

Cost of Living –

Written by Lloyd Holmes

- Lyricist of HMRC
- Member of the Proletariat
- British Citizen
- An enemy of individualism

We are Newcastle Based Socialist Post Punk Band HMRC, our new album, Cost of Living is the most politically detailed album since “Neither Washington Nor Moscow”

“It’s not about people who are struggling VS people who aren’t, it’s about people who care & people who don’t”. - PunkRockPhilosophy

“ In 20 years time, we can say ‘this is what we stood for’. - PunkRockPhilosophy

The Spark That Lit the Fuse:

The widening chasm in modern society is no longer just between the working class and the wealthy. A profound, systemic shift has taken place within the lower-income brackets themselves.

The combination of a severely retrenched welfare state and an unrelenting cost-of-living crisis has fractured the traditional low-income demographic, driving a stark wedge between the working class (those struggling but maintaining a foothold in capital-driven society) and a rapidly expanding poverty class (those pushed into destitution, insecure housing, or literal homelessness).

When the state stops providing a safety net, the public realm alters to manage the human fallout, often resulting in visible, hostile measures against those at the absolute bottom.

Cost of Living

*Ive got no work today
That's what the DWP say
But they don't care about the cost of living*

*No one reads Carl Marx
Only speak in Das Kapital remarks
They don't care about the cost of giving*

*Pretend friends on my phone
Still relying on my pay day loan
But they dont care about the cost of living*

The cost of living x 2

*Saving are dropping every week
Welfare tap has sprung a leak
I can't handle the cost of living
I can't handle the cost of living
I can't handle the cost of living*

*Ive got no work today
Cause it's their way or the highway
They don't care about the cost of living*

*I quit my factory job
Cause my boss treated me like a slob
They don't care about the cost of giving*

*Papers that I read
Doesn't match the heart on my sleeve*

They don't care about the cost of living

The cost of living x 4

Savings are dropping every week

Welfare tap has sprung a leak

I can't handle the cost

In the weeds and I start to bleed

Can't stop, family to feed

A **cost-of-living crisis** represents the single greatest threat to the living standards of the UK population because it attacks the very foundation of economic survival: the balance between household income and the cost of basic necessities.

Unlike a typical economic recession, which primarily impacts living standards through job losses and unemployment a cost-of-living crisis acts as an **unprecedented, universal tax on existing incomes**. It systematically erodes the purchasing power of the population, dragging those on the margins into absolute destitution and dismantling the financial security of the majority of the population.

At its core, the crisis is driven by **inflation outstripping wage growth**. When the costs of non-discretionary goods, food, domestic energy, fuel, and housing rise sharply. While wages stagnate, real disposable income plummets.

The fundamental danger of this specific economic crisis is that it is driven by essentials. In a standard consumer downturn, households can cut back on luxury items, holidays, or dining out. However, you cannot opt out of heating your home, paying rent, or buying food. And due to neoliberalism, the government has lost the ability to cap rising prices of pure necessities.

In the weeds and I start to bleed

Can't stop, family to feed

Because these costs are unavoidable, inflation acts as a regressive tax, disproportionately harming lower- and middle-income households who already spend a vast majority of their income on these core necessities.

Savings are dropping every week

Welfare tap has sprung a leak

I can't handle the cost of living

The threat to living standards is not confined to bank balances; it triggers a cascade of compounding crises across health, housing, and social stability.

Rising Costs of Food/Energy etc which creates financial Strain & Debt, which can cause Mental/Physical Health Decline, in turn creating a Systemic Strain on Public Services.

As food prices spike, we have witnessed an explosion in food bank reliance across the UK.

In winter, millions are forced to turn off their heating. Living in cold, damp homes directly accelerates respiratory illnesses, cardiovascular issues, and mental health degradation. The long-term physical toll of a cost-of-living crisis effectively lowers the healthy life expectancy of the population.

The Housing and Debt Trap

Soaring rents and interest rates force households onto credit cards and high-interest loans for daily survival, creating a permanent debt overhang. Even as inflation cools, living standards remain depressed as income is diverted to debt servicing rather than savings or spending.

still relying on my pay day loan

But they dont care about the cost of living

A cost-of-living crisis fundamentally alters the social fabric by squeezing the middle class out of financial security. Individuals who previously considered themselves stable are pushed into "precariousness"—living paycheck to paycheck, unable to absorb an unexpected financial shock (like a car repair or broken boiler). This erodes the concept of upward social mobility.

While a standard economic recession primarily targets specific sectors and the unemployed, leaving government capacity intact to cushion the blow through welfare a cost of living crisis is far more dangerous because it grips the entire population, shattering real wages through soaring prices despite nominal increases, and simultaneously paralyzes the state by driving up its own operational costs, leaving essential public services broken.

Finally, the crisis threatens living standards by proxy through the destruction of public services. When the population's private standard of living collapses, demand on the state via the NHS, mental health services, and local authority housing support skyrockets.

Simultaneously, the government's public sector workers demand wage increases to survive the same crisis, leading to widespread industrial action and understaffed services. The result is a society where citizens are not only poorer in their private lives but are left without the public safety nets (healthcare, social care, transport) that historically guaranteed a baseline standard of civilized living.

