

Lullaby for the Motherland - Uyen My Pham

30th April marks 45 years since the fall of Saigon. As the daughter of first generation Vietnamese boat immigrants, I can only imagine the trauma of losing one's homeland through their excruciatingly gut-wrenching stories. I wrote this song based on my mum and grandparent's journey. I marvel at the cost of freedom, and it makes me think of our current times, of entrapment and uncertainty. I think of those that fled, that stayed, those who lost their lives and more in their search for freedom. Their bravery speaks more eloquently than a thousand tongues.

I wrote this song with their losses in mind a soothing lullaby to ease their wounds, the ones that time can never heal. A rough take but it features my two little brothers on drums and bass, a play through on dad's birthday. #30th April

Lyrics

Verse 1

I asked you the other night
Saw the sorrow in your eyes
She said the years have passed me by
But change is nowhere near in sight

Oh oh oh oh oh
Oh oh oh oh oh

Mother will you
Mother will you
Mother will you hang us out to dry

Pre-chorus

Yes, I've seen my people die
When you came and stole our lives
Fall of Saigon '75, when they burned my kids alive
Then you took our loves and wives
As your greed just multiplied
Sitting mighty in your thrones
While we pay for all your crimes

Mother will you
Mother will you
Mother will you keep us all alive

Chorus

So we set sail in the darkness of night
Can't see but we're running to light
Might never make but we're
Holding onto dear life
Mama, hold onto your baby real tight
Hush now baby you'll be alright
Fall sleeping to the sweetest lullaby

Oh oh oh oh oh
Oh oh oh oh oh

Verse 2

And I've watched my mother cry
And my daddy said good-bye

Pre-chorus

Stayed awake for countless nights
Counting sheep can't close my eyes
Hear the screams all through the night
Can't erase those haunted eyes
Cuz you took our loves and wives
As your greed just multiplied
Sitting mighty in your thrones
While we pay for all your crimes

Chorus

So we set sail in the darkness of night
Can't see but we're running to light
Might never make but we're
Holding onto dear life
Mama, hold onto your baby real tight
Hush now baby you'll be alright
Fall sleeping to the sweetest lullaby