

## Defender

Aesop Rock

Alex up the street called, said he saw a bobcat  
Keep the pets inside, notify your contacts

New Salem

Brave new voodoo

Wave a witch hammer in a haven for the woo-woo  
I'm paper china dinner, mostly picking at my stitches

The bloody hair, bad code, bunny ears, dad jokes

Bitch about Lamictal to whichever vixen listen

The skin rash, the schism, a million rash decisions

In truth, he had a 'capital-T terrible' two days

That chewed his plumage to the root

And proved a prequel to malaise

A feud he knew was brewing blew up in his face

He'd been replaying the scenario for days

With the variables replaced

Meh

Wolves are in the sky with more diamonds than the carpet from the Shining

Part riot, part Orion

We jarred a lot of lightning up

Shook a turkey leg or ten

Maybe we deserve a day of rest

Not to mention...

Alex up the street called, said he saw a bobcat

Check your trash can lids, notify your comrades

I said, "I'll take first watch"

One AM defend the whole block

The coyote, summon the ghosts of blown diodes

Open to moving like a luchador with no eyeholes

Fried while the pipes froze, life goes Lovecraft

Christ pose, sitting on invisible hubcaps

Call Alex back, daggers in the basil patch

Tell him, "Maybe less badminton, more Scrabble Dash"

"Less Jarts more Rummikub," whatever

Keep the scallywag wrapped up in the subterfuge

Gussied up, guarded, and wearing the same armor as the night he argued 'til  
he dapped his mans up at departures

I could drive into a lake of fire

Pay the piper COD

Aware the pot and kettle shop, a little toxin equally, at least

It's probably more the kid than the kid

Either way a vital widget in the system is sick

A sea of symptoms in the hinges, hit the room all at once

All I could do was plug the roof with my gum

For now I gotta...

Call Alex back, coyotes in the castle grass

Tell him, "Maybe less freeze tag, more hack-n-slash"

I said, "I'll take first watch"

One AM defend the whole block

So a third party, who is incidentally not Alex

Seen a black bear catawampus by the college campus

Soon the safety propaganda clamps breeds on leashes

No compost, bird seed out of feeders

Make a lot of noise when you frolic under the ether  
Keep a hand on the pepper spray  
Sneakers on the detour  
They're more scared of you, than you them  
Although, one of us chews limbs, and one has two chins  
Leave a couple messages, vomit a couple dollar bills  
Guilty innuendo romanticizing the potter's field  
Not sorry, but I never really was a leader  
Found money in the speaker, bought lower Manhattan pizza  
You meet a few exceedingly forsaken  
Sit around the cooler refusing domestication  
A couple decades pass and you can't even find the wavelength you was on when  
you was running one AM  
By the way...

A third party, who was incidentally not Alex  
Seen a bear put a thousand chickens in a pot with carrots  
I said, "I'll take first watch"  
One AM defend the whole block