

Leaving Beirut

Roger Waters

D F# F#7
Are these the people that we should bomb
G A
Are we so sure they mean us harm
D F# F#7
Is this our pleasure, punishment or crime
G A
Is this a mountain that we really want to climb
D F# F#7
The road is hard, hard and long
G
Put down that two by four
A D
This man would never turn you from his door
F# F#7
Oh George! Oh George!
G A D
That Texas education must have fucked you up when you were very small

D F# F#7
When I was 17 my mother, bless her heart,
G A D
Fulfilled my summer dream she handed me the keys to the car
F# F#7
We motored down to Paris, fuelled with Dexedrine and booze
G A
Got bust in Antibes by the cops and fleeced in Naples by the wops
D F# F#7
But everyone was kind to us, we were the English dudes
G
Our dads had helped them win the war
A D
When we all knew what we were fighting for
F# F#7
But now an Englishman abroad is just a US stooge
G A
The bulldog is a poodle snapping round the scoundrel s last refuge

D
Is gentleness too much for us
F# F#7 G
Should gentleness be filed along with empathy
A
We feel for someone else s child
D F# F#7
Every time a smart bomb does its sums and gets it wrong
G A

Someone else s child dies and equities in defence rise

D **F#** **F#7**

America, America, please hear us when we call

G

You got hip-hop, be-bop, hustle and bustle

A

You got Atticus Finch, you got Jane Russell

D

You got freedom of speech, you got great beaches,

F# **F#7**

Wildernesses and malls

G

Don t let the might, the Christian right,

A **D**

Fuck it all up for you and the rest of the world

D **F#** **F#7**

Not in my name, Tony, you great war leader you

G **A**

Terror is still terror, whosoever gets to frame the rules

D **F#** **F#7**

History s not written by the vanquished or the damned

G **A**

Now we are Genghis Khan, Lucretia Borghia, Son of Sam

D **F#** **F#7**

In 1961 they took this child into their home

G **A**

I wonder what became of them in the cauldron that was Lebanon

D **F#** **F#7**

If I could find them now, could I make amends?

G **A** **D**

How does the story end?