

Jamaica Farewell

Jamaica Farewell" is a Jamaican-style folk song. The lyrics by Lord Burgess (Irving Burgie), an American-born, half-Barbadian songwriter. The tune of another mento (Jamaican song) called "Iron Bar". The line "ackee, rice, saltfish are nice" refers to the Jamaican national dish. The song was written for Harry Belafonte's 1956 album Calypso.

Down the way where the nights are gay
And the sun shines daily on the mountain top
I took a trip on a sailing ship
And when I reached Jamaica I made a stop

Chorus

*But I'm - sad to say I'm on my way
Won't be back for many a day
My heart is down, my head is turning around
I had to leave a little girl in Kingston town*

Down at the market you can hear
Ladies cry out while on their heads they bear
Ackee, rice, saltfish are nice
And the rum is fine any time of year

Chorus

Sounds of laughter everywhere
And the dancing girls swing to and fro
I must declare my heart is there
Though I've been from Maine to Mexico

Chorus

<Repeat chorus>