"Right now we'd like to bring on a young man who believes in doing things his own way
And based on the way he kinda get next to all of the folks who've seen him work
His way has gotta be pretty hip, so let's lay some noise"

"They send our people to fight for this so-called democracy
But when they get back down to the South et cetera, et cetera
Shit is worse than ever
There is something very sick about that
Power to the people! "

2000 and beyond

2000 and beyond 2000 and beyond 2000 and beyond

Tricks and hoes, bitches and stripper poles Shake it for dollar signs, let me see from behind The ghetto's a fairy tale, pimps and jezebels Dealers with chrome rims with product for you to sell Chemistry in the kitchen, alleys with rubbers in it Tires go round and round, windows heavy tinted Kush is scented inside Pull me over, now they talking bout a canine ("Code 6") Black man face down, damn Charge it to the game Bums warm they weary souls over open flames Junkie can't find God, watch him find his vein Preacher walk right by like he ain't seen a thang Pass the collection plate Niggas thought shit was gon' change on election day Healthcare, H1N1 nasal spray Got me scared to hit the block Wear my flag as a mask, tote a Glock

In 2000 and beyond In 2000 and beyond In 2000 and beyond

"To tell you the truth, I'm not sure I even want any of this dirty money"

"Well, I'll tell you what Reverend

We'll find something to do with your share"

"No, no-no-no-no, I'll take the money
I'm sure the Lord will find another way for me to do my penance"

Poor folk scrape dollars, spend the last
Of they income tax on Impalas with the SS
Church give awards, who the best dressed?
Pastor drive a Bentley, got me thinking I was less
blessed
Cause I let a middle man
He was capping what I'm asking, I don't understand

How you fit that many rings on a helping hand? Tired of deception

But I pay his kid's tuition cause I'm tryna get to Heaven

Ain't it crazy? Scared to have a baby
How can I protect it from the same streets that made

Concrete gladiator, bloodshed overflow
Real life, some places Russell Crowe would never go
Pimp tight flossing, look at what it cost me
Peace of mind, no sleep, late night tossing and turning
Waiting on the end, pray to God, forgive me for my sins

In 2000 and beyond In 2000 and beyond In 2000 and beyond

And you remember that shit"

"You know how I survive?
Cause I don't think about the world, that shit don't exist to me
I don't give a fuck about anything or anyone in it
Because the minute I do, I'm a dead man out here

As a child I was cold with a chip on my shoulders Grandma told me be careful cause there's sharks in the water

They will kill you, let the Good Lord steer you Don't worry bout the government, cause baby they don't feel you

Martin Luther King had a dream, we was right there I wonder what he saw when he up and had nightmares Quite scared, all the work he had done Couldn't stop what we've become

In 2000 and beyond In 2000 and beyond

"Ain't nothing I say gon' get me out of this But things were getting bad for me, and I had to do what I had to do to s-, to survive"