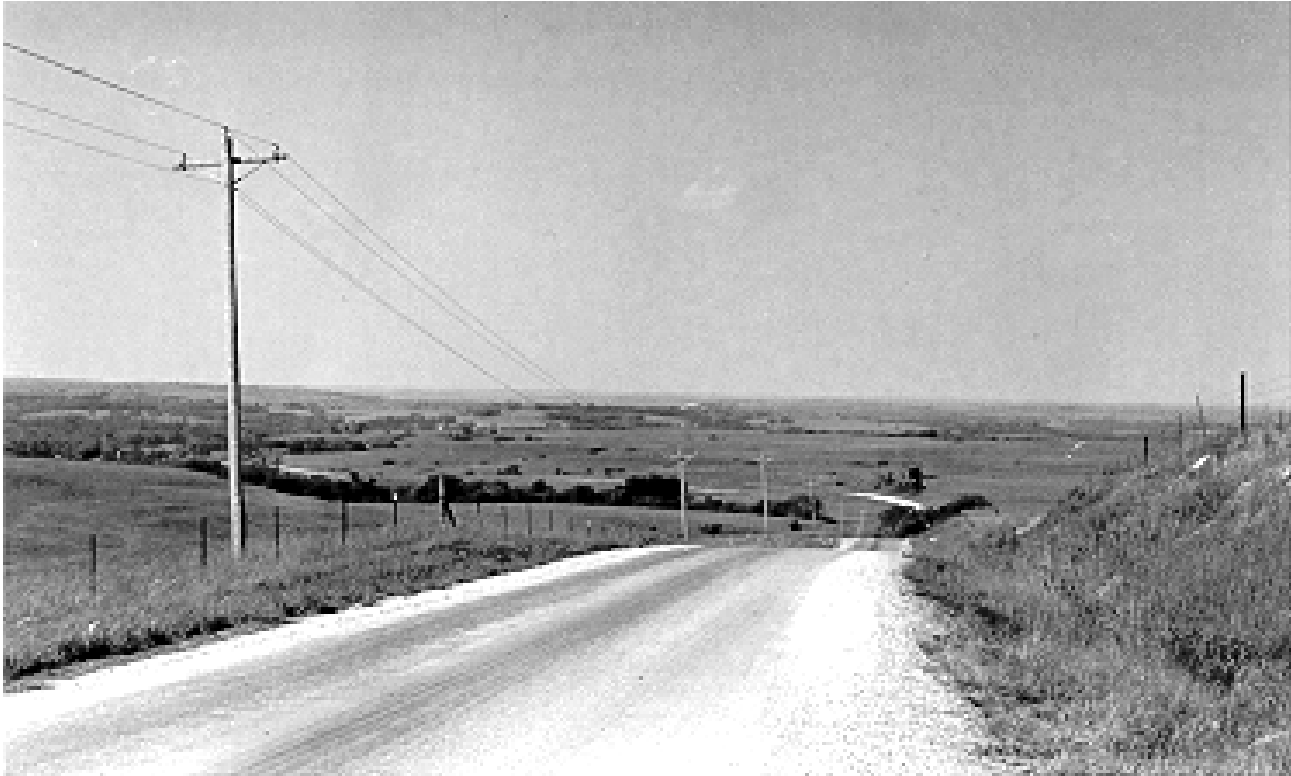


The Open Road Within



Words Once Spoken 12
By The Company of the Mantis
November 2000

Spock got it on with people. **-Swedish Kat**

Let's try to keep the pants up. **-Da Tuttle**

I, for one, feel that - DON'T LIGHT A MATCH!!! **-Agent Peludo**

I don't have any problem with insulting your parentage. **-Agent Peludo**

I'm not drunk, I'm just myself. **-Robert Josephine**

Go for the one with boobs. **-Agent Peludo**

I hate that guy. I hope he gets ravaged by rabid frogs. **-THE LOVE WARRIOR**

I'm the biggest social half-ass around, okay? **-The Queensburry Catcher**

If you snoop around the bushes long enough, you'll probably find some Spanish-speakers. **-The Queensburry Catcher**

There's some marrow of truth to that. **-The Queensburry Catcher**

Let's start our lives all over again. Then quit. **-The Queensburry Catcher**

I'm a glutton for gay bars. **-The Queensburry Catcher**

My tongue is a little slow. Actually, my wife already told me so last night. **-Lutz Slowliquor**

You don't need luck. You have everything else. **-vuurcatalyst**

I was going to get you nothing for Christmas, but I didn't have any boxes. **-Nomad**

I wanna get buck naked and flop around like a fish. **-THE LOVE WARRIOR**

That baby's fingers are almost human. **-Mellow There-Done-That**

That kid'll be perculating like a coffeemaker before long.
-Mellow There-Done-That

I am not the Spittle Keeper. **-The Brass Duck**

I'm glad she went to the hospital, because when you can't breathe, you should. **-Nickel Weed**

Maybe there's a little mental illnes among lions, and nobody can control it. **-Nickel Weed**

