

Woody Guthrie "Heaven"

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It's after my work tired and weary, I lay down to rest my eyes,
I see this world change in a whirlwind and heaven flies down from the skies;
I see rising up from my wreckage, cities and mansions so bright
I see my friends eyes and their faces lit up with a bright shining light.

I walk through the sunshiny factory where dresses and shirts are both clean;
A brother and sister are singing at work as they watch all the wheels;
No smudge clouds of smoke hid my valley, my sight it is clear for miles;
The mountains are all dancing happy, the trees are waving me smiles.

There are no sickly faces about me, the children are healthy and gay;
Not one homeless soul is around me, not lost, nor cripple, nor lame;
The street laid in finest of plastics, the atom is laboring as well;
No airships are crashing here by me, no dead ones in burning hotels.

No fast cars collide nor turn over, no death curve along my new road;
No cheaters, no gamblers, no robbers, no graveyard, no prisons, no jails;
No gasbombs, no brass knucks, no billies, no battles 'tween worker and boss;
No patrolman, no officer, policeman, to ride into crowds on his horse.

The last labor battles are ended, they're shown on the screen and the page;
The workhand is happy at building his world like the play on his stage;
Profiteers are gone and forgotten, except in my history and book,

My friends all have jobs here in heaven and sing as I
stand here and look.
I am sawing the finest made fiddle, I am touching the
richest skin drum;
I am blowing the sweetest of woodwinds and blowing
the deepest of horns;
I dance to my music I'm making, and the world joins in
with my dance;
Science and hope cures the fevers, not one grain is
blowing by chance.

Every hand works in hand with the other, and not for
power nor greed;
Every hand works to its fullest ability and is paid in its
deepest of need;
No cancer, no tuberculosis, no paralysis nor asylums
are here
No bowery, nor skid row of homeless, no eye that is
blinded by tears.

If you can only see with me this vision of heaven I
dreamed,
Then you can take new faith in working with comrades
and friends
And when I woke up from my sleeping and looked
down my raggedy street,
I go back to work with my vision and I drink down the
bitter and sweet.

I know as you hear such a dream, friend, you will not
pass it along;
I do not expect you to sing it as I do, nor to sing such a
curious song;
I wrote down this song for my own self, and sing it now
to my own soul,
But if you'll sing songs of your dreamings, then you will
reap treasures untold.

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