

## **Dave (David Orobosa Omoregie) Black (Brit Awards 2020 version)**

[Verse 1]

Look, black is beautiful, black is excellent  
Black is pain, black is joy, black is evident  
Workin' twice as hard as the people you know you're better than  
'Cause you need to do double what they do so you can level them  
Black is so much deeper than just African-American  
Our heritage been severed, you never got to experiment  
With family trees, 'cause they teach you 'bout famine and greed  
Show you pictures of our fam on their knees  
Tell us we used to be barbaric, we had actual queens  
Black is watchin' child soldiers gettin' killed by other children  
Feelin' sick so quick, this could have happened to me  
Mummy watchin' tellin' stories 'bout your dad and your niece, listen  
The blacker the berry, the sweeter the juice  
Kid dies, the blacker the killer, the sweeter the news  
And if he's white, you give him a chance, he's ill and confused  
If he's black he's probably armed, you see him and shoot, look

[Verse 2]

Black is growin' up around the barbershop  
Mummy sayin', "Stay away from trouble, you're in yard a lot"  
Studying for ages, appreciatin' the chance you got  
'Cause black is in your blood, and you ain't even got the heart to stop  
Black is steppin' in for your brothers because your father's gone  
Standin' by your children when you haven't proven karma wrong  
Black is doin' all of the above, then going corner shop  
Tryna help a lady cross the road to have her walkin' off  
Black is growin' up around your family and makin' it  
Being forced to leave the place you love because there's hate in it  
People say you're faking it, never stay for change in it  
But black is bein' jealous, you'd be dead if you had stayed in it  
Black is strugglin' to find your history and tracing it  
You don't know the truth about your race 'cause they're erasin' it  
Black has got a really sour flavour, here's a taste of it  
But black is all I know, there ain't a thing that I would change in it

[Verse 3]

Look, black isn't a single colour, man, there's shades to it  
Her hair's straight and thick, but mine's got waves in it  
Black is not divisive, they been lyin' and I'm hating it  
Black has never been a competition, we're all making it

Black is deadly  
Black is when you're freezin' in your home and you can't get sleep, but never feelin'  
empty  
'Cause you got twenty cousins in your country living stress-free  
Walkin' for their water, daughter wrapped inside a bedsheet  
Black is distant  
It's representin' countries that never even existed while your grandmother was livin'  
Black is my Ghanaian brother readin' into scriptures  
Doin' research on his lineage, findin' out that he's Egyptian  
Black is people namin' your countries on what they trade most  
Coast of Ivory, Gold Coast, and the Grain Coast  
But most importantly to show how deep all this pain goes  
West Africa, Benin, they called it slave coast  
Black is so confusin', 'cause the culture? They're in love with it  
Take our features when they want and have their fun with it  
Never seem to help with all the things we know would come with it  
Loud in our laughter, silent in our sufferin'  
Black is bein' strong inside and facing defeat  
Poverty made me a beast, I battled the law in the streets  
We all struggled, but your struggle ain't a struggle like me  
Well how could it be when your people gave us the odds that we beat?  
I mean, bloody hell, what about our brothers that are stuck in jail?  
That couldn't bust a bail, they held a bird and gotta live with it  
Black is bein' guilty until proven that you're innocent  
Black is sayin', "Free all my people stuck inside them prison cells"  
Think it's funny, we ain't got nothin' to say to them  
Unconditional love is strange to them, it's amazin' 'em  
Black has really got the sweetest flavour, here's a taste of it  
But black is all I know, there ain't a thing that I would change in it

[Verse 4]

It is racist whether or not it feels racist  
The truth is our Prime Minister is a real racist  
They say, "You should be grateful we're the least racist"  
I say the least racist is still racist  
And if somebody hasn't said it  
Equality is a right, it doesn't deserve credit  
Now if you don't want to get it, then you're never gonna get it  
How the news treats Kate versus how they treated Megan  
Rest in Peace Jack Merritt, you're my brother in arms  
There's tears in our eyes and love in our hearts  
We never had the same background, culture, colour, or past  
But you devoted your life to giving others a chance  
And for that, I'm so taken aback  
Because it gave us all a voice, I have to say it for Jack

As a young black man seeing paper and crack  
Giving tougher sentences, it's just papering cracks  
All he would want is unity, funding for communities  
Equal opportunities, people under scrutiny  
No more immunity, way less hatred  
More conservation, less deforestation  
We want rehabilitation, now that would be amazing  
But Grenfell victims still need accommodation  
And we still need support for the Windrush generation  
Reparations for the time our people spent on plantations  
I'm done