

Honolulu Hapa

Tom W. Bell*

Play and sing percussively, except for picked passages.

Intro:

Am Am Am C
Am Am Am E7

Verse 1:

Am Am Am C
In Alto Cali- fornia we've got plenty of spice.

Am Am E7 C
We mix it, fix it, quake it, bake it— mmm, that tastes nice.

Am Am Am C
So whip out every crayon in your coloring box.

Am Am Am Gbar (*let ring briefly*)
Draw them all to- gether. Man, that really rocks!

(*pick*) Gbar/Bbar/Cbar\Gbar/Bbar/Dbar

Chorus:

D D D Am
I say, "Thank you" to your mama. I say, "Thank you" to your papa.

D D Am G
I say, "Thank you, little lovely lady, Honolulu hapa."

D D D Am
I say, "Thank you" to your mama. I say, "Thank you" to your papa.

D D Am C
They crossed the line, they made you fine, my Honolulu hapa.

(segue to picking): C G

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Verse 2:

I don't see any so-called "whites"; I don't see any "blacks."
I just see all of the shades of tan we wear upon our backs.
Loving v. Virginia¹ put the racists in their place.
Feel a love more strong than law. Kiss a happa face.

Chorus

Bridge:

Em	Em
<u>Hop into the</u>	<u>melting pot.</u>

G	G
<u>Stir it, swirl it,</u>	<u>make it hot!</u>

C	C
<u>The heat heats up, up</u>	<u>to the top!</u>

F	D7
<u>Can't hold it down, can't</u>	<u>make it stop!</u>

<u>Hop into the</u>	<u>melting pot.</u>
<u>Stir it, swirl it,</u>	<u>make it hot!</u>
<u>Like cream that rises</u>	<u>to the top,</u>
<u>can't hold us down, can't</u>	<u>make us stop!</u>

F	Dbar (<i>let ring briefly than pick</i>): Cbar Gbar
<u>can't hold us down, can't</u>	<u>make us stop!</u>

¹ 388 U.S. 1 (1967) (holding Virginia's anti-miscegenation statute unconstitutional).

Verse 3:

In Alto California we've got plenty of vice.
You can try it, you can buy it—if you pay the right price.
But ice the vice that hides inside that color-coded box.
Damn their lies! Trust your eyes! Dig every kind of fox.

Chorus (optional; can instead pick: Dbar\Cbar\Gbar)

Live coda: D (let ring)

Recorded coda:

Em	Em
<u>Hop into the</u>	<u>melting pot.</u>

G	G
<u>Stir it, swirl it,</u>	<u>make it hot!</u>

C	C
<u>The heat heats up, up</u>	<u>to the top!</u>

F	D7
<u>Can't hold it down, can't</u>	<u>make it stop!</u>

<u>Hop into the</u>	<u>melting pot.</u>
<u>Stir it, swirl it,</u>	<u>make it hot!</u>
<u>Like cream that rises</u>	<u>to the top,</u>
<u>can't hold us down, can't</u>	<u>make us stop!</u>

<u>Hop into the</u>	<u>melting pot.</u>
<u>Stir it, swirl it,</u>	<u>make it hot!</u>
<u>Feel the truth in</u>	<u>every drop!</u>
<u>Speak it to the</u>	<u>racist cop!</u>

(Repeat to fade.)