

## Twitter Thread by PRINCE LEGION



**PRINCE LEGION**

[@PRNLegion](#)



**THREAD: Prince's socially conscious songs**

**Lyrics taken from Genius**

"Uptown" from Dirty Mind

[Pre-Chorus]

Now where I come from  
We don't give a damn  
We do whatever we please  
It ain't about no downtown  
Nowhere bound  
Narrow-minded drag  
It's all about being free

[Chorus]

Everybody's going  
Uptown  
That's where I want to be  
Uptown  
Set your mind free  
Uptown  
Got my body hot  
Get down  
I don't want to stop, no

You're going to have to fight your own damn  
war

Because we don't want to fight no more

You're going to have to fight your own damn  
war

Because we don't want to fight no more

You're going to have to fight your own damn  
war

Because we don't want to fight no more

You're going to have to fight your own damn  
war

Because we don't want to fight no more

We live in a world overrun by tourists

Tourists, 89 flowers on their back

Inventors of the Accu-jack

They look at life through a pocket camera

What? No flash again?

They're all a bunch of double drags who teach  
their kids that love is bad

Half of the staff of their brain is on vacation

Mama, are you listening?

We need a new breed, leaders stand up,  
organize

Don't let your children watch television until they  
know how to read

Or else all they'll know how to do is cuss, fight,  
and breed

No child is bad from the beginning

They only imitate their atmosphere

If they're in the company of tourists, alcohol, and  
US history

What's to be expected is 3 minus 3

Absolutely nothing

"1999" from 1999

(I was dreamin' when I wrote this

So sue me if I go too fast)

*But life is just a party*

*And parties weren't meant to last*

War is all around us

My mind says prepare to fight

*(So if I gotta die*

*I'm gonna listen to my body tonight)*

Yeah

"Free" from 1999

Be glad that you are free

Free to change your mind

Free to go most anywhere, anytime

Be glad that you are free

There's many a man who's not

Be glad for what you had, baby, what you've got

Be glad for what you've got

"America" from Around the World in a Day

Jimmy Nothing never went to school  
They made him pledge allegiance  
He said it wasn't cool  
Nothing made Jimmy proud  
Now Jimmy lives on a mushroom cloud

"Pop Life" from Around the World in a Day

Tell me, what's that underneath your hair?  
Is there anybody living there?  
(Anybody living there)  
You can't get over, if you say you just don't care  
(Don't care)  
Show me a boy who stays in school and I'll show  
you a boy aware  
Dig it

"Sign o' the Times" from Sign o' the Times

[Verse 1]

In France a skinny man died of a big disease with  
a little name

By chance his girlfriend came across a needle  
and soon she did the same

At home there are seventeen-year-old boys and  
their idea of fun is being in a gang called The  
Disciples, high on crack, totin' a machine gun  
Time, times

[Verse 2]

Hurricane Annie ripped the ceiling of a church  
and killed everyone inside

You turn on the telly and every other story is  
tellin' you somebody died

My sister killed her baby 'cause she couldn't  
afford to feed it

And we're sending people to the moon

In September my cousin tried reefer for the very  
first time

Now he's doing horse, it's June

Times, times

[Verse 1]

Oh, pick it up!

There's a bass guitar in this

Grenade Launcher roars in a television sky

Tell me how many young brothers must die

[Chorus]

Dance on, dance on

Dance on, dance on

[Verse 2]

Little Talk Johnny blew the big score

The gang nailed his feet to a wooden floor

Nuclear Ban never stays in tune

They all know the words but the music is

doomed

[Pre-Chorus]

Lay down your funky weapon, come join us on  
the floor

Making love and music's the only things worth  
fighting for

[Chorus]

We are the new power generation, we want to  
change the world

The only thing that's in our way is you

Your old fashioned music, your old ideas

We're sick and tired of you telling us what to do

Hey now, maybe we can find a good reason  
To send a child off to war  
So what if we're controllin' all the oil  
Is it worth a child dying for? (is it worth it?)  
If long life is what we all live for  
Then long life will come to pass  
Anything is better than the picture of the child  
In a cloud of gas  
And you think you got it bad

"The Sacrifice of Victor" from O(+>

1967 in a bus marked public schools  
Rode me and a group of unsuspecting political  
tools  
Our parents wondered what it was like to have  
another color near  
So they put their babies together to eliminate  
the fear  
We sacrifice yes we did  
Fighting one another, (we sacrifice) (don't say it  
preacher)  
All because of color  
The angel of hate - she taught me how to kick  
her

"Love Sign" from 1-800 New Funk

If you're sick of evil knocking on your door  
Throw up the love sign once and forevermore  
*Two signs of the time*  
If you'd rather make love and have a little fun  
Throw up the love sign everybody and not the  
gun  
*Time is passing, passing the time*

Three seats over there's a lady black  
Entrusted to her care is a little white girl  
And the fact of the matter is  
Before her mama or another kid at school  
Tells her about the fallacy that one race rules  
over the other  
She'd be a much-better-off-left fool (Face the  
music)  
If we never heard about the evils that those  
before us committed  
Then how my dear, tell me now how my dear, tell  
me now how now would we know  
And then the band say

If this is the same avenue my ancestors fought to  
liberate

How come I can't buy a piece of it even if my  
credit's straight?

