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Dylan in Context: Dylan's Relationship with Religion (First Place)

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**Dylan
In
Context:**

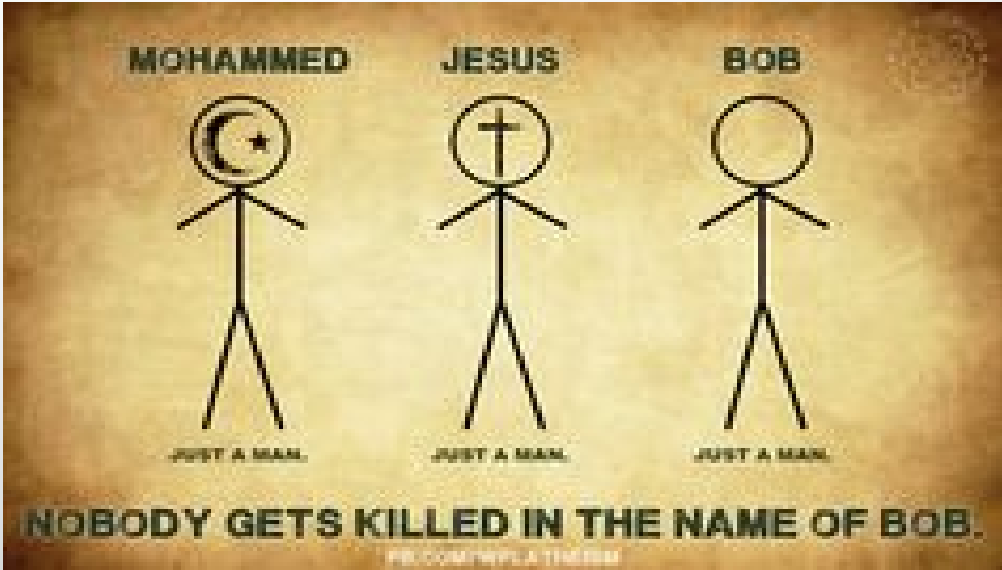
**Dylan's
Relationship
With
Religion**

UPBRINGING



“With God on Our Side”

Through many dark hour
I've been thinkin' about this
That Jesus Christ
Was betrayed by a kiss
But I can't think for you
You'll have to decide
Whether Judas Iscariot
Had God on his side



Still Tons of Religious References in Songs

Just obvious ones between “God On Our Side” and *Blonde on Blonde* in Lyrics

- “When the Ship Comes In”
- “Gates of Eden
- “It’s Alright Ma (I’m Only Bleeding)”
- “Ballad of a Thin Man”
- “Highway 61 Revisited”
- “Desolation Row”

Blonde on Blonde



- Could be a cumulative assessment of Catholicism by Dylan, not just songs about his relationships with women
- Title speculated to refer to a passage in Revelations referring to two horses
- “Visions of Johanna” could refer to Joan of Arc as the French girl
- The “sad eyed prophet” in “Sad Eyed Lady of the Lowlands” may be Jesus

• * Analysis by Michael Karwowski

1979 and the Rolling Thunder Review



Influence of Mary Alice Artes, Helene Springs, and Carolyn Dennis



His Own Born-Again Experience



Dylan to reporter Karen Hughes in 1979:

“Jesus put his hand on me. It was a physical thing. I felt it. I felt it all over me. I felt my whole body tremble. The glory of the Lord knocked me down and picked me up.”

