

# Michael Franti, Of Course You Can

"Ya know one day the indigenous people of the earth are gonna reclaim what's rightfully there's."  
"Really? Uh oh!"

Lose your mind misplace your mind  
forgot you even had a mind  
'cause someone told you it's impossible  
to change your mind  
a friend of mine made it to twenty-five  
we had a celebration "man I'm glad that you're alive"  
I'm happy to see my man you're beatin' the odds  
and for this on this day we give thanks to the gods  
'cause everyone deserves a shot except you only get one  
I hope it's not through the head my son.  
'cause life is short when you're afraid to die.  
life is hard when you're afraid to cry.  
but when I feel alone I sing myself a song  
because wherever I lay a groove is my home.

(chorus)  
But can you see me in the desert?  
Of course you can!  
Can you see me on the mountain?  
Of course you can!  
Can you see me in the ocean?  
Of course you can!  
I'm just splishin' and splashin'  
and jumpin' in the sand!  
(repeat)

But he remembered memories of walkin'  
through the puddles  
sayin' "Gee dad, am I the one who's wanted by  
the federal Government doesn't want me  
to go to school  
I ask too many questions  
and I don't play by their rules.  
In school they tried to tell me  
that a rock is not alive  
but I have seen a volcano growin' up and die  
In school they tried to tell me  
that a tree it couldn't feel  
but I have felt a tree and it was bleeding for real  
In school they tried to tell  
me animals couldn't talk  
but they can understand it when a dog starts to bark  
in school they tried to tell me  
man doesn't have a soul  
"whet happened to his" I say "cause mine is  
still whole!"

(chorus)

(bridge)  
"Can you see me?"  
"Can you see me?"

The reoccurring dream of life's imprisonment  
the reoccurring scream of a world and it's residents  
the reoccurring theme of a mind full of finger prints  
the reoccurring dream of a knife and a president  
well would you like to look at Madonna's book on sex?  
or would you rather Alex Haley's book on Malcolm X?

Their fuckin' with Ice T but they don't even care if  
Eric Clapton's singin' I Shot the Sherriff!  
but how many more books on this subject can I read  
and how many more frustrations must I try to ease  
end how many more days of this bad air can I breathe  
and how many more of my friends must just die and leave

But you can't diffuse the ticking time bomb  
you can't refuse the time it has come  
you can't erase our people from the nation  
I'll take a life before they call us "the lost generation";

(chorus)

Can you see me in Africa?  
of course you can!  
can you see me in Asia?  
of course you can!  
can you see me in Australia?  
of course you can!  
Aotearoa? Western Samoa? Eskimoa?  
can you see me in the White House?  
no you can't!  
can you see me on the radio?  
Hell No!  
Can you see me with the police?  
In handcuffs?  
splishin', splashin', jumpin' in the sand.