

# Pretty Hurts

Beyoncé<sup>1</sup>

Ms. Third Ward, your first question  
What is your aspiration in life?  
Oh, my aspiration in life  
Would be to be happy

(Uh huh huh)  
(Uh huh huh)  
(Uh huh huh)

Mama said, "You're a pretty girl.  
What's in your head, it doesn't matter  
Brush your hair, fix your teeth  
What you wear is all that matters."

Just another stage, pageant the pain away  
This time I'm gonna take the crown  
Without falling down, down, down

Pretty hurts, shine the light on whatever's worse  
Perfection is a disease of a nation, pretty hurts, pretty hurts  
Pretty hurts, shine the light on whatever's worse  
Tryna fix something but you can't fix what you can't see  
It's the soul that needs the surgery

(Uh huh huh)

Blonder hair, flat chest  
TV says, "Bigger is better."  
South beach, sugar free  
Vogue says, "Thinner is better."

Just another stage, pageant the pain away  
This time I'm gonna take the crown  
Without falling down, down, down

Pretty hurts, shine the light on whatever's worse  
Perfection is a disease of a nation, pretty hurts, pretty hurts (pretty hurts)  
Pretty hurts (pretty hurts), shine the light on whatever's worse  
Trying to fix something but you can't fix what you can't see

It's the soul that needs the surgery

Ain't got no doctor or pill that can take the pain away  
The pain's inside and nobody frees you from your body  
It's the soul, it's the soul that needs surgery  
It's my soul that needs surgery

Plastic smiles and denial can only take you so far  
And you break when the paper sign leaves you in the dark  
You left a shattered mirror and the shards of a beautiful girl

Pretty hurts, shine the light on whatever's worse (pretty hurts)  
Perfection is a disease of a nation, pretty hurts, pretty hurts  
Pretty hurts, shine the light on whatever's worse  
Trying to fix something but you can't fix what you can't see  
It's the soul that needs the surgery

When you're alone all by yourself  
Pretty hurts Pretty hurts  
And you're lying in your bed  
(Pretty hurts, Pretty hurts)

Reflection stares right into you  
(Pretty hurts, Pretty hurts)

Are you happy with yourself?  
(Pretty hurts Pretty hurts)

It's just a way to masquerade  
(Pretty hurts, Pretty hurts)

The illusion has been shed  
(Pretty hurts, Pretty hurts)

Are you happy with yourself?  
(Pretty hurts, Pretty hurts)

Are you happy with yourself?  
(Pretty hurts, Pretty hurts)

Uh huh huh

Yes

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