

# Democracy

by Leonard Cohen

It's coming through a hole in the air  
From those nights in Tiananmen Square  
It's coming from the feel  
That this ain't exactly real  
Or it's real, but it ain't exactly there  
From the wars against disorder  
From the sirens night and day  
From the fires of the homeless  
From the ashes of the gay  
Democracy is coming to the USA

It's coming through a crack in the wall  
On a visionary flood of alcohol  
From the staggering account  
Of the Sermon on the Mount  
Which I don't pretend to understand at all  
It's coming from the silence  
On the dock of the bay,  
From the brave, the bold, the battered  
Heart of Chevrolet  
Democracy is coming to the USA

It's coming from the sorrow in the street  
The holy places where the races meet  
From the homicidal bitchin'  
That goes down in every kitchen  
To determine who will serve and who will eat  
From the wells of disappointment  
Where the women kneel to pray  
For the grace of God in the desert here  
And the desert far away:  
Democracy is coming to the USA

Sail on, sail on  
Oh mighty ship of State  
To the shores of need  
Past the reefs of greed  
Through the Squalls of hate  
Sail on, sail on, sail on, sail on  
It's coming to America first  
The cradle of the best and of the worst  
It's here they got the range  
And the machinery for change

And it's here they got the spiritual thirst  
It's here the family's broken  
And it's here the lonely say  
That the heart has got to open  
In a fundamental way  
Democracy is coming to the USA

It's coming from the women and the men  
Oh baby, we'll be making love again  
We'll be going down so deep  
The river's going to weep,  
And the mountain's going to shout Amen  
It's coming like the tidal flood  
Beneath the lunar sway  
Imperial, mysterious  
In amorous array  
Democracy is coming to the USA

Sail on, sail on  
O mighty ship of State  
To the shores of need  
Past the reefs of greed  
Through the squalls of hate  
Sail on, sail on, sail on, sail on  
I'm sentimental, if you know what I mean  
I love the country but I can't stand the scene  
And I'm neither left or right  
I'm just staying home tonight  
Getting lost in that hopeless little screen  
But I'm stubborn as those garbage bags  
As time cannot decay  
I'm junk but I'm still holding up this little wild bouquet  
Democracy is coming to the USA  
To the USA