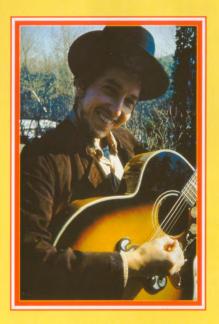
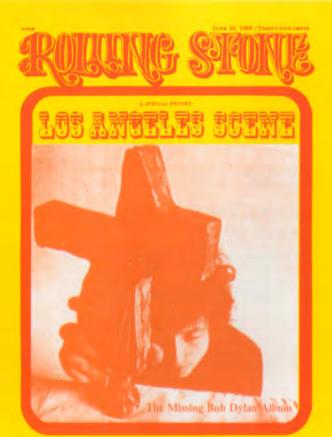


## **Bob Dylan**



A TREE WITH ROOTS
THE GENUINE BASEMENT TAPE REMASTERS



## DYLAN'S BASEMENT TAPE SHOULD BE RELEASED

## BY IANN WENNED

Two months before he went to Nashville to record John Wesley Harding Rob Dylan sport some time in the basement of his upstate New York home. There he made a rough but very listenable tape with thirteen songs.

There is enough material - most all of it very good - to make an entirely new Bob Dylan record a record with a distinct style of its own. Although it is highly unlikely that Dylan would want to go into the studio to record material that is now seven or eight months old nonetheless these tapes could easily he remastered and made into a record The concept of a cohesive record is already present

Whatever the original intention of the session, what happened was that Dylan and his band made a demo a collection of song; vaguely arranged and fitted to instrumentals, for other artists to audition to see if they would like to record any of the material. One of the songs on the tape -"Quinn the Eskimo" or "The Mighty Quinn"-reached the top position on radio surveys in a version by the English group Manfred Mann Another of them, and one of the best -"This Wheel's On Fire"-has just been released in England in a version by British vocalist Julie Driscoll and organist Brian Auger. Their version is supposed to be quite good and will probably be released shortly in the United States

The group backing Dylan on this tape is called the Crackers Formerly they were the Hawks. The band. which lives with Dylan at his home. consists of Levon Helm on drums Rick Danko on bass and Robbia Robertson on guitar. They accompanied him at Carnegie Hall for the recent Woody Guthrie Memorial program Robbie Robertson has been working with Dylan for the past three years.

The instrumentation is closest to Blonde on Blonde, including an organ, an electric bass, drums and two guitars, accoustic and electric. The singing is more closely related to John Wesley Harding, however. The style is typically Dylan; humorous | ing figures around Dylan's vocal. It rock-and-rolly with repetitious natterns. One of the things peculiar to this tape is that Dylan is working with a group; there is more interaction between him and the instrumentalists than can be seen in any of his other efforts, plus there is vocal back-

up in the choruses from his hand The quality of the recording is fairly poor, it was a one-track, onetake job with all the instruments recorded together. The highs and lows are missing, but Dylan's voice is clear and beautiful. Additionally the tape has probably gone through several dozen dubs, each one losing a little more quality.

Here is a summary of some of the

Million Dollar Bath: In the background of all Dylan's material is the style of rock and roll, and in this song is the sing-songy tune and the "ooo baby, coohh-weee, ooo-baby coohweee" chorus. The song is just a funny one, about people who run around like chickens with their heads cut off ("I get up in the morning but it's too early to wake") trying to get someplace or other, including a good party, like the Million Dollar Bash where everybody ends up anyway.

Yea Heavy and a Bottle of Bread: This will probably not be recorded by anyone, because it isn't terribly good. The imagery is Highway 81, the melody non-existent ("The comic book and me caught the bus, then the chauffer she was back in hed")

Please Mrs. Henry starts out like a Johnny Cash song, a tale about a poor cat without a dime and with too much to drink. ("I'm a sweet bourbon daddy and tonight I am blue.") It is indicative of where Dylan was headed because it's about a man who's hit some hard times and needs a little help. The song is a sort of swaying "Rainy Day Women" number, but without all the laugh ing and hoopla.

Down In The Flood: Flatt & Scruggs did this song. In Dylan's version the organist makes a lot of danchas the potential of being a great swinging rock and roll song capable of sustaining a lot of tension between the rhythm and the vocal. The potential for a rock and roll treatment is not at all coincidental, as the theme is very much reminiscent of "Like a Rolling Stone" and "Positively Fourth Street," in that the subject is about a chick ("Mama") who let the singer down and will have to "find another best friend now." The statement and drama is not as harsh as those previous songs, in fact much milder in style, words and situation.

