

# Born in Puerto Rico

Paul Simon

[SALVADOR]

I was born in Puerto Rico  
We came here when I was a child  
Before I reached the age of sixteen  
I was running with the gang and we were wild

He keeps looking but he don't recognize me.  
Some guy from Lexington or Park  
Red beans and rice from kitchen windows  
Supper-time and the barrio is dark.

No one knows you like I do  
Nobody can know your heart the way I do  
No one can testify to all that you've been through  
But I will.

[SAL & THE VAMPIRES]

I was born in Puerto Rico  
And my blood is Taino  
Spanish Caribbean my soul

[SALVADOR]

We came here wearing summer clothes in winter  
Hearts of sunshine in the cold  
Your family rented this apartment  
You'd watch the street lamps from your perch  
In the sacramental hour your stepfather in black  
Preached the fire of the Pentecostal Church  
No one knows you like I do  
Nobody can know your heart the way I do  
No one can testify to all that you've been through  
But this will.

[SAL & THE VAMPIRES]

I was born in Puerto Rico  
Came here when I was a child.

[SALVADOR]

Small change and sunlight, then I left these streets  
for good.  
My days as short as they were wild.

[CARLOS APACHE]

I'm Carlos Apache

[ANGEL SOTO]

Angel Soto

[FRENCHY CORDERO]

Frenchy Cordero

[BABU CHARLIE CRUZ]

Babu Charlie Cruz

[SALVADOR]

Your features blurred in every grainy photo  
And fading headline of the Daily News

Wiltwyck School for Criminal Children  
Auburn, Brooklyn House of D.,  
Dannemora, Sing-Sing, Attica,  
Greenhaven

[SALVADOR]

Twenty years inside, today you're free.

You cannot even read your story  
The pages piling up in shame  
Before the words released you, the guard would  
kill the light  
The night you took The Capeman for your name.

[CHORUS]

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[LAZARUS]

Yo naci en Puerto Rico  
Yo naci en Puerto Rico  
Mi corazon es Puerto R.ICO  
Mi alma es Puerto Rico