

Dear Ivan

Jimmy Dean

Dear Ivan
You don't know me
And I don't know you
But I sure would
Like to meet you

Yes sir, I'd like to walk up
And shake your hand and
Look you straight in the eye
And tell you that I haven't got
One thing in this world against you

I know that the
Heads of our government
Seem to have problems getting
Together to talk things over

But I got a feeling if you and I
Could just sit down and talk
Not as representatives of
Anybody's government but just
Two plain ordinary human beings
I feel that we might think
A great deal alike

I'm an entertainer now, Ivan
I used to be a farmer just like you
I got a wife and three kids
And this may sound a
Little unpatriotic, but to me
These are more important than
The heads of anybody's government

A few years back
You and I both left the farm
And we put on a uniform
And we were on the same side
Of the fence, you and me, Ivan

And you know, I can't help
But believe that we're still
On the same side of the fence
That we both like to see
A world united in peace

I'll tell you something, Ivan
I love my land very much
Oh, we got some of the
Prettiest mountains and trees
And rivers and valleys
That you've ever laid eyes on
And I'm sure you feel the
Same way about your country

And I know that neither one of us
Would like to see the face of
Our countries blackened with

The hot breath of anybody's bomb
You know, they tell me that
Over there, you don't believe in God

But though I've never met you
I can't help but believe that
A man who's stood on a
Crisp fall morning and watched
The sun rise over his farmland or
He's planted a small grain of corn
And seen it grow out of the fertile soul

Or better than that, Ivan
Held your own baby in your arms
I know that you know that there's
A God up there watching over
Each and every one of us

Ivan, when I put my
Babies to bed tonight
I'm gonna say a prayer
For you and yours
And if you in your own way
Will say a prayer for me and mine
And maybe we can talk our
Neighbors into doing the same thing

This will be more powerful
Than any conference held over
Any conference table anywhere
In the whole wide world

And then maybe we can
Live as God intended
Peacefully, together
Yours truly, Jimmy Dean