Vietnam Protest Songs Lyrics

Universal Soldier

By Donovan

He's five foot two and he's six feet four  
He fights with missiles and with spears  
He's all of thirty-one and he's only seventeen  
Been a soldier for a thousand years

He's a Catholic, a Hindu, an Atheist, a Jain  
A Buddhist and a Baptist and a Jew  
And he knows he shouldn't kill and he knows he always will  
Kill you for me my friend and me for you

And he's fighting for Canada  
He's fighting for France, he's fighting for the U.S.A.  
And he's fighting for the Russians  
And he's fighting for Japan  
And he thinks we'll put an end to war this way

And he's fighting for Democracy, he's fighting for the Reds  
He says "It's for the peace of all"  
He's the one who must decide, who's to live and who's to die  
And he never sees the writing on the wall

But without him  
How would Hitler have condemned him at Dachau?  
Without him Caesar would have stood alone  
He's the one who gives his body as a weapon of the war  
And without him all this killing can't go on

He's the Universal Soldier and he really is to blame  
His orders come from far away no more  
They come from here and there and you and me  
And brothers can't you see  
This is not the way we put the end to war

Imagine

By: [John Lennon](https://www.google.com/search?espv=2&biw=1440&bih=775&q=John+Lennon&stick=H4sIAAAAAAAAAONgVuLSz9U3MCwrzjGOBwDeKI5cDgAAAA&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwj6lYHat47MAhVU5WMKHX7qD8AQMQgfMAA)

Imagine there's no heaven  
It's easy if you try  
No hell below us  
Above us only sky  
Imagine all the people  
Living for today...

Imagine there's no countries  
It isn't hard to do  
Nothing to kill or die for  
And no religion too  
Imagine all the people  
Living life in peace...

You may say I'm a dreamer  
But I'm not the only one  
I hope someday you'll join us  
And the world will be as one

Imagine no possessions  
I wonder if you can  
No need for greed or hunger  
A brotherhood of man  
Imagine all the people  
Sharing all the world...

You may say I'm a dreamer  
But I'm not the only one  
I hope someday you'll join us  
And the world will live as one

Fightin' Side of Me

By: [Merle Haggard](https://www.google.com/search?espv=2&biw=1440&bih=775&q=Merle+Haggard&stick=H4sIAAAAAAAAAONgVuLSz9U3MCwvN0orBgBxULp9DgAAAA&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjph7Ott47MAhVH62MKHThDDt8QMQgfMAA)

I hear people talkin' bad  
About the way we have to live here in this country  
Harpin' on the wars we fight  
An' gripin' 'bout the way things oughta be

An' I don't mind 'em switchin' sides  
An' standin' up for things they believe in  
When you're runnin' down my country, man  
You're walkin' on the fightin' side of me

Yeah, walkin' on the fightin' side of me  
Runnin' down the way of life  
Our fightin' men have fought and died to keep

If you don't love it, leave it  
Let this song I'm singin' be a warnin'  
You're runnin' down my country, man  
You're walkin' on the fightin' side of me

I read about some squirrelly guy  
Who claims, he just don't believe in fightin'  
An' I wonder just how long  
The rest of us can count on bein' free

They  
love our milk an' honey  
But they preach about some other way of livin'  
When you're runnin' down my country, hoss  
You're walkin' on the fightin' side of me

Yeah, walkin' on the fightin' side of me  
Runnin' down the way of life  
Our fightin' men have fought and died to keep

If you don't love it, leave it  
Let this song I'm singin' be a warnin'  
But you're runnin' down my country, man  
You're walkin' on the fightin' side of me

Yeah, walkin' on the fightin' side of me  
Runnin' down the way of life  
Our fightin' men have fought and died to keep

Yeah if you don't love it, leave it  
Let this song I'm singin' be a warnin'  
And you're runnin' down my country, man  
You're walkin' on the fightin' side of me

