

## The Brilliant Green

### "Jonathan Kozol Was Right"

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I read a book the other day about public schools in our nation  
An indictment of our prevailing caste system  
It seems so many things i've taken for granted others can't access at all  
I ditched computer class while others had no books  
I learned to hate my halls, there's holes in walls in schools right in my town  
Serving the rich, keeping the lower classes down  
What do i mean by this statement?  
It seems only too clear with your english class in a bathroom  
How well do you think you'd fare?  
I read of schools so overcrowded no room could be saved  
Not auditoriums, cafeterias or closet space.  
A school's income is determined by property tax  
And how much money can you get from poor mexican  
And black families trapped in slums  
Poor kids need the most attention  
But since they're untaxable they get none  
And because the system sucks when the kids grow up  
They'll have to send their kids back into the system that fucked them  
It's a cycle that for years has not been broken  
There's a name for this it's social reproduction  
And we maintain this caste system by letting them enforce it  
We're all flowers growing in a garbage can"  
The teachers tell their kids  
But how can a flower grow when the sunlight's blocked by the lid?  
Disribute property tax more fairly at least that's a start  
'cause little flowers can't grow in the darkness they need everything we've got.

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