



Michael Boyle

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- Teaching Woody Guthrie Using Modern Rock and Roll

# Talking Jukebox

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OVZsQTkOyG0>
- Triple play: literal is cool and catchy, American worker, and modern meaning- Taylor vs Scooter, spotify 10 for a penny
- Fun narrative, great breakdown
- Point of view- compare to “Tangled Up in Blue”

# The Last One

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igrENGM1NTI>
- Current events- UAW strike
- Very catchy couplets, easy to digest message, the rhymes read like memes
- This, like many, is a song that was written pre-1952, but sounds like it could have been written yesterday

# My Eyes Are Gonna Shine

- Start with the questions “What does the title mean?”
- He isn't too happy with the current state of politics, right? “What names would you replace Hoover, et al with?”
- A song with spiritual overtones from “God's loyal opposition”
- Bo Diddley beat: GT's Who Do You Love and the Who's Magic Bus
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vYQ5hCCn24w>

# My Battle

- This one is a maybe
- This song is a “straight-up spiritual”, again, from someone with decidedly secular beliefs. What other meanings are there? What is the battle?
- In any case, a great country rock feel with a killer lap steel solo
- “I will never dread the day I will die, ‘Cause my sunset is somebody’s morning sky” and “Teach me how, how to win my union in life”- some of the prettiest lyrics in this collection
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYvbSLP2uok>



# Madonna on the Curb

- Homelessness
- Final verse questions funding foreign entities while not providing for our own
- Heartbreaking imagery "She cannot be More than Three"
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H47J\\_qri7MM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H47J_qri7MM)

# My Flowers Grow Green

- Fertility Dance; these songs go back over 1,000 years, but basically it's Cheap Trick's "I Want You to Want Me"
- "My true love has promised to come back to me" Where did he go? Why did he leave? Comparison to BD's "You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go"
- Imagery, flirting in the piano part, bluesy feel (Haitian Divorce)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KuPsJ34CS78>

# King of my Love

- Love song as card game
- Characterization- King, Queen, Jack, 2 44's
- By definition a ballad, but a song of supplication. Last verse is so pretty, so specific, so final
- Compares to Is This Love (Bob Marley) and Our House (Graham Nash)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPXhmAHgvX8>



# Way Off Yonder in a Minor Key Sweet and Bitter Bowl

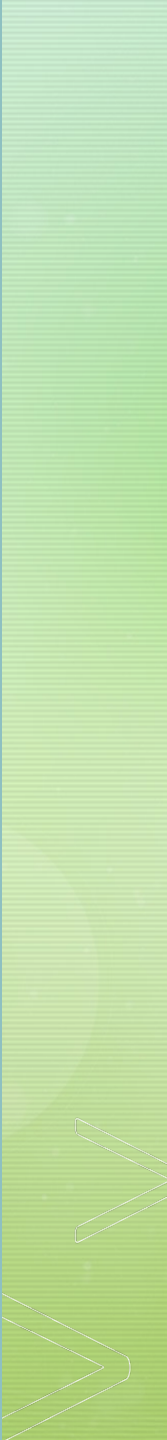
- Woody sez “I talk like an Okie so some of my phrases need seven beats”
- Autodidact and time quotes
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHVo-UKogBs>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HjftRw6tdd8>

# All You Fascists Christ for President

- Saved for last, easy ones
- Other notable versions of AYF include a gospel version
- If you think that's weird, The Klezmatics have 2 albums of Woody including a Hanukkah album
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SFPL97m2dsw>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v17g1hRgInI>



## sources

- Dropkick Murphys: Okemah Rising & This Machine Still Kills Fascists
  - Jonatha Brooke: The Works
  - Wilco & Billy Bragg: Mermaid Avenue
- 



# Woody is literature

- Springsteen quote
- Ed Cray quote