Vineyard Christian Fellowship Church



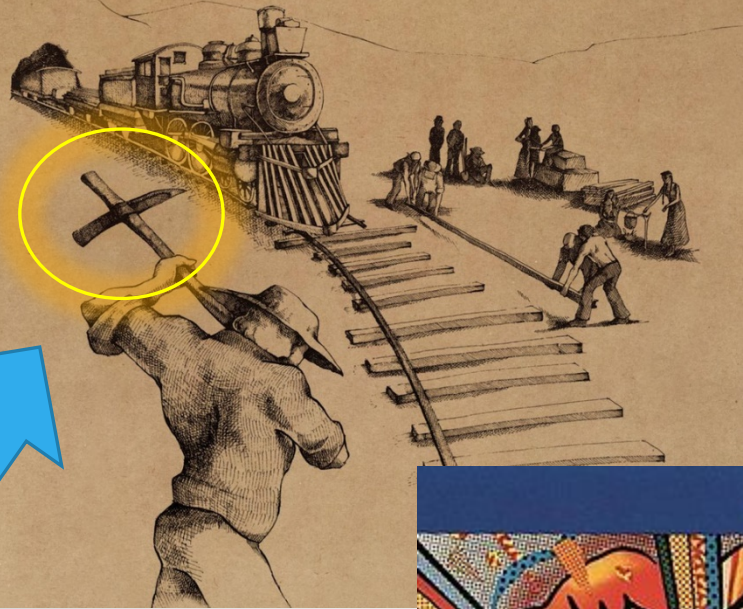


In other words, I'd say the whole story of Bob Dylan is one man's search for God. The turns and the steps he takes to find God are his business. I think he went to a study group at the Vineyard, and it created a lot of excitement.

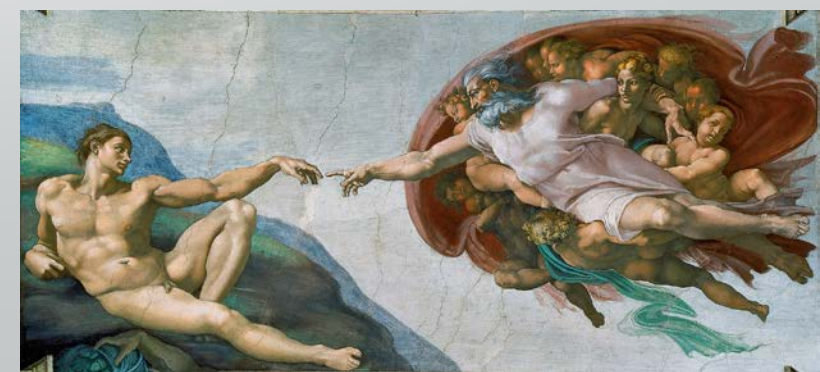
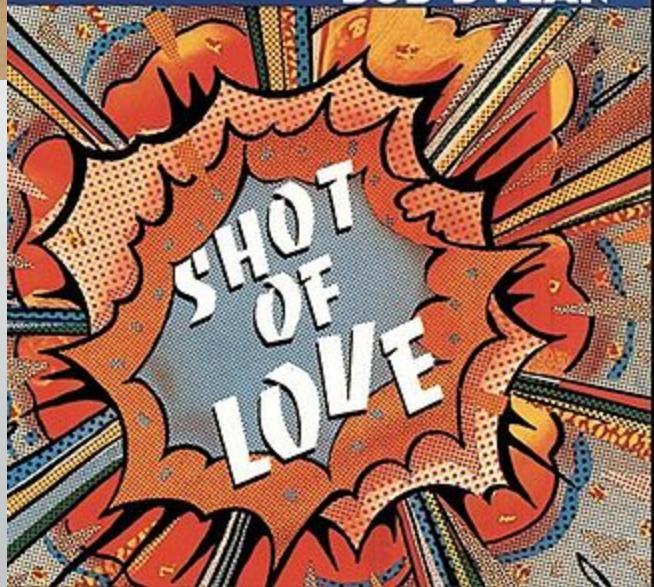
(T-Bone Burnett)

