

## **Miss Saigon Soundtrack**

### **"The American dream"**

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ENGINEER

my father was a tattoo artist in Haiphong  
but his designs on mother didn't last too long  
my mother sold her body, high on Betel nuts  
my job was bringing red-faced monsieurs to our huts  
selling your mom is a wrench  
perfume can cover a stench  
that's what I learned from the French

then it all changed with Dien Bien Phu  
the frogs went home. Who came? Guess who?  
are you surprised we went insane  
with dollars pouring down like rain?  
businessmen never rob banks  
you can sell shit and get thanks  
that's what I learned from the Yanks

I'm fed up with small-time hustles  
I'm too good to waste my talent for greed  
I need room to flex my muscles  
in an ocean where the big sharks feed  
make me Yankee, they're my fam'ly  
they're selling what people need

what's that I smell in the air  
the American dream  
sweet as a new millionaire  
the American dream  
pre-packed, ready-to-wear  
the American dream  
fat, like a chocolate éclair  
as you suck out the cream

luck by the tail  
how can you fail?  
and best of all, it's for sale  
the American dream

greasy chinks make life so sleazy  
in the States I'll have a club that's four-starred  
men like me there have things easy

they have a lawyer and a body-guard  
to the Johns there I'll sell blondes there  
that they can charge on a card

what's that I smell in the air?  
the American dream  
sweet as a suite in Bel-air  
the American dream  
girls can buy tits by the pair  
the American dream  
bald people think they'll grow hair  
the American dream

call girls are lining time square  
the American dream  
bums there have money to spare  
the American dream  
cars that have bars take you there  
the American dream  
on stage each night: Fred Astaire  
the American dream

shlitz down the drain!  
pop the Champagne!  
it's time we all entertain  
my American dream!

ENGINEER and CROWD  
come ev'ryone, come and share  
the American dream  
name what you want and it's there  
the American dream  
spend and have money to spare  
the American dream  
live like you haven't a care  
the American dream  
what other place can compare  
the American dream  
come and get more than your share  
the American dream

ENGINEER  
there I will crown  
Miss Chinatown  
all yours for ten percent down

ALL  
the American dream!

(CHRIS, JOHN and ELLEN enter. THE ENGINEER takes  
them to see KIM and TAM.)

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