

Heart of Darkness

Background: Apocalypse Now is my favorite movie. It is loosely based on the famous but old book Heart of Darkness, which despite its popularity and influence was never successfully adapted into a movie, until Apocalypse Now. (There may have been one attempt in the 30s that didn't succeed.)

This song is based on the book and movie with themes and quotes from both. It's really just a poem set to music. As in the movie, TS Elliot's poem "The Hollow Men" is worked in. The poem was written based on the book and contains references.

Written: 2023

Arr.	Key	Time	Tuning	Tempo	Style	Capo
1	Am	4/4	Standard	130	Folk / Acoustic Rock	None

Arrangement	1
Verse	Am Em G D Am C Dm E
Chorus	G D Em C Dadd9 Em
Bridge	F C G D F C Dm E

Chords Used in this Song

Am	Em	G	D	C	Dm	Dadd9
F	E					

Heart of Darkness

Verse

Am

Going up the river

Em

My eyes forget to blink

G

Staying loyal to my nightmare

D

Chasing sanity to the brink

Am

Thinking about an enigma

C

Like a whisper from a mute

Dm

My finger lives on the pulse

E

With determination resolute

Chorus

G

In this heart of darkness

D

A conflict oscillates

Em

Alone we live

C

Alone we dream

Dadd9 Em

Into depths we penetrate

Verse

Am

Further up the river

Em

To a deity adored

G

The whisper echoed loudly

D

We are all hollow at the core

Am

The fog hid their motives

C

But in every bush were wide eyes

Dm

Arrows rained down on us

E

A warning for what ahead lies

Chorus

G

In my heart of darkness

D

Good and evil reside

Em

The roads diverge

C

One to primal urge

Dadd9 Em

Only a thin line divides

Bridge

F

Returning down river we pass

C

A crop of unextinguishable* regrets

G

Like lightning we live in the flicker

D

And Mistah Kurtz – he dead

F

Neither violence nor acceptance

C

Does extreme grief conclude

Dm

Instead apathy sets in

E

Indifference brings solitude

Chorus

G

In your heart of darkness

D

There's mortality in lies

Em

Horror abounds

C

Methods unsound

Dadd9 Em

It's fear that deifies

Chorus

G

In our hearts of darkness

D

We are all such hollow men

Em

With a whimper

C

Not a bang

Dadd9 Em

The world comes to an end

*(sic)

Heart of Darkness

Verse

Going up the river
My eyes forget to blink
Staying loyal to my nightmare
Chasing sanity to the brink
Thinking about an enigma
Like a whisper from a mute
My finger lives on the pulse
With determination resolute

Chorus

In this heart of darkness
A conflict oscillates
Alone we live
Alone we dream
Into depths we penetrate

Verse

Further up the river
To a deity adored
The whisper echoed loudly
We are all hollow at the core
The fog hid their motives
But in every bush were wide eyes
The arrows rained down on us
A warning for what ahead lies

Chorus

In my heart of darkness
Good and evil reside
The roads diverge
One to primal urge
Only a thin line divides

Bridge

Returning down river we pass a crop of unextinguishable* regrets
Like lightning we live in the flicker
And Mistah Kurtz – he dead
Neither violence nor acceptance

Does extreme grief conclude
Instead apathy sets in
Indifference brings solitude

Chorus

In your heart of darkness
There's mortality in lies
Horror abounds
Methods unsound
It's fear that deifies

Chorus

In our hearts of darkness
We are all such hollow men
With a whimper
Not a bang
The world comes to an end

Heart of Darkness

Verse: Am Em G D Am C Dm E	Chorus: G D Em C Dadd9 Em Bridge: F C G D F C Dm E
Verse Going up the river My eyes forget to blink Staying loyal to my nightmare Chasing sanity to the brink Thinking about an enigma Like a whisper from a mute My finger lives on the pulse With determination resolute	Chorus In my heart of darkness Good and evil reside The roads diverge One to primal urge Only a thin line divides Bridge Returning down river we pass a crop of unextinguishable* regrets Like lightning we live in the flicker And Mistah Kurtz – he dead Neither violence nor acceptance Does extreme grief conclude Instead apathy sets in Indifference brings solitude
Chorus In this heart of darkness A conflict oscillates Alone we live Alone we dream Into depths we penetrate	Chorus In your heart of darkness There's mortality in lies Horror abounds Methods unsound It's fear that deifies
Verse Further up the river To a deity adored The whisper echoed loudly We are all hollow at the core The fog hid their motives But in every bush were wide eyes The arrows rained down on us A warning for what ahead lies	Chorus In our hearts of darkness We are all such hollow men With a whimper Not a bang The world comes to an end