

## Dear Ivan

Jimmy Dean

Dear Ivan  
You don't know me  
And I don't know you  
But I sure would  
Like to meet you

Yes sir, I'd like to walk up  
And shake your hand and  
Look you straight in the eye  
And tell you that I haven't got  
One thing in this world against you

I know that the  
Heads of our government  
Seem to have problems getting  
Together to talk things over

But I got a feeling if you and I  
Could just sit down and talk  
Not as representatives of  
Anybody's government but just  
Two plain ordinary human beings  
I feel that we might think  
A great deal alike

I'm an entertainer now, Ivan  
I used to be a farmer just like you  
I got a wife and three kids  
And this may sound a  
Little unpatriotic, but to me  
These are more important than  
The heads of anybody's government

A few years back  
You and I both left the farm  
And we put on a uniform  
And we were on the same side  
Of the fence, you and me, Ivan

And you know, I can't help  
But believe that we're still  
On the same side of the fence  
That we both like to see  
A world united in peace

I'll tell you something, Ivan  
I love my land very much  
Oh, we got some of the  
Prettiest mountains and trees  
And rivers and valleys  
That you've ever laid eyes on  
And I'm sure you feel the  
Same way about your country

And I know that neither one of us  
Would like to see the face of  
Our countries blackened with

The hot breath of anybody's bomb  
You know, they tell me that  
Over there, you don't believe in God

But though I've never met you  
I can't help but believe that  
A man who's stood on a  
Crisp fall morning and watched  
The sun rise over his farmland or  
He's planted a small grain of corn  
And seen it grow out of the fertile soul

Or better than that, Ivan  
Held your own baby in your arms  
I know that you know that there's  
A God up there watching over  
Each and every one of us

Ivan, when I put my  
Babies to bed tonight  
I'm gonna say a prayer  
For you and yours  
And if you in your own way  
Will say a prayer for me and mine  
And maybe we can talk our  
Neighbors into doing the same thing

This will be more powerful  
Than any conference held over  
Any conference table anywhere  
In the whole wide world

And then maybe we can  
Live as God intended  
Peacefully, together  
Yours truly, Jimmy Dean