No one reads Carl Marx

Only speak in Das Kapital remarks

Ultimately, a cost-of-living crisis is the supreme threat to UK living standards because it changes the nature of daily life from a pursuit of comfort, education, and community advancement into an exhausting, individualistic scramble for baseline survival.

The Great Fracture: Working Class vs. Poverty Class

Historically, the working class and the unemployed shared a fluid boundary, united by shared communities, localized economies, and a universal welfare safety net. Decades of welfare reform, accelerated by the cost-of-living crisis, have broken this solidarity, creating a distinct divide in living standards:

The Insecure Foothold (Working Class): For the average working-class household, the cost-of-living crisis means severe budgeting, cutting back on essentials, working multiple jobs, or taking on debt. However, they generally maintain access to basic structural stability: a private rental, a phone contract, utilities, and a bank account.

The Descent into Destitution (Poverty Class): When inflation spiked and the eroded welfare state failed to match it, those already on the margins were pushed over the edge.

"Destitution" means an inability to afford the absolute basics of human life: shelter, heating, and food. This class relies heavily on food banks, grassroots charities, and informal economies just to survive day-to-day.

Because the welfare state has been repurposed from a safety net into a highly punitive system (characterized by strict sanctions, bureaucratic delays, and absolute asset caps), falling out of the workforce does not just mean "having less money". It means a rapid trajectory toward losing one's home.

Hostile Architecture

Excuse me lad do you have any spare change,

I do but not for you

I'm hoarding it all for a rainy day

Keeping it where the tax man has no say

I'm keeping my money in a big metal box

Folding it in my favourite dress socks

It's just right for me, call me goldilocks

Im just right, call me goldilocks

Im just right, im not tight, im not tight

Tap for the ghost, swipe for the bill,

If the interest don't get you, the hunger will.

We're just waiting for help to arrive

We're just trying to survive

Hostile Architecture everywhere

Hostile living teaches me not to share

It's hard to live in this English city

It's even harder to shop for pity

It's hard to live in this English city

It's even harder to shop for pity

It's hard to live in this English city

It's even harder to shop for pity

It's harder

It's harder

You wanna die with dignity

There's no such thing

Angels fly with divinity

But they pay for their wings

if you wanna be free, try solidarity

if you wanna be free, try solidarity

if you wanna be free, try solidarity

if you wanna be free, try solidarity

Excuse me lad do you have any spare change,

I do but not for you

I do but not for you

I do but not for you

Hostile living

Hostile living

A Tramp cant even sleep on a bench outside the Metro

Cause they have designed it in such a way, that he cant sleep on it

What the problem with him sleeping on it?

*The **callous** Bastards*

*The **callous** Bastards*

The Weaponization of Public Space: Hostile Architecture

As the divide deepens, homelessness becomes the most visible symptom of a failing system. Instead of addressing the structural causes such as a lack of social housing or

inadequate mental health services urban planners, local authorities, and private property owners have increasingly turned to hostile architecture (also known as defensive design).

Hostile architecture comprises deliberate design elements in public spaces meant to restrict human behaviour, specifically targeting the poverty class and the homeless. It makes the reality of poverty physically unlovable.

Excuse me lad do you have any spare change.

I do but not for you

Common Manifestations of Hostile Architecture:

Anti-Homeless Spikes: Metal or concrete studs embedded in alcoves, doorways, and under bridges to prevent rough sleepers from seeking shelter from the elements.

A Tramp Cant even sleep on a bench outside the Metro

Cause they have designed it in such a way, that he cant sleep on it

What the problem with him sleeping on it?

Divided Benches: Benches fitted with central armrests or sloped at awkward angles. Their explicit purpose is to prevent a person from lying down to rest.

Removal of Public Ambiance: The systematic removal of public public toilets, water fountains, and trash bins, combined with the installation of high-intensity LED lighting or loud, jarring music in covered tunnels to deter loitering.

Boulders and Public Planters: Large rocks or decorative planters placed under overpasses or on wide pavements, framed as "beautification" but structurally intended to prevent tents from being pitched.

Hostile architecture is not an accident of design; it is the physical manifestation of a reduced welfare state.

You wanna die with dignity

There's no such thing

Angels fly with divinity

But they pay for their wings

When a government chooses not to fund the social structures required to prevent homelessness, the presence of destitute people in public spaces becomes an uncomfortable reminder of policy failure. Rather than solving the crisis through housing-first initiatives or wealth redistribution, hostile architecture attempts to render the poor invisible.

By making it impossible to sit, sleep, or exist in public without spending money, cities effectively push the poverty class out of commercial and civic centers. This creates a geography of exclusion. The working class, walking through these sanitized zones to get to work, are insulated from the true scale of the destitution occurring just outside the city center.

This physical hostility is backed by legal hostility. Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) and anti-vagrancy laws are frequently used to fine or criminalize people for begging, rough sleeping, or occupying public space.

