

Bridge/Intro

This bridge/intro portion is a fairly simple yet true set of lyrics. It is about the false idea of laissez-faire, where everybody has an equal shot at life. This, however, is untrue and those who start with little to nothing have great difficulty climbing the social hierarchy. It is also saying that if you don't have much money, people do not care about what you have to do or say.

Verse 1 Lines 1 and 2

These two lines simply are saying how corruption is nothing new, and politics have been influenced by money for a long time. From the beginning of early human civilization to today with our current president, people have been trying to alter policies and laws for their personal monetary benefit.

Verse 1 Lines 3 and 4

These lines repeat the idea of corruption and bribery and talk about super political action committees. PACs allow corporations to donate exorbitant amounts of money that in turn go towards politicians that, if elected, will vote for and establish policies benefitting their business. It is something done frequently on both the left and right. Opposing something like this is not a matter of Republican v.s. Democrat, but more a matter of the people against the 1% and establishment.

Chorus

With things such as the electoral college in place and the ever-widening wealth gap, it becomes harder and harder for your average citizen to play a significant role in society. The idea we all have an equal and level amount of say is misleading and allows for the general public to unknowingly be manipulated or indirectly controlled by those with great amounts of wealth and power. Being able to vote for any candidate may seem fair until you realize the selections to choose from are limited and affected by the establishment.

Verse 2

In this verse, I directly reference the overthrow of the Hawaiian Monarchy and the last Hawaiian monarch, Queen Liliuokalani. It was organized by Sanford B. Dole, a descendent of American missionaries to the islands. He established a "Committee of Safety" and soon after held a coup against the monarchy with support from local plantation owners, and around 300 U.S.

Verse 3 Lines 1 and 2

The serving Republican president, Benjamin Harrison, argued for the annexation of Hawaii. Despite the ambiguous conditions following the proposal of annexation, he thought it best to annex the state for its benefits for the United States. It would allow for better trade with other countries and it would benefit American farmers on the islands who no longer have to pay high American taxes. It also gave America a military advantage and would allow them to have a naval base on the islands.

Verse 3 Lines 3 and 4

Grover Cleveland, previous Democratic president who was running against Harrison in the coming election, argued against the proposal of annexation. Knowing he had a chance at defeating Harrison, he was more cautious about such a bold action. He also knew that the natives were opposed to annexation, and the events leading to the proposal were unclear and not directly supported or authorized by the United States.