

Judas's Kiss (Lament of the Americas)

Our land was such a beautiful land,
Did you know what you did
When you came with horse and sword and cross
and Judas's kiss?

Our land was a place of mountains dreaming in light,
And deep green valleys,
So sacred to our sight
Sacred the heights where the condor soared
But you forced on us an alien creed
with Jesus as Lord.

Our silver and gold borne from moon and sun
now fill up your coffers as just spoils you have won;
Our land was the birth place of our own gods true,
You enslaved their children and murdered them too;
Our own sacred altars you mocked and tore down
And forced us to worship in front of your own.

In the name of Love you took us and told us what was right
and despoiled our things of beauty,
so holy in our sight.
In the name of Love you took us, stripping us bare
And all our things of beauty, wondrous or fair.
You spoke of deadly sins in the sweet name of Love
And how we would perish, damned from above by your man-God Jesus
Who died on a cross,
Betrayed by his followers, who mourned his loss
And then took his name across lands and seas
Telling the peoples of the world just how they should be.

In the sweet name of Love he suffered and died,
So tell us in his name of Love the truth of this lie;
When he said not to judge but to love and be true,
What gives you the right to do what you do:
To murder and pillage, to rape and despoil
To covet and lust for gold
And live from the toil of our poor conquered souls
Whom you then damn to hell,
So that you may continue with these lies that you sell?
When we come before Jesus on Judgement Day
How then will you justify these things that you say?

Our land was such a *beautiful* land
Did you know what you did?
When you came with horse and sword and cross
And Judas's kiss?

6th October, 2000