Ultimately, this enforces a cruel irony: the state strips away the financial resources and social security that protect people from poverty, and then utilizes public infrastructure to punish them for suffering the consequences in public view. It cements a world where the working class is coerced into compliance by the visible terror of destitution, while the poverty class is subjected to an environment that actively denies them basic human dignity.

if you wanna be free, try solidarity

Property ladder

There's mould in your window reveal haven't you got something to steal

There's mould in your grotty rented flat and you can feel it in your toes

And the house of Lords only votes on strong holds

We sold off the north and your family knows and they no longer use coal

There's mould in my recently deceased mothers clothes

Stfu, she hasn't fucking wore them for years

There's mould in my longes and my teeth

And there's mould in the air as your infant sleeps

I bought my house at 400k

Now it's worth 500k today

I bought my house at 90k

Now it's worth 300k

I sold my soul when the rates werent high

Now Ive renewed I want to fucking die

Now Ive renewed I want to fucking die

Now Ive renewed I want to fucking die

I sold my soul when the rates were kind

Now Ive renewed I want to fucking die

Now Ive renewed I want to fucking die

Now Ive renewed I want to fucking die

I bought my house at 400k

Now it's worth alot more today

I bought my house at 90k

Now it's unaffordable today

*I bought my house at 90k
Now it's worth alot more today*

*I rented it out to a bunch of softies
Stupid student bastards who are scared*

I don't repair it, do I fuck

I just cash the cheques

What are they gonna do

Go to the citizens advice beateur

Were all the same

Were all the same

I dont care theres mould

I sold my soul

I sold my soul

I bought my house at 90k

Now it's worth 500 today..

I bought my house at 90k

Now it's worth 500 today..

Property ladder...

I don't even own these clothes

Klarna payments keep me on my toes

Pension don't mention the fucking pension

Unless you want a foreseen dissension.

I bought my house at 500k

And my soul has gone away

*I bought my house at 500k
Now it's worth 1 million today*

OOOOHHH the property ladder....

*I bought my house at 500k
Now it's worth alot today*

Poem (purgatory generation)

*We are the purgatory generation
Can't make a living if you're forgotten by the nation
Generation that's see what's begun
But saw socialists bastardized by the sun*

*The cool Britannia freeze oversees then domestically stops
And raw materials to get to British steel in time is 5 to 1 in your local betting shops
Economics stop anything trickling down and school is a sham
Burning neoliberal housing block is the responsible wicker man*

*We are the generation of the missing 100% mortgages
And the wages stagnation while social property in a furnace
Stuck between a hard place and northern rock
Where was the school lesson on how to short a stock*

*Told its our fault we cant afford to maintain standards of living
And sold the lie that its all because there's too many libraries in Wigan
And you'd be forgiven to think we could trust the news
But there's too many stories and editors trying to light a fuse*

*The generation that were forced into a degree
And can never pay it back due to a lack of opportunity
Art reserved for children of families with means
You better start your pension the day you turn 16*

*Politicians come waves of selfish short sighted deeds
And they gut the welfare ideals and leave them to bleed
And we see in fighting and confusion tear us at seems
While the top CEO scheme to topple over democratic regimes*

Brownsite slums

*Civilisation is crumbling
And you're swinging the sledge
The federal reserves in for closure
And you're standing on the ledge*

*The ground is starting to swell
And your house is built on landfill
The ground is starting to swell
And your house is built on landfill*

*I don't wanna die in a Brownsite slum
I don't wanna die in a Brownsite slum
I don't wanna die in a Brownsite slum
The welfare withdrawal has just begun*

*And we're not fuelled my malice
Were standing on our ground
But we're on unsteady ballast
King's profile in for a penny or a pound*

*And rows and rows of delaminated roofs
Dug up roads to the boarded pubs
Needle splits the damaged uncouth
Fill the factory with dead eyed youths*

Youths

Youths

Youths

I don't wanna die in a Brownsite slum
I don't wanna die in a Brownsite slum
I don't wanna die in a Brownsite slum
The welfare withdrawal has just begun

Blowing your Houses down:

The degradation of public infrastructure, combined with the cost-of-living crisis, has manifested most clearly inside the four walls of British homes. Recent data reveals a housing stock that is aging, poorly insulated, and structurally failing millions of occupants. Far from being a mere aesthetic inconvenience, the chronic issue of residential disrepair and dampness has proven to be a fatal public health crisis.

I don't wanna die in a Brownsite slum
I don't wanna die in a Brownsite slum
The welfare withdrawal has just begun

Data from the English Housing Survey (EHS) highlights a persistent crisis of non-decent living conditions, particularly across the rented sectors:

Failure of Basic Standards: Approximately 15% of all homes in England around 4 million dwellings fail to meet the Decent Homes Standard.

The Rental Disparity: The crisis is heavily concentrated among renters. While owner-occupied homes fare better, 22% of properties in the private rented sector (PRS) fail the basic decency threshold.

I rented it out to a bunch of softies
Stupid student bastards who are scared
I don't repair it, do I fuck
I just cash the cheques
What are they gonna do
Go to the citizens advice beateur
Were all the same
Were all the same
I dont care theres mould
I sold my soul
I sold my soul

Category 1 Hazards: Around 9% of homes contain a "Category 1 hazard" under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System. These are severe defects ranging from structural instability to extreme cold that pose an immediate, serious threat to human health or life.