Tiny Montgomery: The lyric strategy here is rather diffuse, about telling everybody in "old Frisco" that Tiny Montgomery says 'Hello'. "Everybody" is a collection of rather moderate freaks and non-descripts and one can't help thinking that Dy lan is taking cognizance of some of the more publicized aspects of San Francisco. The organ in this song does several hard-to-hear electronic bits and the vocal is backed a continual high-pitched chorus.

but it is the familiar set-up.

This Wheel's On Fire: A little Del Shannon piano in the beginning tips off the most dramatic and moving vocal by Dylan in this collection. The drums become clear for the first time on this song. It is a great number, possibly the very best by this

"This wheel's on fire/Rolling down the road; / Just notify my next of kin/This wheel shall explode."

The song is a very passionate love story ("You know we shall meet again/If your memory serves you well") about a woman who must inevitably return bound by a fate, to the man she has neglected but who has done everything he possibly can

The style here is close to J. W. Harding, the aching and yearning is soul wrenchingly intense

Ain't Goin' Nowhere: "Get your mind off wintertime." This song like many of the others and much of John Wesley Harding could be characterized as part of Dylan's continuing advice to calm down, smile on your brother, let's get together

1 Shall Be Released: Curiously enough the music in this song and the high pleading sound of Dylan's voice reminds one of the Bee Gees. It is one of the few songs on the tape with an instrumental break "They say every man needs protection/They say every man must fall/ Yet I swear I see my reflection/

Someplace so high above this wall." Tears of Rage: This is a very sad and a very confusing song. I'm sure you will understand it when it is recorded and released by some artist. "Why must I always be the

Quinn the Eskimo is familiar to most in the version by Manfred Mann. Dylan does the song slower. does use flutes, but doesn't make the great differentiation between the verse and the chorus, "Mighty Quinn" is the most obvious of these songs to give a full-blown rock and roll treatment

Open the Door Richard: "Take care of all of your memories/For you can not relive them:/And reremember when you're out there/ You must always first forgive them."

This is a light, swinging song. Nothing Is There: If this doesn't prove Dylan's sense of humor, little will. This sounds like 1958 vintage rock and roll: the piano triplets (Dy lan himself playing. I'm sure) are a direct cop from Fats Domino's "Blueberry Hill." Dylan is one of the few rock and roll artists who uses both a piano and an organ.

The last song gives interesting insight into the nature of this unreleased Dylan material. Even though he used one of the finest rock and roll bands ever assembled on the Highway 61 album, here he works with his own band, for the first ime. Dylan brings that instinctual feel for rock and roll to his voice for the first time. If this were ever to be released, it would be a classic.



The following source tapes have been drawn upon, in varying degrees, to arrive at this set:

**1. A Ten-Song Demo**: Million Dollar Bash 2. Yea! Heavy and a Bottle of Bread 2. Please Mrs Henry. Crash on the Levee 2. Lo and Behold! 2. Tiny Montgomery. This Wheel's on Fire. You Ain't Going Nowhere 2. I Shall Be Released. Too Much of Nothing 2.

Note: This demo tape was copyrighted in October 1967, and was utilised as a source for all subsequent acetates/Dwarf Music demo tapes that circulated in the ensuing years.

Unfortunately, all songs were folded into mono from their original panned stereo.

**2. A Five-Song Demo:** Tears of Rage 3. Quinn the Eskimo 2. Open the Door Homer 3. Nothing Was Delivered 1. Get Your Rocks Off.

Note: This demo tape was copyrighted in January 1968. The first four songs, along with the previ-

ous demo-tape, comprised a 14-song acetate from which many bootlegs were drawn. Again all songs were folded into mono from their original panned stereo.

3. The 'Basement' Safety: Million Dollar Bash 2. Yea! Heavy and a Bottle of Bread 2. I'm Not There (1956). Please Mrs Henry. Crash on the Levee 2. Lo and Behold! 2. This Wheel's On Fire. You Ain't Going Nowhere 2. I Shall Be Released. Too Much of Nothing 2. Nothing Was Delivered 3. Odds and Ends 2. Get Your Rocks Off. Clothesline Saga. Apple Suckling Tree 1. Apple Sucking Tree 2. Open The Door Homer 1\*. Open The Door Homer 2\*. Open The Door Homer 3\*. Nothing Was Delivered 1\*. Nothing Was Delivered 1\*. Nothing Was Delivered 2\*. Tears of Rage 1\*. Tears of Rage 2\*. Quinn the Eskimo 1\*. Quinn the Eskimo 2\*.

