Billy Bragg "Waiting for The Great Leap Forwards"

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It may have been camelot for jack and jacqueline
But on the che guevara highway filling up with gasoline
Fidel castro's brother spies a rich lady who's crying
Over luxury's disappointment
So he walks over and he's trying
To sympathise with her but he thinks that he should
warn her
That the third world is just around the corner

In the soviet union a scientist is blinded By the resumption of nuclear testing and he is reminded That dr robert oppenheimer's optimism fell At the first hurdle

In the cheese pavilion and the only noise I hear Is the sound of someone stacking chairs And mopping up spilt beer And someone asking questions and basking in the light Of the fifteen fame filled minutes of the fanzine writer

Mixing pop and politics he asks me what the use is I offer him embarrassment and my usual excuses While looking down the corridor Out to where the van is waiting I'm looking for the great leap forwards

Jumble sales are organised and pamphlets have been posted

Even after closing time there's still parties to be hosted You can be active with the activists Or sleep in with the sleepers While you're waiting for the great leap forwards

One leap forward, two leaps back Will politics get me the sack?

Here comes the future and you can't run from it If you've got a blacklist I want to be on it

It's a mighty long way down rock 'n roll From top of the pops to drawing the dole If no one seems to understand Start your own revolution and cut out the middleman

In a perfect world we'd all sing in tune But this is reality so give me some room

So join the struggle while you may The revolution is just a t-shirt away Waiting for the great leap forwards

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