please pardon our appearance by Michael Chang

leonie hill
up
up
up

whiteboy in athletic shorts smoking in the gazebo guero
eyes like ivy hair like maple more leg than a bucket of chicken
ninja turtles lunchbox pb&j half-eaten apple
drives in stanley park old money shaughnessy canadian flags flapping
sheepskin rug homemade zhajiangmian
novi high school, novi, mich.
varsity jacket heavy sleeves of calf smells like you she asks where it is
she is not for you i am for you okay
last gasp of summer red cardinals blue jays in my backyard
your head on my chest my heart beating for you
this is our song you say like a threat
you join debate club for me our fingers interlace
stairwell senior prom she sees she cries we keep going
you tell your friends you love chinese food a little joke i guess you still taste good
lazy afternoons in the kitchen no longer an island
the dumplings aren't successful but the meatballs are
i meet the juices running down your throat adam's apple like hard seed
i trace your dimples with my finger
my dreamboat my kurt cobain my love astronaut
because america needs someone to believe in
me ??? unsheathed like a dagger third eye
glowing like three mile island
remembering you in my bunny slippers

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