

# How Can You Live In The Northeast Chords by Paul Simon

[Intro]

| : A | G6 | F#m | E : |

A

We heard the fireworks

G6

Rushed out to watch the sky

F#m

E

Happy-go-lucky, Fourth of July

[Chorus 1]

E5

How can you live in the Northeast?

How can you live in the South?

How can you build on the banks of a  
river

When the floodwater pours from the  
mouth?

E5

How can you be a Christian?

How can you be a Jew?

How can you be a Muslim, a Buddhist,  
a Hindu?

How can you?

[Verse 2]

A

G6

Weak as the winter sun, we enter  
life on earth

F#m

E

Names and religion come just after  
date of birth

A

And everybody gets a tongue to speak

G6

And everyone hears an inner voice

F#m

E

A day at the end of the week to

A

wonder and rejoice

G6

F#m

If the answer is infinite light, why

E

do we sleep in the dark?

[Chorus 2]

E5

How can you live in Northeast?

How can you live the South?

How can you build on the banks of a  
river

When the floodwater pours from the  
mouth?

E5

How can you tattoo your body?

Why do you cover your head?

How can you eat from a rice bowl?

The holy man only breaks bread

[Link 1]

A

G6 F#m E

Ooh\_\_\_\_\_

[Verse 3]

A

G6

We watched the fireworks till they  
were fireflies

F#m

E

Followed a path of stars over the  
endless skies

[Link 2]

| E5 | E5 | E5 | E5 |  
| E5 | E5 | E5 | E5 |

[Chorus 3]

**E5**

How can you live in the Northeast?

How can you live in the South?

How can you build on the banks of a  
river

When the floodwater pours from the  
mouth?

[Link 3]

E5	E5	E5	E5
E5	E5	E5	E5
E5	E5	E5	E5
E5	E5		

[Outro]

**E**

I've been given all I wanted

Only three generations off the boat

I have harvested and I have planted

I am wearing my father's old coat

| E5 | E5 | E5 | E5 |