**"Pink Houses"**

**by**

**JOHN COUGAR MELLENCAMP**

There's a black man with a black cat

Livin' in a black neighborhood

He's got an interstate

Runnin' through his front yard

You know he thinks that he's got it so good

And there's a woman in the kitchen

Cleanin' up the evenin' slop

And he looks at her and says, hey darlin'

I can remember when you could stop a clock

Oh, but ain't that America

For you and me

Ain't that America

Something to see, baby

Ain't that America

Home of the free, yeah

Little pink houses

For you and me

Oooh, yeah

For you and me

Well, there's a young man in a t-shirt

Listenin' to a rockin' rollin' station

He's got greasy hair, greasy smile

He says, Lord this must be my destination

'Cause they told me when I was younger

Said boy, you're gonna be president

But just like everything else

Those old crazy dreams

Just kinda came and went

Oh, but ain't that America

For you and me

Ain't that America

Something to see, baby

Ain't that America

Home of the free, yeah

Little pink houses

For you and me

Oooh, little baby

For you and me

[Instrumental Interlude]

Well, there's people and more people

What do they know, know, know

Go to work in some high rise

And vacation down at the Gulf of Mexico

Ooh, yeah

And there's winners and there's losers

But they ain't no big deal

'Cause the simple man, baby

Pays for thrills

The bills the pills that kill

Oh, but ain't that America

For you and me

Ain't that America

Something to see, baby

Ain't that America

Home of the free, yeah

Little pink houses

For you and me

Oooh

Ooooh, yeah...

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

* In the margin, describe the concept/conflict of each stanza.
* What do the pink houses symbolize?
* How does this apply to The American Dream today?