

Epilogue

Somewhere in Africa, an explorer arrives amongst a group of people who, back in the day at the time of this encounter, were still called "negroes" in some parts of the world, rather than "people with maximum skin pigmentation". Anyway, the members of the group were all sitting in a circle and drumming away: wild, polyrhythmic sounds the transcription of which would go beyond the framework sought here. Very exotic, fascinating for a Westerner – and scary at the same time. Come nightfall, they are still drumming fiercely. Far beyond midnight, the explorer wants to go to sleep, but the drums rise to an ecstatic inferno, and he cautiously dares to ask: "You guys are really having at it – how much longer is all this going to last?" There's no answer, just vacant stares. He asks again, and again no answer ... The man summons up all his courage and asks again ... and finally: *"We always drum. When the drums go silent, the HORROR will come"*. Uh-oh. "... so what is this horrible thing, the HORROR?" *"The HORROR is unspeakable – its name may not be uttered!"*

The explorer tries the next guy: "How long are you all going to keep playing tonight?" *"We always play, when the drums are silent, the HORROR will arrive"*. "But what is the HORROR?!" *"The HORROR is inexpressible!"* "And nobody may say what it is?" *"Only the chief may"*. So the explorer goes to see the chief: "Exalted chief, your guest from distant lands is very tired and seeks to sleep. When will the drums go silent?" *"The drums are never silent, for if they are silent, the HORROR will come!"* "Yes, I have already heard that - what is this horrible thing, then?"

... *"When the drums are silent, the horrible HORROR-thing comes: the bass solo begins!"*

This knowledge from distant lands and distant peoples teaches us that for the bass, completely different, unexpected rules hold. As a guitarist, you do not understand these rules, and therefore you should never transfer results obtained and valid for the electric guitar to the electric bass just like that. An electric bass is not simply a tuned-down guitar – it is played differently, it needn't be 50 years old, its neck resonances interact differently with the strings than those on a guitar. "Physics of the Electric Guitar" describes exactly the latter - otherwise it would be "Physics of the Electric Bass".

Time to turn off the computer, and to listen to music again: *"Take me down little Susie, take me down, I know you think you're the queen of the underground. And you can send me dead flowers every morning. Send me dead flowers by the mail. Say it with dead flowers to my wedding, and I won't forget to put roses on your grave*"*. Take me down ...

* Jagger / Richards aka Nanker / Phelge