

THE LONG GOODBYE



Did they ask you where you're from?

No, where you really from?

The question seems simple, but the answer's kinda long.

I could tell 'em Wembley, but I don't think that's what they want
and I don't wanna tell 'em more cuz everything I say is wrong.

Britain's where I'm born and I love a cup of tea and that

But tea ain't from Britain, it's from where my DNA is at

And where my genes are from.

That's where they make good jeans and that

And send them off to NYC, that's where they stack the ps and that.

Skinheads meant to never really liked the British flag

And I only got the shits when I went back to Pak

And my ancestor's Indian, but India was not for us.

My people built the West, we even gave the skinheads swastikas.

Now everybody everywhere wants their country back

If you want me back to where I'm from, then bruv I need a map.

Or if everyone just gets their shit back, then that's bless for us

You only built a piece of this place bruv, the rest was us.

Maybe I'm from everywhere and nowhere

No man's land between trenches nothing grows there

But it's fertilized by the brown bodies fought for Britain in the war so when I spit

A poppy grows there.

I'll make my own place in this business of Britishness

Your question's just limiting, it's based on appearances

Stop trying to make a box for us.

I'll make my own and bruck your poxy concept of us

Very few fit these labels so I'm repping for the rest of us

Who know that there's no place like home and that stretches us

Who code switch so don't piss me off for a cricket test for us

Or question us about our loyalty, our blood and sweat's enough.

Born under a sun you made too hot for us

Kidnapped by empire and diaspora fostered us

Raised by Bhangra, garage and Halal southern fried chicken shops are junglist and jungly.

I'm Mowgli from the Jungle Book, I'm John Barnes in the box

I blaze hard after mosque

I bend words like Brown and West until they just spell what.

My tribe is a quest to a land that was lost to us

And its name is dignity.

So where I'm from is not your problem, bruv.



