Now He's Just Dust In the Wind

Ramblin' Jack Elliott

Out in the state of west Texas

Old cowboys, they all gathered 'round.

A family of friends from all over

To spread his ashes aroundIn the stirrups his boots were tied backwards

Buell led his horse up the trail.

You had to be there, he was cast in the air

I'll remember the rest of my days. Way out in that desert terrain

They scattered his ashes on the plains.

On a painted plateau, we had to let go

Of a man we were all glad to know. Cowboy Franky played fiddle

He had a great tear in his eye.

A friend, he had gone but he picked his own home,

A god place to rest when he died. Now he's just dist in the wind

He'd been every place that I've been.

In spite of injustice he always stood tall.

He'd a done it all over again. He was not a man of great fortune

Born of a mixture in race

French and Indian. Irish and black

He was slighted by all in disgrace. As a playwright his friend addressed the troubles of men.

He won a great prize of his day.

But his true friends were always the cowboys,

You heard nothing from them but their praiseThe song that was sung was one of farewell

Goodbye to the friend we'd known well.

A great man had died in west Texas

Gone to heaven from a life lived in hell. The cowboys' lament to his spirit

So moved me Icould not speak a word.

Dust in the wind is what he became,

I'll never forget what I heard. Now he's just dust in the wind

He'd been every place that I've been

In spite of injustice he always stood tall

He'd a done it all over again.

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