

# Can I Live

Jay-Z

Yeah, hah, yeah Roc-A-Fella  
We invite you to, somethin epic y'all know?  
Where we hustle out of a sense of hopelessness  
Sort of a desperation  
Through that desperation, we 'come addicted  
Sorta like the fiends we accustomed to servin  
But we feel we have nothin to lose  
So we offer you, well, we offer our lives,  
What do you bring to the table?

While I'm watchin every nigga watchin me closely  
My shit is butter for the bread they wanna toast me  
I keep my head, both of them where they supposed to be  
Hoes'll get you sidetracked then clapped from close feet  
I don't sleep, I'm tired, I feel wired like codeine, these days  
A brother gotta admire me from four fiends away  
My pain wish it was quick to see, from sellin 'caine  
Til brains was fried to a fricaille, can't lie  
At the time it never bothered me, at the bar  
Gettin my thug on properly, my squad and me  
Lack of respect for authority, laughin hard  
Happy to be escapin poverty, however brief  
I know this game got valleys and peaks, expectation  
For dips, for precipitation we stack chips, hardly  
The youth I used to be, soon to see a mill' in  
No more, Big Willie my game has grown prefer you call me William  
Illin for revenues, Rayful Edmonds like  
Channel 7 news, round seven jewels, hand gettin the mic  
Forgettin all I ever knew, convenient amnesia  
I suggest you call my lawyer, I know the procedure  
Lock my body can't trap my mind, easily  
Explain why we adapt to crime  
I'd rather die enormous than live dormant that's how we on it  
Live at the main event, I bet a trip to Maui on it  
Presidential suites my residential for the weekend  
Confidentially speakin in codes since I sense you peekin  
The NSX rental, don't be fooled my game is mental  
We both ride our town dog, what you tryin to get into?  
Viva, Las Vegas, see ya, later at the crap tables  
Meet me by the one that starts a G up  
This way no fraud Willie's present gambling they re-up  
And we can have a pleasant time, sippin margaritas  
Ge-ge-geyeahhh, can I live?  
Can I live?

My mind is infested, with sick thoughts that circle  
Like a Lexus, if driven wrong it's sure to hurt you  
Dual level like duplexes, in unity, my crew and me  
Commit atrocities like we got immunity  
You guessed it, manifest it intangible goods  
Platinum Rolexed it, we don't lease  
We buy the whole car, as you should  
My confederation, dead a nation, EXPLODE  
On detonation, overload the mind of a said patient  
When it boils to steam, it comes to it  
We all fiends gotta do it, even righteous minds go through this  
True this, the streets school us to spend our money foolish

Bond with jewelers and, watch for intruders  
I stepped it up another level, meditated like a buddhist  
Recruited lieutenants with ludicrous, dreams of  
Gettin cream let's do this, it gets te-di-ous  
So I keep one eye open like, C-B-S, ya see me  
Stressed right? Can I live?  
Can I live?  
Can I live?  
Can I live?  
Ha-hah, Roc-A-Fella y'all