Out here nothing changes, not in a hurry anyway
You can feel the endlessness
With the coming of the light of day
We're talking bout a chosen place
You wanna sell it in the marketplace
Just a minute now

Solid Rock, standing on sacred ground
Living on borrowed time
And the winds of change
Are blowing down the line

Now down around the dawn of time the dreaming all began
A proud people came
They were looking for their promised land
Running from the heart of darkness
Looking for the heart of light
Must have been paradise

Solid Rock, standing on sacred ground
Living on borrowed time
And the winds of change
Are blowing down the line

Standing on the shore one day
Saw the white sails in the sun
Wasn't long before they felt that sting
White man white law white gun
Don't tell me that it's justified

Somewhere, someone lied

Someone lied

*Solid Rock, standing on sacred ground*

*Living on borrowed time*

*And the winds of change*

*Are blowing down the line*

**Synopsis**

Shane Howard wrote this song and released it in 1982. According to Howard, the inspiration came on a ten-day camping trip to Uluru (also known as Ayers Rock) during 1980 where he had a "spiritual awakening" which brought "the fire in the belly" over injustices suffered by Australia's indigenous peoples.

“I realised that this country that I grew up in, that I thought was my country, wasn’t. I had to reassess my whole relationship with the land and the landscape, and understand that we had come from somewhere else, and we had dis-empowered a whole race of people when we arrived.” —Shane Howard.

Shane Howard’s record label WEA was at first reluctant to issue it as a single and even Howard initially had a few doubts about whether commercial radio was ready for such a weighty political subject. He insisted, however, on its release to make a statement on the European invasion of Australia.

*Solid Rock* peaked at No. #2 on the Australian Kent Music Report Singles Chart, remaining in the Top 50 for 26 weeks. It also reached No. #31 on the US Billboard Mainstream Rock Chart and appeared on the Hot 100. I have loved this song for many years. I think there are many reasons for that, but as an Aboriginal person, this song was the first song that mainstream Australia embraced, that was all about Aboriginal people and culture. It featured the didgeridoo, and gave us an enormous sense of pride. Only 15 years prior to this song, we weren't even recognised as Australian citizens, instead being told we were flora and fauna. It is monumental in Australian history, and not just musically.

- Scott Darlow