



# About The Songs

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**Don't Bore Me, Man:** «It's not important whether life is too short for boredom. Better boredom than tedium. This alternative is comparable with the choice between a sore throat and broken bones. I'm outta here.»

**21264 Cowboys:** «The absurdity of life sometimes unavoidably leads to very funny moments. Sudden emptiness can be funny too.»

**You Make It Sway:** «A love song. Love sways.»

**Serious Shopping:** «The Loeb Corner, a well-known meeting place in the center of Bern. It's the Holiday Season, the last chance before Christmas to shop during extended evening hours. In the overheated trams, young stockbrokers are sweating in their polyester suits. Junkies are lying in front of the Church of the Holy Spirit, surrounded by dealers and other strange creatures, old ladies on the war path right nearby, the Salvation Army is playing, and then comes this guy with his dog. And I'm supposed to go shopping.»

**Forget About Taste:** «TV talkshows in the afternoon. With topics like *I can only have sex with pregnant donkeys* or *My ex is cheating on my wife's brother with the brother-in-law of the guy who sold me my car and who's screwing my husband behind my back*. Stupid people recounting their stupid lives, on stupid sets, together with other stupid people. All that so that at home you don't have to live yourself anymore, but can constantly watch how it's done, or not done. Around the clock. Always. Even right now.»

**Zoo:** «Off season, outside and in the soul. It doesn't have to be bad anymore. You can make yourself comfortable too. It's been raining so long that the water could just hang in the air. The scene resembles a somewhat rundown zoo. Remember to hug the bears, leave a light on for the rhinos. The camels should have a bath, the penguins will be noisy, please tuck in the flamingos. And especially: don't forget to feed the lions. Good night, see you in the spring.»

**Rock Around the Moon (Yeah):** «All well-intended advice that doesn't matter much if it gets followed. Except for «Waltz like Walter Matthau, think funny.» Written long before Matthau's death. Can definitely be taken as a posthumous homage.»

**Bedpophang:** «An appeal for the here and now and the satisfaction of the senses.»

**Waltz No. 1:** «A tear jerker with every word so intended.»

**Sally Goes Home:** «A continuation of *Joe Went to the Water (Walk, 1996)*. After Joe was no longer to be found, it turns out that Sally is not all that unhappy about it. She has her reasons, of course. It was definitely a good idea to move away from the swampland. She took her kids and did just that. Everything's better now.»

**The Sea Needs Fish:** «A speech about the condition of a faraway land, circa 1998. Optimism as religion, but not really. Everyone plays along and is happy. The future looks bright. And we get to sit in our offices for four more years. So, please do not disturb and/or think.»

**No Ghosts Around Here:** «Goes back to an exchange with my niece. She didn't want to look in the closet because there were ghosts in there. Then we talked about how you might get rid of bad ghosts. She had some pretty good ideas. We agreed that ghosts who don't even sing, dance or like somebody are really stupid.»

**Small Time:** «We live in a small time, in a small era. Hence the longing for big stories. This longing can be really abused. It's not enough anymore to see things for what they are. The mundane gets blown up, what's important gets ignored. And at the same time our attention span is getting shorter and shorter really fast. But you could start right at your own doorstep. Like not ruining residential areas with architectonic and/or traffic "improvements", or paying a little attention when people are mean to eachother.»

**High Noon (Do Not Forsake Me):** «This song introduces Fred Zinnemans classic *High Noon* (1952, Gary Cooper, Grace Kelly, et al.). A story of betrayal and lack of civil courage, but also about humanity. Written by Dimitri Tiomkin, the lyrics by Ned Washington sum up a part of the story. I always thought this song should be sung a little more sadly. After all, the singer's world is coming apart while he's asking if someone would just help him. All very dramatic. And to top it off, one of the nicest melodies in the world. Blew me away for the first time at four years old, and still does.»