

THE GHOST OF TOM JOAD

By Bruce Springsteen

Note: I'm just including chords for this song, since not all of it is fingerpicked in a repeating pattern, and since I play this by myself I strum most of it after the first chorus, anyway. Harmonica players will be glad to see this song is in B minor, which allows you to play it on your D major harmonica. (Nebraska fans will undoubtedly have a D harmonica.) I don't include fingerings for this song. There'll standard, as far as my ear can discern. (ANNOTATIONS NOT WRITTEN BY SPIKE)

Bm

MEN WALKIN' LONG THE RAILROAD TRACKS

D **Bm** **A**
GOIN' SOMEPLACE THERE'S NO GOIN' BACK

A

HIGHWAY PATROL CHOPPERS COMIN' UP OVER THE RIDGE

Bm **A** **Bm**
HOT SOUP ON A CAMPFIRE UNDER THE BRIDGE

Bm

SHELTER LINE STRETCHIN' ROUND THE CORNER

D **Bm** **A**
WELCOME TO THE NEW WORLD ORDER

A

FAMILIES SLEEPIN' IN THEIR CARS IN THE SOUTHWEST

Bm **A** **Bm**
NO HOME NO JOB NO PEACE NO REST

G

THE HIGHWAY IS ALIVE TONIGHT

D **A** **Bm**
BUT NOBODY'S KIDDIN' NOBODY ABOUT WHERE IT GOES

A

I'M SITTIN' DOWN HERE IN THE CAMPFIRE LIGHT

Bm **A** **Bm**
SEARCHIN' FOR THE GHOST OF TOM JOAD

HE PULLS A PRAYER BOOK OUT OF HIS SLEEPING BAG
PREACHERS LIGHTS UP A BUTT AND TAKES A DRAG
WAITIN' FOR WHEN THE LAST SHALL BE FIRST AND THE FIRST SHALL BE LAST
IN A CARDBOARD BOX 'NEATH THE UNDERPASS
GOT A ONE-WAY TICKET TO THE PROMISED LAND
YOU GOT A HOLE IN YOUR BELLY AND A GUN IN YOUR HAND
SLEEPING ON A PILLOW OF SOLID ROCK, BATHIN' IN THE CITY AQUEDUCT

THE HIGHWAY IS ALIVE TONIGHT; WHERE IT'S HEADED EVERYBODY KNOWS
I'M SITTIN' DOWN HERE IN THE CAMPFIRE LIGHT, WAITIN' ON THE GHOST OF TOM JOAD

NOW TOM SAID, "MOM, WHEREVER THERE'S A COP BEATIN' A GUY
WHEREVER A HUNGRY NEWBORN BABY CRIES
WHERE THERE'S A FIGHT 'GAINST THE BLOOD AND HATRED IN THE AIR
LOOK FOR ME MOM I'LL BE THERE
WHEREVER THERE'S SOMEBODY FIGHTIN' FOR A PLACE TO STAND
OR A DECENT JOB OR A HELPIN' HAND
WHEREVER SOMEBODY'S STRUGGLIN' TO BE FREE; LOOK IN THEIR EYES MOM YOU'LL SEE ME."

WELL THE HIGHWAY IS ALIVE TONIGHT
BUT NOBODY'S KIDDIN' NOBODY ABOUT WHERE IT GOES
I'M SITTIN' DOWN HERE IN THE CAMPFIRE LIGHT
WITH THE GHOST OF OLD TOM JOAD

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