

Translated from the Spanish by Dora M. Pettinella.

Nicanor Parra / I JEHOVA DECREE

that everything end at once
I place my cross in the solar system
we must return to the maternal womb
I believe the matter is quite settled
let no one leave
let everything end suddenly
let us stop running around the bush
the war with Vietnam is fine
the Operation of the Prostate is fine
I Jehova decree old age
you make me laugh
you make me nervous
only a born fool
will kneel to worship a statue
frankly I don't know what to say
we are at the border of a Third World War
and nobody seems to worry about anything
if they destroy the world
do they think I shall create it again?