Adios Hermanos

Paul Simon

It was the morning of October 6th, 1960 I was wearing my brown suit Preparing to leave the house of D Shook some hands then adios Brooklyn amigosMaybe some of them had hopes of seeing me again Some even said that my judge, Judge Gerald Culkin Wouldn't play it by the book Maybe let us off the hook But, woh, oo woh, I knew betterAfraid to leave the projects To cross into another neighborhood The blancos and the nigger gangs Well, they'd kill you if they couldAngel of Mercy, people are suffering All over the world Spanish children are taught On their knees to believeAngel of Mercy, people are suffering All over the island tonight Mothers weep Sisters grieveWell, I entered the courtroom, State Of New York County of New York, just some spic They scrubbed off the sidewalk Guilty by my dress, guilty in the press Let The Capeman burn for the murderWell the "Spanish boys" had their day in court And now it was time for some fuckin' law and order The electric chair, for the greasy pair Said the judge to the court reporterAfraid to leave the projects To cross into another neighborhood The newspapers and the T.V. crews Well, they'd kill you if they couldAngel of Mercy, people are suffering All over the world A Spanish boy could be killed Every night of the weekBut just let some white boy die And the world goes crazy For blood-Latin blood I don't lie when I speakWell, they shackled my hands A heavy belt around my waist to restrain me And they shackled my legs Hernandez, the "Umbrella Man," chained beside meThen we rode that Black Maria Through the streets of Spanish Harlem Calling old friends on the corners Just to lay our prayers upon themCrying, adios Hermanos, Adios

Adios Hermanos, Adios Adios Hermanos, Adios

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