Remember when the days were long
And rolled beneath a deep blue sky
Didn't have a care in the world
With mommy and daddy standin' by
But "happily ever after" fails
And we've been poisoned by these fairy tales
The lawyers dwell on small details
Since daddy had to fly

But I know a place where we can go
That's still untouched by men
We'll sit and watch the clouds roll by
And the tall grass wave in the wind
You can lay your head back on the ground
And let your hair fall all around me
Offer up your best defense
But this is the end
This is the end of the innocence

Who knows how long this will last
Now we've come so far, so fast
But, somewhere back there in the dust
That same small town in each of us
I need to remember this
So baby give me just one kiss
And let me take a long last look
Before we say goodbye

Just lay your head back on the ground
And let your hair fall all around me
Offer up your best defense
But this is the end
This is the end of the innocence

DON HENLEY / BRUCE HORNBY – 1989
End of the Innocence – Geffen Records
1. In what way might the lyrics of the song fit the events of 9/11?

2. Do you think learning about the events of 9/11 might have the same effect described in the song? Explain...

3. Do you have a place where you can go that’s still “untouched my men?” Where?

4. This song was written during the Reagan administration. What events might Henley and Hornsby been writing about?

5. What similar events might they write about today?