

## **Roots, The**

### **"Hurricane"**

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Same story, same target, different time  
Cyclical reaction from the prisoners of the blind  
Trying to fight time, it's a battle of the mind  
Waiting for redemption, surviving in a bind

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[Black Thought]

Yo, talk about paying the ultimate price  
Hurricane been incarcerated all of his life  
Started out at like twelve  
Trapped in a belly of hell  
Grew into a man inside of a cell  
Yo, anger just swell up  
At a early age that develop  
Hot head and now it ain't shit y'all could tell him  
They said he's on a road to become a felon  
But instead he swung blows that'll spilt your melon  
He did his thing and was the king of the ring,  
undisputed  
Started making noise but they tried to mute it  
They put him through it  
For him to make the system look stupid, [yo]  
They rather look you in the face and shoot it  
And leave your spot looted [or what]  
Or leave your whole life blank futured and caught  
When you scream at it and do it  
With sweat leaking from the outline of your soluid  
Don't understand the point that you at  
Or how the hell you came to it?  
Flashback to images of that night, out in Patterson  
They pulled him over heading home from a gathering  
And when they told him the charge it kind of baffled  
him  
Murder in the first for the champ, we on that again?

Chorus

Hurricane  
Accuse a Hurricane  
Ain't change a damned shame  
It's life for Hurricane, Hurricane

[Black Thought]  
\*overtop of sung chorus\*  
Forever, imagine your locked down forever  
Could y'all stand the weather?  
Could you hold it together?  
You tell me that you know the pain  
Yo, imagine if your life was like a hurricane, a  
hurricane  
Forever, imagine your locked down forever  
Could ya'll stand the weather?  
You built for that weather?  
Yo, know what'm saying?  
Know what'm saying?

[Common]  
You gotta fight for what you believe in  
Nobody knows the troubles seen  
This flick left me wondering  
'What can become of kings and young kids?'  
Summer dream deferred, incident occurred, freedom  
blurred  
A freedom that would only be retrieved again in words,  
later on  
The cops, y'all know what they be on

A nigga's life is like a field that they play upon, away  
and gone from  
Natural lifer, a soul he had to fight,  
Learn it himself, sleep days, stay up half the night  
Amongst dead man walking, he got afterlife  
exercising,  
Developing his knack to write  
Never leaving his cell, in this world he trapped himself  
What he loved on the outside world, detached himself  
You know the cards Blacks get dealt by the system  
He drew a picture of freedom with many dimensions  
This picture proved to be bigger than Black and White  
A young soul named Lesra brought him back to life  
It's amazing to a man what a book could do  
And how certain books seem to look for you  
This is the story of a champion's fall and rise  
The story left me wiping my eyes  
Peace Ru

Chorus

Hurricane  
Accuse a Hurricane  
Ain't change a damned shame  
It's life for Hurricane, Hurricane

[Black Thought]  
\*overtop of sung chorus\*  
Yo, yo, forever, imagine your locked down forever  
Could y'all stand the weather?  
Could you hold it together?  
You tell me that you know the pain  
Yo, imagine if your life was like a hurricane, a  
hurricane  
Forever and ever yo, locked down forever  
Could you stand the weather?  
Yo, yo i can't even explain the pain  
Just imagine if your life was like a hurricane

[Mos Def]  
Yes, I am the inescapable, the irresistible,  
The unnegotiable, the unchallenged [who dat?]  
I am time  
I scroll in measurements, control the elements,  
I hold the evidence, I tell the story [say what?]  
I am time  
I know no prejudice, I bare no sentiments  
For wealth or settlement, I move forward [who you?]  
I am time  
You can't recover me, conceal or smuggle me,  
Retreat or run from me, crawl up or under me,  
You can't do much for me besides serve  
Me well and have good dividends returned to you  
Or attempt to kill me off and have me murder you  
Many have wasted me but now they are facing me,  
Treated me unfaithfully and now endure me painfully  
Plaintively, I wait to see what history will shape to be,  
Who's hearts will never die inside the sake of me  
Angel's scribe the page for me,  
Keep a full account of all the names for me  
And make a special mark for Hurricane who (?)  
patiently

Chorus

Hurricane  
Accuse a Hurricane  
Ain't change a damned shame  
It's life for Hurricane, Hurricane

[Black Thought]  
\*overtop of sung chorus\*

Yo, yo, a Hurricane forever,  
Imagine your locked down forever  
Could you stand the weather?  
Could you hold it together?  
I can't even explain the pain  
Imagine if your life was like a hurricane, a hurricane  
Forever, imagine your locked down forever and ever,  
ever  
Could you hold it together?  
Yo, can't explain the pain with words, know'm saying?  
Just imagine if your life was like a hurricane

[Verse 4]

The clouds clashed and the heaven's gave birth to star  
God placed it in a man on the day he was born  
Convicted minutes after, a true natural disaster  
Framed for manslaughter, the Hurricane Carter rising  
From out the south water, like torrential rains  
In the ring no opponent escaped unscathed  
You can't believe the world we live in's unjust  
All I see is more proof, there's no place for us  
They had my man Carter locked in a cage, like an  
animal  
Drive him to the point where the mind work mechanical  
Or works by remote control  
It was done to all of us, they tapped directly into our  
soul  
Either it's sing-sing, or it's bars around your mind  
There's no where to run, no where to hide  
In a six-by-six a guilty man cries  
For repentance and lost is what innocence is

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Chorus

Hurricane  
Accuse a Hurricane  
Ain't change a damned shame  
It's life for Hurricane, Hurricane

[Black Thought]

\*overtop of sung chorus\*

Your locked down forever  
Could you stand the weather?  
Could you hold it together?  
I can't even explain the pain, know'm saying?  
Your life was like a hurricane, a hurricane  
Forever, imagine behind bars forever  
Could you stand the weather?  
You built for that? Is you cut for that?  
Don't be telling me that you know the pain  
Your life was like a hurricane, yo

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