

## Set 'Em Straight

Eric B. & Rakim

I came to set em straight, and let em know  
Whoever's holdin the best, just let him go  
Cause here's the inside scoop on the fiend  
They wanna know why I'm seldom seen  
Cause who needs the TV screens and magazines  
Or shootin through the city in fly limousines  
There's one thing I don't like, it's the spotlight  
Cause I already got light  
They be like, Yo we had a get together last week  
And we know everyone was there except the Black Sheik  
Because my schedule is tight, I gotta write  
I'm deep in the archives, and keepin em hyped  
It's been a long time, since you heard a strong rhyme  
None of these are weak so when you bite on mine  
We can trace the hits and then name that style  
MC's'll be out of a job for a while  
I repossess your indentification  
So hand in your application  
Put your mic on strike until you're unemployed  
Contract is up and I'm stampin it void  
Your selection ain't that selective  
So I'ma put you in your proper perspective  
On the dancefloor, and doin the SHAKE  
Ready to let em brake, set em straight

Somebody said I set em up and pulled the plug on em  
But instead I let em go on so I could bug on em  
Go 'head and flow, cause I close the show  
Swing a song for the ladies and rhyme real slow  
For instance, once I commence  
The crowd is convinced  
So now you know who to put your money on  
Hurry up, before your money's gone  
Cause I'm the most common denominator  
Orchestrate a rhyme much greater  
I'm like a world almanac, so tell the media  
Givin em information like encyclopedia  
So bring a dictionary, so you can look it up  
So you know what I mean, when I hook it up  
No misconceptions although I complicate  
But this concept'll set em straight  
They even said that I was locked in jail  
So now I guess I'm out on bail?  
The only Island I was on was the Strong one  
And if I did my bid, it'll be a long one  
Cause if I sold weight, I'd be upstate  
In the penile, waitin for a brake  
Cause sellin drugs is for handicaps  
I got too many skills besides bustin rough raps  
If I go to jail, it won't be for sellin ki's  
It'll be for muderin MC's  
The beat'll take over your heart, then I start  
To cut em in half, cause rhymes are razor sharp  
Secure the exits, all MC's remain  
Cause we got a crowd to entertain  
And I know, when I go, I'll flow dangerous  
Brain's'll bust, what you tryin to explain to us?

You got lost, and couldn't go on  
Came up short, so here's one to grow on  
Elevate off a high IQ  
In time, you'll find I'm true  
Cause once I start on a piece of art  
From sun to moon and light to dark I build the Ark  
Now you can float off the rhymes I wrote  
I'm sure that we'll hit shore without a boat  
You could bring a battleship and still get shipwrecked  
Attacked with a torpedo, what did you expect?  
Driftin up the creek, without a beat or a paddle  
Castaway on a raft and stand fragile  
Rescue your crowd, which ain't a hard job  
Me and my knowledge put together, I'm a lifeguard  
Dealin with actual facts it sold out fat  
Here and now, but I go so far back  
To bring you up to date, so we can elevate  
It's no time to wait, or anticipate  
Cause I'm never late, I'm gonna motivate  
So I can let em brake, and set em straight