

Rage Against the Machine, Ghost Of Tom Joad

Written by Allen Ginsberg, performed by Rage Against the Machine

It had to be flashin' like the daily double

It had to be playin' on TV

It had to be loud mouthed on the comedy hour

It had to be announced over loud speakers

The CIA and Mafia are in cahoots

It had to be said in old ladies' language

It had to be said in American headlines

Kennedy stretched and smiled and got double crossed by lowlife goons and agents

Rich bankers with criminal connections

Dope pushers in CIA working with dope pushers from Cuba working with a big time syndicate from Tampa, Florida

And it had to be said with a big mouth

It had to be moaned over factory foghorns

It had to be chattered on car radio news broadcasts

It had to be screamed in the kitchen

It had to be yelled in the basement where uncles were fighting

It had to be howled on the streets by newsboys to bus conductors

It had to be foghorned into New York harbor

It had to echo onto hard hats

It had to turn up the volume in university ballrooms

It had to be written in library books, footnoted

It had to be in the headlines of the Times and the mind

It had to be barked on TV

It had to be heard in alleys through ballroom doors

It had to be played on wire services

It had to be bells ringing

Comedians stopped dead in the middle of a joke in Las Vegas

It had to be FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover and Frank Costello syndicate mouthpiece meeting in Central Park, New York weekends, reported Time magazine

It had to be the Mafia and the CIA together starting war on Cuba,

Bay of Pigs and poison assassination headlines

It had to be dope cops in the Mafia

Who sold all their heroin in America

It had to be the FBI and organized crime working together

in cahoots against the commies

It had to be ringing on multinational cash registers

World-wide laundry for organized criminal money

It had to be the CIA and the Mafia and the FBI together

They were bigger than Nixon

And they were bigger than war

It had to be a large room full of murder

It had to be a mounted ass- a solid mass of rage

A red hot pen

A scream in the back of the throat

It had to be a kid that can breathe

It had to be in Rockefeller's mouth

It had to be central intelligence, the family, aliofthis, the agency Mafia

It had to be organized crime

One big set of gangs working together in cahoots

Hitmen

Murderers everywhere

The secret

The drunk

The brutal

The dirty rich

On top of a slag heap of prisons

Industrial cancer

Plutonium smog

Garbage cities

Grandmas' bed soft from fathers' resentment

It had to be the rulers

They wanted law and order

And they got rich on wanting protection for the status quo
They wanted junkies
They wanted Attica
They wanted Kent State
They wanted war in Indochina
It had to be the CIA and the Mafia and the FBI
Multinational capitalists
Strong armed squads
Private detective agencies for the rich
And their armies and navies and their air force bombing planes
It had to be capitalism
The vortex of this rage
This competition
Man to man
The horses head in a capitalists' bed
The Cuban turf
It rumbles in hitmen
And gang wars across oceans
Bombing Cambodia settled the score when Soviet pilots
manned Egyptian fighter planes
Chiles' red democracy
Bumped off with White House pots and pans
A warning to Mediterranean governments
The secret police have been embraced for decades
The NKPD and CIA keep each other's secrets
The OGBU and DIA never hit their own
The KGB and the FBI are one mind
Brute force and full of money
Brute force, world-wide, and full of money
Brute force, world-wide, and full of money
Brute force, world-wide, and full of money
Brute force, world-wide, and full of money
It had to be rich and it had to be powerful
They had to murder in Indonesia 500000
They had to murder in Indochina 2000000
They had to murder in Czechoslovakia
They had to murder in Chile
They had to murder in Russia
And they had to murder in America