especially through her hair  
There was four Italian sausages cooking on the outdoor grill  
And man, they was sizzlin' Many years later we found ourselves in Canada  
Trying to save our marriage and perhaps catch a few fish  
Whatever seemed easier, that night she fell asleep in my arms  
Humming the tune to, "Louie Louie"  
Aah baby, we gotta go now We were standing  
Standing by peaceful waters  
Standing by peaceful waters  
Whoa, wah, oh wha, oh  
Whoa, wah, oh wha, oh The dogs were barking as the cars were parking  
The loan sharks were sharking, the narcs were narcing  
Practically everyone was there  
In the parking lot by the forest preserve The police had found two bodies in the woods  
Nay, naked bodies  
Their faces had been horribly disfigured by some sharp object  
Saw it on the news, on the TV news, in a black and white video You know what blood looks like in a black and  
white video?  
Shadows, shadows, that's exactly what it looks like  
All the love we shared between her and me was slammed

Slammed up against the banks of Old Lake Marie, MarieWe were standing

Standing by peaceful waters

Standing by peaceful waters

Whoa, wah, oh wha, oh

Whoa, wah, oh wha, ohWhoa, wah, oh wha, oh

Whoa, wah, oh wha, ohStanding by peaceful waters

Peaceful waters

Standing by peaceful waters

Peaceful watersStanding by peaceful waters

Peaceful waters

Standing by peaceful waters

Peaceful waters

Aah baby, we gotta go now

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