Manzanar

Van Dyke Parks

No one can forget the place where she has gone away Funny how regret can taste like honey in LA anyway All the trees ornamental Every breeze downright sentimental No one can forget her face when she has gone away

Let a bungalow and yard fulfill your every need Get a Romeo and garden all but gone to seed as they say Every swallow returning Just to follow a natural yearning It is just a paper chase when she has gone away

What the heck I've hit the deck and checked romance on holiday Drawn a breath and danced with death Until the dawn had held it at bay Watched the palms by the sea sway In the arms of beautiful Nissei Now I can't forget her face since she has gone away

Manzanar not the kind of girl to hit the street Manzanar she is dancin to a brand new beat

Don't know me from Ansel Adams cause I'm from Los Angeles Would've called her but was at a loss For what to say just to please When it gets right down there to the wire When you're reeling and feel her desire Tell her she is All-American in Japanese

This is a dump without a doubt You gotta jump you wanna shout And it is sump thin you got out Manzanar

You are not warm a desert storm And where the high Sierra hits the flyway You are alone you will explode To Arizone you hit the road Next sound you hear is pounding down the highway

Like a man without a nation In a camp of concentration With a stamp of degredation and shame To a place they call it Manzanar by name

You are awake an evening star All you can take is makin out just where you are There's a name to explore there And a story of shame and war there In Manzanar in Manzanar Manzanar