You like to enforce karma, huh? **-Nomad**

I want to say that loneliness will make a person do funny things. But I'm not sure how lonely I was until I met her about an hour ago. **-The Watcher**

Any person who has a desk should have a dictionary on it.
-the dark penguin

Somewhere inside you is a person who doesn't even look like you. **-Mr. Barleycorn**

Ok, so hey, when do they have a Dude's Night? **-The Existential King of Concrete**

You know like how you have a real craving for a beet. **-The Existential King of Concrete**

They had a chick in power? Hey, ok, why not cowpower? **-The Existential King of Concrete**

I'm like a squirrel, or a little rabbit or something. All day. **-Sister Swingspin**

Dude, sometimes you gotta populate the world with coolness.
-Nomad

It was pretty vacant until we showed up. **-Sister Swingspin**

We do the minimum to achieve greatness. **-Comrades in Enschede**

Well, hel-looooooo, LADIES... **-The Queensburry Catcher**

It's like you're this Pinocchio and everyone else is the Gepetto. **-The Queensburry Catcher**

How does Christmas taste? **-the dark penguin**

I like to light the firecracker at the end of the day. **-The Queensburry Catcher**

My dream is to be a muscle hair stylist in Utah. **-Nomad**

She kind of has a visual wang to her. **-Nomad**

I'm the kind of guy who can permanently injure himself on a frizbee. **-Nomad**

What I really like about my job is that I hold people's lives in my hands. **-Lady Lightmaiden**

Yeah, we can only wipe his bum so many times before he's gotta do it himself. **-Mr. Montana Consultant**

It's just like the middle of the night, except it's really bright outside. **-Simone**

Well, these things don't usually last forever, and, well, when they do, it's usually called marriage. **-Nomad**

It reaches levels of coolness I think previously unseen in fish. **-Miss Construed**

It seems like my guy friends are always trying to preach the python to me. **-Sister Swingspin**

There is a chic to the bar beyond that which Mr. Cruise's cocktail can capture. **-Mr. Barleycorn**

I need something I can poke at with my morality stick. **-The Queensburry Catcher**

Sort of like the tragic pathetic hero, but he doesn't even die because he's so tragic and pathetic. **-The Queensburry Catcher**

It's just easier to meet your doom standing. **-Nomad**

I love the communism of swing. **-Nomad**

The nature of traffic is such that you eventually begin gauging your success over this adversity not by how fast

you get where you are going, but instead by how many cars you pass that don't catch up with you. **-Ian**

A guy gets lonely, but I'm not a jackhammer, you know.
-vuurcatalyst

Good talking to you this evening, even if my foot did get preternaturally stuck into my poorly singing mouth.
-vuurcatalyst

Don't you just want to seize the moment? Or, at other times, you want the moment to seize you? In between I guess I just want to sleep. **-Nomad**

The story of my life is a big joke and I consider you one of the key narrators. **-IDAMen**

That's one of the benefits of working in a circus: you can wear pretty much anything as long as it covers your genitals. **-Bello's BigHair Munitions Officer**

There's something erroneous afoot at the Circle K. **-Mr. Wallglen Boiler**

Nothing matters in someone's basement. I've been saying it for years. **-the dark penguin**

I just want drama without consequences. **-Mr. Barleycorn**

Maybe it's just harder to have the right kind of illusions in a roomful of people speaking your own language. **-Nomad**

I'm just standing here drinking to get to my next emotional high that'll bring me to my next emotional low. Because in the meantime I don't want any downtime. **-Mr. Barleycorn**

Of course, everything is subject to me being wrong, which is highly possible. **-Garnet Fireshower**

Greyhounds are pretty cool. You meet some interesting people... Like an Islamic man named Habeeb studying a book about diseases of the testes. **-Jay Dylan the Town Schrinky**

I love it when we play some big ampitheater or coliseum and I hit a really low note and shake 25,000 seats... That is power, baby. Makes me horny. So then I

play in the nude. Cuz' you know... I'm horny. **-Jay Dylan
the Town Schrinky**

It is the coolest thing since the James Bond pen that can
kill people. **-Jay Dylan the Town Schrinky**

It can be disconcerting when your surgeon with scalpel
poised begins to make off-handed allusions to Auschwitz.
-Nomad

We've come home. We've come home to folk music, where punk
has gone to die. **-Cockney Midsummer's Raven**

Man, he got slapped down by a Russian lawyer. Again.
-NotHopkins

I like thinking languidly. **-Nomad**

Once a scapegoat, always a scapegoat. That's always been my
motto. **-NotHopkins**

I don't know. You can't define it. It's, like, hoosiers,
dude. It's a state of mind. **-the-professional-who'd-prefer-
not-to-be-known-as SHAFT**

I'm actually afraid of fish. (I don't like to see them
swimming around me in clear water.) **-Hawaii Default**

We could all be anybody on a Saturday night. Who would
know? **-vuurcatalyst**

I read it in a book.
Well, sure, that's one book to throw away.
-Liver Chopped But Not Eaten

I haven't tried the Futon on my sex life yet. **-The
Existential King of Concrete**

