

Tom Paine's Bones

As I roved out one evening by a river of discontent
I chanced to meet with old Tom Paine as running down the road he went.
He said, "I can't stop right now child, King George is after me.
He'd have a rope around my throat and hang me on the Liberty Tree."

*I will dance to Tom Paine's bones, dance to Tom Paine's bones
Dance in the oldest boots I own to the rhythm of Tom Paine's bones*

He said I only talked about freedom and justice for everyone
But since the very first word I spoke I've been looking down the barrel of a gun.
they say I preached revolution, let me say in my defense
That all I did wherever I went was to talk a lot of common sense

Chorus

Old Tom Paine, he ran so fast, he left me standing still.
And there I was, a piece of paper in my hand, standing at the top of the hill.
And it said, "This is 'The Age of Reason', these are 'The Rights of Man'.
Kick off religion and monarchy," it was written there in Tom Paine's plan.

Chorus

Old Tom Paine, there he lies nobody laughs and nobody cries.
Where he's gone or how he fares nobody knows—and nobody cares.

Chorus

Composed by: Graham Moore

Appears on *Loomings*

I learned this song at Youth Traditional Song Weekend in 2020, and love it dearly. Tom Paine's ideas are still relevant today.