

# YOU HEARD IT HERE

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## Red Wine at Noon



Let me start by saying, this is **not** a happy song. As I've said before, many songs related to wine or alcohol in general are about self-medicating to escape some situation. This is one of those songs. I also need to add this is the song that started the whole idea of writing about songs that reference wine. At a food committee meeting, I was conversing with another club member and mentioned this song that I had only recently discovered but didn't know who did it. Well, much to my delight that member not only knew the answer but got me a copy of the album it was on!

First problem, the name of the band, **Joy of Cooking**, which only makes you think of a book of the same title. The second problem, it's a tragedy of a story of someone who has in a sense given up hope and resigned themselves to a life that they would not have chosen. Just look at the lyrics:

<p>[Verse 1] You can tell by my face that I'm not the same lady Who once wasn't willing to cry Some days I feel that I'm really quite happy With everything money can buy</p> <p>[Pre-Chorus] Then it's gone, gone, no need to remind me The life that I chose would be nothing at all</p> <p>[Chorus] Without white wine in the morning sun Red wine at noon And I'll be here when the evening comes And where have you been so long?</p>	<p>[Verse 2] That man that I married, he travels in Europe He brings me back presents from over the sea He meets with officials and shakes hands with strangers Then comes home to visit with me</p> <p>[Pre-Chorus] Then he's gone, gone, no time for the children I remember the days when we used to be free And I'll be here when the evening comes</p> <p>[Chorus] Now I've got white wine in the morning sun Red wine at noon And where have you been so long?</p>	<p>[Verse 3] The life that I've fashioned is not what I wanted But things often turn out that way And now I've forgotten all the dreams I once lived for As life becomes day after day</p> <p>[Pre-Chorus] And they're gone, gone, lost in the shadows The closets are full of old clothes I can't wear</p> <p>[Chorus] Drinking white wine in the morning sun Red wine at noon And I'll be here when the evening comes And where have you been so long?</p>
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The band is not well known and only released 3 albums. Here is some information on them from **The History of Rock Music**: Joy of Cooking were formed in Berkeley, CA during the hippie era (1967). Their fusion sound, incorporating folk, rock, jazz, gospel, and blues, had little in common with acid-rock; it heralded a new era of "creativity" and of stylistic re-evaluation.



One of the first bands led by female musicians, and one of the earliest to deal with feminist issues within popular music, the Joy of Cooking were led by pianist Toni Brown (graduated in creative writing), and guitarist Terry Garthwaite (folksinger and an aspiring sociologist). The three-unit rhythm section, on the other hand, was entirely male. Hampered by the fact of not being the typical rock band, the Joy of Cooking gathered a lot of critical attention but never enjoyed any commercial success. In fact, they were formed in 1967 but had to wait 4 years before recording an album (they were all over 30 by then). Released in 1971, the songs lyrics speak for themselves, and the recording is not highly produced, and the vocal harmonies aren't quite as tight as they could be (maybe they'd been drinking too much wine).

Listen away and be sure to have your own glass of "medication." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oyct2Y7yShA>