

Can I Forgive Him

Paul Simon

I am Esmeralda Agr n, Senora
I know I've no right to speak
My son is not the savage boy you see
The cape, the sneer, the slicked-back hair
It hides the child I nursed and bathed, Senora Please don't turn your eyes from me
Your son, gone to God and mine to blame
My fated son, he too is gone
The state will see to that, I am sure, Senora
The state will see to that, I am sure You Spanish people, you come to this country
Nothing here changes your lives
Ungrateful immigrants asking for pity
When all of your answers are knives This city makes a cartoon of a crime
Capes and umbrellas, the glorification of slime
I have to face this horror, Senora My religion asks me to pray for the murderer's soul
But I think you'd have to be Jesus on the cross
To open your heart after such a loss Can I forgive him?
Can I forgive him?
No, I cannot
Can I forgive him?
No, I cannot Friends become strangers
Compassion is hard to express in words
The trembling flowers they bring fear in the roots and the stem
What happened to me they know could happen to them Can I forgive him?
No, I cannot
Can I forgive him?
No Only God can say forgive
His Son too received a knife
But we go on, we have to live
With this cross we call our life Feels like a bomb fell
And wave after wave come the aftershocks You can't believe that it's true
There must be some mistake
You drift through this nightmare
From which you can't wake Can I forgive him?
Can I forgive him?
No, I cannot
Can I forgive him?
Can I forgive him?
No, I cannot Can I forgive him?
Can I forgive him?

No, I cannot
Can I forgive him?
No, I cannot

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