

Island in the Sun

words and music by Harry Belafonte and Lord Burgess (Irving Louis Burgie) (1956)

D *G*
This is my island in the sun, where my
A7 *D*
People have toiled since time begun
D^(½) *Gma7*^(¼) *D*^(¼) *Em7*
Tho I may sail on many a sea, her
D *A7*^(¼) *D*^(½) *A7*^(¼)
Shores will always be home to me

D *G*
Oh island in the sun
A7 *D*
Willed to me by my father's hand
D(Bm) *G*^(½) *G/A*^(½)
All my days I will sing in praise of your
A7 *D* *A7* *Em7*^(¼) *D*^(¾)
Forest, waters, your shining sand

When morning breaks, the heaven on high, I
Lift my heavy load to the sky
Sun comes down with a burning glow
Mingles my sweat with the earth below

I see woman on bended knee
Cutting cane for her family
I see man at the water-side
Casting nets at the surging tide

I hope the day will never come
When I can't awake to the sound of drum
Never let me miss carnival
With calypso songs philosophical