Cold Sweat

Billy Woods

We don't leave anything in the past
(The nostalgia weed)
Again, I don't know why
Let me tell you my darlings, these are laughter lines

I had my community sick
When they unraveled I time traveled and still picked Darko Milič
ić
Niggas ask, "Is this as dark as it get?"
Put a finger to my lips, shook my head
Hallways was barely lit, air thick with dread
It's a room full of record execs on the other end and you danci
ng on the desk
Wake up in a cold sweat
In a barber chair, Math Hoffa asking if anyone tried to make yo
u wear a dress
Wake up in a cold sweat
Laid up next to your old-old-old-old-old-
ex and you never broke up
Duplex, west 86, three beautiful kids that get up and make they
 own beds
But the way she popped that (Oof) I knew I was going to wake up
, I ain't even trip
Cold sweat, my place is a mess
Landlord tryna empty the building so he can make it flip
I'm the only one left, they mad I'm stoppin' the grift
I'm glad, 'cause the shoe on the other foot and it fit
Every slave dream of the day he get ahold of the whip
Shit eatin' grin, I pay rent, they mad as shit
They tryna wake up, but it's the same N-
word again and again with the same check
They tried threats
They offered me bread, begged me to talk sense
Like, "How you want this thing to end?"
"End? Who said—who said anything about—
Hold on, hold on, why would it end?
I love it here
I'm not trying to go anywhere man, y'all my people, for reals
Why would it end?
You're beyond crazy
It's not ending, man. There's no ending."

The clothes I describe, were the clothes he was buried in. The
piece of paper that he gave me. She brought a letter that he wr
ote her when he was in the army. The signature was identical. T
here was only one thing that was different. I said, uh, "He had
 a high voice?" She said, "Oh no no no," she said, "He had a de
ep voice, like yours."

Anyway, this story happened to a guy like me, and as I say it's
 been haunting me