From the basics and warm, weather places Dedicated to the brothers that never made it Cut short, they prime read life between the lines Photographed by rhymes yo it's hard times All across the nation cold points of frustration Created hot joints of illustration Concentrate while stakes are high falling victim to the lie Keep a sharp eye there's a steady supply of hate in the air To them cats who stare the ice grill with the glare But everything is fair in the city the sheisty the shiftee I'n the epitomee of a raw deal now carry a sword and shield And walk with a forcefield for real I overcame the odds And got the hell out of dodge soul survivor of the war And master in charge

Everyday I see the same ol' things But my true and real live nigga keep on risin And it's a shame but business never changes And my crew knows what to do they're soul surviving And if I die...

I watched the whole world from the side of my eye I seen a lot of cats die and evil men lie On the road to riches in pursuit of my wishes It's a close call between friends and snitches On the low the game brought moments of pain Strong emotions plus the hardships of fame No need to live forever just keep some type of cheddar A buttersoft leather to rock in cold weather Times are mad real official like the seal Try to understand what I feel My word to the wise it's where ya heart lies Keep your biz straight far from family ties I'm the illest soldier that represents the culture Dignified bywords like fresh, fly and ultra Champion heroics and passionate poets Flashback to the future let it self focus

Everyday I see the same ol' things But beautiful black sisters keep risin And it's a shame but business never changes And my crew knows what to do they're soul surviving And if I die...

Still in basement for four years arranging Lyrics and beats my first lote engagement It's outstanding the boy wonder's back in the world By popular demanding on top commanding My own destiny go ahead try to test me I been living right so expect no less g Got positive reaction and affirmative action The soul survivor guaranteed satisfaction

Everyday I see the same ol' things But my true and real live people keep on risin And it's a shame but business never changes And my crew knows what to do they're soul surviving

Pete Rock

And if I die...

And if I die before I wake I pray go God my soul to take My crew knows what to do they're soul surviving And if I die before I wake I pray to God my soul to take My crew knows what to do they're soul surviving