

Cloudbusting



Mapping Dreams

Released on her 1985 album *Hounds of Love*, Kate Bush penned a tragic, tender story with her song "Cloudbusting." In the early '80s, Kate read *A Book of Dreams*, a short novel written by Peter Reich. Throughout the narrative, Peter reflects on the time he spent with his father, the controversial psychoanalyst and scientist Wilhelm Reich. As a young boy, Peter grew up with his father at **ORGONON**, a combined house and research laboratory located in Maine. Here, Wilhelm Reich developed some of his most peculiar ideas - a machine which could supposedly bust rain clouds from the sky, and create them as well. He named this invention the **Cloudbuster**. Because of the strange nature of his research, the U.S. government eventually arrested Reich, in front of his son, and destroyed much of his work. Only a year later, Reich died in prison.

Peter was only 12 years old. Kate Bush relied upon this narrative to write the intimate lyrics of "Cloudbusting." This project takes memories and dreams from "Cloudbusting" and maps them into tangibility: Reality and geographical space are identified with the lyrics. Memories and distinct moments from Peter's adolescence are represented by lyrics. Peter's emotions and longings are signified by lyrics. Finally, lyrics relating to the weather and the cloudbusting Peter conducted with his father are shown with lyrics. These lyrics, abridged to cut out one chorus, are numbered in order of their appearance in the song. And, hopefully, something good can happen with this map.