The most pervasive physical symptom of this failing stock is damp and black mould. The EHS indicates that around 5% of all UK homes suffer from structural dampness, amounting to roughly 1.3 million households.

However, looking at broader property care reports and specific tenures paints a much starker picture:

In the private rented sector, the prevalence of damp rises to 10%. Furthermore, some independent industry reports indicate that when counting seasonal condensation and recurring mould, up to 1 in 5 households are actively struggling with damp living conditions.

*There's mould in my recently deceased mothers clothes
She hasn't fucking wore them for years*

In social housing, local authority estates experience significantly higher rates of serious condensation and damp (around 7%) compared to housing association properties.

This epidemic is fueled by a toxic combination of structural neglect and economic deprivation. Landlords frequently blame tenants for "lifestyle choices" like drying clothes indoors or failing to open windows. However, housing reports reveal the true culprits: faulty wall insulation, systemic penetrating damp from leaking roofs, completely absent mechanical ventilation, and ancient, single-glazed windows.

Worse, the cost-of-living crisis has acted as an accelerator. With energy bills remaining staggeringly high, millions of low-income families are forced to turn off their heating. Cold buildings cannot manage internal humidity, turning thousands of properties into literal incubation chambers for toxic spore growth.

The Tragedy of Awaab Ishak

Awaab's Law

Campaigning by Awaab's family forced legislation overhauling social housing:

- **Strict Timelines:** Social landlords must investigate reported damp and mould within 10 working days.
- **Emergency Action:** Hazards posing health risks must be repaired within 24 hours.
- **Mandatory Rehousing:** Landlords must provide alternative accommodation if safety cannot be secured within mandated limits.

While holding landlords accountable, legislation alone cannot instantly rebuild millions of uninsulated properties without massive systemic retrofitting.

Property Values

The UK housing crisis stems from house prices decoupling from earnings. Historically costing 3 to 4 times annual income, ONS data shows the median home in England now costs 7.6 times annual earnings (£300,000 vs. £39,300), 10.6 times in London, and 12.4 times for National Living Wage workers.

*There's mould in my longes and my teeth
And there's mould in the air as your infant sleeps*

Awaab's Law

The outrage surrounding Awaab's death forced a major reckoning in housing policy. Following a relentless campaign by his family, "Awaab's Law" was officially passed and brought into legal force.

The legislation fundamentally reshapes tenant rights in social housing:

Strict Timelines: Social landlords are now legally required to investigate reported damp and mould within 10 working days.

Emergency Action: If a hazard is deemed an emergency or poses a significant risk to health, the landlord must repair it or make the property safe within 24 hours.

Mandatory Rehousing: If the property cannot be made safe within these strict limits, landlords are legally obligated to offer tenants safe, alternative accommodation.

While Awaab's Law marks a monumental shift toward holding social landlords accountable, the structural reality remains grim. Legislation can penalize neglectful management, but it cannot instantly rebuild millions of aging, damp-ridden, uninsulated buildings. Until the UK commits to a massive, systemic retrofitting and rebuilding of its housing stock, the buildings themselves will continue to act as a physical hazard to those forced to live in them.

Property Values

The core crisis of the modern UK housing market lies in the decoupling of house prices from wages. For decades, the metric for a stable housing market was a home costing roughly 3 to 4 times a person's annual earnings.

Data from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) reveals that the median average home in England costs 7.6 times the median annual earnings of a full-time employee (standing at roughly £300,000 against a £39,300 salary). In London, that affordability ratio skyrockets to 10.6 times earnings. For a worker on the National Living Wage, an average home costs an impossible 12.4 times their annual income.

I bought my house at 400k
Now it's worth alot more today
I bought my house at 90k
Now it's unaffordable today

While recent data shows a minor resetting with nominal wages growing faster than house prices the broader reality remains grim: housing has transitioned from a basic social utility into an unattainable speculative asset.

The economic irony of this crisis is that it was systematically engineered by a Conservative government that historically championed the virtues of the "free market." In reality, their policies fiercely resisted free-market principles to artificially inflate property values.

When house prices grow exponentially faster than wages, the "ladder" of social mobility is effectively dismantled. The requirement for a standard 10% or 20% deposit means first-time buyers are forced to save sums of money that are impossible to accumulate while simultaneously paying exorbitant private rents.

This has effectively transformed the UK housing market into a rent-ier economy. Wealth is no longer generated by labour, productivity, or wage growth; it is inherited via generational property wealth (the "Bank of Grandma and Grandpa") or extracted by owning existing assets.

How the State (Tories) Artificially Inflated Prices

A pure free market operates on supply and demand. If demand is high and supply is low, prices rise. If a government wanted to lower prices via the free market, it would remove barriers to supply (build more homes) or let high interest rates naturally cool demand and depress prices.