If all the water's dirty and I wanna lay the pipe,  
my dammy

The river that I drink from, will it be the same as  
your mammy?

"Gold" from The Gold Experience

Everybody wants to sell what's already been  
sold

Everybody wants to tell what's already been told

What's the use of money if you ain't gonna break  
the mold?

Even at the center of fire, there is cold

All that glitters ain't gold

All that glitters ain't gold

"Right the Wrong" from Chaos and Disorder

An Indian woman buried her grandpa in the  
Black Hills

When she was young he used to tell her

That these hills belonged to her still

And even though injustice took them hills away

"One day we'll get 'em back," he said

"And the sun's gonna shine that day

"When we say, right the wrong

Before she laid him down to rest

She heard his voice in the wilderness

Saying "I got six feet of it back

"And now we can right the wrong

"What's My Name" from Crystal Ball

Do you dream in color or do you discriminate?

Do you love others, do you love or do you hate?

Do you worship fire or do you worship a dove?

Do you live a liar or do you live for love?

"Don't Play Me" from The Truth

Don't play me

I'm the wrong color and I play guitar

My only competition is, well, me in the past

If time, time, time existed moving ever so fast

Don't play me

"Animal Kingdom" from The Truth

No member of the animal kingdom nurses past  
maturity

No member of the animal kingdom ever did a  
thing to me

It's why I don't eat red meat or white fish

Don't give me no blue cheese

We're all members of the animal kingdom

Leave your brothers and sisters in the sea

"Family Name" from The Rainbow Children

London, England sometime in the early 1600s  
We have the God given right to run out of our  
colonies

Anyone who does not bow down to our law,  
hear, hear

*Come on, come on keep it moving here, what's  
your name boy?*

Abu Cah

*Well it ain't now, it's Tom Lynch*

"Avalanche" from One Nite Alone...

He was not or never had been in favor  
Of setting our people free  
If it wasn't for the Thirteenth Amendment  
We woulda been born in slavery  
He was not or never had been in favor  
Of letting us vote so you see  
Abraham Lincoln was a racist who said  
"You cannot escape from history"

"Cinnamon Girl" from Musicology

Cinnamon Girl of mixed heritage  
Never knew the meaning of color lines  
9-1-1 turned that all around  
When she got accused of this crime

"Dear Mr. Man" from Musicology

Who said  
That to kill is a sin  
Then started every single war  
That your people been in?

Who said that water  
Is a precious commodity  
Then dropped a big old black oil slick  
In the deep blue sea?

"United States of Division" (B-side to "Cinnamon Girl")

United States of Division  
BLACK (Division)  
WHITE (Division)  
STRAIGHT (Division)  
GAY (Division)  
CHRISTIAN (Division)  
MUSLIM

"2045:Radical Man" from The Slaughterhouse

We claim Miles Davis, not Michaelangelo  
We planted flags in the funk  
You better act like you know  
We don't care what Albert Einstein did  
I'd rather know, rather know  
*What?*  
How to build a pyramid

"Planet Earth" from Planet Earth

Imagine holding Planet Earth  
In the palm of your hand  
With no regard for your place of birth  
Or claim to any land  
The only thing between us now is the truth we  
understand  
If Planet Earth was in the palm of your hand  
Fifty years from now what will they say about us  
here?  
Did we care for the water and the fragile  
atmosphere?  
There are only two kind of folk  
And the difference they make  
The ones that give  
And the ones that take

"Resolution" from Planet Earth

The main problem with war  
Is that nobody ever wins  
The next generation grows up  
And learns how to do it all over again  
No matter who started the argument  
Just matters how each one ends  
How many people really want resolution?

"Colonized Mind" from LOtUSFLOW3R

If you look, your sure going to find  
Throughout mankind's history  
A colonized mind  
The one in power makes law  
Under which the colonized fall  
But without God it's just the blind leading the  
blind

"Dreamer" from LOtUSFLOW3R

I was born, raised on the same plantation  
In the United States of the red, white and blue  
Never knew that I was different  
'Til Dr. King was on a balcony lyin' in a bloody  
pool  
I expected so much more from a lovin', a lovin',  
lovin' society  
A truthful explanation, you know what  
I got another, another conspiracy

"O! Skool Company" from MPLSoUND

Everybody's talking about hard times like it just  
started yesterday  
People I know, they've been struggling at least it  
seems that way  
Fat cats on Wall Street, they got a bailout  
But why somebody else got to wait?  
700 billion but my old neighborhood, ain't  
nothin' changed but the date

"Act of God" from 20Ten

But I got news for you  
Freedom ain't free  
They lock you in a cell if you try to be  
But the ones who say "no," make history  
Call it an Act of God  
*(Act of God)*

"FIXURLIFEUP" from PLECTRUMELECTRUM

Don't worry about what the crowd does  
Just worry about being good at what you love  
Don't make this complicated, you know it's true  
Don't make us put somebody else in for you

"BALTIMORE" from HITNRUN Phase Two

Nobody got in nobody's way  
So I guess you could say it was a good day  
At least a little better than the day in Baltimore  
Does anybody hear us pray  
For Michael Brown or Freddie Gray?  
Peace is more than the absence of war  
Absence of war

Black Muse we gonna make it through  
Surly people that created rhythm and blues  
Rock and roll and jazz  
So you know we're built to last  
It's cool, it's cool, it's cool  
(Black Muse)