

In The Ghetto

Rakim

Ghetto, nobody smiling, ghetto, nobody smiling
Where you're in hell
Nobody smiling, ghetto, nobody smiling, ghetto
Nobody smiling, ghetto

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Planet earth was my place of birth
Born to be the sole controller of the universe
Besides the part of the map I hit first
Any environment I can adapt when it gets worse

The rough gets goin' the goin' gets rough
When I start flowin' the mic might bust
The next state'll shake from the power I generate
People in Cali used to think it was earthquakes

'Cause times is hard on the boulevard
So I bogard and never get scarred I'm God
But it seems like I'm locked in hell
Lookin' over the edge but the R never fell

Or tripped or slipped 'cause my Nikes got grip
I stand on my own two feet and come equipped
Any stage I'm seen on the mic I fiend on
I stand alone and need nothin' to lean on

Goin' for self with a long way to go
So much to say but I still flow slow
I come correct and I won't look back
'Cause it ain't where you from it's where you at

Even the
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I learn to relax in my room and escape from New York
Came through the womb of the world as a thought
Thinkin' how hard it was to be born
Me being cream with no physical form

Millions of cells with one destination
To reach the best part that's life's creation
Nine months later a job well done
Make way 'cause here I come

Since I made it this far can't stop now
There's a will and a way and I got the know how
To be all there is to be and more
To see all there is to see before

I'm called to go back to the essence

It's a lot to learn so I studied my lessons
I thought the ghetto was the worst that could happen to me
I'm glad I listened when my father was rapping to me

'Cause back in the days they lived in caves
Exiled from the original man and strayed away
Now that's what I call hard times
I'd rather be here to exercise the mind

Then I take a thought around the world twice
From knowledge the form back to knowledge precise
Across the desert that's hot as the Arabian
But they couldn't cave me in 'cause I'm the Asian

Reaching for the city of Mecca visit Medina
Visions of Nefertiti then I seen her
Mind keeps travelin' I'll be back after I
Stop and think about the brothers and sisters in Africa

Return the thought through the eye of a needle
For miles I fought and I just fought the people
Under the darks skies on a dark side
Not only there but right here's an apartheid

So now is the time for us to react
Take a trip through the mind and when you get back
Understand your third eye seen all of that
It ain't where you from it's where you at

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No more props I want property in every burrough
Nobody's stoppin' me because I'm thorough
Rhymes I make give me real estate for me to own
Where ever I bless a microphone

Double O seven is back and relaxin'
On point and reactin' and ready for action
I'm so low key that you might not see me
Incognito and takin' it easy
Ghetto

Quiet is kept on a hush hush
In front of a crowd I get loud as a bum rush
But calm keep a low pro and play the background
Hoping the wack rappers put the mic back down

So rip it break it in half go ahead and slam it
'Cause when it's time to build I'm a mechanic
I'm bondin' and mendin' attachin' and blandin'
So many solos there is no ending

People in my neighborhood they know I'm good
From London to Hollywood where ever I stood
Footprints remain on stage ever since
Sidewalks and streets I leave fossils and dents

When I had sex I left my name on necks
My trademark was left throughout the projects
I used to get rich when I played C-Lo
When I rolled 4, 5, 6 they go we know

So I collect my cash then slide
I got my back my gun's on my side
It shouldn't have to be like that
I guess it ain't where you from it's where you at

Even the
Ghetto, nobody smiling, ghetto, nobody smiling
I'm from the, ghetto
Where you're in hell
Word up, peace
Nobody smiling, ghetto, nobody smiling
Ghetto, nobody smiling

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