

# Rikers Island Redux

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America America  
Purveyor of mass hysteria  
Mass production  
And mass incarceration

The epitome of huddled masses yearning to breathe free

The masses

Mass is the property of matter regardless of the state  
But it seems we don't matter until we're properties of the state en mass

And Massuh's still trying to trick himself into believing he picked the cotton too

No matter how much I cow tow tap dance and jump through a bunch of hoops  
I'll still be the one who winds up in a jumpsuit  
I'll still be the one who winds up with the gun wounds  
King had one dream that won't seem to come true  
X had necessary means and a gun too  
Though there's always more than one truth  
Even on cloudy days sun rays still come through  
I mask feelings of pain and ask healing we got the same  
Glass ceiling but I'm sposed to be thankful for my sun roof

And Massuh's still trying to trick himself into believing he picked the cotton too

It's Complex how being born with this complexion ups the likelihood of dying  
in a prison complex and orange ain't the new black  
Black is the same  
Same black

This ain't just for black folks  
Just ask those backward folks  
Who stay intolerant like lactose  
We bout to blast blowing  
Like Miles, Coltrane, and Satchmo  
You can act slow  
But we want our civil rights in fast forward  
Ain't we asking for it  
This is the beginning of a long list of demands bro  
This the last chance bro  
This is the optimum time and just like Optimus Prime we gon' transform  
This gift of gab is God given, and it's given this man (has) a knack for it

So let's stand for 'em  
In New York, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Charlotte, ATL, Charleston, San Fran, Oakland, LA, B-more, Detroit, DC, Chicago and Ferguson

Time for turning up, time to turning tables, turning heads and it's time to plan  
Take a line from my man Lin-  
Man who wrote Ham, revolution is messy but now it's time to stand

So stand up  
Stand up

Word to the words of the police hands up  
Word to the folks in jail copping pleas, puh-  
lease people copy me, no misogyny we gotta man up  
We gotta open that can up

I'm not worried bout becoming worms meat what concerns me is my people learn  
ing the difference between earning our own keep and working another man's la  
nd for free  
One's just the same slavery  
The other unlocks chains, turn key  
Hate that this deferred dream keeps recurring  
Wake up America, and hurry