

The Signs

—for *Five Man Electrical Band*
& *Terry Charter*

1. absolutely. right?

you were right all along.
we were wrong ever to doubt you.
wrong to treat you the way we did.

you were our lifeline, our cradle,
our green and shushing mother.
a place so absolutely right

god is in every blade of grass
every pearl of dew
every sky dissolving in fire.

but we turned our backs on you.
because it was right. absolutely,
economically right. politically right.

time is money, so no time at all
for daydreamers and poets
in their gardens of pomegranates

and hummingbirds,
dulcimers and guitars—music on wings
so delicate, a dragonfly

would bruise to wear them.

2. moonshine

you gave us moonshine
blood of sinking suns on Huron waters
pure as any nectar of gods.

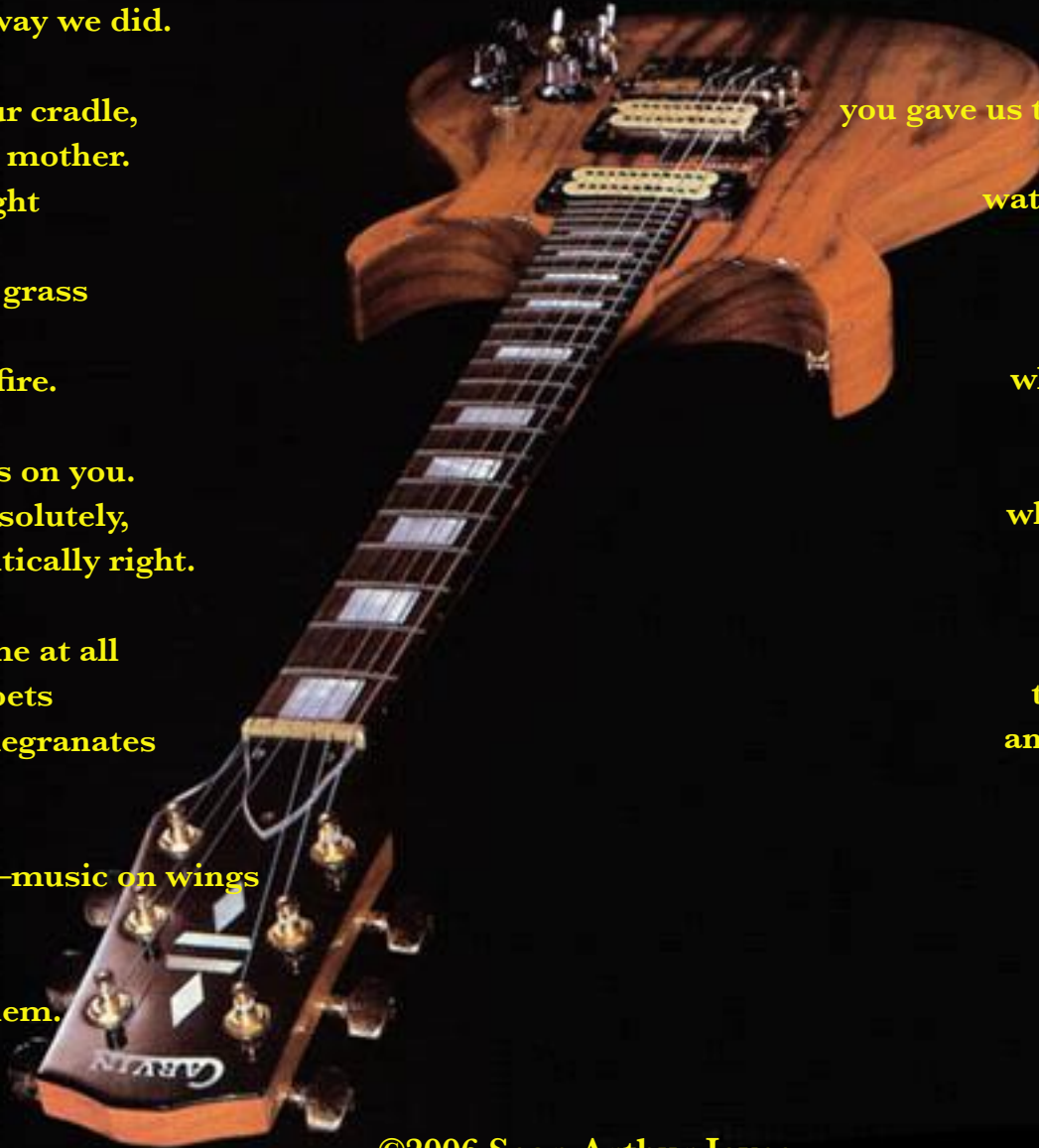
you gave us the man with horse and wagon,
traveller of distant time
watermelon summers in his hand.

you gave us a girl with flowers
in her eyes, a woman
who left the country on her heels

and became julianna
who just wants to make it alright
but she knows it's impossible.

you gave us sweet rock 'n roll
to peel the pain from our bones
and dance joy into the light again

you gave us sweet rock 'n roll
to reclaim our birthright
and touch the stars again



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