

This bonus beach was engineered, with much patience, by Monk-One, winter 2010, while I sat in a fisherman's beer chair in his basement. The mix is meant to accompany the book. Sometimes it ditches the book altogether. Sometimes it throws the book in the trunk and drives it to the middle of nowhere and burns magic hour donuts in a Piggly Wiggly parking lot. Or crullers in the sand. Who bugged the dunes?

All tracks contain some species of vocoder unless otherwise imagined.

Excessive track listing:

On the Beach Neil Young

My original book cover idea was jacked from Neil's album and included a balloon with Stalin's face on it. See end of track list for excruciating details.

EMS Vocoder Test (1976)

I was told this is an impression of Muppet Grover talking about the pyramids.

The Bells of St. Mary's Condition Bell Labs (1936)

"The true loves who come from the sea..."

The Bell Labs referred to their vocoder tests as conditions. All Bell Labs conditions here were acquired from the Werner Meyer-Eppler archives at the Institut Phonetik at Bonn, not Bell Labs. W.M.E. referred to the vocoder as a *retro-transformer*, thirty years before a Decepticon showed up in a Trouble Funk song.

The Unvoiced Hiss Energy Condition Bell Labs (1936)

Pass the conch like they used to say.

Change the Beat Beside & Fab Five Freddy (1982)

"If we were any fresher you'd have to slap us."

"Fresh Market billboard, Greenville, S.C."

Pound Young L

No vocoder but still one of my favorite beats of 2010.
Not to be confused with my favorite rap song of 2010: **Definition of Gas**.
Not to be confused with being “high as gas.”
Not that anybody’s confused here.

Def of Gas link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_MvMS_46EPE

Armenia City in the Sky The Who (Sonovox) (1968)

I was once told of a band from Buffalo called Robot With Werewolf Hands. Apparently, RWWWH performed with a keg on stage that wore furry ears, antennae, and werewolf hands. By the end of the show, the keg was empty and the werewolf hands were flipping off the cops.

Sparky’s Magic Baton (Sonovox) 1941

The Sonovox was invented in 1939 by Gilbert Wright, while shaving his Adam’s Apple. In the 1940s, while the vocoder was at war, Wright’s grooming ulpulator would bestow the gift of speech to vacuum cleaners, pigs, wine, and car horns. The Sonovox made Bozo the Clown’s best friend famous. It also freaked out Frampton and ELO, as well as the Bowery Boys, the Good Humor Man, and Joan Crawford’s eyebrows in *Possessed*. See also *Letter To Three Wives*.

Hans Leip Sennheiser demonstration, 1977

“Outside the barracks/ Before the main gate/ There stood a lantern/ And it stands there still.”

This Day Peter Baumann of Tangerine Dream (1979)

“Dedicated to romance” but really feeling the distance and longing.

One of Our Drones Is Missing Werner Meyer-Eppler, A Musical Night, WDR, West German radio (1951)

“What you are about to hear would rather belong to the realm of the unreal than sober science” --W.M.E.

Crazy Nights (Instrumental) Nightless, Italy (1982)

Good-bye sober science, hello crazy nights. Actually, this is pretty quiet for a song called “Crazy Nights.” This night was so crazy they can’t even talk about it.

Spooks (Instrumental) Tom Tom Club (1981)

Like spies.

ELO swoosh

By and by...

Telekon (edit) Gary Numan (1980)

No vocoder here, but Bambaataa said that Gary Numan himself was a vocoder, which works for me. Telekon was purchased on same snowy day in sixth grade as Travelogue.

EMS Vocoder Talking Slurpee (1975)

You're lucky. I could have gone with "Dreams of Animals" or that EMS test where they had the vocoder reading the stock market report.

Radio Stars Kraftwerk (1976)

Oh, you guys!

Uranium Kraftwerk (1976)

Florian Schneider uses the Votrax, a text-to-speech voice prosthetic developed by the Federal Screw Works of Troy, Michigan.

Das Booty Bass, Chill Will Productions, Jacksonville, Florida (1990)

Bass swallows U-boat. Sub-freq freakout.

Man Made Jam Pony Express/Man Parrish, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

We did not do anything to this one! Jam Pony should have been deployed for Operation Wandering Soul in Vietnam.