izquotes.com

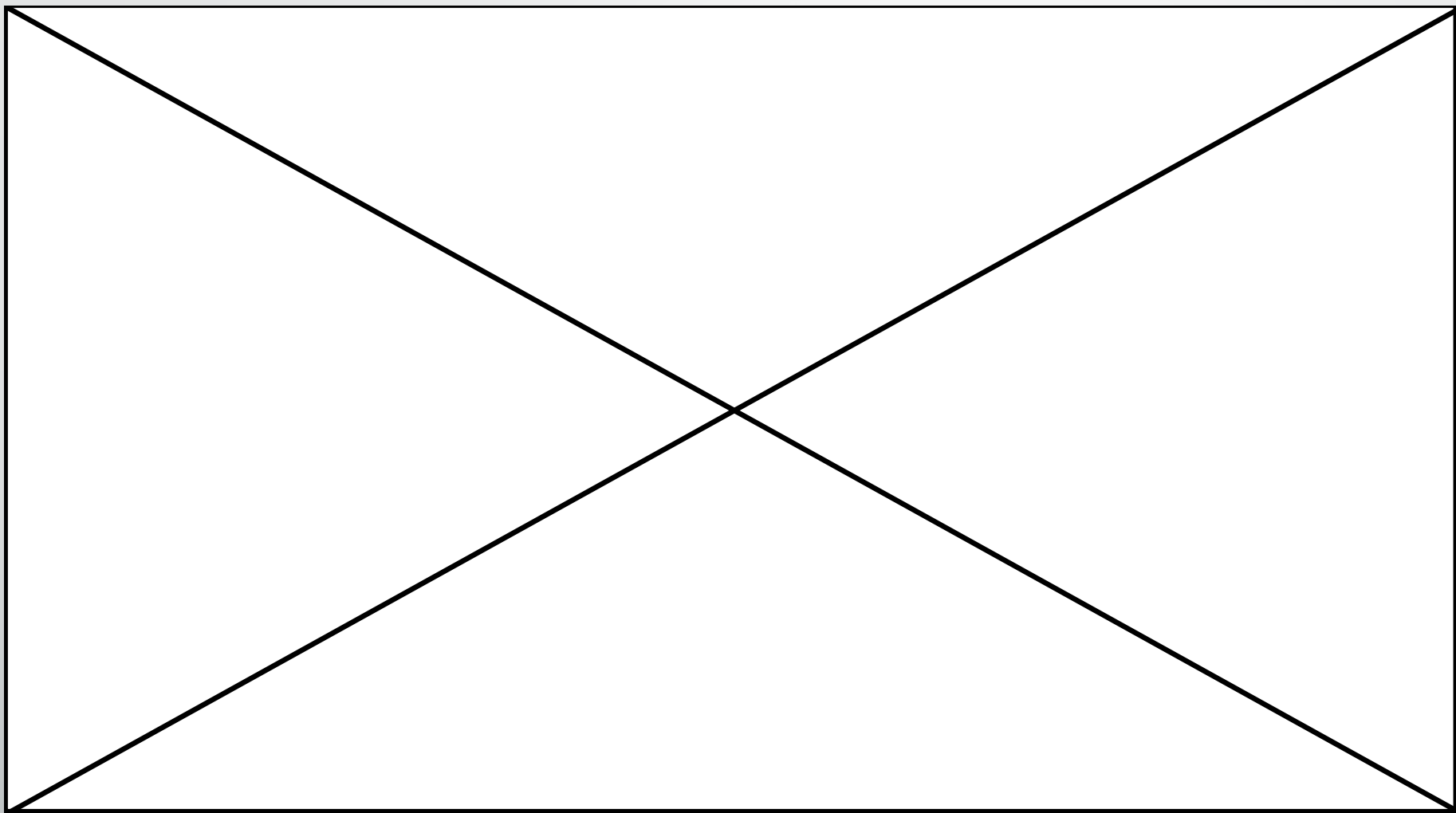
**SLOW TRAIN COMING
BOB DYLAN**



BOB DYLAN



"Pressing On" Live in Toronto 1980- (~3:30-4:00)



“What Can I Do For You?”

