

# Little Brother

Mos Def

'Now listen'

[Mos]

..doin this song for you.

all my little brothers.. out in the street.

strugglin to survive.. keep your eyes on the prize, you know

[Kweli]

Yeah, the revolution will not be televised

Or broadcast live on the net

My man Mos said it's personal.. knamsayin?

It's gotta start from right up in here, you know

[Mos & Kweli]

You can't stop, you know [3x]

You can't stop when we rep

[Kweli]

We rep the ain't-gots

Ain't nobody can't start no party like us, we crush the faint hearts

From Hallsey to St. Mark's, walk in the main blocks

Painted with blood that's still hot, so deep it stain socks

The pain spark frustration, situations lead to hatin

Some deal with drug distribution, others walk the plantation

Some know the code a' the streets, some got a college education

Come down on the weekend, and peep the conversation

[Mos]

Yo

On the corner, units stormed out

Ghetto lookin bombed out

Police waited to roll, for those who walk the wrong route

Shorties goin all out, they got they swords drawn out

Ready to brawl out, gettin fought til they fall out

Black like Morehouse, 40 o'z is tossed out

For brothers that they mourn bout, get wrecked til it's dawn out

Whether they broke or flossed out, honeys pass they draws out

Lookin for a ticket out the poor-house

A jungle out here

Lions keep they claws out, fangs and jaws out

Weak just get forced out

Names is called out, ghetto-fame is sought out

You wanna be the man that they talk bout

I walked out

I had some things on my mind to sort out

I thought bout the wild circumstance we born out

Remember myself at your age, when I was just like you

If that was now, I don't know what I would do

My answer's? closest to me

So what I say to you is goin for me

Son we both still growin indeed

But where you at, I was, and where you been, I left

Utilize my experience to guide your step

Some people get love but don't command respect

It's somethin that you can't ride with a check

Over-rollin your lex or icy links that hang from your neck

If it's real, who need to deal with the special effects?

[Kweli]

Come here, come here, yo  
Lemme drop this on ya, look they gotchu cornered  
The corner of the block is hot, I ain't got to warn ya  
'Cause I see you every day, trapped in every way  
'Shit, I'm a thug, and that's all that I can say'  
Who are you anyway?  
Mary J.? I spend, many nights awake, watchin you while you sleep  
Tryin to figure out how to be the example, 'cause talk is cheap  
As you walk the streets, study cats on the real  
In a convo, just make your point to relax and chill  
[Niggas] wanna destroy each other in a cypher instead a' build  
Be a- man of will, don't be- standin still  
If you- don't plan ahead, then you- plan to fail  
Do ? in a daze when the ways reveal  
Like they funny style but I'm not laughin  
Serious [niggas] makin money while the police is passin  
Can't wait for opportunity to knock, you gotta make it happen  
It ain't about no spectacular ways a' rappin  
Just immaculate ways a' action.. dig?

[Mos sings]

Little Brother  
I know that times is hard  
Keep your mind on guard  
Stay clear of things that are harmin  
You'll get along  
I sing my song  
For little brothers  
Out there in the street  
Strugglin to make ends meet  
Gotta hold the heat  
Strugglin so hard to compete  
Stay clear of things that harm  
Do it for y'all  
Try to stay strong  
Keep movin on [6x]

[shoutin out Little Brothers all over the area, simultaneous singing]