

# Skin On the Drum

Michael Franti

I was born botanical  
the soul of an animal  
deep beneath the layers, I sink my roots  
no need for mechanical  
I come strictly organical  
when I need to feast, I look to the East  
that's why I'm never scared of the beast  
even though they try to prey upon me  
I'm protected by the one always greater than me  
so now I reveal to thee  
because you wanna see  
the contour of my mystery  
the strength of my arches  
the colour of my conscience  
and the way that I process my diction  
some fact some diction some mystery  
some future fantasy  
I'm the trunk that holds the branches  
the leaves who do the dances  
my flowers romantic  
my love gigantic  
from Africa, transplanted translantic  
in the heat of the sun  
I bring shade for everyone  
like the beat on the one  
I'm the skin on the drum

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I keep on living with the fullness of the one  
like the heat of the sun or the skin on the drum I'm fully marinated and now I'm ready for the fire  
so you can fire one

fire one

fire two See I've been fully marinated  
and now I'm ready for the fire  
see I'm beginning to perspire  
from deep within to the skin  
yo, the feminine and the masculine  
the pieces of the puzzle  
see my reflections in the puddle  
after the storm the purple of the sky  
brings to mind another time  
when we resided  
below the water line

life was fine there human divine  
but in the years following  
evil men came swallowing  
everything in sight  
some learned to run, some stayed to fight  
I kneeled at the tomb of the soldier  
said I would love to behold her  
the magic in store there  
she touched me on the shoulder  
she said, "in time all is revealed, box of light be unsealed  
now listen to me son, be like the skin on the drum"

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And as the pepper gas clears  
and police and protesters go home  
just as the morning dew are tear drops of the night  
my emotions are always there for you  
and will never leave you dry  
bless

Lyrics provided by <https://www.omusic.in/>