Soon a man is born, you know the sparks begin to fly

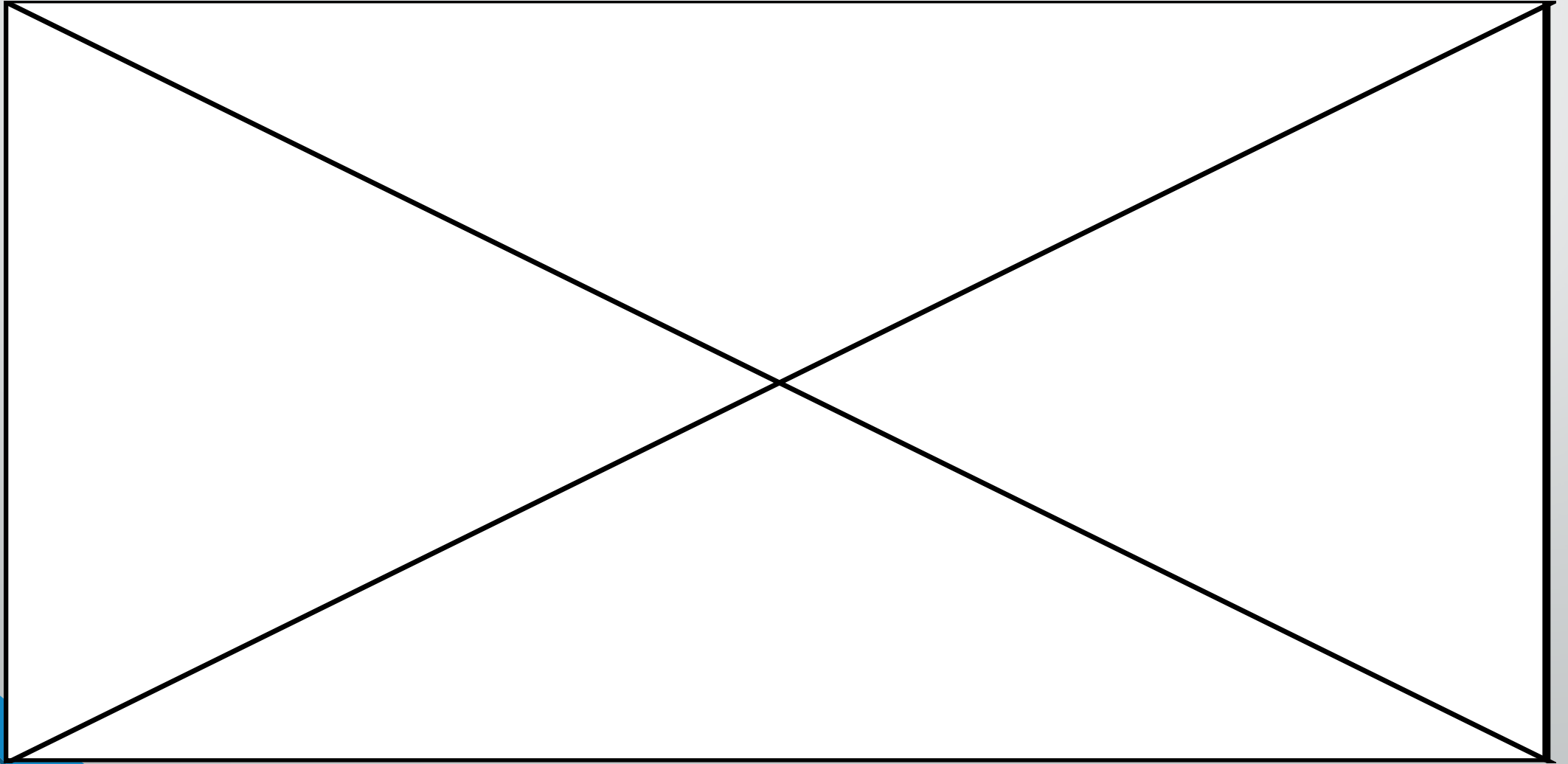
He gets wise in his own eyes and he's made to believe a lie

Who would deliver him from the death he's bound to die?

Well, You've done it all and there's no more anyone can pretend to do

What can I do for You?