Instead, successive Conservative administrations chose to intervene in the market to protect existing homeowners and landlords—a crucial voting bloc—by artificially keeping prices high through a variety of state-backed mechanisms:

Demand-Side Subsidies (Help to Buy): Policies like the Help to Buy equity loan scheme injected billions of pounds of state equity directly into the housing market. Instead of making homes cheaper, these schemes effectively acted as a government subsidy for corporate housebuilders. Buyers were given more borrowing power, which allowed developers to increase the asking prices of new builds, further inflating the wider market.

Stamp Duty Holidays: During economic shocks (most notably during the COVID-19 pandemic), the government introduced Stamp Duty holidays. By temporarily removing the tax on buying homes, they triggered massive, artificial buying frenzies. This directly caused house prices to spike dramatically, entirely wiping out any tax savings for the buyer and locking future buyers out.

The Quantitative Easing (QE) Boom: Following the 2008 financial crash, the Bank of England pumped hundreds of billions of pounds into the financial system while slashing interest rates to historic lows. This cheap money flooded the mortgage market. Instead of funding productive businesses, this capital rushed into the safe haven of bricks and mortar, fueling the Buy-to-Let boom and pricing out ordinary wage-earners.

Right to buy

Call me daft but if you die in a council house

Call me daft

But if you Die in a council house

Call me daft

Call me daft

Call me daft

Call me daft

But if you die in a Council house....

It should go to a family that need a fucking council house

Call me simple, call me blind

But leave the keys behind

I dont have a phone

I cant get a home

Call me stupid, call me a fool

Call me mad, call me cruel

If you die in unit four

Open up the goddamn door.

Oi Oi Oi

I know youve lived their along time

I wish there was more to go round

But if they give you the opportunity to buy it

I suggest you turn it down

Turn it down

Turn it down

Muscle and blood,

skin and bone

You never pay back

Maggie's loan.

Muscle and blood,

skin and bone

You never pay back

Maggie's loan.

Community death, People are strange

Think of someone else for a fucking change

Maggy's offer that they couldn't turn down:

The Right to Buy scheme, introduced in the UK under Margaret Thatcher's Housing Act 1980, is one of the most consequential and fiercely debated social policies of the late 20th century. While it successfully transformed millions of working-class tenants into first-time homeowners, its structural design and long-term side effects fundamentally altered the landscape of British housing.

Muscle and blood,

skin and bone

You never pay back

Maggie's loan.

The primary mechanism of Right to Buy was offering secure council tenants the chance to buy their homes at steep discounts (ranging from 33% to up to 70% depending on length of tenure). While highly popular, the policy severely depleted the social housing stock due to two fatal flaws:

Crucially, local authorities were banned from reinvesting the vast majority of the sale proceeds directly into building new council homes. Instead, much of the revenue was forced to be used to pay off debt or held back by central government.

Tenants naturally bought the best properties houses with gardens in desirable areas. This left local authorities with a depleted, lower-quality stock consisting mostly of less desirable flats and high-rise estates.

But if you die in a Council house....

It should go to a family that need a fucking council house

As a result, millions of homes transitioned from public ownership to private hands, while the construction of new social housing slowed to a near-halt.

By systematically removing affordable, state-subsidized options from the market, Right to Buy triggered a domino effect that inflated housing costs across the entire market.

But leave the keys behind

I dont have a phone

I cant get a home

As council waiting lists swelled and eligibility criteria tightened to include only the most vulnerable, millions of working-class people were forced into the private rental market. This artificial surge in demand caused private rents to skyrocket.

Ironically, a massive percentage of former council homes ended up in the hands of private landlords. Research has shown that around 40% of council flats sold under Right to Buy are now rented out by private landlords, often at double or triple the rent the council used to charge.

With the safety net of social housing effectively removed for the average earner, buying a home became a necessity rather than a choice. This massive influx of buyers into the private market, coupled with a chronic failure to build enough new homes to replace the sold-millions, created a stark supply-and-demand mismatch, pricing future generations out of the market entirely.

I know youve lived their along time

I wish there was more to go round

But if they give you the opportunity to buy it

I suggest you turn it down

Enforcing a Divide Between the Working Class and a Socialist Welfare State

Perhaps the most profound impact of Right to Buy was ideological. The policy was explicitly designed by the Conservative government to dismantle the post-war collectivist consensus and replace it with a "property-owning democracy."

This masterstroke of social engineering fractured the traditional bond between the working class and the socialist welfare state in several ways:

Individualism vs. Collectivism

By tying economic security to private property ownership rather than collective state provision, the policy shifted the working-class mindset. A citizen's primary asset was no longer their stake in a robust welfare state (health, education, social housing), but the equity in their individual home. This successfully fostered a more consumerist, capital-focused outlook, fracturing working-class solidarity.

Community death, People are strange

Think of someone else for a fucking change

Charlie

Oh Charlie

Oh Charlie

Oh Charlie

Civil Rights aren't a thing to fight

Black Prowling is your mind

Half arsed, hate-filled speech

Propaganda is what you preach

new napoleon

Mendacious narcissistic parasite

Press release.

Finally got some sweet relief

Was it prudent?

Was it Rational?

