



## Grateful Dead Conversation

**while I was out:** when I was not there

**Joe:** Hey, did Tim call **while I was out**?

**Kristin:** No, he didn't, why?

**wanted to run by me:** wanted to tell me about

**Joe:** Well, he told me he had an idea he **wanted to run by me**. So, uh, I figured he might've called.

**Kristin:** What, what's the idea?

**on the road:** traveling

**Grateful Dead:** an American rock and roll band

**I'm all ears:** I am listening

**look back on:** to think about something that has happened

**Joe:** Uh, well, he's actually thinking about writing a book about, uh, the time he spent **on the road** with the **Grateful Dead**.

**Kristin:** Oh, that would be a great topic for a book. You know, whenever you speak to me about the Grateful Dead, **I'm all ears**.

**Joe:** Yeah, I mean, I, when I **look back on** the years I spent following them around, jeez, I, I followed 'em all over the place. But, I mean, that was some of the most fun I've ever had in my life I think.

**Kristin:** I can imagine.

**Joe:** I mean, y'know, first off, y'know, they're my favorite band.

**Kristin:** Right.

**drew (me) to the scene:** made me interested in something

**Joe:** And, uh, second, the other thing that really **drew me to the scene** was the fact that there was just this traveling, uh, group of people that followed them everywhere. It was like, almost like a bazaar sort of...

**Kristin:** Mm-huh...

**Joe:** ...y'know...

**Kristin:** ...mm-huh...

**Joe:** ...and...

**subculture:** small part of a large group

**cult:** a group of people who has strong beliefs about something

**Kristin:** Well, it's definitely a **subculture** of America.

**Joe:** Oh yeah, yeah, I mean some people even called it a **cult** [laugh] y'know...



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**Kristin:** [laugh]

**Joe:** And, uh, it was so unique at the time, uh, y'know.... Because there really wasn't anything else like it. I mean you had all these **hippies** driving around, following the band from city to city. And, uh, y'know, when you're on the road driving from one place to the next, you'd see the same people. You'd see the same cars, all these VW buses drivin'. And, uh, y'know, uh, people supported themselves, uh, by, uh, selling things in the parking lots at the concerts.

**Kristin:** Mm-huh.

**Joe:** Like, a lot of people would like make jewelry and sell it. A lot of people would sell, uh, clothes that they made, um.... Another, uh, favorite amongst people was to, uh, just, uh, sell beer or to make food. And that's what I actually did a lot of the times. I'd make sandwiches or I'd sell beer in order to help, y'know, **defray** the cost of the tickets.

**Kristin:** Uh-huh.

**Joe:** Because it could get a little expensive, y'know.

**Kristin:** Right.

**Joe:** But, y'know, the other strange thing is that you'd have this, like large circus traveling essentially following the band. And it was all these, like, hippies. People with like really long hair and beards and like, y'know.... Really sometimes like people who hadn't like showered for days. Because they were just traveling with the, y'know...

**Kristin:** Yeah.

**Joe:** ...around, following the band.

**Kristin:** Yeah.

**Joe:** Because, you know, especially during the summer, you'd just stay at campgrounds, y'know? So you'd camp and they might not have a shower, y'know...

**Kristin:** Right [laugh].

**hippie(s):** person  
(people) with long hair

**defray:** to pay for



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**Joe:** I remember like, so many times washing my hair, like, under a, y'know, a faucet in a sink of a bathroom. Or, y'know, under a hose somewhere [laugh].

**Kristin:** [laugh]

**Joe:** And having someone help me because, y'know, I had the long hair.

**Kristin:** [laugh]

**travel around:** go from one place to another place

**conservative:** people who do not like change

**Joe:** Oh man, and, uh, y'know the other thing is, you'd **travel around**. And sometimes be driving through these really small **conservative** towns. And you can just imagine what it must have been like from their standpoint. I mean they see these people who don't look anything like them. I mean...

**Kristin:** Right.

**clean-cut:** short hair and dressed nicely

**bohemian gypsies:** traveling artists

**Joe:** ...they're all **clean-cut** looking, these people who live in this town. And then you have this pack of like, looks like **bohemian gypsies**...

**Kristin:** Uh-huh.

**Joe:** ...traveling through town.

**Kristin:** Yeah, that's a good description.

**cops:** police

**Joe:** Y'know, so, y'know a lot of the times the **cops** in the town would hassle you. Y'know...

**Kristin:** Oh, I'm sure.

**Joe:** ...for no good reason, y'know.

**jump to conclusions:** to decide something without knowing about it

**judging the book by its cover:** deciding what something is like by how it looks

**Kristin:** Yeah.

**Joe:** I think that they would just suddenly **jump to conclusions** about, y'know, what you were doing. Because you look different than them, y'know. They were totally like **judging the book by its cover**.



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**Kristin:** Right.

**Joe:** So, um, yeah but, oh my gosh, y'know.... When I look back on those times, I just met so many people. I mean sometimes I would meet somebody. And like, say the middle of the country like Kansas, right?

**Kristin:** Uh-huh.

**run into:** to unexpectedly see someone

**Joe:** And then, like, a year or two later, I'd be, say, in Seattle. And I'd **run into** the same people...the same person.

**it's (such) a small world:** said when you are surprised to see another person you know at a place you did not expect to see them

**Kristin:** Oh my god, **it's such a small world**, huh?

**Joe:** Yeah, I know. But that was another great thing. Like I met so many people and became such good friends with so many of those people. They're, some of these people are like my closest friends to this day, like Tim. Y'know?

**Kristin:** Yeah.

**Joe:** So it was really something that, uh, it was like a community, y'know.

**bonding experience:** something that makes people become closer

**Kristin:** I was going to say, too, it's a very, it sounds like it was a very **bonding experience**.

**deadhead:** a fan of the music band the Grateful Dead

**Joe:** Oh, yeah, totally. Like it's funny, if you're a **deadhead** and you meet another deadhead, it's like.... There's just like, uh, almost, a hidden language that you speak.

**Kristin:** [laugh]

**rabid fans:** people who really like something are 'rabid fans' of it

**Joe:** Y'know, it's crazy. And, y'know, the, the, the fans were such **rabid fans**. I mean, y'know, a lot of deadheads.... The only music they would listen to was the music of the Grateful Dead.

**Kristin:** Wow. I could see why people would think that was a bit cultish.

**Joe:** Yeah, totally.

**follow through (with something):** to do (something)

**Kristin:** Well, do you think that, um, Tim will actually **follow through** with writing this book?



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AUTHENTIC CONVERSATIONS

## Grateful Dead Conversation

***your guess is as good as mine:*** I do not know

***flake:*** someone who says they will do something but then decides not to do it

**Joe:** I don't know, ***your guess is as good as mine.*** Y'know, he can be a ***flake*** sometimes.

**Kristin:** Yeah, I know.