Dylan Preaching in Concert- (~2:14)



Dylan- Prodigal Son



“Neighborhood Bully” (1983)

Well, the neighborhood bully, he's just one man

His enemies say he's on their land

They got him outnumbered about a million to one

He got no place to escape to, no place to run

He's the neighborhood bully

The neighborhood bully just lives to survive

He's criticized and condemned for being alive

He's not supposed to fight back, he's supposed to have thick skin

He's supposed to lay down and die when his door is kicked in

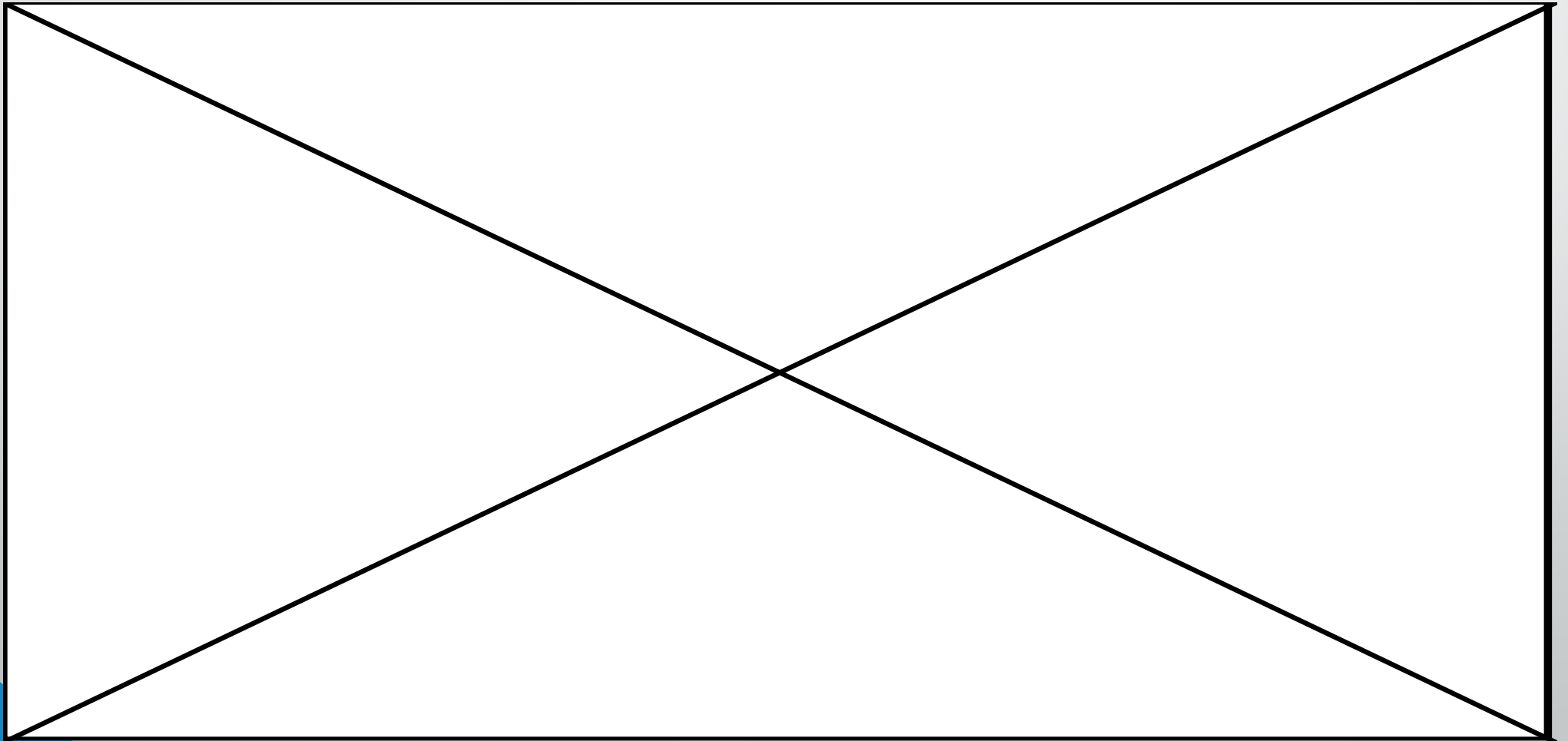
He's the neighborhood bully



Time Spent with Hasidic Rabbi's in New York



Dylan helps perform "Hava Nagila" in 1989 for
25th Anniversary of Chabad telethon



Dylan today-

return to a quiet
culturally Jewish
mysticism



Any questions?