

RAFAEL DE SWARTE
SKIES OF STONE
CASSETTE RECORDINGS 1972-1974



LYRICS

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SKIES OF STONE

I've been wandering such a long, long time
And the wind has blown through my bones
But it's not that that troubles me the most
It's that everything is always known
Where the skies are made of stone

As I rest my head and stare straight up
The road that I walked in thoughts divine
Carrying my wine in an airtight flask
But there's nothing left to hold me in the past
Where the skies are made of glass

Well I don't mind what season it is
Could be rain or shine
Living in the curious mysteries of life

If I listen now with your heart and mine
Will I still be afraid to open my eyes
To be each day feeling just how I feel
Or am I destined to fall when I lose my shield
Where the skies are made of steel

There are lonely hours when I run aground
And my sails are caught in a familiar sound
But I don't think too much about a place to sleep
Or I'd stay right there never wishing to be
Where the skies are not just dreams

STOP PRESS (ALL AROUND THE WORLD)

Stop Press don't jog keep on writing
Said the reporter to his wife
I know, yes I know it might be late in arriving
But I think we'll get it in in time

Stop Press in space you'll be delighted to hear
Two men were found
For five days straight they hadn't decided
Which language was allowed

Cut into your confusion sir he said
Locked into your confusion sir he said

Stop Press come on listen to me lying
Said the minister to the friend
We must not delay our advertising
If we're to get in again

Stop Press all around the world
Stop Press all around the world

Stop Press I see a man walking like a soldier
When the game of war is gone
You said you would be different when it was over
But you're still playing the same one

Locked into your confusion sir he said
Locked into your confusion sir he said

Stop Press my god is the direct most high
Plantation is a nomad phrase
Unless the drift should be my foundation
In the seventh grade

Stop Press all around this world
Stop Press all around the world

TAKE ME TO YOUR HEAVEN

Open and listening the speaker sat quite still
No tapes to measure the strength of his will

The harbours the gardens the rattle of a train
The moon on the water cool in the rain

Take me to your heaven
Lead me like a son
Show me how to do everything I've never done

Well the raincoated old men sitting on a bench
Reminiscing the war reminiscing the trench

The moon and the sunshine the apples on a tree
Shady old oak shady old me

Take me to your heaven
Lead me like a son
Show me how to do everything I've never done

Hazy and shaking
From the violence of someone's eyes
Saw him coming towards me once and then twice
Such a clear impression unnerving like a sting
But he was still on the floor trying to sing

Take me to your heaven
Lead me like a son
Show me how to do everything I've never done

The hymn books and the preachers
Piano playing gurus
Tell me to be like a man but I'll be how I choose

Take me to your heaven
Lead me like a son
Show me how to do everything I've never done

THERE IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR LOVE

It's a frustrating fact I never foresaw
Slow time prophets only get you further back
Grabbing at straws only got me further down
Basing your life on the hidden laws of the crowd

I love to hear you calling your sweet refrain
When restraining seemed like
The natural thing to do
You wake me up when I fall to sleep
The receiver's not so quiet so deep and true

There is not a substitute for love
There is not a substitute
There is not a substitute for love
And no other lover for me

When I walked out one night in the dark
Made me think about little Noah and his ark
The water and the sun raised up a pretty tree
And emotion moved from its purity

There is not a substitute for love
There is not a substitute
There is not a substitute for love
And no other lover for me

It's a frustrating fact I never foresaw
Slow time prophets only get you further back
Basing your life on the hidden laws of the crowd
Slow time prophets only get you further back

There is not a substitute for love
There is not a substitute
There is not a substitute for love
And no other lover for me

RADIO LOVER

I guess the radio must be your lover
'Cos I remember when I once passed by
We couldn't get it on with no other
So I was being the one who had to try

All along the road
All along the road
All along the road

The leaves have fallen we trod 'em under
But you can still catch a glimpse of old sunlight
It's just caution dear that makes a fellow wonder
Why he should never move from left nor right

All along the road
All along the road
All along the road

You said you would never love another
If only I would forget how to cry
But the room you live in is too crowded
And the ceiling that you live on is too high

All along the road
All along the road
All along the road

Well I guess the radio must be your lover
'Cos I remember when I once passed by
We couldn't get it on with no other
So I was being the one who had to try

All along the road
All along the road
All along the road

SHAKY LAND BLUES (JAM AT THE FLAT)

I was eating dates in the desert
With my suitcase by my side
I was eating dates in the desert
With my suitcase by my side
I hitched a ride on a camel
Nearly busted open from inside

I was going forty miles an hour across the sand
I had my driving license in my hand
I was going forty miles an hour in the desert
I had my driving license in my hand
Well I thought I heard a train whistle
Oh lord it musta just been some grain of sand

I'm going down to my home
Just to see what I can find
Well I come on down to my home
I thought come and see what I could find
Maybe it wasn't worth it maybe it was
Well man I was nearly sucked right dry

But I'm alright now
Yes I'ma I'm gonna build up a wall
Ain't nobody gonna get inside
I'm gonna build it so high
I'm gonna build up a wall yes I am oh yeah
Everybody's gonna fall
As they try to jump over it or kick it down
They're gonna find out

Yeah they're gonna find out they're on
They're gonna find out
They're on shaky land
Alright

(OH MAMA) GIVE A LITTLE SOMETIME

People are falling all around
When they try to get up
You just knock 'em back down

