"Dopefiend Robber" Posted by Warren - 2020/05/06 02:05 _____________________________________ .In the latest email sent by Admin with respect to the U. S. Summer Tour of Hope (and thanks for keeping the faith, JoJo), it says this, near the end of the message: 3 songs have been added to the last section : Dope Fiend Robber (Lyrics by Bob Dylan) The lyrics are by Woody Guthrie, not Bob. Also, the spelling at the Guthrie link is "Dopefiend:" https://www.woodyguthrie.org/Lyrics/Dopefiend_Robber.htm == Re:"Dopefiend Robber" Posted by EdRicardo - 2020/05/06 18:14 _____________________________________ Two different songs Well read Dylan fans have known this since 1992 or earlier. Dopefiend Robber / Woody Guthrie The very different song by Woody Guthrie available as track 7 on Disc 2 on the album New Multitudes (2012) : Dopefiend Robber Words by Woody Guthrie, Music by Anders Parker and Jay Farrar Iâ€™m just a dopefiend robber you read and hear about Iâ€™ve kick a million joints I to grab my swag and go Iâ€™ve pushed a million drugstores with my pistol in my hand Iâ€™m just a dopefiend robber and dope robbing is my game. I doubled my haul in old St. Paul and I spun to New Orleans Met a Cajun girl that loved stuff while I was in the green. I showed her how to hold my gat and go break my drugstore After I showed her a dozen or so she broke â€˜em bettern I could Dopefiend robber Seen my town of Reno we grabbed our biggest haul Some heads around the town said youâ€™re in my territore Just fork me over your take friend and walk away in peace My girl put nine holes in him before he spoke his piece. She runoff down blind alley where his whoremob shot her down I counted thirty-two blasts they fired to keep her on that ground I run and jumped me a fast boxcar down Renoâ€™s hill My clothes pokedfull of good hot money from heroin till and kill Dopefiend robber I buy your bestole finest wine, I buy it by the barrel. I pour it down my prettiest whores, my street hustling girls I buy my greenystamp whisky, I buy it by the case I get myself drunk and have a little fuckin race One seventeen year old bitch tells me, now youâ€™ve knocked me up Youâ€™ll havta fork me a thousand to pay my knocker doc. Here take this gun and come with me tonight, Iâ€™ll teach ya how to rob and you can payoff your doc. Dopefiend robber I kicked my bell and run like hell and left her here alone My trolyboys drilled her sixteen holes because she had my gun She laid with a hundred and sixty men and told me such lies I celebrated with four more whores the night I heard she died. Iâ€™m just your dopefiend robber you read and hear about Iâ€™ve kicked a million joints in to grab my swag and drag My coffeepot is whistling me, Iâ€™d better be hittin my trail My bluecoat boys are here to haul my ashes off ta jail. Dopefiend robber Dope Fiend Robber / Bob Dylan McKenzie manuscripts, Summer 1961 first transcribed by Chris C. in "Isis", No. 44, Aug-Sep 1992. Back in 1941 I got shot from gattling gun, Defending your land, I was doing nothing else but fighting for Uncle Sam. They took me to the commissary room, They had to give me something to ease the pain. It was morphine, morphine I left the Hospital in '45 Quite lucky to be alive. I'm a going home... Now you fixed my wounds and I am glad, But you didn't fix the habit I had. White gold -- morphine. It caused me ruin, it caused me shame. My wife don't even want my name. I was buying high day by day All I do is pay and pay. Now I don't mean to harm no man, I just hope that you all understand, That I'm a dope fiend robber Now you need food to get along, But I need dust inside my bones, Cause I'm a dope fiend robber. I had to rob the jewellery store, But the cops they grabbed me at the door. They soon found out I took morphine, The papers said I was a dope fiend. Now there's a gang t' me. Nobody would go my bail, I had to break out of the jail. I didn't mean to kill your man, But he held the keys in his hand. When you picked me up on the street that day, You beat me up an' I was in a daze. I saw the headlines on the Morning Star, Mad dope fiend killer behind the bars. I was found guilty at the trail , Judge said I'm condemned to die. Now I'm not asking for sympathy, From anybody in your society, Cause. There's a man that keeps on pushing me, You'll take my life and he goes free. ========== As Manfred says in his site: "These (possibly original) lyrics (about a World War II veteran whose morphine habit turns him into a robber) remind me (in parts) of Dylan's "The Ballad of Donald White" ("Now I'm not asking for sympathy, from anybody in your society..."). For another songwriter's treatment of a similar subject (from the Vietnam War era), cf. John Prine's "Sam Stone"" Manfred Helfert http://www.theneverendingpool.org/images/fbfiles/images/GatesAreOpenKeyIsYours70x70Avatar.jpg == Re: Posted by Warren - 2020/05/07 02:41 _____________________________________ .EdRicardo wrote : Two different songs Dylan fans have known this since 1992 or earlier.I stand corrected. Thanks, Ed. I question your opinion, however, that "Dylan fans" have known this since 1992 or earlier. It comes down to one's definition of "Dylan fans." Dylan first entered my world in 1965, and more so in 1966 while looking in a men's clothing store on London's Carnaby Street when Dylan walked up next to me to also look in the store (Lord John) window. That night, I caught the last show of the so-called World Tour at the Royal Albert Hall. The last time I saw Dylan was in 2017 from the 3rd row, piano side. At the line-up I had the thrill of a lifetime when our eyes met for a few moments, he with a head nod acknowledging my gesture of thanks. I consider myself a Dylan fan, but I never have considered myself a hardcore Dylan fan. I've been around the community long enough, however, to recognize some of the names of those who I consider fall into that category. I have always considered you to be one of those. While I would agree that "the hardcore" among us are aware of such esoteric knowledge as the existence of such lyrics as "Dope Fiend Robber," the mention of it to most "Dylan fans" would draw a blank, I'm quite sure. == Re: Posted by EdRicardo - 2020/05/07 14:12 _____________________________________ It was meant as a tease. ;-) Those who read Isis. That level of hard core. Or Facebook. It is not a greatest hit, but it is interesting. Â- http://www.theneverendingpool.org/images/fbfiles/images/GlowDogKeithGubitz.jpg == Re: Posted by JoJo1956 - 2020/05/07 14:53 _____________________________________ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2izltIDdUZI Warren wrote: .In the latest email sent by Admin with respect to the U. S. Summer Tour of Hope (and thanks for keeping the faith, JoJo), it says this, near the end of the message: 3 songs have been added to the last section : Dope Fiend Robber (Lyrics by Bob Dylan) The lyrics are by Woody Guthrie, not Bob. Also, the spelling at the Guthrie link is "Dopefiend:" https://www.woodyguthrie.org/Lyrics/Dopefiend_Robber.htm == Re: Posted by JoJo1956 - 2020/05/07 14:56 _____________________________________ EdRicardo wrote: Â- ==
Bob Dylan Message Board - Bob Dylan - The Never Ending Pool FireBoard Forum Component version: 1.0.4 Generated: 19 June, 2026, 10:12