

Lamb of God (Sweet Lamb of God): Twila Paris (1985)¹

Visualisation: Theodirectional 1 (TD1)

Analysis: The direction can be a little confusing, and indeed one minority reading presumes, I presume, that the chorus is sung to Jesus—*your precious blood*: incidentally here the rhyme breaks down a little (blood/God, as it does with fraud/God). Other than that, it is sung to God the father, though it's strange to sing to him about *God's* lamb—not your lamb, or the lamb you gave. It's as if the father was hearing about God, or another god, perhaps. Though admittedly it's a little different from telling God the father about “God's son” instead of “your son”, I'd still call it a yunoty: soft misvisualisation.

Like sometimes the American sobbuster, in British slang, *sod* is negative name-calling, but many can recognise its neutral American meaning. A theological error is—since the context is of being a Christian—asking to be washed *in his precious blood*: I'm pleased at least that it wasn't in *the Lamb of God's blood*. My point here is that there is one washing, the washing of/at conversion.² Decontextualising. For some, washing *in blood*, even the more biblical *by blood*, takes some explaining.

It is difficult to reword this song's closing phrase, *lamb of God*, since each third line of each stanza would need adjusting to keep, or improve, the rhyme. In places, quote marks around this expression would help. The theological error however, could easily be corrected. Overall, the shepherding/sacrificial themes are well tied together, and I like the transition from God's lamb, to God's lambs.

Suggestion: Replace *oh, wash me in, by you saved me by*.

BAG	A	B	C	D	E	F	G ^{1,2}	H ^{1,2}	I	J ^{1,2,3}	K	L	M	Total	Grade
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	8	-	80	B

¹ www.elyrics.net/read/t/twila-paris-lyrics/lamb-of-god-lyrics.html. A minority witness has “your precious blood” instead of “his precious blood”. A minority witness reads “to be called the Lamb of God”, instead of “to be called the Lamb of God”. In both cases the majority witness reads the better, and I have so critiqued.

² Nor should we confuse a washing action by God (conversion), to an emphatic action by his saints (Rv.7:14).

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A = Mixed Themes (-4); B = Incompletism (-4); C = Archaism (-8);

D = Blessing God (-4); E = Buddy or Boyfriend (-4); F = Polytheism (-8); G = Voxdeism: Soft (-24), Hard (-48);

H = Unitarianism: Soft (-60), Hard (-72); I = Misdirection (-12); J = Misvisualisation: Soft (-12), Mid (-24),

Hard (-36); K = Boasting (-8); L = Decontextualising (-8); M = Hermit Harakiri (-12)