Six Steel Strings

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Six Steel Strings

by Kerry Krafiner

Simple they are, sleek, strong, of different size
Each made precisely without compromise
Stretched tightly over a wooden drum
In parallel fashion attached, there to strum

Once the hands of the artist begins to glide
Across the frets both narrow and wide
Such passion and strength jumps from his hands
Energy flowing from each of the strands

Classical, Jazz, R&B, Rock and Roll
Country, Bossa Nova, Pop, Rap and Soul
All of these varying tempos and more
Sometimes played gently, sometimes as a roar

Odd, how hearing notes played in sequence
Can bring to mind people, places, events
Memories tapped by the notes as they’re played
Congers up pictures so vastly arrayed

Of parties and concerts, records and tapes
Of discos and dance halls and clothes and of dates
Of youth or a romance, a relationship frayed
A wish not granted, a promise not made

Our best friends and pals, our schools and our cars,
Recalled with perfection when we hear certain bars
Sounds and beats differ for each generation
But common is melancholy, enjoyment, elation

Steel strings when wound to perfect tension
Can bring forth music of sweet dimension
Curious the memories each song brings
Such power and beauty from six steel strings