

# Nomento

Billy Woods

When the stars begin to shine  
The wind is flowing through my mind  
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The wind is flowing through my mind

Goosedown in the ghost town  
Push the Peugeot around  
Back-in angle parking front the Polo Grounds  
Willie Mays plaque, same haze from way back  
Dominican frankincense, sandalwood, burnt cinnamon  
She not around no mo  
You wonder where she go  
You wonder who she know  
You wish she was a ho  
Your true self show, the rest superimposed  
All these misery lights remind me I'm home  
Cruising slow, stopped, copped mofongo to go  
Stereo Diamonds on that Wood, Pocket Fulla Stones  
You wonder if she alone  
You can't hit her phone  
Pride too strong, turn the loud on  
Wonder if she really gone  
Like gone, gone  
C'mon you know she gone, that's a phantom arm  
Opera catwalk snicker, Rambo knife in my mouth nigga  
Best seats in the house

Is it real? Is it really?  
Is it real? Is it really really?  
Is it real? Is it really? is it really really?  
Is it real? Is it really? is it really really?  
Is it real? Is it really? is it really really?

Pact sealed with cemetery silence  
This is me, you, and this room and bearing witness  
This is not my body  
However you move, I'm behind  
Any decision you commit to  
There's no windows in this waiting room  
Nobody should have to leave here alone  
So many different stories  
A common thread  
We're all on the final chapter  
Small talk with strangers, awkward laughter  
Lowering my eyes  
I'm not sure how to really feel, if I was being real  
Cocktail of relief and guilt got my stomach in knots  
Watching the clock, second hand stopped  
Why the fuck is there a TV here playing  
Rob Schneider movies on loop  
Hunger pang, I fast in solidarity  
The air is stale  
Color drab  
Death surrounds us all with a familiar squeeze  
We come in need, making offerings  
The prayers go up and the blessing come running down red  
The prayers go up and the blessing come running down red

"See, my office used to be right down here, on the corner of 9th and W. When I'd tell people I was at 9th and W, they'd say 'Maaaaan, ain't that a rough neighborhood?' I'd say, 'Yeah it is pretty rough. But it ain't as rough as 11th and W. And it ain't even as rough as 16th and Pennsylvania. I feel the people that's got to live over there, they really in trouble.'

Ah, everybody gets a look at the White House when they come to Washington DC, but this is a part of what goes on in front of the White House that very few people ever get a chance to take a look at. Across the street, they're demonstrating for world peace. Over here, you have different signs and everything, sentenced to the star of our B movie, asking him about justice and freedom and equality. You know, the protests that are launched in this country are not launched necessarily against the government. They're launched in terms of the fact that this country has rarely lived up to its advance publicity. This is supposed to be the land of justice, liberty, and equality, and that's what everybody over here is looking for."