

## Balladeer, A "America, America"

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I wasn't even seventeen when I believed the grass was  
greener  
where life is one big movie scene  
of beauty queens and paper boy achievers

Wednesday nights at Mary's house I tried to open up to  
Jesus  
cause I had seen them raise their brows  
to the only non-believer in

America, America

in an air-conditioned class I auditioned for Mrs.  
Townsend's choir  
David wore a cowboy hat  
he lip-synched like she ordered him

we prayed for soldiers in Iraq to give them strength to  
fire  
we pledged allegiance to the flag  
we praised our freedom caught between the borders of

America, America

Mary's father brought us home  
he drove us through the heart of Texas  
once in Dallas I was shown  
the spot where JFK got shot

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