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# Mortiis "A Tree Never Grown"

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"1, 2, 3, 4" 10x

[88 Keys] Yo. this is 88... This is for Amadou Diallo Rest in peace, you still here

#### [Fre]

Yo, I'm in a brownstone singin like Brownstone Bird's eye view wit the bodega Know Omega like Rakim Thinkin about brother Diallo I find it hard to swallow Cuz 41 is a hard act to follow Who is it, it can happen tomorrow Goes down all the time in some African community This one just hit closer to home Cuz it happen it in our backyard This that \*shit\* bring us closer to home They ask "What you writin fo'? What you writin on that paper fo'?" Don't ask me nuttin, just tell me How is safer got me safe, that's why my raps sour My peoples screamin "Black power!" and la razah

# [J-Live]

Now in the squad car, CPR's supposed to be the motto But in they minds, they be like "Yo, I'ma do Diallo" I guess master's noose was a bitter pill to swallow Cuz nowadays, tips ain't the only things that's hollow Constitution, 41 more holes in it And cops swingin sticks like they tryin to win the pennant And stickin sticks places where they ashamed to admit

From the Bronx, police bustin, it's redemption time

But that's the straw that broke the camel's back

THEY GON' GET IT!!

#### [Rubix]

Possessed by a nervous twitch and itchy writin finger

41 strokes through the barrel of pen for Amadou
More than a few of my personal friends
Since the beginning, it seems like it never ends
The story, ancient as lyrical allegory and it's all gory
The Little Shop of City Hall Horrors
Who bakes infiltrate, agent, provocator mission
statement

Assassinate the Senate candidate, heavenly mandate

[Chorus: Mos Def]

We proceeded on a country road
His mother's eyes withered swoll
Her child was never comin home
Said a prayer for his soul
As the coffin had closed, committed to the earth below
First seed she would sew, would be a tree never grown
Shade that was never known
Who controls the Terrordome, the member hearts
made of stone
Who love only what they own

#### [Invincible]

Stay on your toes for a true bruise description
Match blue suits, walkin round wit a stick and \*edit\*
Ready to blast wit the wrath of a hollow tip
And the fact is my task is a scholarship
I feel it in my chest cavitity
The only death's apathy, so I change it for who's next after me
And that's the fullest reward
Keep the face of the lost on my bulletin board

# [Wordsworth]

numbers
Clubs, walkie-talkies, recipies for bad summers
Frisked, pissed after I tuck in my stuff
I really think they just like touchin my \*nuts\*
What's real stain they thoughts
Swear, but they won't say it in court
All they do is change the report
Riots, tryin to keep the crowd under control
They even got shows, Cops, LAPD, Highway Patrol yo yo

Yo yo, it's blue uniform, sirens, names, and badge

#### [A.L.]

From the cradle to the grave, they made you a slave Brainwash to kill each other, that's the plague that they made

I search em like readin scripts that could save you today

White is right, black is wrong, that's the label they gave

Fryin in hell, applyin jails, they got you dyin in cells Triple six in the mix, Levine to ?spell? Prepare for the worst, and try to hope for the best I take a stare at the hearse, can we cope wit the stress?

### [Kofi Taha]

I live in the land of punches

Illegal chokeholds and excessive gunshots

Where there's one millionaire for every billion empty pot

And Adolf Guily think we static but he's in for a shock

They come wit automatics but we flip it

Use the one, create the four glocks and while stocks get washed

While school doors get locked and when jobs get blocked

The confi-dence get's rock

And when the welfares drop into the jails we stock now After Amadou wrestlin wit freedom tacks my mind into a headlock

But \*fuck\* H&R, I'm a true cat Refundin power back to our Blocks

#### Chorus

# [Tame One]

Good life, you can bubble or struggle
Use your brain muscle if you hustle
Don't let nobody touch you
Don't even trust the ones that trust you
Cuz the ones you showin love to might bust
Seekin as a cancer, my man got shot by Haitians or Jamaicans

? wit confrontations and school my mind's racin I pride these sensations over this, now I'm hopin this We shine for, I never got a chance to rhyme for My role models sold bottles and stole cars And when they got locked, I accepted all the phone calls

That's when \*niggas\* was real
Back before I had a deal
Back when people called Villsburg Hooterville
ILL!!!

#### [Jane Doe]

My mind wonders on melodic jams

An exotic bird, caged wit the rage and the violence of my words

The same things I down I turn around and do
The white cops say \*Fuck you\* but I say \*Fuck you too!\*
Truth be totally hypocrites

And materialistic society, spirituality shunned or While young kinds get gunned on Hibernatin in projects, which you project-ing The pigs is crucifyin but Africans is resurrectin, Jane Doe

## [Grafh]

Battacky, sends cops to come and catch me He better send a runnin back to run and track me When I'm runnin through the back streets The rat teeth of beast lovin to black me Eatin brothers like a picinic color cuz that's sweet To lock a man up in prison, the standard of livin Thinkin they make a better bred of man Than the man when he went in Rub up a man for sinnin Handcuff his hands to the system, banned from his wisdom Wit insanity in him, his mind roams wit like a cyclone Damagin victim, his eyes hold savage within him Wrath wit the venom, poison his life No ointment to boisten the might If it's on the left, walk to the right Until death, do your part do your life Like a boyfriend and wife, because the day times shorter than night You know?

#### Chorus

[88 Keys]
Yo, black is fragile remember that
Cherish everyday
Live life to the fullest, aight?

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