

## THESE DREAMS ARE FOREVER

GRADY WARD

Janelle Monae caught my attention with her voice, she earned my attention with her lyrics, and she

“I’m a product of metal? I’m a product of the man.” [46] “Let me just hear ya squeak.” [46] “.” [46]

“Melanie 45221, Assatta, 8550.” [33] In an interlude, ‘Bop Bot Say What’ proposes violence as a means to redress the agreed upon inconsistencies of ruling logic: “hitting us all up in the head and wondering why we don’t think straight” [33].

“You know the rules!” [46] “Fuel is running low, and I’ve got places to go” [6] “Keep us working hard

“Add us to equations but they’ll never make us equal.” [40]

“She who writes the movie owns the script and the sequel.” [40]

“They keep us underground working hard for the greedy, but when it’s time pay they turn around and call us needy.” [40]

“Because the booty don’t lie” [40]

“These kids round’ killin each other, they lost they minds, they gone. They quittin’ school, making babies and can barely read. Some gone off to their fall, lord have mercy on them.” [5]

“Day dreamers please wake up, we can’t sleep no more.” [5]

“Electric Ladies will you sleep? Or will you preach?” [40]

“She’d keep it to herself and nobody could understand her // Even when she thought that she couldn’t she carried on // She couldn’t imagine both of her daughters here all alone” [25] “I wish they could just realize // That all you’ve ever needed was someone to free your mind // Carry on Ghetto Woman // Cause even in your darkest hours I still see your light” [25]

“Keep leading like a young Harriet Tubman” [40]

“I know I’m mysterious sometimes, and you are mysterious too.” [42] “Heaven is betting on us.” [42]

“March to the streets ’cause I’m willing and I’m able” [40]

“Categorize me, I defy every label.” [40] “I Just want to be, as free as I can be.” [?] “We see black or white, polkadots or stripes. Freedom we deny, lets open our eyes.” [?]

“Oh make it rain, ain’t a thang and the sky to fall (The silver bullet’s in your hand and the war’s heating up)” [47] “And when the world just treats you wrong // just come with me and I’ll take you home” [47]

“Run on for your life or you can dance you can die // She’s praying in the sand like she’s the last samurai” [45] “Ghettos keep a crying out to streets full of zombies // Kids are killing kids and then the kids join the army” [45]

“A long long way to find the one // We’ll keep on dancing till she comes // These dreams are forever” [45]

“Sudanese and Congolese who put the roll in the rock // From here to Sudan, Metropolis to Iraq” [45] “I’m praying for the man sitting without much time // May he understand the clock will never rewind // Wisen him and sharpen him and give him a motto // hate no more, said he must hate no more” [45]

“Just keep rebelling away, you gotta dream it away // Because the weatherman on TV ain’t creating the weather.” [45]

“This man wants to see another jubilation // And that man wants us in emancipation // And then there is the man who wants a stronger nation // You see we really got to and i think that we ought to // Protect the mind from degradation // Sow in the seeds of education // They run from us, are we that dangerous? // There’s a war in all the streets and yes the freaks must dance or die!” [45]

“This time I shall be unafraid // And violence will not move me” [8] “I see beyond tomorrow // This life of strife and sorrow // My freedom calls and I must go.” [8]

“Love is such a novelty // A rarely painted masterpiece // A place few people go or ever know” [17]

“Sir Greendown // Let’s leave in an hour // Meet me at the tower // Ride your horse” [18]

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