

Gung Ho

Patti Smith

On a field of red one gold star
 Raised above his head
 Raised above his head
He was not like any other
He was just like any other
 And the song they bled
 Was a hymn to him
 Awake my little one
 The seed of revolution
 Sewn in the sleeve
 Of cloth humbly worn
Where others are adorned
Above the northern plain
 The great birds fly
 With great wings
 Over the paddy fields
 And the people kneel
 And the men they toil
 Yet not for their own
And the children are hungry
 And the wheel groans
 There before a grass hut
 A young boy stood
 His mother lay dead
 His sisters cried for bread
And within his young heart
The seed of revolution sewn
 In cloth humbly worn
While others are adorned
And he grew into a man
 Not like any other
 Just like any other
 One small man
A beard the color of rice
 A face the color of tea
 Who shared the misery
 Of other men in chains
With shackles on his feet
 Escaped the guillotine

Who fought against
Colonialism imperialism
Who remained awake
While others slept
Who penned like jefferson

Let independence ring
And the cart of justice turns
Slow and bitterly
And the people were crying
Plant that seed that seed
And they crawled on their bellies
Beneath the giant beast
And filled the carts with bodies
Where once had been their crops
And the great birds swarm
Spread their wings overhead
And his mother dead
And the typhoons and the rain
The jungles in flames
And the orange sun
None could be more beautiful
Than vietnam
Nothing was more beautiful
Than vietnam
And his heart stopped beating
And the wheel kept turning
And the words he bled
Were a hymn to them
I have served the whole people
I have served my whole country
And as I leave this world
May you suffer union
And my great affection
Limitless as sky
Filled with golden stars
The question is raised
Raised above his head
Was he of his word
Was he a good man
For his image fills the southern heart
With none but bitterness
And the people keep crying
And the men keep dying
And it's so beautiful

So beautiful
Give me one more turn
Give me one more turn
One more turn of the wheel
One more revolution
One more turn of the wheel

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