

Saul Williams "1987"

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Acid-wash Guess with the leather patches
Sportin' the white Diadoras with the hoodie that
matches
I'm wearing two Swatches and a small Gucci pouch
I could have worn the Lugi but I left it in the house

Now, my niggas, Duce and Wayne got gold plates with
their names
With the skyline on it, with the box link chain
I'm wearing my frames, they match my gear with their
tint
And you know Lagerfields is the scent

Now, my nigga Rafael just got his jeep out the shop
Mint green sidekick, custom-made rag top
'Strictly Business' is the album that we play
'You're A Customer', the pick of the day

Now there's a nigga on the block, never seen him
before
Selling incense and oil, my man thinks that he's the law
But why on earth would this be on their agenda?
As he slowly approaches the window

"Uh, uh, I've seen you before, I've been you and more
I was the one bearing the pitcher of water
I rent the large upper room, furnished with tidings of
your doom
Or pleasure, whichever feathers decrease"

Yo Ralph, is he talking to me?
"No I'm talking to the sea son's resurrected
I'm the solstice of the day
I bring news from the blues of the Caspian"

My man laughs, he's one them crazy motherfuckers
Turn the music back up 'cause I'm the E-Double
"Wait, but, but, but, but I know the volume of the sea
And sound waves as I will

Will you allow me to be at your service?"
My man Ralph is nervous, he believes

That this strange tongue deceives
And maybe he's been informed that

He's pushing gats hidden in the back, beneath the floor
mats

Come on Jack, we don't have time for your bullshit or
playin'

A'salaam a something' or another

"Wait isn't Juanita your mother?"

"I told you I know you, now grant me a moment"

At the gates of Atlantis we stand

Ours is the blood that flowed from the palms of his
hands

On the plow till earth till I'm now

Moon cycles revisited, womb fruit of the sun

Full moon of occasions wave the wolves where they run

And we run towards the light casting love on the winds

As is the science of the aroma of sleeping women

Lost in his eyes they soon reflect my friend's are
grinning

But I'm a pupil of his sight, the wheels are spinning

Yo, I'll see ya'll later on tonight

In the beginning her tears where the long awaited rains
Of a parched Somali village

Red dusted children danced shadows

In the newfound mound of mascara that eclipsed her
face

Reflected in the smogged glass of Carlos, east street
bodega

Learning to love, she had forgotten to cry

Seldom hearing the distant thunder in her lovers

ambivalent sighs

He was not honest, she was not sure

A great grandmother had sacrificed

The family's clarity for God in the late 1800's

Nonetheless she had allowed him to mispronounce her
name

Which had eventually led to her misinterpreting her
own dreams

And later doubting them but the night was young

She the firstborn daughter of water faced darkness
and smiled

Took mystery as her lover and raised light as her child

Man, that shit was wild, you should have seen how they
ran
She woke up in a alley with a gun in her hand
Tupac in lotus form minutes, blood on his hands
She woke up on a vessel, the land behind her

The sun within her, water beneath her
Mushed corn for dinner or was it breakfast
Her stomach turned as if a compass
She prayed the east and lay there breathless

They threw her overboard for dead
She swam silently and fled into the blue sea
La soh fa mi, re do, si
The seventh octave, I don't mean to confuse you

Many of us have been taught to sing
And so we practice scales
Many of us were born singing
And thus were born with scales

Mermaids, cooks and field hands
Sang a nightsong by the forest
And the ocean was the chorus
In Atlantis where they sang

Those thrown overboard had overheard
The mystery of the undertow
And understood that down below
There would be no more chains

They surrendered breath and name
And survived countless as rain
I'm the weather man
The clouds say storm is coming

A white buffalo was born, already running
And if you listen very close, you'll hear a humming
Beneath the surface of our purpose lies
Rumors of ancient man, dressed in cloud face
minstrels in the sky

The moon's my mammy, the storm holds my eye
Dressed in westerlies
Robed by robes ol' man river knows my name
And the reason you were born is the reason that I came

Then she looks me in the face
And her eyes get weak
Pulse rate descends, hearts rate increase
Emcees look me in the face and their eyes get weak

Pulse rates descends, hearts rate increase
Emcees look me in the face and their eyes get weak
Pulse rates descends, hearts rate increase
It's like "beam me up, Scottie", I control your body

I'm as deadly as AIDS when it's time to rock a party
We all rocked fades, fresh faded in ladidadi
And when we rock the mic, we rock the mic
And when we rock the mic, we rock the mic

And when we rock the mic, we rock the mic
But let's look feminine side, ignore the feminine side
Let's the feminine side, ignore the feminine side
Let's the feminine side, ignore the feminine side

Let's the feminine side
I presented my feminine side with flowers
She cut the stems and placed them gently down my
throat
And these two lips might soon eclipse your brightest
hopes

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