The Silly Willy Toothpaste Hour Condition Bell Labs, (1936)

I was told that Luther Campbell once offered \$50 a tooth for anyone caught selling Jam Pony cassettes of people (Jam Pony, for instance) screaming all over his shit.

Get Dis Money (Instrumental) Slum Village (1999)

D'Angelo's band, with Questlove and Poyser, killed this live. Produced by Dilla, "Get Dis Money" samples the Herbie Hancock vocoder track "Come...Running To Me."

A more fitting vocoder song here might be “Unemployment” by Velocity.

Back Drop (Instrumental) P Batters, Charlotte, North Carolina (2002, I think) Speaking of artificial beach-drops, prom pictures and expired driver’s licenses...The 704 area code leads me to believe this could be from Salisbury, Concord, Charlotte, Pineville, Gastonia (home to Sleepy Floyd), Albemarle or Waxhaw.

Waxhaw!

Mr. Groove One Way (1984)

The vocoder had connections in the rust belt. Also highly recommended by One Way, the stepper’s joint “Didn’t You Know It.”

You’re a Peachtree Freak On Peachtree Street (Part III)

Geno Jordan (1982)

Another plug tune for the Peachoid water tower/Booty Planet off 85 South in Gaffney, South Carolina. Even though Geno Jordan is from Atlanta. But you have to pass through Gaffney to get to ATL. Whatever.

Meet the Man Dayton (1984)

We took out the verses because we are godless communists. Dayton’s vocoder guy Shawn Sandridge once spoke of a mysterious man who sang through a garden hose.

Sound of Music Dayton (1983)

Happy like pulling a hologram Vida Blue card from a box of Frosted Flakes on a Saturday morning before watching Westworld.

The “My teacher’s screwy daddy!” Condition Bell Labs (1936)

Never mind the flip talk young lady.

Nothing Doug E. Fresh (1986)

I once dreamt that a fireplace chanted the “Nothing” vocoder to me in a cabin in Brevard, NC (where, when awake at age 8, I played my first game of Telephone.) There were antler chandeliers. The fireplace was a dragon’s mouth. Such nostrils! Every nothing was punctuated with a belch of blue smoke. I explained the dream in a letter to a Bavarian mental institution, where doctors played vocoder recordings of talking water drops for patients while they slept. Never mailed it.

Nothing Ever Changes Cosmic Touch (1983)

This is the Voice of the Vocoder Book Companion. Stop fucking around.

69 Cancer Sign (Instrumental) Very Cheri (1983)

I got this one from Makoto who still has my satin green Skyywalker Records jacket with the cloud foot stitching. The part of the book where Churchill's spy puts his foot through a cloud was inspired by "Thro the D" and the Skyywalker Records logo.

We Are Frank Chickens (Monk's Tan Tan Tanuki Bonus) Frank Chickens (1985)

They're chanting about the Tan Tan Tanuki, an ancient raccoon-like shapeshifter from Japanese mythology, often remembered for having giant nuts.

Rap Attack author David Toop co-produced this project.

Bonus Beach: My mother had a Tanuki on her front porch, a potter sheriff that stashed used popsicle depressors and secret keys in its beargut. The bees and ants were thrilled. (I once discovered a cryptic note from my brother-- the same one who named his band Get Them Guts Outta My Yard --taped to the door: The key to your dreams lies in bearshit.) I have a picture of the TTT, back when I thought it was a bear from a reading my mom and I did at Other Music a few years ago. The vocoder has always been the caretaker.

Need a moment here.

Beats & Rhymes (Dub Bonus)/Raga Bahairav

UTFO/ Charanjit Singh (1984, 1982)

Before this family of soulful gymrats penned N*Sync's career, I would catch Full Force every time they came through Charlotte. (We also got stood up by Debbie Deb at Spinnaker's in Panama City but that's another story.) The Bombay raga vocoder was recorded in 1982 by Bollywood soundtrack legend Charanjit Singh, but born from a Hindu burial ground. (Check out the recent anthology Ten Ragas to a Disco Beat.)

Feel the Force (Instrumental) G-Force (1983)

In the event you need to hear another electro song you've never heard of an hour into this thing, rather than something like, say, "Space Invaders Are Smoking Grass."

