



1

00:00:01,540 --> 00:00:05,820

\h Announcer: Please welcome John
Speck, Musician and Avionics and Flight Controls Lead

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00:00:05,820 --> 00:00:14,620

\h for NASA Kennedy Space Center

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00:00:14,620 --> 00:00:22,290

\h John Speck: Hello. I was very young, I lived in Michigan growing up,

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00:00:22,290 --> 00:00:26,300

\h I lived in Battle Creek, Michigan, that's where Kellogg's makes their cereal.

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00:00:26,300 --> 00:00:30,570

\h There was an amazing thing in the music industry that was going on at the time,

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00:00:30,570 --> 00:00:35,260

\h it was called Beatlemania and it didn't really affect me too much, but,

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00:00:35,260 --> 00:00:40,330

\h because I was very, very young at the time but I remember going to school and my teacher,

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00:00:40,330 --> 00:00:45,710

\h who was at the time I thought was maybe about 105 years old, she brings the class to

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00:00:45,710 --> 00:00:48,020

\h the front and she says "I have an announcement to make."

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00:00:48,020 --> 00:00:53,430

\h We think great, we're getting out of school early, or something like that, and she proceeds to tell us,

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00:00:53,430 --> 00:01:00,040

\h she saw the Beatles at Shea stadium over the weekend, and she tells us about the screaming kids,

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00:01:00,040 --> 00:01:05,130

\h and the limos, and police and she was like this giddy 16-year-old

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00:01:05,130 --> 00:01:09,840

\h teenager reading a "beat" magazine, and I thought wow!

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00:01:09,840 --> 00:01:12,820

\h This music really has an effect on people.

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00:01:12,820 --> 00:01:18,780

\h So I go home, and I tell my parents about this, and pretty soon we have a 45 record player and

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00:01:18,780 --> 00:01:27,030

\h my brother Jim and I are playing these 45s, these Beatle's songs "twist and shout" and we're into guitars

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00:01:27,030 --> 00:01:33,350

\h rock stars, we told our parents we need guitars, they said well sure, no problem.

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00:01:33,350 --> 00:01:37,820

\h They go upstairs and come back downstairs and brought us our very first guitars,

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00:01:37,820 --> 00:01:45,080

\h they were wooden tennis racquets and hard to tune and hard on your fingers but we really didn't care,

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00:01:45,080 --> 00:01:48,720

\h we put straps on them and total rock stars.

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00:01:48,720 --> 00:01:55,550

\h I just remember that feeling in my hand, it was so great. But then one day the music stops.

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00:01:55,550 --> 00:02:01,650

\h This is not a Buddy Holly story; it is where I start to cleverly inject engineering into the story.

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00:02:01,650 --> 00:02:09,750

\h The record player actually breaks. I'm not sure what all broke but I'm pretty sure the stylus or the wires.

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00:02:09,750 --> 00:02:16,370

\h My mom in her great Michigan wires, well, john, I guess you have the knack.

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00:02:16,370 --> 00:02:20,780

\h I don't know what the knack is. All I know is I fix things.

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00:02:20,780 --> 00:02:27,140

\h So fast forward, move to Dayton, Ohio, get real guitars, take lessons,

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00:02:27,140 --> 00:02:32,120

\h learn how to play, play in other groups and continue to fix things, of course,

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00:02:32,120 --> 00:02:35,740

\h and then go off to college and study electrical engineering, and then

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00:02:35,740 --> 00:02:42,220

\h I really started to play with other musicians, so basically doing music at night and engineering by day,

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00:02:42,220 --> 00:02:47,500

\h and that seemed to work out very good and I played with a lot of really great musicians.

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00:02:47,500 --> 00:02:50,680

\h And I thought well maybe this is something that I want to do,

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00:02:50,680 --> 00:02:54,170

\h but then there were really three things that changed my mind.

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00:02:54,170 --> 00:02:59,860

\h One was I was an extremely poor college student and I was very tired of that.

