CutBank

Volume 1 Issue 65 CutBank 65

Article 46

Winter 2006

from John Fahey's 'America'

Aaron McCollough

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank



Part of the Creative Writing Commons

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

McCollough, Aaron (2006) "from John Fahey's 'America'," CutBank: Vol. 1: Iss. 65, Article 46. Available at: https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank/vol1/iss65/46

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in CutBank by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

Aaron McCollough

from John Fahey's 'America'

erroneous republic
wondering the way
through the tune

this morning blues all around my bed

Blind Lemon Jefferson: I want to cross the river of jordan in my heart

jordans never stay crossed

The timing kind of cracked neither to the horse nor the metronome

to the weaving water & dust

PURE religion Jesus gonna be my engineer

Which is the test not the testimony of your yes/no

for the good of the whole bodie; as the office of the eie is to see, the eare to heare, and the foot to goe

walke while ye have light: and againe, I must doe his worke while it is day

walke worthy walke worthy

between the vespers of history

We bring the rolling ink position not the interstate speed but the hunt and peck and peck and gathering wander economy

I gather you mean I assume you mean I weave the nation into the sense of closure not rich enough never rich

of thoreau's false etyomolgies: sans terre ... the secret of successful sauntering without cracks not lachrymose

clear-eyed and whole gathering speed in love with the paradox of moving of the city à pied to find good songs variations so as to perform the duty

and what I have been preparing to say is, that in Wildness is the preservation of the World.

OF THREE ROUTES TO JERUSALEM, ONE BY LAND AND BY SEA, AND THE NEXT MORE BY LAND THAN BY SEA, AND THE THIRD ALL BY LAND

I shall now tell you about the quickest way to Jerusalem. For some folk do not want to use the other route – some because they have not enough money, some because they have not enough people to go with, some because they cannot stand a long journey, some because they fear the dangers of the deserts, some ... But I will go back and tell you of other routes that can be followed, keeping more to dry land – useful for those who cannot endure traveling by sea, but prefer to go by land even if it is more trouble. [You make your way] to one of the ports of

A man crosses the sea to
From there he goes to and crosses the stretch of water called
Thence he goes by land to
then he goes to

He will pass through

Thence men go through the hills of the vales of the open moors; one passes the town of or the towns that stand on the great and noble rivers. There are many fine hills in those parts, many fair woods and great plenty of wild game to hunt.

He who wants to go a different way will go through the plains of
On that coast is
Further up in the mountains is a fine city called
When a man has crossed these mountains and moors, he goes through the
city of where there is a great bridge over a great river, which is
navigable; it runs fast from the mountains to
Near the city of is
another river that comes from the
At the crossing of this river
Saint lost his wife and two children. This river runs through the plain
of Thence men go to the city of where there are hot springs and
hot baths. There are many fine woods. From
you go to a city called

then to

and then to

and from there are two ways to Jerusalem, one to the left and the other to the right.