

## **Dylan Bob**

### **"Black Diamond Bay"**

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by Bob Dylan and Jacques Levy

Up on the white veranda  
She wears a necktie and a Panama hat.  
Her passport shows a face  
From another time and place  
She looks nothin' like that.  
And all the remnants of her recent past  
Are scattered in the wild wind.  
She walks across the marble floor  
Where a voice from the gambling room is callin' her to  
come on in.  
She smiles, walks the other way  
As the last ship sails and the moon fades away  
From Black Diamond Bay.

As the mornin' light breaks open, the Greek comes  
down  
And he asks for a rope and a pen that will write.  
"Pardon, monsieur," the desk clerk says,  
Carefully removes his fez,  
"Am I hearin' you right?"  
And as the yellow fog is liftin'  
The Greek is quickly headin' for the second floor.  
She passes him on the spiral staircase  
Thinkin' he's the Soviet Ambassador,  
She starts to speak, but he walks away  
As the storm clouds rise and the palm branches sway  
On Black Diamond Bay.

A soldier sits beneath the fan  
Doin' business with a tiny man who sells him a ring.  
Lightning strikes, the lights blow out.  
The desk clerk wakes and begins to shout,  
"Can you see anything?"  
Then the Greek appears on the second floor  
In his bare feet with a rope around his neck,  
While a loser in the gambling room lights up a candle,  
Says, "Open up another deck."  
But the dealer says, "Attendez-vous, s'il vous plait,"  
As the rain beats down and the cranes fly away

From Black Diamond Bay.

The desk clerk heard the woman laugh  
As he looked around the aftermath and the soldier got  
tough.  
He tried to grab the woman's hand,  
Said, "Here's a ring, it cost a grand."  
She said, "That ain't enough."  
Then she ran upstairs to pack her bags  
While a horse-drawn taxi waited at the curb.  
She passed the door that the Greek had locked,  
Where a handwritten sign read, "Do Not Disturb."  
She knocked upon it anyway  
As the sun went down and the music did play  
On Black Diamond Bay.

"I've got to talk to someone quick!"  
But the Greek said, "Go away," and he kicked the chair  
to the floor.  
He hung there from the chandelier.  
She cried, "Help, there's danger near  
Please open up the door!"  
Then the volcano erupted  
And the lava flowed down from the mountain high  
above.  
The soldier and the tiny man were crouched in the  
corner  
Thinking of forbidden love.  
But the desk clerk said, "It happens every day,"  
As the stars fell down and the fields burned away  
On Black Diamond Bay.

As the island slowly sank  
The loser finally broke the bank in the gambling room.  
The dealer said, "It's too late now.  
You can take your money, but I don't know how  
You'll spend it in the tomb."  
The tiny man bit the soldier's ear  
As the floor caved in and the boiler in the basement  
blew,  
While she's out on the balcony, where a stranger tells  
her,  
"My darling, je vous aime beaucoup."  
She sheds a tear and then begins to pray  
As the fire burns on and the smoke drifts away  
From Black Diamond Bay.

I was sittin' home alone one night in L.A.,  
Watchin' old Cronkite on the seven o'clock news.  
It seems there was an earthquake that  
Left nothin' but a Panama hat

And a pair of old Greek shoes.  
Didn't seem like much was happenin',  
So I turned it off and went to grab another beer.  
Seems like every time you turn around  
There's another hard-luck story that you're gonna hear  
And there's really nothin' anyone can say  
And I never did plan to go anyway  
To Black Diamond Bay.

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