

Song Lyrics

Instructions: Read the lyrics to your assigned version of “Que Bloco é Esse?” Use the lyrics to aid in your analysis of the song.

Ilê Aiyê Version

Que bloco é esse?

Eu quero saber,

É o mundo negro

Que viemos mostra prá você

Somos crioulo doido

Somos bem legal

Temos cabelo duro

É só no black power

Branco, se você soubesse

O valor que o negrão tem,

Tu tomava um banho de piche, branco

Pra ficar negrão também

Não te ensino minha malandragem

Nem tão pouco minha filosofia, não

Quem dá luz ao cego

É bengala branca

E santa luzia

What group is this?

I want to know

It's the black world

That we came to show you

We are crazy blacks

We are pretty cool

We have coarse hair

Wear it only as an afro

White man if you knew

The value of the big black man

White man, you would bathe in tar

to be big and black too

I will not teach you my *malandragem**

Not even a little of my philosophy, no

Who gives light to the blind man

It's the white walking stick

and St. Louisa

**Malandragem* means cunning ways or abilities. This term is related to the practice of capoeira.

Criolo Version

Bay of All Saints

The second largest bay in the whole world

They say with certainty one day it will be
the first

Here walked pirates, colonists, Iemanjá-
-orixá deity and Queen of the Sea

You're a celebrity look alike!

I heard that they dug an artesian well and
this bay came into existence

But, where this water came from, I don't
know. I owe you that information.

You hear that sound?

Do you hear that noise dude, do you feel
it? That trembling here?

That there is Ilê, boy! Awesome!

Ilê Aiyê?

Today the ground is going to tremble

Today the ground is going to tremble

Bahia's volcano is the drum of Ilê Aiyê

Bahia's volcano is the drum of Ilê Aiyê

Waves break on stone

But stones can't hold back the sea

That which controls the sea is the moon

For the pleasure of Yemanya

Liberdade (freedom) is a neighborhood

That the soul wants to visit

Wash your mouth, wipe your feet

On the path that brings you there

What group is this?

I want to know

It's the black world

That we came to show you

We are crazy blacks

We are pretty cool

We have coarse hair

Wear it only as an afro

I'm a black son,

I'm Brazilian

I'm a black son,

I'm Brazilian

White man if you knew

The value of the big black man

White man, you would bathe in tar

to be big and black too

I will not teach you my *malandragem**

Not even a little of my philosophy, no

Who gives light to the blind man

It's the white walking stick

and Saint Louisa

**Malandragem* means cunning ways or abilities. This term is related to the practice of capoeira.