Was it prudent?

Was it Rational?

Was it prudent?

Was it Rational?

Was it prudent?

Charlie don't deserve to martyr

Charlie will get cast away

Charlie don't deserve to martyr

Charlie will get cast away

*I wanna be there when im dead and gone
Im gonna stare in them shark eyes and tell that you were always wrong*

*He thinks he's made of steel but he melts like chocolate
He thinks he's made of steel but he doesn't feel
Hes leading the stampede of white horses
He's giving the order to our Naval forces*

*Charlie don't deserve to martyr
Charlie will get cast away
Charlie don't deserve to martyr
Charlie will get cast away*

*I wanna be there when im dead and gone
Im gonna stare in them shark eyes and tell that you were always wrong*

*A familiar visitor knocks thrice the door
You decide to ignore the call
They whisper through your bones
Please leave us alone*

*Charlie thinks he's a saint, and he's curing hate
His creator cant wait
His creator cant wait
His creator cant wait
His creator cant wait
Hes sealed his fate.*

*Oh Charlie
Oh Charlie
Charlie Kirk*

This song is in regard to the knife edge this world is on with the political divide and extremism rhetorics.

The assassination of Charlie Kirk on September 10, 2025, sent shockwaves through the American political landscape, instantly heightening fears of a catastrophic escalation in violence between competing political factions.

The immediate and most acute concern among law enforcement and political analysts was the threat of decentralized, reactionary violence from far-right or militant conservative factions.

Because Kirk was a hero of the cultural right wing,, many feared his killing would be viewed as an declaration of war by the radical left

The immediate political responses added fuel to the fire. Donald Trump and other high-profile conservative leaders directly attributed the terrorism to mainstream progressive rhetoric, arguing that the left's tendency to label conservative commentators as "Nazis" or existential threats to democracy directly led to the sniper's bullet.

This framing escalated anxieties because it shifted blame from an isolated, rogue shooter to an entire political ideology, implicitly justifying aggressive defense or pre-emptive hostility against political opponents.

The type of course of events that cause world wars.

And it seems to me

We're still not learning from our history

And it's a crying shame

Those who hold the future hold themselves in chains

The Redskins

Israeli Morale

Corralled into the strip

The dead seas split

Corralled into the strip

Pushed into the pit

Religion buried by money

Sacred land covered in blood

Faith is replaced by agony

Jerusalem is covered in mud

they didn't vote for this

They are only kids

they didn't vote for this

They are only fucking kids

The skies gone red and September's black

The skies gone red and September black

The skies gone red and Septembers black

The skies gone red and Septembers black

Mass punishment is a war crime

Bombs drop like confetti dimes

Your senator explains genocide is fair

Bombs burst the air, your flag's not there

*No childhood for the kids in war zones
The suns blocked out by passing drones
Theres no rest bite for military offence
So Pick the side with largest warchest*

*Sink me into the suez canel
And flood the banks of Israeli Moral
Sink me into the suez canel
And flood the banks of Israeli Moral*

*Netanyahu isn't a leader
Hes a bottom feeder*

*Netanyahu isn't a politician
Hes got an evil vision*

*Netanyahu isn't a just far right
Hes Practicing apartheid*

*Netanyahu isn't a just far right
He's committing genocide*

*Sink me into the suez canel
And flood the banks of Israeli Moral
Sink me into the suez canel
And flood the banks of Israeli Moral*

Sink me into the suez canel

And flood the banks of Israeli Moral

Sink me into the suez canal

And flood the banks of Israeli Moral

Netanyahu will sink with me fine

And the angels of death will leave Palestine

Comment: I would not be able to sum up the horror in 1,000 pages. I have decided to let the lyrics do the talking.

Poem (The Modern World)

*You when the earth makes it's last hoorah
And the sun creates its very last spot
And you seas are all dried up
And our arms have reverted back to dust
You'll be left on this undying rock
Cause you're too cold to burn and too plastic to rot
You'll become the stone you'll become the freeze the lock
I hope you have remembered your flag and ships cause now its all yours to dock*

*When the books are written and you're a phase of a sentence of a character of a phase
I hope you know that your selfishness and your victory was all in vain
You're not hero or the villain or the protagonist you're a stain
You're the edge of the frame that carries the picture of a moment that we can grow to
destain
You bring the rain, pain and down the barrels of your aim, don't you see we are all the
same*

Outlaw Peace

*My car gone up, in Crystal flames
Ambulance chasing fraudulent claims.
All my chickens have come home to roost
Coma my psyche, just been induced.*

*The wolves are at our door
Fun police oh you're such a bore
And You thought this would never come
They're coming for your small income*

Oh yeah, I don't fucking care

*RATTLING AROUND 10 Downing Street
PROTESTERS SURROUNDED BY ONSITE POLICE
IN BACK ROOMS THEY WHISPER ABOUT FREE SPEECH
THE GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO OUTLAW PEACE*

*The lights have gone out or flashing blue
Best selling show has become a zoo
Kremlin And meta stage a coo
And I don't get your point of view*

