

The Great American Novel

Larry Norman

G I was born and raised an orphan **C** In a land that once was free **G**
You are far across the ocean In a war that s not your own
Bm In a land that poured it s **Am** love out on the moon **D**
And whilst you re winning theirs You re gonna lose the one at home
G And I grew up in the shadows **C** Of your silos filled with grain **G**
Do you really think the only way To bring about the peace
Bm But you never helped to fill my empty spoon **C** **G**
Is to sacrifice your children And kill all your enemies
G And when I was ten you murdered law **C** With courtroom politics **G**
The politicians all make speeches While the news men all take note
Bm **Am** **D** **G**
And you learned to make a lie sound just like truth But I know you better now
ed
And they exaggerate the issues As they shove it down our throats
C **G**
And I don t fall for all your tricks
Is it really up to them Whether this country sinks or floats
Bm **C** **G**
And you ve lost the one advantage of my youth
And I wonder who would lead us If none of us would vote
G **C** **G**
You kill a black man at midnight Just for talking to your daughter
Well my phone is tapped and my lips are chapped From whispering through the
fence
Bm **Am** **D**
Then you make his wife your mistress And you leave her without water
You know every move I make Or is that just coincidence
G **C** **G**
And the sheet you wear upon your face Is the sheet your children sleep on
Well you try to make my way of life A little less like jail
Bm **Am** **D** (Dsus4)
And every meal you say a prayer You don t believe but still you keep on
If I promise to make tapes and slides And send them through the mail

(refrão)

C **Csus** **D** **G** **C** **Csus** **D** **G**
And your money says In God We Trust But it s against the law to pray in
school
C **Csus** **D** **G** **C** **Csus** **D** **G**
You say we beat the Russians to the moon And I say you starved your children
to do it

(final)

C **Csus** **D** **C** **C** **Csus** **D** **G**
You say all men are equal all men are brothers Then why are the rich more
equal than others

C **Csus** **A** **D** **G**
Don t ask me for the answer I ve only got one

C **Csus** **D** **G**
That a man leaves his darkness when he fol lows the Son