

The Man Who Ought to Be Spurned

Lyrics: Gary McGath, Copyright 2021

Lyrics: "Charlie on the MTA"

Written for FAWM 2021

Let me tell you all the story of a politician
Who should be despised today.
For he won the election and stepped into the White House
Supporting the KKK.

And does he still get admired? Yes, he still gets admired.
Many people haven't learned
To revile forever this outrageous person,
He's a man who ought to be spurned.

He said we ought to stay out of other nations' battles.
Being world cops we shouldn't try.
Then reversed himself, dragged us into warfare,
He let many Americans die.

Freedom of speech was a thing he hated,
And dissent drove him to tears,
So he signed a law to suppress sedition,
Locked a critic up for ten years.

He worked for segregation of the Civil Service
Separating black from white,
His quotations appeared in a racist movie
Supporting slaveholders' "rights."

A pandemic broke out and he just said nothing
As hundreds of thousands died,
He got sick himself, hid it from the public,
And his PR team outright lied.

It's a scandal just how many American people
Still admire this bum today.
His name wasn't Trump, it was Woodrow Wilson,
Supported the KKK.

Notes:

Proper notes for this song would be longer than the song itself. This is just enough to show it's based on actual research:

Wilson was re-elected in 1916 on a promise to keep the US out of the European war that was raging. In 1917 he brought the US into the war, turning it into the first World War.

Wilson signed the Espionage Act (which is still in effect, with modifications) in 1918. It was used to imprison Eugene Debs for 10 years for anti-war activism.

Shortly after his 1913 inauguration, Wilson implemented racial segregation of federal jobs, reversing recent trends.

Quotes from him supporting the KKK appear at the beginning of the movie *_Birth of the Nation_*, a groundbreaking achievement in movie making but repugnant today in its racial views.

Wilson said basically nothing about the pandemic of 1918-1919. The federal government downplayed it. Wilson caught the dangerous flu himself, but his publicists claimed he was still well.