

# Captain Beefheart, The Witch Doctor Life

When the Witch Doctor Life  
throws his silent bones  
some are crowned kings  
while others lose their thrones  
When the Witch Doctor Life  
throws his silent bones  
small "O" mouths scream  
and run to Mama Kangaroo  
insecure pouches wherein hide  
beggars and drones  
and babies and bums and buzzards  
Mama crouches and smiles  
her old useful smile  
and old ego roars - laughs yesterday's gasses  
while children and angels gasp  
and follow a shepherd on crutches  
When the Witch Doctor Life  
throws his silent bones  
some flee the dream  
some turn to stone  
and the children sing  
and the heavens ring  
worn by the shepherd with the folded wings  
and the bones that sing of silence