Robeson

Saul Williams

Beginning with the aftermath
Sayers of sooth who stand aloof
To hide their inner laugh
Depending on the circumstance
I show my tools to where niggers know
Where I'm just a fishing pantsBeginning with the aftermath
Sayers of sooth who stand aloof
To hide their inner laugh
Depending on the circumstance
I show my tools to where niggers know
Where I'm just a fishing pantsI slept once, the dream has yet to end
It was a purple evening such as this
The curtains had been pulled by a hand unattached
I lay propped on a pillow of eagle feathers
On a couch framed with the skeletons
Of my uncles and great unclesI did not intend to close my eyes but then I did
The night is falling on the moist palms
Of children too weak to bear it's weight
The stars are visibly breathing
In fact they almost look as if they are chewing gumThe moon is crescented on both sides
While its center remains unseen
I can faintly hear my mother calling me
Or is that my sister singing songs of the railroad?Robeson is reflected in a floating mirror
Then I realize that the mirror is not floating
But being pulled by a white horse
In a great golden chariotThe horse has human feet
I look down at my feet and they are hooves
When I look up it is no longer night
The sun covers the entire sky
As if it were stretched to reach all cornersFlames are visible but not threatening
A girl brushes my knee with her tail
She is wearing pink overalls and Rollerblades
She signals for me to follow her
As soon as I take a step towards her I'm flyingThere are rocky mountains below me
I decide to land in a small settlement between mountains
A man walks up to me, he is my father
But he introduces himself to me as John Galt
I ask him if he is the Reverend John GaltWe begin to say the Lord's prayer together
The whole world seems to join in

The mountains have mouths
I am standing at an altarIt takes a second to realize I'm getting married
The woman beside me, my bride
Is sitting in lotus position on an Indian silk pillow
She is holding a white umbrella over her head
I cannot see her, I keep whispering to her
"It's okay love, it's okay love"
And she keeps shushing me and shushing meI'm wearing a backpack, I decide to take it off and open it up
It's filled with coloring books and I keep thinking
"I have to be done in time to pick Saturn up from school
I have to be done in time to pick Saturn up from school
I have to be done in time to pick Saturn up from school"My darling, Saturn, I seem to break your heart daily
How could I ever neglect to hug you
You are a planet hugged by a rainbow
Forgive me, I sometime become so consumed
In the travails of my own heart that I neglect yoursAnd there is no greater crime
I will never commit it again
For there is no other adultery
You are my child, God's gift to the world
God's will be done, I love you

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