

Men at Work – Down Under (1981)

Men at Work are an Australian rock band formed in 1978 and are best known for the song "Down Under".

Travelling in a fried-out Kombi
On a hippie trail, head full of zombie
I met a strange lady, she made me nervous
She took me in and gave me breakfast
And she said ...

“Do you come from a land Down Under
Where women glow and men plunder
Can't you hear, can't you hear the thunder
You better run, you better take cover”

Buying bread from a man in Brussels
He was six foot tall and full of muscles
I said “Do you speak-a my language?”
He just smiled and gave me a Vegemite sandwich
And he said ...

“I come from a land Down Under
Where beer does flow and men chunder
Can't you hear, can't you hear the thunder
You better run, you better take cover”

(Musical break)

Lying in a den in Bombay
With a slack jaw and not much to say
I said to the man “Are you trying to tempt me,
Because I come from the land of plenty?”
And he said ...

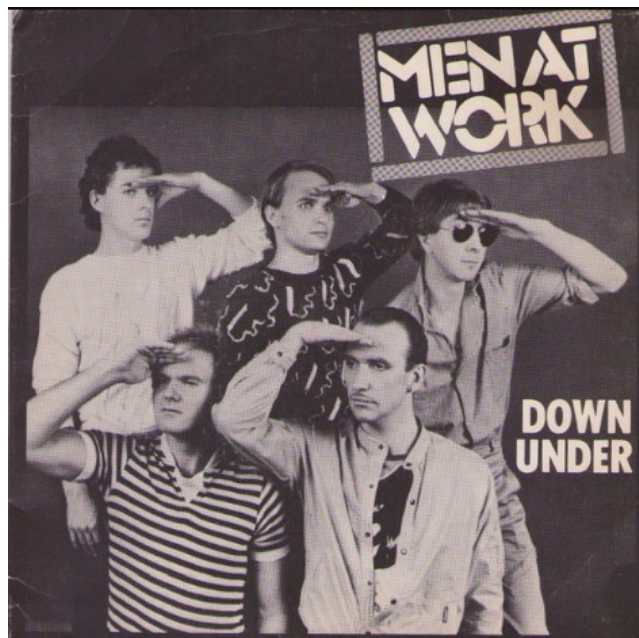
“Do you come from a land Down Under (oh, yeah yeah)
Where women glow and men plunder
Can't you hear, can't you hear the thunder
You better run, you better take cover”

“Living in a land Down Under
Where women glow and man plunder
Can't you hear, can't you hear the thunder?
You better run, you better take cover”

(repeat until fade)

Official video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XfR9iY5y94s>

Colin Hay (2017): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FG7CUPcc710>



Vocabulary

Down Under: Australia

fried-out: overheated

zombie: marijuana

to glow: to be beautiful (“radiant”)

to plunder: to steal

to chunder: to vomit

with a slack jaw: bored and unintelligent