

## **John Cougar Mellencamp**

### **"Down And Out In Paradise"**

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Dear Mr. President  
I live in the suburbs  
It's a long way from Washington, D.C.  
Had me a job  
Workin' for wages  
Till the company moved out  
And they forgot about me  
Can't draw unemployment  
For some unknown reason  
My kids are hungry  
I've got four mouths to feed  
I go out everyday lookin' for suitable employment  
Do you think there's something you could do for me  
Cause I'm

#### CHORUS

Down and out here in paradise  
Down and out and I'm on my knees  
I'm down and out here in paradise  
Looks like the milk and honey  
Done run out on me  
Dear Mr. President  
I used to be a dancer  
Got a little bit too old  
So I became a secretary  
Married a man  
In Las Vegas, Nevada  
And ten years later  
He ran out on the kids and me  
Some said I was pretty  
But those days are over  
Now I've no place to live  
And I'm out on the streets  
Oh, Mr. President  
Can I tell you a secret  
I never ever thought that his could happen to me  
Cause I'm

#### CHORUS

Dear Mr. President  
I'm just a young kid  
I'm in the fourth grade  
At Riley Elementary

My mom and dad's been actin' funny  
I'm not sure what  
If it ain't got something to do with me  
My daddy's always drunk  
My mom's a babysitter  
And I don't like the Russians  
Cause I hear they hate me  
Dear Mr. President  
Can I ask you one question  
When the bombs fall down  
Will they hurt everyone in my family  
Yeah, yeah  
CHORUS

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