*I've thrown away my passive life!
Accepted Age of Croesus strife!
Defined by my passive life!
Heads of State, corrosive low-life*

*Speech adlib
Oh no, I don't wanna go*

RATTLING AROUND 10 Downing Street
Onsite police try to process me
IN back rooms THEY WHISPER ABOUT FREE SPEECH
THE GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO OUTLAW PEACE

RATTLING AROUND 10 Downing Street
THE RIGHT WING TRIES TO SILENCE ME
In back rooms THEY WHISPER ABOUT FREE SPEECH
THE GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO OUTLAW PEACE

They only ever serve themselves
Due process, do you trust your twelve
Passive living has got me tired
And what I digest has got me wired

I'm chasing what they told me I desired
Don't you know the penny's retired

My TV license none bias has expired
Television only broadcasts liars

My TV license none bias has expired
Television only broadcasts liars
My TV license none bias has expired
Television only broadcasts liars

Glastonbury, why don't you broadcast me!
Glastonbury, why don't you broadcast me!
Glastonbury, why don't you broadcast me!
Glastonbury, why don't you broadcast me!

RATTLING AROUND 10 Downing Street
THE GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO OUTLAW PEACE
RATTLING AROUND 10 Downing Street
THE GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO OUTLAW PEACE

OUTLAW PEACE
OUTLAW PEACE
OUTLAW PEACE
OUTLAW PEACE

Palestine Achtung:

The fundamental promise of a liberal democracy is that the state protects the right to dissent, even when that dissent is deeply uncomfortable to those in power. However, the UK has witnessed a sharp, structural shift toward an authoritarian approach to free speech, peaceful assembly, and public opinion.

Through aggressive pieces of legislation most notably the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 and the Public Order Act 2023 the state has systematically expanded the definition of what constitutes a criminal disruption. These laws criminalized long-standing non-violent protest tactics (such as "locking on") and drastically lowered the threshold for police intervention, allowing the state to shut down demonstrations based on the mere prediction of noise or inconvenience.

RATTLING AROUND 10 DOWNING STREET
ONSITE POLICE TRY TO PROCESS ME
IN BACK ROOMS THEY WHISPER ABOUT FREE SPEECH
THE GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO OUTLAW PEACE

The state's use of anti-terror frameworks to crush political activism, coupled with policing the boundaries of artistic expression, illustrates this creeping authoritarianism. This is clearly demonstrated through the experiences of the direct-action group Palestine Action and the punk-rap duo Bob Vylan.

"Glastonbury, why don't you broadcast me!"

The case of Palestine Action represents perhaps the most severe escalation of state repression against political protest in modern British history. Founded in 2020, the group utilizes highly disruptive direct-action tactics occupations, blockades, and property damage specifically targeting UK-based factories and offices of Elbit Systems (Israel's largest private weapons manufacturer) to oppose the arms trade.

The wolves are at our door

*Fun police oh you're such a bore
And You thought this would never come
They're coming for your small income*

While their tactics explicitly involve unlawful property damage and trespass, they are explicitly aimed at corporate infrastructure rather than violence against individuals. Yet, the British state bypassed traditional criminal damage laws and moved to completely neutralize the network using the ultimate power of the state: proscription under the Terrorism Act 2000.

The Home Office officially designated Palestine Action as a proscribed terrorist organization, utilizing a rarely invoked clause in the Terrorism Act that allows a group to be banned if its actions cause "serious damage to property" for a political or ideological cause.

Under Section 12 of the Terrorism Act, it is a criminal offence punishable by up to 14 years in prison to belong to the group, invite support for it, or crucially for free speech express an opinion or belief that is supportive of the organization.

By rebranding property-focused direct action as "terrorism," the state effectively bypassed the democratic right to protest. It sets a dangerous precedent: if a protest group effectively disrupts corporate and state supply chains, the government can simply outlaw their entire ideology, criminalizing any public expression of support for their goals.

*I've thrown away my passive life!
Accepted Age of Croesus strife!
Defined by my passive life!
Heads of State, corrosive low-life*

Fulfilment Centre (The Death of Billy Foister)

Billy Foister – Red

Bossman – Black

HMRC - Blue

I'm feeling hot and short of breath

The boxes have gone blurry

I'm feeling flush, pain in my leg

The man is arriving needs to hurry

I can't go on, sweat's pouring down my face

I look to see how long the conveyor belt takes

"Excuse me, boss, I'm not feeling well

Could I have a break from hell?"

I mentioned this not an hour ago

But the pain in my chest is starting to grow.

"Mr. Foster, you've missed your target each day this week

I don't know what trick you're trying to pull, do you think I'm meek?"

"Oh boss, I'm trying, but my vision is narrowing

Is one-day delivery worth a something so harrowing?"

"This is your last chance—final warning—pack the box and stop moaning."

"Boss, I need to lie down... I'm not being folly... this can't be your policy..."

"Keep packing the boxes.

Keep packing the fucking boxes.

Don't help him.

Keep packing. Keep packing."

