

"Don't Shut Me Down" September 2021

**A while ago I heard the sound of children's laughter
Now it's quiet, so I guess they left the park
This wooden bench is getting harder by the hour
The sun is going down, it's getting dark**

**I realize I'm cold
The rain begins to pour
As I watch the windows on the second floor
The lights are on, it's time to go
It's time at last to let him know**

**I believe it would be fair to say
You look bewildered
And you wonder why I'm here today
And so you should, I would
When I left I felt I'd had enough
But in the shape and form I appear now
I have learned to cope
And love and hope is why I am here now**

**And now you see another me, I've been reloaded, yeah
I'm fired up, don't shut me down
I'm like a dream within a dream that's been decoded
I'm fired up, I'm hot, don't shut me down**

**I'm not the one you knew
I'm now and then combined
And I'm asking you to have an open mind
I'm not the same this time around
I'm fired up, don't shut me down**

**Will you leave me standing in the hall
Or let me enter?
The apartment hasn't changed at all
I got to say I'm glad
Once these rooms were witness to our love
My tantrums and increasing frustration
But I go from mad
To not so bad in my transformation**

**And now you see another me, I've been reloaded, yeah
I'm fired up, don't shut me down
I'm like a dream within a dream that's been decoded
I'm fired up, I'm hot, don't shut me down**

**I'm not the one you knew
I'm now and then combined
And I'm asking you to have an open mind now
I'm not the same this time around**

I'm fired up, don't shut me down

You asked me not to leave

Well, here I am again

And I love you still and so I won't pretend

I have learned to cope

And love and hope is why I am here now

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