THIS SONG WAS INSPIRED BY WALT BRESETTE

HE WAS A TRADITIONAL OJIBWE MAN FROM RED CLIFF WISCONSIN

AN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVIST AND POLITICAL LEADER

HIS SPIRIT NAME IS MAKOONSE

HE STARTED THE SEVENTH GENERATIONS AMENDMENT

TO CHANGE THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

TO REMIND US ALL THAT CLEAN LAND AIR AND WATER BELONGED TO EVERYONE

AND THAT THEY NEEDED TO BE PROTECTED FROM CORPORATIONS AND OURSELVES

I NEVER MET WALT HE PASSED AWAY IN 1999

BUT IN 2008 HE CAME TO ME IN MY DREAMS

LATER I HEARD A RECORDING OF A SPEECH HE GAVE

AT A PROTECT THE EARTH GATHERING

HE WAS CAUTIONING US TO BE BETTER CARETAKERS OF THE LAND

FOR OUR CHILDREN AND OUR CHILDREN’S CHILDREN

HE SAID SOMEDAY THEY’LL BE OLD ENOUGH TO RISE UP AND START ASKING QUESTIONS

WHERE WERE YOU WHEN THEY POISONED MY RIVERS

WHERE WERE YOU WHEN I CAN’T EAT THE FISH NO MORE

AND WE’LL BE TOO FEABLE TO RUN HE SAID

WE’RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME

THOUGH WALT IS GONE THE PROBLEMS HE SPOKE OF TWO DECADES AGO REMAIN

BUT HIS SPIRIT IS STILL HERE WITH US AND NOW IT’S OUR TIME TO PICK UP THE WORK

THIS SONG IS FOR MAKOONSE