

El Salvador

by Noel Paul Stookey and Jim Wallis (1982)

A B G#m C#m A B E E

E *E* *F#7* *F#7*
There's a sunny little country south of Mexico, where the winds are gentle and the waters flow.
A *Am* *E* *E*
But breezes aren't the only things that blow in El Salvador.
E *E* *F#7* *F#7*
If you took the little lady for a moonlight drive, odds are still good you'd come back alive
A *Am* *E* *E*
But everyone is innocent until they arrive in El Salvador

A *B* *G#m* *C#m*
If the rebels take a bus on the grand highway the government destroys a village miles away
A *B* *E* *E7*
The man on the radio says; "now we'll play South of the Border."
A *B* *G#m* *C#m*
And in the morning the natives say, we're happy you have lived another day
A *B* *E* *E* *C#m* *C#m* *B* *B*
Last night a thousand more passed away in El Salvador

There's a television crew here from ABC, filming Rio Lempe and the refugees
Calling murdered children the 'tragedy' of El Salvador
Before the government cameras 20 feet away, another man is asking for continued aid
Food and medicine and hand grenades for El Salvador
There's a thump, a rumble, and the buildings sway, a soldier fires the acid spray
The public address system starts to play South of the Border
You run for cover and hide your eyes, you hear the screams from paradise
A *B* *C#m* *C#m* *A* *A* *F#7* *F#7* *B* *B*
They've fallen further than you realize in El Salvador

Just like Poland is 'protected' by her Russian friends, the junta is 'assisted' by Americans
And if 60 million dollars seems too much to spend in El Salvador
They say for half a billion they could do it right, bomb all day, burn all night
Until there's not a living thing upright in El Salvador
They'll continue training troops in the USA, and watch the nuns that got away
And teach the military bands to play South of the Border
And kill the people to set them free, who put this price on their liberty?
A *B* *A* *A* *G#m* *G#m* *A* *B* *C#m*_(hold)
Don't you think it's time to leave El Salvador?