Graffiti Limbo

Michelle Shocked

Lay down your burdens

Lay down your cares

The Holy Virgin

She's gonna greet you up thereWith a big can of spray paint

With a big blank wall

And I can guaran-damn tee ya

There ain't no cops around at allGraffiti Limbo

Where do you go?

Graffiti Limbo

When there ain't no justiceI only speak for myself

But the word around town

Is that something's shaking

In the undergroundI only speak for myself

But the word on the street

Is that the writing's on the wall

And the cop's on the beatI wrote this song for a man named Michael Stewart

A young black man arrested while writing graffiti

On a subway wall in New York City

And while under arrest, surrounded by eleven white transit copsMichael Stewart was strangled to death

And when his case went to court

Not one cop was found guilty

Because the coroner lost the evidence You see, in order to determine

That Michael Stewart was strangled to death

The coroner had to use Michael Stewart's eyeballs

His eyes, as evidenceSo now when I tell you

That it was Michael Stewart's eyes

That the coroner lost, do you know what I mean

When I tell you that justice is blind? You can have your little Style Wars

You can keep your little dance

But those crazy writers

Don't stand a ghost of a chanceIt's, "Color them Cons", Mayor Koch said

Call it a crime

It's steer clear of the engineer

Of the midnight special line

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