Passage To Nasal Condition

(Bell Labs vs. Rammellzee vs. K-Rob)

Good news. Rammellzee got his copy of the book and said he no longer wants to throw me off his rooftop.

The Barnacle Bill Condition Bell Labs (1936)

It's only me from over the sea...a barnacle gargler.

August 4th, 2026 The Martian Chronicles, Ray Bradbury (prod. by Malcolm Clarke for BBC Radiophonic Workshop, 1977)

Mister Blue Sky ELO (1977)

Cheer up! It's not the end of the world.

August 4th, 2026 The Martian Chronicles, Ray Bradbury, (prod. by Malcolm Clarke, for BBC Radiophonic Workshop, 1977)

This is the part where the last house on Mars freaks out. Includes: "Daisy," Alfred Tennyson, garage door opener, and a screaming barometer on fire.

It's Your Rock (dub petards) Fantasy Three (1983)

Shit. I forgot New Order. And Doris Norton.

Anyway. Red Alert used to begin his radio show with these explosions.

Biter's Dub, aka The Vacuum On the Tarmac Fantasy Three, We Did Something To This (1983)

I'll pretty much believe anything, but was Werner Herzog serious when he wrote that tonsillectomies were performed with a vacuum cleaner?

Bonus Beach: "Biter's Dub" was produced by Pumpkin. So was "It's Your Rock," though it may be hard to tell since we cut the song before the beat dropped because we ran out of space because someone, possibly me, had to cram that Gary Numan thing in here. (Way to interrupt a hip-hop classic. Way to not love hip-hop. Way to piss off the ghost of Pumpkin. Man, you've changed!) Anyway, on p. 277 of the book (this is the Voice Of The

Book Companion speaking) there's a related photo of a headless orange mummy borrowed from my cosmic grandma, Pee-Wee Crutchfield.

O Superman (Live at Brooklyn Academy of Music) Laurie Anderson (1984)

Beat Box (wrong speed via Trans-Lux Street Noise) Art of Noise (1983)
Emulator!

Dreams Of Leaving Human League (1980)

Phil Oakey told me this song was inspired by Solzhenitsyn, during an interview conducted by phone in my mom's kitchen the same day I spoke with Sir Mix-A-Lot about Godzilla and "Posse on Broadway." I listened to "Dreams Of Leaving" whenever I thought the book was finished, which was often.

The Final Condition: Love's Old Sweet Song (Just A Song At Twilight)
Bell Labs (1936)

"We're tired of it!" Bo Tompkins, My Answering Machine, Spring 2005
That's my late brother Bo, named after a pulp & paper treatment plant in S.C., and to whom the book is dedicated.

On the Beach Neil Young outtroder

Notes for original book cover idea, jacked from On the Beach album cover:

- " Vocoder sits under a ratty beach umbrella at Coney Island
- " Vocoder wears nose shield, fake Solzhenitsyn beard and powdered wig
- " Jar of false teeth sits next to vocoder
- " Replace Neil Young's yellow Cadillac fins with rusty WW II bomb fins poking from the sand.
- " Add half-buried subwoofer conch
- " Miniature Battlestar Galactica Cylon figures wave at ominous balloon rising from sea
- " Balloon should have Stalin's face on it, as seen in the film *Burnt by the Sun*
- " Should Stalin's teeth be doing something?
- " Has anybody seen Stalin's teeth?

- " Is the nose shield too Angel Heart?
- " Churchill squid-mask lying in sand, with seaweed wiring
- " Cthulhurchill?
- " Put Roger Troutman's face on balloon instead, with talk box tube dangling from balloon towards ocean and into mouth of the Krakken
- " Beach must be desolate; sky overcast
- " Can there be another vocoder parachuting onto beach?
- " How about a sky full of vocoders parachuting onto beach?
- " Perhaps entire beach scene should be an artificial backdrop. Artificial speech/beach. A vocoder prom picture. (May have to import coral sunset from Miami.)
- " Concerns over whether the casual Barnes & Noble customer will be able to determine falsity of false teeth
- " Where on earth will the title go?
- " Bi-plane drags title across sky on banner
- " Would the title fit on balloon?
- " Would the title fit on a Fila headband?
- " Title should be spelled out across a convoy of dump trucks with suspicious Russian plates hauling the beach away to a different resort area
- " Cher gallops by on a robot horse waving flag bearing the title