

# I Need You

Dan Bern

Walking around the happiest place in the world  
But all I do is wonder if your hair's still curled  
South of Brownsville, Texas, south of Miami Beach  
But all it means to me is that you're further out of reach  
Everywhere is sand and sun blue sky, water too  
I need you

The Spanish moss is hanging and you find a polished stone  
You pocket it for luck and then you walk on alone  
They'll rent you a bicycle with the tires blown  
They'll cook you up a blackened fish and strip it to the bone  
A slave ship just came in, I been talking to the crew  
I need you

In that house, Hemingway is boxing in the back  
I go down to the library and check out all the facts  
Nowadays it's hard to write a line, my own thoughts bore me  
I found me an island kid who says he'll do it for me  
I'm wiping all my tears away so no one has a clue  
That I need you

The last plane out of Saigon did not know that it was  
Every man in prison thinks he's locked up for a cause  
I need something to do my violin needs to sound  
I'm gonna see if Ernest wants to go a couple rounds  
Sometimes you get lost and you find something new  
I need you

Some bird's flapping in the road on some crazy madman's string  
Something's messed up with his wing  
Something's messed up with my everything

So here's the truth at last I tell you, Hemingway is dead  
And everybody wants to find a steak that's slightly red  
I thought I could escape myself by just not getting dressed  
I thought I could escape you by coming to Key West  
Sometimes you get lost and you don't find something new  
I need you