

## Life Sentence

J. Cole

Realest shit I wrote (Doin' life)  
Realest shit I wrote (We doin' life)  
Realest shit I wrote  
This be the realest shit I wrote  
Realest shit I wrote  
Realest shit I wrote  
Be the realest shit I wrote (Doin' life), yeah

For all my niggas doin' life with they day one  
Who held it down when the credit wasn't A1?  
You thankin' God, you was lookin' for a great one  
He took a rib out your chest and He made one  
To be a man and hold it down, take a brave one  
When the hoes come around and you crave somethin'  
My flow switch, slow the pace, this the Ma\$e one  
I'm not a player but I'm crushin' like the late Pun  
Let's take one, go

The definition of rider  
The one by my side when I had not a dollar to my name  
Before a crowd would holler for Jermaine, you saw potential  
Waitin' on you to hit my line was suspenseful  
Back when we was kids, this was simple  
Boy likes girl, girl got a man  
Boy stays in lane, maybe provides a friend  
Knowin' by the end buddy gon' fumble  
Was far from the toughest around, buddy gon' rumble  
When necessary, when niggas started talkin' reckless  
Did he not step to them niggas with chest poked out?  
Over you, that 'Ville come out, no doubt  
We fell in love, but my dreams you ain't know 'bout  
You knew I rap, but, you ain't know 'bout both of my goals  
Wanna take over the globe through a mic'  
And one day me and you be doin' life

All types of games are being played, how's it goin' down? (Yeah)  
It's on 'til it's gone and I gotta know now (Yeah)  
Is you with me or what? A nigga really think he in love (Uh-huh)  
I put this ring on you forever, what's up?  
All types of games are being played, how's it goin' down? (Yeah)  
It's on 'til it's gone and I gotta know now (Yeah)  
Is you with me or what? A nigga really think he in love (Uh-huh)  
I put this ring on you forever, what's up? (We doin' life)

Uh, the puppy love had grown and now it's full blown  
Since childhood, I vowed to have a good home  
White picket fence with wife cookin'  
Yellow rice for a couple kids that's nice lookin'  
And I promise to treat her right  
Unlike what I had seen in my life as examples, marriages in shambles  
And I can tell I found a real one  
Smart, loyal, and real pretty, we can build somethin'  
But first, I got work to do  
So when I'm spendin' nights locked in on that mic', please, don't take it personal  
My skills is growin', the flows more versatile  
My name's ringin' and on the evenin', I heard the news

I'm gettin' a deal, the first one I called was you  
Even though we been off-and-on a few years  
And through tears on rainy nights that you would wipe  
I always knew that we'd be doin' life

All types of games are being played, how's it goin' down? (Yeah)  
It's on 'til it's gone and I gots to know now (Yeah)  
Is you with me or what? A nigga really think he in love (Uh-huh)  
I put this ring on you forever, what's up?  
All types of games are being played, how's it goin' down? (Yeah)  
It's on 'til it's gone and I gots to know now (Yeah)  
Is you with me or what? A nigga really think he in love (Uh-huh)  
I put this ring on you forever, what's up? (We doin' life)

The temptation of other lovers is a hard one  
To overcome when you're young and your star's done  
A line that women that wouldn't give you time is callin' you fine  
Lust creeps all through your mind, I'm tryin' my hardest  
To remember why I'm an artist  
Is it for bitches and the riches?  
You all suspicious, and you should be  
I'm doin' dirt, but it's not as much as I could be  
That make me feel better  
I'm driftin' away slowly, that make you feel bitter  
The Devil on my shoulder tellin' me, "Quit her"  
Angel on the opposite side sayin, "Stick with her"  
God tellin' me pick whichever is in my heart  
Looked inside myself to a place beyond thought  
And found out who I want to be  
Slowly, but surely he cut off his hoes  
If you gon' do it, do it right  
Put ring on your finger, now, me and you is doin' life

All types of games are being played, how's it goin' down? (Yeah)  
It's on 'til it's gone and I gots to know now (Yeah)  
Is you with me or what? A nigga really think he in love (Uh-huh)  
I put this ring on you forever, what's up?  
All types of games are being played, how's it goin' down? (Yeah)  
It's on 'til it's gone and I gots to know now (Yeah)  
Is you with me or what? A nigga really think he in love (Uh-huh)  
I put this ring on you forever, what's up? (We doin' life)

I done wrote a lot of songs, but this is gotta be my realest one  
Shoutout to anybody that really know what it's like to do life with somebody  
Through the ups, the downs, the goods, the bads, through thick and thin  
In a time where they make it so easy to just give up  
Know what I mean?