Note: This 15 i.p.s. transfer from the original tapes (save for the asterisked songs, which appear to be from a generational copy) was made at some point in 1968. All songs are in their original stereo. However, there are at least two strange omissions, 'Tiny Montgomery', already an acetate song, and 'Sign on the Cross'. The tape boxes are reproduced in Clinton Heylin's: The Recording Sessions 1960-1994.

**4. A Dwarf Music Demo-Tape:** Sign on the Cross, Don't Ya Tell Henry. Note: Two songs copyrighted in 1970. The demo-tape, though generational, is stereo.

5. The Robertson-Fraboni Compilation Reels: Odds and Ends 1. Nothing Was Delivered 3. Odds and Ends 2. Get Your Rocks Off. Clothesline Saga. Apple Suckling Tree 1. Apple Suckling Tree 2. Try Me Little Girl. Young But Daily Growin'. Tiny Montgomery. Don't Ya Tell Henry. Bourbon Street. Million Dollar Bash 1. Yea! Heavy and a Bottle of Bread 1. Million Dollar Bash 2. Yea! Heavy and a Bottle of Bread 2. I'm Not There (1956). Please Mrs. Henry. Crash on the Levee 1. Crash on the Levee 2. Lo and Behold 1. Lo and Behold 2. One Single River. Baby Ain't That Fine. You Ain't Going Nowhere 1. This Wheel's On Fire. You Ain't Going Nowhere 2. I Shall Be Released. Too Much of Nothing 1. Too Much of Nothing 2. Tears of Rage 3. Quinn the Eskimo 1. Open the Door Homer 3. Nothing Was Delivered 1. Folsom Prison Blues. Sign on the Cross. Santa Fe. Silent Weekend. Silouette. Bring It On Home. King of France. Going to Acapulco. Gonna Get You Now. Banks of the Royal Canal.

Note: Compiled in preparation for the official 1975 double-set on Columbia, these reels presumably represent the songs short-listed. Though songs had been panned in, not all songs were the full-on mono of the official set. Though a version of this tape was drawn upon for the 5-CD set, it was a poor generational dub, now superceded by a significantly superior version.



6. The Band Roadie Reels: Lock Your Door. Baby Won't You Be My Baby. Try Me Little Girl. I Can't Make It Alone. Young But Daily Growin'. Bonnie Ship the Diamond. The Hills of Mexico. Down on Me. One for the Road. I'm Alright. One Single River. People Get Ready. I Don't Hurt Anymore. The Stones That You Throw. One Man's Loss. All You Have To Do Is Dream 1. All You Have To Do Is Dream 2. I'm Not There (1956). Please Mrs Henry. Down in the Flood 2. Lo and Behold 2. Odds and Ends 2. Get Your Rocks Off. Clothesline Saga. Apple Suckling Tree 2. Tiny Montgomery. Sign on the Cross. This Wheel's On Fire. You Ain't Going Nowhere 2. I Shall Be Released. Instrumental

jam. Baby Ain't That Fine. Rock Salt and Nails. A Fool Such As I. Going to Acapulco. Gonna Get You Now. Million Dollar Bash 2. Yea! Heavy and A Bottle of Bread 2.

Note: These reels, accessed in 1986 and subsequently bootlegged on two double-albums, are in their original stereo. Songs on this release from the 1986 reels appear direct from master for the first time.

7. The 1991 Cassettes: cassette 1 - Million Dollar Bash 1. Yea! Heavy and a Bottle of Bread 1. Million Dollar Bash 2. Yea! Heavy and a Bottle of Bread 2. I'm Not There (1956). Please Mrs. Henry. Crash on the Levee 1. Crash on the Levee 2. Lo and Behold 1. Lo and Behold 2.

Cassette 2 - I'm A Fool For You 1+2. Next Time on the Highway. Tupelo. You Gotta Quit Kickin' My Dog Aroun'. See You Later, Allen Ginsberg. Tiny Montgomery. The Spanish Song 1. The Spanish Song 2. I'm Your Teenage Prayer. Four Strong Winds. The French Girl 1. The French Girl 2. Joshua Gone Barbados. I'm in the Mood For Love. All-American Boy. Sign on the Cross.

Cassette 3 - Tears of Rage 1. Tears of Rage 2. Tears of Rage 3. Quinn the Eskimo 1. Quinn the Eskimo 2. Open the Door Homer 1. Open the Door Homer 2. Open the Door Homer 3. Nothing Was Delivered 1. Nothing Was Delivered 2.

