

# Tough

Kurtis Blow

I don't want a lot I want just enough  
So why has it got to be so damn TOUGH

Livin' on the uptown side of jive  
Hustlin' a buck to stay alive  
Lookin' for a ten and they give your five  
Well it's tough  
You talk to the boss the boss is gruff  
You ask for a raise and they call your bluff  
You may get some but it's never enough  
Because it's tough

STRONG:Like a magnum force  
ROUGH:Like a new divorce  
MEAN:Like a three-time loser  
BAD:Like an L.A. cruiser  
DOWN:Like a limousine  
BLIND:Like a submarine  
HARD:Like cold concrete  
TOUGH:That's the rhythm of the beat

You hit the street and you look for work  
You don't want to be some welfare jerk  
But I wonder how you get to be Captain Kirk  
It's tough  
Now Kirk has a ship called the Enterprise  
He cuts the aliens down to size  
But I wonder what he'd do with the uptown guys  
They're tough

TOUGH:  
Try to get some cash  
When you're looking for a raise and they give you trash

ROUGH:  
When you got it like that  
And your woman's running 'round with a baseball bat

HARD:  
Try to play it cool when the girl's all know you're an out of work fool

TOUGH:  
How it seems to be,wish I had somebody lookin' out for me

Try to find a lover if you dare  
Even if you do she just won't care  
Well no one ever said that that life is fair  
Because it's tough  
Saw a fine young lady the other day  
I started my rap,I had a lot to say  
But she said she was goin' with a C.P.A.  
Now it's tough

STRONG:Like a superhero  
ROUGH:Like a bank book zero  
MEAN:Like the Oakland Raiders  
BAD:Like the Caped Crusaders

DOWN:Like a homerun ball  
BLIND:Like an umpire's call  
HARD:Like a cruel deceit  
TOUGH:That's the rhythm of the beat

You worked all year to buy a brand new car  
A Coupe de Ville or a Jaguar  
But you didn't make enough for a good cigar  
Because it's tough  
So you went to the bank to try to get a loan  
But the guy behind the desk had a heart os stone  
He said "You don't need a car,use the telephone!"  
It's tough

TOUGH:  
It's a way of life,lost your job  
Your money,but not your wife

ROUGH:  
Gettin' in the black,Uncle Sam's in your pocket  
And your woman's on your back

HARD:  
That's the deal,had to get a loan just to buy a meal

TOUGH:  
That's how it goes,when it's gettin' better,nobody knows

STRONG:Like Chocolate Thunder  
ROUGH:Like Stevie Wonder  
MEAN:Like Brucie The Shark  
BAD:Like the Raider's Ark  
DOWN:Like Sugar's Glove  
BLIND:Like a man in love  
HARD:Like a big defeat  
TOUGH:That's the rhythm of the beat

TOUGH:That's the word,unemployment is all I heard  
ROUGH:When you start your day,watch the finance man tow your car away  
HARD:To hold a job when you've been replaced by a little blue knob  
TOUGH:Like a dollar steak,ain't someone ever gonna give me a break

Tough.