

A breakdown of the video and lyrics

*Lyrics are in bold text

Having awareness/ but no true sense of self

You go to school, but what for? Like Dewey says, education should be an experience and should include your own experiences. It becomes more personal that way and creates meaning for you.

You find yourself enslaved in chains of earthly wealth

School is often seen as a means of gaining information you need in order to grab a good job and succeed in life, thus leading to the money necessary to “buy happiness.”

The unending chatter that plagues the mind

Going back to the banking model, this represents the teacher who teachers and the students who are taught. The video shows a teacher heading the classroom.

Confusion will be all that you find

The frustrated looking students speaks for itself. It is something that all students can relate to, and the progressive school can deal with this in a constructive way.

Chaos reigns in an untamed mind

When this came up, I tried to just show a lot of activity going on at school. Students being a bit rowdy in the classroom, hanging out on campus, etc. One shot had a student sitting alone while everyone passed by. The camera zooms in, and then back out, only to show him now sitting alone in a large empty area. This shows the “chaos” in his mind, that being an active school, and the empty area representing his perceived reality of school.

Still question all I’ve known/ advancing forward

Questioning the nature of schooling, and moving forward to change it. During one of the iterations of this line, I showed Dewey’s Experience and Education, which was a good representation of schooling as transformation. The blackboards also have quotes by him: “Education is life itself” and “Education is growth.”

This fallacy I have disowned

The shots that went along with this line depicted mild violence toward undesirable education. A student swings a bat on top of a science textbook, rips apart the curriculum folder, and kicking away “Boring Teacher.” It’s exaggerated to make a point, as well as maybe comedic effect.

You must train the body and the mind to serve

School can seem like a training ground for “real life.” Students are barraged by things they are told are useful, but it is important for a teacher to actually make it useful instead of it being routine and “just necessary.” The video shows a student being forced to do math work.

Envisioning thoughts without words

Students may feel like empty vessels to be filled with information, and no more than that. They

may have things to say, but is it their place to do so considering the "unwritten rules" of the classroom where they are to be quiet while the teacher teaches?

Encaged in a world that fear creates/ you must release yourself and liberate

I don't think there is any fear to be found in school, but we are in school for so long that it can sometimes feel like a prison, albeit a very minimum security prison that we always leave at the end of the day. I showed the door of a classroom closing on the student, essentially trapping him, as well as the student freeing himself from the bonds around his wrists.

I am seeking the way

No real visual accompaniment to this line, but it was interesting that it was at the end, bringing all this together to find a new path for education and thus transform it. The student leaves his desk at the end, perhaps off to find this new way, as well as leaving behind the old way.