Cassette 4 - Going to Acapulco. Gonna Get You Now. Wildwood Flower. See That My Grave Is Kept Clean. Comin' Round the Mountain. Instrumental jam. Flight of the Bumble Bee. Confidential to Me. Odds and Ends 1. Nothing Was Delivered 3. Odds and Ends 2. Get Your Rocks Off. Clothesline Saga. Apple Suckling Tree 1. Apple Suckling Tree 2.

Cassette 5 - Belchezaar. I Forgot to Remember to Forget Her. You Win Again. Still in Town, Still Around. Waltzin' with Sin. Big River 1. Big River 2. Folsom Prison Blues. Bells of Rhymney. Nine Hundred Miles. Goin' Down The Road. Spanish is the Loving Tongue. I Can't Come In with a Broken Heart. Come All Ye Fair and Tender Ladies. Under Control. Ol' Roison the Beau. I'm Guilty of Loving You. Johnny Todd. Cool Water. Banks of the Royal Canal. Po' Lazarus.

Note: The primary source for the Genuine Basement Tapes Vols. 1-5, these cassettes are all in the original stereo, though some sufer from overrecording in their transfer from reel. An alternate dub of the same material for this set has yielded some better transfers. Also included in this collection of cassettes was misc. Dylan/Band material from 1965-66 as well as a dub of the 10-song Dwarf Music demo.



all compositions by B. Dylan unless otherwise indicated.

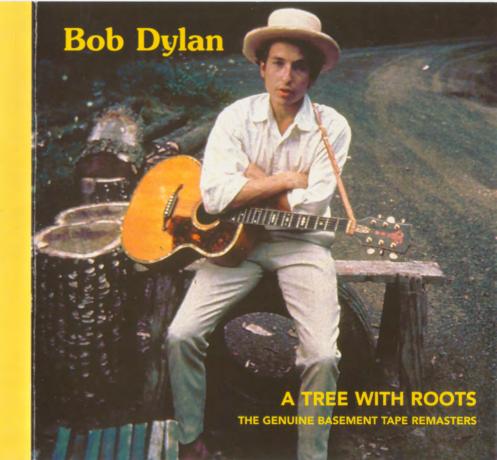
Those marked © have been copyrighted to Bob Dylan by Dwarf Music.

\* - remastered from a generationally superior version of the source tape utilised on 5-CD set.

\*\* - remastered from an alternate source tape to that utilised on 5-CD set.

\*\*\* - omitted from the 5-CD set.

All other recordings have been remastered from a brand new, state-of-the-art A-to-D transfer of the original cassette sources utilised on the Genuine Basement Tapes 5-CD set, with songs rebalanced and EQd where appropriate.



