

The Banyan Tree

Words and Music by Michael Hunter Ochs with the students of East End Temple and Cordoba House

Let's get to know each other
Beneath the Banyan tree
Just sit here in the shade
And talk about our families
Same story different faces
It's not so complicated

Chorus:

I am me because of you
You are you because of me
Let's put our hands together
And shape our destiny
Like the branches are connected
Someday we will be
There is room for everyone
Underneath the banyan tree

Let's say a prayer together
Beneath the banyan tree
For love and peace and freedom
For all humanity
We can't wait any longer
Together we are stronger

Chorus:

I am me because of you
You are you because of me
Let's put our hands together
And shape our destiny
Like the branches are connected
Someday we will be
There is room for everyone
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Bridge:

We are joy, we are pain
We forgive and share the blame
We fall short and then we rise
I see myself there in your eyes

We run scared and stand our ground

We are lost but we'll be found
We have roots and we have dreams
We're not as different as we seem

Chorus:

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You are you because of me
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And shape our destiny
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Someday we will be
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