

## **Linton Kwesi Johnson** **"Mi Revalueshanary Fren"**

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mi revalueshanary fren is nat di same agen  
yu know fram wen ?

fram di masses shata silence  
staat fi grumble  
fram pawty paramoncy tek a tumble  
fram Hungary to Poelan to Romania  
fram di cozy cyassle dem staat fi crumble  
wen wi buck-up wananada in a reaznin  
mi fren always en up pan di same ting  
dis is di sang im love fi sing :

Kaydar  
e ad to go  
Zhivkov  
e ad to go  
Husack  
e ad to go  
Honnicka  
e ad to go  
Cauchescu  
e ad to go  
jus like apartied  
wi av to go

awhile agoh mi fren an mi woz taakin  
soh mi seh to im :

wat a way di eart a run nowadays, man  
it gettin aada by di day  
fi know whey yu stan  
cauz wen yu tink yu deh pun salid dry lan  
wen yu cteck a stack yu fine yu ina quick-san  
yu noh notice ow di lanscape a shiff  
is like valcanoe unda it an notn cyaan stap it  
cauz tings jusa bubble an a bwoil doun below  
strata seperate an refole  
an wen yu tink yu reach di mountain tap  
is a bran-new platow yu goh buck-up

mi revalueshanary fren shake im ed an im sigh  
dis woz im reply :

Kaydar  
e ad to go  
Zhivkov  
e ad to go  
Husack  
e ad to go  
Honnicka  
e ad to go  
Cauchescu  
e ad to go  
jus like apartied  
wi av to go

well mi nevah did satisfy wid wat mi fren mek reply  
an fi get a deepa meanin in di reaznin  
mi seh to im :

well awrite  
soh Garby gi di people dem glashnas

an it poze di Stalinist dem plenty prablem  
soh Garby leggo peristrika pan dem  
canfoundin bureacraetic strategems  
but wi haffi face up to di cole facks;  
im also open up pondora's bax  
yes, people pawa jus a showa every awa  
an eerybody claim dem demacratik  
but some a wolf an some a sheep  
an dat is prablematic:  
nah tings like dat yu woulda call dialectic ?

mi revalueshanary fren paуз awhile an im smile  
den im look mi in mi eye an reply :

Kaydar  
e ad to go  
Zhivkov  
e ad to go  
Husack  
e ad to go  
Honnicka  
e ad to go  
Cauchescu  
e ad to go  
jus like apartied  
wi av to go

well mi couldn elabarate  
plus it waz gettin kinda late  
soh in spite a mi lack af andastandin

bout di meanin a di changes in di eas  
fi di wes nonediless  
an aldow mi av mi rezavayshans  
bout di cansiquenses an implicashans  
espehsaally fi black libaraeshan  
to bring di reaznin to a canclushan  
ah ad woz to agree wid mi fren  
hopein dat wen wi meet up wance agen  
wi coulda av a more fulla canvahsaeshan

soh mi seh to im, yu know wat ?  
im seh wat ? mi seh :

Kaydar  
e ad to go  
Zhivkov  
e ad to go  
Husack  
e ad to go  
Honnicka  
e ad to go  
Cauchescu  
e ad to go  
jus like apartied  
soon gaan

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