	with a Broken Heart* 2. Ti ir & Tender Ladies*** (Trad.) 3. Ti 4. Jo Beau** (Trad.) 5. I'r ving You** 6. A	Four Strong Winds (lan Tyson) The French Girl - take 1 (lan Tyson) The French Girl - take 2 (lan Tyson) Joshua Gone Barbados (Eric Von Schmidt) I'm in the Mood for Love (John Lee Hooker)	<ol> <li>Too Much of Nothing - take 2**</li> <li>Tears of Rage - take 1 ©</li> <li>Tears of Rage - take 2</li> <li>Tears of Rage - take 3</li> <li>Quinn the Eskimo (The Mighty Quinn) - take 1 ©</li> </ol>
3. Try Me Little Girl* 3. Come All Ye F 4. Young But Daily Growin'** (Trad.) 4. Under Control	ir & Tender Ladies*** (Trad.) 3. Tl 4. Je Beau** (Trad.) 5. I'r ving You** 6. A	The French Girl - take 2 (Ian Tyson) Joshua Gone Barbados (Eric Von Schmidt) I'm in the Mood for Love (John Lee Hooker)	<ul><li>3. Tears of Rage - take 2</li><li>4. Tears of Rage - take 3</li></ul>
4. Young But Daily Growin'** (Trad.) 4. Under Control	4. Jo Beau** (Trad.) 5. I'r ving You** 6. A	Joshua Gone Barbados (Eric Von Schmidt) I'm in the Mood for Love (John Lee Hooker)	4. Tears of Rage - take 3
	Beau** (Trad.) 5. I'r ving You** 6. A	I'm in the Mood for Love (John Lee Hooker)	
5. Bonnie Ship the Diamond* (Trad.) 5. Ol' Roison the	ving You** 6. A		5. Quinn the Eskimo (The Mighty Quinn) - take 1 ©
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6. The Hills of Mexico* (Trad.) 6. I'm Guilty of Lo	(T1)	All-American Boy (Bobby Bare-Orville Lunsford) ©	6. Quinn the Eskimo (The Mighty Quinn) - take 2
7. Down on Me* (Trad.) 7. Johnny Todd*	(Irad.) 7. Si	Sign on the Cross** ◎	7. Open the Door Homer - take 1 ©
8. I Can't Make It Alone* 8. Cool Water**	Bob Nolan) 8. Sa	Santa Fe* ©	8. Open the Door Homer - take 2
9. Don't You Try Me Now* 9. Banks of the R	yal Canal** (Brendan Behan) 9. Si	Silent Weekend* ©	9. Open the Door Homer - take 3
10. One for the Road* 10. Belchezaar (Joh	nny Cash) 10. Do	Don't Ya Tell Henry* ©	10. Nothing Was Delivered - take 1 ©
11. I'm Alright* 11. I Forgot to Rem	ember to Forget Her 11. Bo	Bourbon Street* ©	11. Nothing Was Delivered - take 2
12. One Single River* (Ian Tyson-Sylvia Fricker) (Stan Kesler-Ch	rlie Feathers) 12. Mi	Million Dollar Bash - take 1 ©	12. Goin' to Acapulco ©
13. People Get Ready* (Curtis Mayfield) 12. You Win Again	Hank Williams) 13. Ye	Yea! Heavy and a Bottle of Bread - take 1 ©	13. Gonna Get You Now
14. I Don't Hurt Anymore* (Don Robertson-Jack Rollins) 13. Still in Town, St	Around (Johnny Cash) 14. Mi	Million Dollar Bash - take 2**	14. Wildwood Flower (A.P. Carter)
15. (Be Careful of) The Stones That You Throw* 14. Waltzin' with Si	(Hayes-Burns) 15. Ye	'ea! Heavy and a Bottle of Bread - take 2**	15. See That My Grave Is Kept Clean (Trad. arr. Jefferson)
16. One Man's Loss* (Bonnie Dodd)	1** (Johnny Cash) 16. I'm	m Not There (1956)** ©	16. Comin' 'Round the Mountain (Trad.)
17. Baby, Ain't That Fine** (Dallas Frazier) 16. Big River - take	2** (Johnny Cash) . 17. Ple	Please Mrs Henry** ©	17. Instrumental jam
18. Rock, Salt & Nails* (Bruce Phillips) 17. Folsom Prison B	lues** (Johnny Cash) 18. Cr	Crash on the Levee (Down in the Flood) - take 1** ©	8. Flight of the Bumble Bee
19. A Fool Such As I* (Bill Trader) 18. Bells of Rhymne	y** (Idris Davies-Pete Seeger) 19. Cra	Crash on the Levee (Down in the Flood) - take 2**	9. Confidential to Me (Dorinda Morgan)
20. Silouette* (Frank C. Slay JrBob Crewe) 19. I'm A Fool For	ou - false start + take 20. Lo	o and Behold - take 1** ©	20. Odds and Ends - take 1 ©
21. Bring it On Home* 20. Next Time on the	e Highway 21. Lo	o and Behold - take 2**	21. Nothing Was Delivered - take 3
22. King of France* 21. Tupelo (John Le	e Hooker) 22. You	'ou Ain't Going Nowhere - take 1* ◎	22. Odds and Ends - take 2
23. Nine Hundred Miles* (Trad.) 22. You Gotta Quit	Kickin' My Dog Aroun' 23. Too	oo Much of Nothing - take 1** ©	23. Get Your Rocks Off** ©
24. Goin' Down The Road* (Trad.) (Webb M. Oun	st-Cy Perkins) 24. Thi	his Wheel's On Fire** ©	24. Clothesline Saga (Answer to Ode)** ©
25. Spanish is the Loving Tongue**  23. See You Later, A	llen Ginsberg (Robert Guidry) 25. You	ou Ain't Going Nowhere - take 2**	25. Apple Suckling Tree - take 1 ©
(Charles Badger Clark-J. Williams) 24. Tiny Montgome	y © 26. I S	Shall Be Released** ◎ 2	26. Apple Suckling Tree - take 2
26. Po' Lazarus (Trad.) 25. The Spanish So	g - take 1	2	27. All You Have To Do Is Dream - take 1*
26. The Spanish So	g - take 2	2	28. All You Have To Do Is Dream - take 2*
27. I'm Your Teenag	e Prayer		

BOBBY D

8 THE BASEMENT FOUR

GBD 002



A TREE WITH ROOTS: THE GENUINE BASEMENT REMASTERS

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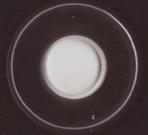
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