You will be sacked if you help this man

(Chorus)

I'm at the fulfilment centre

And this factory floor is a deathtrap

It's Prime Day and I'm suffocating in bubble wrap

I'm at the fulfilment centre

And this factory floor is a deathtrap

It's prime day and my union rep has just been sacked

I'm at the fulfilment centre

Im gonna fulfil a Marxist act

I'm gonna rip out the throat from the floor managers neck

I didn't kill Jeff but he'll hear about through the press

It's next-day delivery, but the last day he'll ever see.

It's next-day delivery, but the last day he'll ever see.

It's next-day delivery, but the last day he'll ever see.

And the wind will cry "Billy Foister."

And working conditions will cry in vain

"Boss, I think he's going to die!"

"Get back to work... He'll be fine."

The wind Cries Billy:

To reclaim human dignity from the machinery of the algorithmic warehouse, society must re-center three core socialist principles:

Capitalism views Billy Foister, and millions like him, purely as labour inputs to be used up and replaced. A socialist framework asserts that a person's right to safety, health, dignity, and leisure is absolute and entirely independent of their economic productivity. The metrics of a successful society must shift from quarterly corporate profits and delivery speeds to the physical and mental well-being of the working class.

"Boss, I think he's going to die!"

"Get back to work... He'll be fine."

True democracy cannot end at the ballot box; it must extend to the workplace where adults spend the majority of their waking lives. Socialist values champion the transition from corporate autocracy to economic democracy—giving workers collective ownership and democratic control over their working conditions, production rates, and the wealth they directly generate.

The digital fracturing of society has left the working class atomized, fighting individual battles for survival against an interconnected global elite. Reintroducing socialist values means rebuilding the collective consciousness that defined past labor movements. It requires the understanding that the delivery driver, the warehouse picker, the striking nurse, and the unemployed citizen are bound by a shared class interest.

Until society rejects the narrative of hyper-individualism and reaffirms the socialist truth that human life is inherently valuable and collectively bound, the warehouse panopticon will continue to claim the health, safety, and lives of the working class.

The modern logistics and delivery warehouse has become the dark, beating heart of the 21st-century hyper-capitalist economy. Where the 1980s saw the destruction of heavy industry, the 2010s and 2020s witnessed its replacement by highly securitized, algorithmically managed fulfilment centres.

The gruelling reality of these workplaces—and the systemic erosion of organized labor that protects them—is starkly illustrated by the tragic death of Billy Foister and the ongoing exploitation within delivery warehouses.

I'm at the fulfilment centre

And this factory floor is a deathtrap

It's prime day and my union rep has just been sacked

The Death of Billy Foister

In 2019, Billy Foister, a 21-year-old Amazon warehouse worker in Ohio, suffered a fatal heart attack on the warehouse floor. The details of his death exposed a chilling reality: according

to operational logs and worker testimonies, his body lay on the floor for roughly 20 minutes before management or medical personnel noticed.

In a facility equipped with hundreds of cameras and sophisticated tracking software designed to monitor every second of a worker's "Time Off Task" (TOT), the system failed to register a human being dying in an aisle.

This tragedy is the logical conclusion of algorithmic management and panoptic workplace conditions that define modern delivery hubs:

The Digital Whip: Workers are monitored by handheld scanners and AI surveillance that track their "pick rates" down to the second. If a worker slows down to catch their breath, use the restroom, or speak to a colleague, the system automatically flags them for disciplinary action.

"Mr. Foster, you've missed your target each day this week"

The Dehumanization of Labor: Under this system, human beings are treated as biological extensions of the automated conveyor belts. Physical exhaustion, dehydration, and musculoskeletal injuries are treated not as workplace hazards to be mitigated, but as the acceptable cost of doing business.

And the wind will cry "Billy Foister."

And working conditions will cry in vain

The Crushing of Organized Labour: The "Death" of the Unions

The conditions that led to Billy Foister's death can only exist because the traditional shield of the working class trade unions has been systematically dismantled over the last four decades.

Following the aggressive anti-union legislation of the Thatcher and Reagan eras, the legal and physical infrastructure of organized labor was severely crippled. In the gig economy and modern logistics sector, tech monopolies have perfected the art of union-busting:

In fulfilment centres and delivery networks, workers are intentionally kept isolated. Gig economy drivers operate out of solitary vehicles, communicating only with an app, while warehouse workers are rotated constantly to prevent the social bonds necessary to organize a workplace.

Don't help him.

Keep packing. Keep packing."

You will be sacked if you help this man

Tech giants utilize sophisticated union busting firms, heat mapping software to predict which warehouses are at risk of organizing, and mandatory "captive audience" meetings designed to threaten workers with facility closures if they vote to unionize.

The historical power of a union was its ability to say: "An injury to one is an injury to all." By reducing labour to a hyper-individualized, precarious contract, the corporate state has effectively severed this collective defence mechanism.

The Urgent Necessity for Socialist Values

The crisis of the modern workplace cannot be solved by minor regulatory tweaks or corporate "wellness" initiatives. The systemic exploitation of the delivery economy demonstrates a desperate need for a resurgence of socialist values within the mainstream political consciousness.

Lyrical content and Political Background Written by Lloyd Holmes

Lloyd Holmes