## Shameika

**Fiona Apple** 

I used to walk down the streets on my way to school Grinding my teeth to a rhythm invisible I used my feet to crush dead leaves like they had fallen from trees Just for me Just to be crash cymbals In class I'd pass the time Drawing a slash for every time the second hand went by A group of five Done twelve times was a minute But Shameika said I had potential I used to march down the windy, windy sidewalks Slapping my leg with a riding crop Thinking it made me come off so tough I didn't smile, because a smile always seemed rehearsed I wasn't afraid of the bullies, and that just made the bullies worse In class I'd pass the time Drawing a slash for every time the second hand went by A group of five Done twelve times was a minute But Shameika said I had potential Hurricane Gloria in excelsis deo, that's my bird in my tree My dog and my man and my music is my holy trinity Hurricane Gloria in excelsis deo, that's my bird in my tree My dog and my man and my music is my holy trinity Tony told me he'd describe me as pissed off, funny and warm Sebastian said, I'm "a good man in a storm" Back then I didn't know what potential meant and Shameika wasn't gentle and she wasn't my friend But she got through to me and I'll never see her again She got through to me and I'll never see her again I'm pissed off, funny and warm I'm a good man in a storm And when the fall is torrential, I'll recall Shameika said I had potential Shameika said I had potential Shameika said I had potential Shameika said I had potential

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