

# Spirit Voices

Paul Simon

We sailed up a river wide as a sea  
And slept on the banks  
On the leaves of a banyan tree  
And all of these spirit voices rule the night

Some stories are magical, meant to be sung  
Song from the mouth of the river  
When the world was young  
And all of these spirit voices rule the night

By moon  
We walk  
To the brujo's door  
Along a path of river stone  
Women with their nursing children  
Seated on the floor  
We join the fevers  
And the broken bones

The candlelight flickers  
The falcon calls  
A lime-green lizard scuttles down the cabin wall  
And all of these spirit voices  
Sing rainwater, sea water  
River water, holy water  
Wrap this child in mercy - heal her  
Heaven's only daughter  
All of these spirit voices rule the night  
My hands were numb  
My feet were lead  
I drank a cup of herbal brew  
Then the sweetness in the air  
Combined with the lightness in my head  
And I heard the jungle breathing in the bamboo

Saudac~oes greetings!  
D'a lic'enca um momento excuse me, one moment  
Te lembr'o I remind you  
Que amanh~a that tomorrow  
Ser'a tudo ou ser'a naoait will be all or it will  
Be nothing  
Depende, cora,c~ao it depends, heart  
Ser'a breve ou ser'a grande it will be brief or it will  
Be great  
Depende da paix~ao it depends on the passion  
Ser'a sujo, ser'a sonho it will be dirty, it will  
Be a dream  
Cuidado, cora,c~ao be careful, heart  
Ser'a 'util, ser'a tarde it will be useful, it will be  
Late  
Se esmera, cora,c~aodo your best, heart  
E confia and have trust  
Na for,ca do amanh~a in the power of tomorrow

Lord of the earthquake  
My trembling bed  
The spider resumes the rhythm

Of his golden thread  
And all of these spirit voices rule the night