The sad thing is, the first thought I had when I was
offered my first American Express card was: Man, you've
gotta put your ship to on file with those guys. **-NotHopkins**

Mine is German. So I'm one of your paisanos. **-Vibrance
Contortionista**

Now, before your interest fades away like so much bad rubbish, I will put a stop to this madness and send it your way. **-Dr. Lovegum**

The day fast approaches when you no longer come home because of your parents, but rather in honor of them. **-Mellow Chef of the Night**

Destiny awaits. In Wisconsin. **-Vibrance Contortionista**

She got me to fall victim to my own strategy of persuasion: the logic of adventure. **-Nomad**

Everything he makes just sings. It's like an opera in your mouth. **-Vibrance Contortionista**

The muses of Catfish Lake are calling your name and beckoning you to follow their sweet purrings. **-Vibrance Contortionista**

This is gonna be the biggest non-storm to hit this place since '69. **-Drago**

Just come here and smell my window. **-Nomad**

Give me any position as long as it's not sitting. **-Vibrance Contortionista**

No, you're right. I take it back. Your parents should vote Republican. **-Drago**

No, I'm not a business woman. I'm an art historian who knows how to charge. **-Vibrance Contortionista**

We're into pleasure-packing. **-Vibrance Contortionista**

I decided that her father was on a need-to-know basis (regarding our marriage). **-Coolby Allaccounts**

I'm the Lulu-Come-Lately. **-Vibrance Contortionista**

He's a good ole boy, but he doesn't know his cheesecake from his wazoo. **-Agent Peludo**

I am the primordial bitchboy. **-THE LOVE WARRIOR**

You could compare apples to oranges. But it wouldn't be fruitful. **-the dark penguin**

You know, in addition to the Biggest Fish Award, they should have a Cheating Death Award on these camp-outs. **-Perspective**

She broke the avocado mold. **-Drago**

The next time you do your magic that she's always talking about, I feel the need to be included. **-Special Fruit**

I have this Baroque side to my personality that this just grooves with. **-Vibrance Contortionista**

Yes, but between the wine and my name is a cork. **-signore Le Corti**

I'm not looking for eternity; not in my wines, at least. **-signore Le Corti**

As Americans, we are very unforgiving about dental hygiene. We cannot imagine that someone without a great smile could ever be elected leader of a country. **-Vibrance Contortionista**

It's not just a drink, it's beyond a drink. It's in the history, the culture, the geography. You drink it in. **-Castello di Ama's Watchman**

How do you elect the leader of Korea? Oh, ah, by erection. **-Dr. Viagra**

One does not talk about the quality of the wine before the grapes have been picked and the harvest is in. **-Castello di Ama's Watchman**

Sometimes I just wish I could touch you on every part of your body at once. **-Drago**

I used to think, whenever I find The One, the guy I want to be with, I'm going to want to know why he's so damned late. I never imagined it would be because he was busy finishing high school. **-Vibrance Contortionista**

My goal in life is to die flushed. **-Nomad**

Where did I learn to cook? In the kitchen. **-Tuscan Chef of the Near-Coast**

Movie producers are gangsters. But like gangsters, they are all sentimental. So I could get them to pay by telling them my mother was sick and the hospital was going to throw her out on the street. **-El Imagery**

To see you is enthralling, to hear you is rapturous, to taste you is succulence, to feel you is ecstasy, and to smell you is to smell heaven. **-Drago**

I never expected that one day I'd become a helpless instrument of the Beegees. **-the dark penguin**

I do hereby solemnly swear that I have never to my knowledge consumed a persimmon. **-Drago**

The time I spend with you in me is like rain into the soil; sweetly energized and looking a little disheveled. **-Drago**

Tonight you cease to interest me. You are merely a branch on the tree we share. **-Ian**

If you ever need something clamped, I'm your man. **-Computer Sales Guy**

You'd think that if anyone would get out of Sunday school, a humanistic Jew could, but no. **-Vibrance Contortionista**

I penetrated the pornography empire. **-NotHopkins**

And there I was, a prisoner in my own kitchen, diplomatically observing and imbibing this lady's culture of cleanliness. **-The Queensburry Catcher**

During this process, I assumed my role of useless male, she hers of hardworking female, and everything came together on the dance floor. **-The Queensburry Catcher**

Don't tell me I have nice eyes. It's like telling Dolly Parton she has big boobs. **-Computer Sales Guy**

So you're just rounding to the nearest radiator? **-Computer Sales Guy**

There's nothing wrong with building castles in the sky as long as you're building them together. Some castles may take hold. **-Ian**

Elvis was the first Spice Girl. **-Joseph Winterspirits**

I don't care if she's all waving her fuzzy temptress in your face, you don't do that shit. **-Computer Sales Guy**

If my wife wants to have kids, fine, I'll tell her to go have them - in the other room. And not to let them in my room. **-Computer Sales Guy**

I drew an Indian teepee with a tambourine inside, to show my light and moveable spiritual house with music emanating from within, taking rhythms from the beat of my heart and the hearts of others. **-Highland Dawning**

Was I drunk? No, I was fucking anus-rocked. **-Computer Sales Guy**