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00:02:59,860 --> 00:03:04,350

\h The next was all of my engineering buddies, they're all graduating and they're

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00:03:04,350 --> 00:03:13,490

\h getting real j-o-b-s and my musician friends were sitting around waiting for the next g-i-g,

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00:03:13,490 --> 00:03:21,700

\h so I went with the real j-o-b, and never regretted it and now playing with a group of other engineers and

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00:03:21,700 --> 00:03:28,920

\h they all have the knack, and we basically play music at night and launch rockets by day, and that,

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00:03:28,920 --> 00:03:34,850

\h my friend, is basically how music has affected my engineering or my engineering has affected my music

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00:03:34,850 --> 00:03:39,490

\h So now I'm going to give you a little bit of innovation, inspiration,

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00:03:39,490 --> 00:03:45,480

\h or the insanity of writing a song at least for me, and I'll tell you a little bit about it.

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00:03:45,480 --> 00:03:51,480

\h I took a 20-hour train ride up to Washington, D.C., to visit my daughter, Emily,

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00:03:51,480 --> 00:03:56,160

\h and I thought what a great opportunity to write a train song, because there are so many great train songs

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00:03:56,160 --> 00:04:01,250

\h and this is a perfect opportunity to do that, and this was working out really well.

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00:04:01,250 --> 00:04:06,390

\h I got on the train, and I found some music that I liked, and I always find that's the easy part,

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00:04:06,390 --> 00:04:10,910

\h and I actually wrote a train verse and I thought, this is a rockin' train song.

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00:04:10,910 --> 00:04:15,820

\h So ten hours later I'm still on the train and I'm tired and I'm wired and I can't sleep,

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00:04:15,820 --> 00:04:22,620

\h and I have this dark thought in my head and I go, hey, I don't think my wife likes me as much anymore.

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00:04:22,620 --> 00:04:25,240

\h I don't think she thinks I'm as hot as I used to be.

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00:04:25,240 --> 00:04:31,760

\h Then I write this dark verse and I go, this is no longer a train song, this is a dark song.

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00:04:31,760 --> 00:04:39,650

\h Anyway, 15 hours later, I get some sleep, I wake up and I go, I am the stupidest person.

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00:04:39,650 --> 00:04:43,050

\h I wouldn't last a day without my wife. She's amazing person.

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00:04:43,050 --> 00:04:48,800

\h I don't see how she puts up with me, so then I write this, well, a romantic part of the song,

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00:04:48,800 --> 00:04:54,270

\h and then finally, after almost 20 hours, I said it's just time to get off of the train,

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00:04:54,270 --> 00:04:56,720

\h and I say, it's just time to say good night.

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00:04:56,720 --> 00:05:02,660

\h So that's really the name of the song is called "just say good night" and I find with any new song,

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00:05:02,660 --> 00:05:07,600

\h it's very rough around the edges, because it's brand new but I know you guys are all rough around the e

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00:05:07,600 --> 00:05:43,090

\h too, so I thought I'd give it a go. Anyway -- One, two, three, four.

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00:05:43,090 --> 00:05:47,030

\h Riding on the night train into the dark

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00:05:47,030 --> 00:05:52,920

\h Riding on the night train into the light of the day

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00:05:52,920 --> 00:06:00,170

\h Well it's hard to keep that spark and turn it into a flame

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00:06:00,170 --> 00:06:03,770

\h I don't see that smile, that light in your eyes

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00:06:03,770 --> 00:06:10,290

\h I don't see that spring in your step when you reach for my hand

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00:06:10,290 --> 00:06:17,080

\h It's hard to keep that spark and turn it into a flame

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00:06:17,080 --> 00:07:05,420

\h Time to say good night, well, it's time to say good night

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00:07:05,420 --> 00:07:09,460

\h I love you more than water and the sunshine

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00:07:09,460 --> 00:07:15,290

\h I love you more than words and my hands can possibly say

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00:07:15,290 --> 00:07:22,310

\h Well it's hard to keep that spark and turn it into a flame

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00:07:22,310 --> 00:07:28,030

\h Hard to keep that spark and turn it into a flame