Lyndon Johnson Told the Nation

By: [Tom Paxton](https://www.google.com/search?espv=2&biw=1440&bih=775&q=Tom+Paxton&stick=H4sIAAAAAAAAAONgVuLSz9U3MMypKDfPBgDcXXT0DgAAAA&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwinwILwto7MAhVE6GMKHWYNDlYQMQgfMAA)

I got a letter from L.B.J  
It said, "This is your lucky day"  
It's time to put your khaki trousers on  
Though it may seem very queer  
We've got no jobs to give you here  
So we are sending you to Vietnam  
  
Lyndon Johnson told the nation  
Have no fear of escalation  
I am trying everyone to please  
Though it isn't really war  
We're sending fifty thousand more  
To help save Vietnam from the Vietnamese  
  
I jumped off the old troop ship  
And sank in mud up to my hips  
I cussed until the captain called me down  
Never mind how hard it's raining  
Think of all the ground we're gaining  
Just don't take one step outside of town  
  
Lyndon Johnson told the nation  
Have no fear of escalation  
I am trying everyone to please  
Though it isn't really war  
We're sending fifty thousand more  
To help save Vietnam from the Vietnamese  
  
Every night the local gentry  
Slip out past the sleeping sentry  
They go to join the old V C  
In their nightly little dramas  
They put on their black pajamas  
And come lobbing mortar shells at me  
  
When Lyndon Johnson told the nation

Have no fear of escalation  
I am trying everyone to please  
Though it isn't really war  
We're sending fifty thousand more  
To help save Vietnam from the Vietnamese  
  
We go round in helicopters  
Like a bunch of big grasshoppers  
Searching for the Viet Cong in vain  
They left a note that they had gone  
They had to get down to Saigon  
Their government positions to maintain  
  
And Lyndon Johnson told the nation  
Have no fear of escalation  
I am trying everyone to please  
Though it isn't really war  
We're sending fifty thousand more  
To help save Vietnam from the Vietnamese  
  
Well, here I sit in this rice paddy  
Wondering about Big Daddy  
And I know that Lyndon loves me so  
Yet how sadly I remember  
Way back yonder in November  
When he said I'd never have to go  
  
And Lyndon Johnson told the nation  
Have no fear of escalation  
I am trying everyone to please  
Though it isn't really war  
We're sending fifty thousand more  
To help save Vietnam from the Vietnamese.

## Masters Of War

By: Bob Dylan

Come you masters of war  
You that build all the guns  
You that build the death planes  
You that build all the bombs  
You that hide behind walls  
You that hide behind desks  
I just want you to know  
I can see through your masks.  
  
You that never done nothin'  
But build to destroy  
You play with my world  
Like it's your little toy  
You put a gun in my hand  
And you hide from my eyes  
And you turn and run farther  
When the fast bullets fly.  
  
Like Judas of old  
You lie and deceive  
A world war can be won  
You want me to believe  
But I see through your eyes  
And I see through your brain  
Like I see through the water  
That runs down my drain.  
  
You fasten all the triggers  
For the others to fire  
Then you set back and watch  
When the death count gets higher  
You hide in your mansion'  
As young people's blood  
Flows out of their bodies  
And is buried in the mud.  
  
You've thrown the worst fear  
That can ever be hurled  
Fear to bring children  
Into the world  
For threatening my baby  
Unborn and unnamed  
You ain't worth the blood  
That runs in your veins.  
  
How much do I know  
To talk out of turn  
You might say that I'm young  
You might say I'm unlearned  
But there's one thing I know  
Though I'm younger than you  
That even Jesus would never  
Forgive what you do.  
  
Let me ask you one question  
Is your money that good  
Will it buy you forgiveness  
Do you think that it could  
I think you will find  
When your death takes it's toll  
All the money you made  
Will never buy back your soul.  
  
And I hope that you die  
And your death'll come soon  
I will follow your casket  
In the pale afternoon  
And I'll watch while you're lowered  
Down to your deathbed  
And I'll stand over your grave  
'Til I'm sure that you're dead.