

# Buffet Hotel

## Jimmy Buffett

This train slipped into the station  
A worn out steel blue soul  
A relic from colonial days  
When the French were still in control  
Lorsque les Francais ont ete en controle  
(When the French were still in control)It's an outpost in transition  
Where the faithful in the bar  
Know from the whistle & the squeaking wheels  
That the next step is Dakar  
La prochaine etape etait Dakar  
(The next step is Dakar)Talk on the radio  
Talk on the street  
Talk of men with money loco from the heat  
Picking up the beatTalk about the rail band  
Picking up the beat  
We lit that great reunion  
With the headlights on the jeepAnd there's history on the jukebox  
Where the spies & scoundrels dwell  
It was the place to go in Bamako  
Direction Buffet HotelNow were lost in the Sahara  
Four hours north of Tombouctou  
Lookin for a nomad who knows  
Or maybe some wondering Jew  
Allons a Essakane, Syndou  
(Get us to Essakane, Syndou)Then we heard that Tuareg combo  
We had come so very far  
And we were welcomed out of history  
By the wind & sand & stars  
Jai commence a le piercevoir  
(Im beginning to understand it)Sand in the couscous  
Sand in the wine  
There was sand in my guitar case  
Stories in my mindMachine guns on the hilltop  
Camels in my tent  
Buried in a sandstorm  
As the music came & wentWell we crawled out of the desert  
And the storm erased our tracts  
The Sahara showed her heart to us  
And then she took it backI recall diplomats & hookers

And I saw strangers digging wells  
And for that one great night in Bamako  
We owned Buffet HotelNous avons eu Buffet Hotel  
(We owned the Buffet Hotel)  
La nuit nous appartient  
Vive le Buffet  
Adieu A Bientot-Farewell

Lyrics provided by  
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