Oh mama gotta give a little sometime

There's always someone
With someone else's view
Think they can stick into you
But now

Oh mama gotta give a little sometime

Going to the country
Take you along
But I ain't gonna sit
And quarrel all day long

Oh mama gotta give a little sometime

Well now...all the time I'm trying to see
How you turn everything to a mystery

Oh mama gotta give a little sometime

I had another think
Gonna go
Well I just can't wait around
In this show oh

Oh mama gotta give a little sometime

DRUGS AND THE I

Oh oh drugs and the I
Oh oh grass and I

Oh oh drugs and the I
Oh oh grass and I

No weary
No dreary weary
No weary
No dreary

Miss miss near me
Near me gone
Miss miss near me
Near me gone

Oh oh drugs and the I
Oh oh drugs and the I

Oh oh drugs and the I
Oh oh grass and I

Oh oh drugs and the I
Oh ooh grass and I

Out in space trumpets begin
Violins sing trumpets sing

EASY RIDER (BAND REHEARSAL)

Tell me where my easy rider gone
Tell me where my easy rider gone
Tell me where my easy rider gone
I been worrying about you babe
Wishing you'd please come home

Easy rider must've died out on the road
Easy rider must've died out on the road
Easy rider must've died out on the road
I been worrying about you babe
Wishing you'd please come home

Didn't quit the cocaine you gonna lose your mind
Didn't quit the cocaine
You know you gonna lose your mind
Wishing you would return one more time
Hear me singing so many things left behind

Tell me where my easy rider gone
Tell me where my easy rider gone
Tell me where my easy rider gone
I been worrying about you
Wishing you'd please come home

COLD LIGHT OF DAY (BAND REHEARSAL)

Opinion flare and temper rage
Make you sit and feel afraid
They always seem to be too sure
Like being in a prison with a flag for a door

Your catholic envy will get you in the end
With you repeating a cold amen
Hold your tongue now you're next in line
Maybe heaven won't be so divine

You have no feel of sympathy
You don't leave much space to breathe
There's a cave-in at the side of the road
But you're devoured by your thoughts
And your sophisticated codes

You enjoy seeing other people in pain
Accent your dreams with the power you gain
Like a pauper in a history book
You don't need to be much more than you look

Why don't we cast aside
The old and tried
I don't need a preacher trying to save my soul
Leave alone the things we know
I love ya when ya losing control

Repeat Verse 1 Repeat Verse 4

Why don't we cast aside the old and tried
I don't need nobody trying to save my soul
Leave alone the things we know
I love ya when ya losing control

Repeat Verse 2 Repeat Verse 1

BORN NAKED (BAND REHEARSAL)

He was born naked after the raging flood
As blind as a shadow a stranger in city clothes
But he rose and he rose

In the arms of a woman was a distant refugee
Wrapped in a sadness when he began to see
Alone he could be free

AUBURN SUNBEAM COLLEEN

Well so long
Take your freeze witness down

Well so long
Ain't no bedlam in this town

Be my queen
Auburn sunbeam colleen
I said be my queen
Auburn sunbeam colleen

There's so much noise
Better sleep my time away away away

I said be my queen
Auburn sunbeam
Auburn sunbeam colleen

Well so long baby
I been low down on your track

Well it takes an easy man
Get that worried look off your back

I said be my queen
Auburn sunbeam colleen

ROMANTIC TOURISTS

Two rows started in the hallway, I stumbled
Out of the door and into a scene
An extraordinary scene completely unreason
Yet reason alone was the reason for this dream

I can hear them down below
Through the shutters and the window
Now they watch car lights instead of stars
Once upon a time they drank anything going
The time taking pills
Passing through their mouths

The sober and stumblers I can see them talking
Opening the windows the noise rushes in
Like the tide of a city river
Dirty, dirty and grim

But it's alright for tourists
And romantics like them
It's alright for tourists
And romantics like them
It's alright for tourists
And romantics like them

Only three friends
Only three friends
Only three friends

THE BALLAD OF POOR JOHN

This is the story about poor John
Lived out in the backwoods

Used to go riding everyday
With his favourite horse

Then he got a little bit older
Something pressed his mind
Then he kinda fell in love, something like that

He kinda seen this girl regular
Then they decided to get married, somehow

Things were ok for quite some time
John going out on his horse everyday
Doing just fine

Then she started to get a little bit jealous
Spending so much time out there on his horse

She decided to do something about it
To get him to pay more attention to her

So one day she got up before the crack of dawn
And left with his horse

John got up, his wife and horse gone
Didn't know what to do

Went down to the saloon and got himself a drink

And from that day he never got up
Just a long drunken line to his death

Poor John he thought he had
A faithful companion
But she stole his
Favourite stallion

RAMBLIN' ROUND

I go ramblin' round I go ramblin' round
I go ramblin' round I go ramblin' round

I go ramblin'
Mama go ramblin' too

I been lost and found I been lost and found
I been lost and found I been lost and found

I been down so low
I couldn't see the ground

I go ramblin' round I go ramblin' round
I go ramblin' round I go ramblin' round

I go ramblin'
Mama come on ramblin' too

BLUE ECHOES

Tell you what I feel tell you what I like
Long gone bail Lord alright

Told my man said he was alone
But he couldn't even tell loan my own

Come and go

Tell you what is mean tell you we're running
Home grown baby you're gone goin' fight

I'm ready to go I'm ready to fight and
All lay down and hold me high

Come here baby an hold me here tight
All the way to dynamite whoa