

Between The Lines With You

This song has an interesting twist to it, and represents something significant that occupies it's own space elsewhere on my music site having to do with "Copyright issues". Basically, the original layout of the "Pocketful of Songs" album included a song called "Between The Lines". I wrote it back in 1977 as a poem, then a song, and somewhere in between those events I responded to an ad from a songwriting publisher and signed what they called a "Standard Songwriter's Contract" for the song to be published.

Sheet music was to be professionally printed, 45rpm demo records were to be made and distributed to radio stations, and royalties were to be paid for any commercial sales. To make a long story short, I never got a nickel for the song but the contract basically gives them ownership of all rights to it, and legally although the company no longer exists, somebody has inherited those legal rights to it. It's my understanding that although I am still the author and hold the copyright to the song, I can't seek to publish it in any way, including posting a recording of it here on my site at least for any fee. (so OK, I'll post it for free!)

My way of "getting even" on the issue was to write a new song, incorporate some of the elements of the original idea I liked so much, (as well as part of the title), and publish it as part of the "Pocketful Of Songs" CD anyway, since I'm just now putting the album into its final form. I'm very pleased with this new song and I feel it's a good replacement for the original one that was "lost". It's a fun, bouncy beat with a message about how different men & women are but how an ideal partner helps to "bridge the gap" in communications so that neither of us has to be a mind-reader. It's been wonderful fun to finalize the CD with this song.