The Way We Live

"Welcome to hip-hop culture" We stay hot like Tulsa Knowledge Reigns Supreme, followed by a number ONE These rappers they do-run-run Lyrically they flashin two guns with new funds But politically they do-run-run When it's time to build, they chill, gettin nuttin done But they mouth yes they do-run-run

I've, heard, just about all that I can hear We talk, and talk, but this talkin is goin nowhere I've, been, to the summits and conferences And the people man, they'll tell you man Hip-Hop is the way we live

If you're down for this nation, Hip-Hop the nation Three generations, fourth in the waitin Look at what we facin, mainstream penetration Everyone's a biter now, no innovation No syncopation, lost communication Here's what we gotta do to fix the situation First step - know what you creatin Hip-Hop the culture, the consciousness, a new civilization

Everybody, c'mon unite now Turn on the light now, stop all the fight now Time to unite now, a new type of life now No stress no strife, no gun no knife now No board no pipe now, we seein the light now Bein the light now, the future is right now Hip-Hop is like WOW, ready to fight now Sick of the hype now, just about right now

I, hear, uhh, hip-hop is callin me The fact you must see sir, rap is not all of me I use that to reach ya, rappers be borin me Redo the industry with a two dollar royalty What's the agenda, to hip-hop and politics Don't you remember? The violence we stoppin this Kris will defend the, hip-hop populist The solution is simple, raise up yo' consciousness

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KRS-One