

Talking World War III Blues

Bob Dylan

Some time ago a crazy dream came to me,
I dreamt I was walkin' into World War Three.
I went to the doctor the very next day
To see what kinda words he could say.
He said it was a bad dream.
I wouldn't worry 'bout it none, though,
At the moment dreams are only in your head I said, 'Hold it, Doc, a World War passed through my brain.'
He said, 'Nurse, get your pad, the boy's insane.'
He grabbed my arm, I said, 'Ouch!'
As we landed on the psychiatric couch,
He said, 'Tell me about it.' Well the whole thing started at three o'clock fast,
It was all over by quarter past.
I was down in the sewer with some little lover
When I peeked out from a manhole cover
Wonderin' who turned the lights on. Well, I got up and I walked around
Up and down the lonesome town.
I stood a-wondering which way to go,
I lit a cigarette on a parking meter
And walked on down the road.
It was a normal day. Well, I rung the fallout shelter bell
And I leaned my head and I gave a yell,
'Give me a string bean, I'm a hungry man.'
A shotgun fired and away I ran.
I don't blame him too much though,
He didn't know me. Down at the corner by a hot-dog stand
I seen a man. I said, 'Howdy friend,
I guess there's just us two.'
He screamed a bit and away he flew.
Thought I was a Communist. Well, I spied me a girl and before she could leave,
I said, 'Let's go and play Adam and Eve.'
I took her by the hand and my heart was thumpin'
When she said, 'Hey man, you crazy or sumpin',
You see what happened last time they started. Well, I seen me a Cadillac window uptown
There was nobody aroun'.
I got into the driver's seat
And I drove down 42nd Street
In my Cadillac.
Good car to drive after a war. Well, I remember seein' some ad,
So I turned on my Conelrad.

But I didn't pay the Con Ed bill,
So the radio didn't work so well.
Turned on my record player -
It was Rock-A-Day Johnny singin',
'Tell Your Ma, Tell Your Pa,
Our Loves Are Gonna Grow Ooh-wah, Ooh-wah.' I was feelin' kinda lonesome and blue,
I needed somebody to talk to.
So I called up the operator of time
Just to hear a voice of some kind.
'When you hear the beep
It will be three o'clock.'
She said that for over an hour
And I hung up. Well, the doctor interrupted me just about then,
Sayin', 'Hey, I've been havin' the same old dreams,
But mine was a little different you see.
I dreamt the only person left after the war was me.
I didn't see you around.' Well, now time passed and now it seems
Everybody's having them dreams.
Everybody sees their self walkin' around with no one else.
Half of the people can be part right all of the time,
And some of the people can be all right part of the time,
But all of the people can't be all right all of the time.
I think Abraham Lincoln said that.
'I'll let you be in my dream if I can be in yours.'
I said that.

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