Why I Say No

Jay Som

Back when I was young
I thought it was clever
To stand up like my mama
My head up like I mean it

And if I cross my legs
Will I be like the others?
And if I stand up straight
Will I climb, climb?
To the top
Where I'm not

That's why I say no

I guess I'm just insane
Yeah I'm told I've got no brain
If I smile, I'll be perfect
Then I'll die with purpose
I'll force my smile
I'll fix my hair
Clean up my house
Shut up right now
I'll think about the good I've done
Say "yes" and breathe when I am done

And if I cross my legs
Will I be like the others?
And if I stand up straight
Will I climb, climb?
To the top
Where I'm not
To the top
Where I'm not