

The Great American Dream

Vaughn Monroe

Excuse me sir... I am a foreigner
I left the white sands of Zanzibar
Where is this place you call free lunch bar?
I am hungry and have overstayed my visa
I'll work your farm your factory your pizzeria
Is TV more beautiful than the Mona Lisa
Someday my sons will I fight for the eagle
My daughters will never be ashamed of me
It is my dream... to be a citizen
It's the Great American Dream
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It's the Great American Dream

Excuse me sir... I am a prostitute
Just pretend that I'm a Playboy bunny
For a Franklin I will tongue your tummy
My body is a battlefield and a flower
Four score and seven tricks by the hour
O the many men--one might have been my father
Gonna make my getaway in a zeppelin
Take a bubble bath in the fountain of youth
It is my dream... to be a girl again
In the Great American Dream

Excuse me sir... I am a writer
Tho' the critics are jealous of my genius
They say I'm writing with my penis
Perhaps you've read my work in True Confessions
It pays the rent and fuels my obsessions
On the sly I give elocution lessons
Someday I'll write the Great American Novel
To be required reading in the Ivy League
It is my dream... to die infamous
It's the Great American Dream

Excuse me sir... I am a carpenter
Once I built a treehouse for Rockefeller
Tho' now I've been laid off since December
Someday I'll build a castle all my own
In the den the best laz-e-boy throne
In every room a different color phone
These torn hands are skilled as spiders
I hear there's work in Kansas building coffins
It is my dream... to be cremated
It's the Great American Dream

Excuse me sir... I am an Indian
O the white man is as greedy as fire
His heart is wrapped around with barbed wire
My father died of whiskey and religion
But ghosts are cheap on the reservation
In the summer we're a tourist attraction
It is wrong to squeeze the earth like a snake
A deceit to give a stone to the hungry one
It is my dream... to skin a Pilgrim
And the Great American Dream

Excuse me sir... I am Everyman
I'm the good thief of Jekyll and Hyde
I'm the social climber on a mountain of pride
I'm the deaf the dumb and the debonaire
I'm the mouse the monk and the millionaire
I'm the Great White Hope riding an old grey mare
I'm the sad-eyed girl as young as the earth
I'm the mother who died giving birth
To the Great American Dream

I hope freedom loves me