

# Let Me Be Me

Kendrick Lamar

Everybody just clap your hands if you're real  
Middle finger up, give a fuck how they feel  
Be yourself, just show me you're real  
Middle fingers up

Just let me be me, hmm  
That's the only way I know  
Just let me be me, hmm  
That's the only way I know  
(That's the only way I know how to hold it down  
That's-that's the only way I know how to hold it down)

Uh, I just wanna be me  
No disrespect, but motherfuck you  
My education stopped at a high school degree  
but I can outsmart any high IQ  
Draped in some fly shit, call me Jeff Goldblum  
Cold, my style making my nose run  
Oh, I stare at the mirror, then realize  
that real lies, within me  
Some say I'm crazy cause I think like I need a shrink  
Ask too many questions about the stars and Earth shit  
Rather be in the studio than out buying drinks  
So if I'm not clubbing, don't think I'm on some jerk shit  
And California on that jerk shit  
But I'd just rather two-step like my first steps  
Jill Scott in my iPod as my head rests, yes

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And yeah I know I'm from Compton, Cali'  
But I don't lace up Chucks or rock tan khakis  
And skinny jeans ain't quite the lick  
I probably would wear 'em but my dick don't fit  
Ha-ha-ha, I like to joke, got a sense of humor?  
Stale face, play me short like an Oompa-Loompa  
You ain't gotta screw up your face in front of the kids  
Won't you lighten up like Michael did?  
I grew up with killers man, people who killed man  
But my character never could be like them man  
And they respect that, say that I'm real man  
Not a fake person, that's the Sims man  
Live my life through some film man?  
I ain't acting out shit, I be packing out shows  
cause they know they'll know Kendrick fo' sho', and oh

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Almost lost my life to the industry  
Had to look through a photo book to remember me  
These label heads ain't nothing but bullshit  
Have you with professional killers, chasing hits  
Lying to yourself all over an image  
Making records they want, that was wrecking my brilliance  
My mama said, boy that don't sound like you  
I said, this is the sound though, my only excuse  
Quite frankly, dusted off my shoes with my hankie  
and kicked it like he skate, make these motherfuckers hate me  
The reason why they hate, cause these motherfuckers ain't me  
And you can underrate me, but I know what I'm worth  
A diamond in God's dirt, a diamond in winter  
Watching Simpsons and eating some cereal for dinner  
See I give you my life to mix it up in a blender  
to make sure that you feel it

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Kendrick Lamar, what are you trying to say?  
What are you trying to accomplish Kendrick Lamar?  
Kendrick Lamar, what are you trying to say?  
What are you trying to accomplish Kendrick Lamar?  
Is this really you? Is this who you are?  
What are you trying to say?  
What are you trying to accomplish Kendrick Lamar?  
Who are you?  
What are you trying to accomplish Kendrick Lamar?  
Kendrick Lamar, what are you trying to say?  
What are you trying to accomplish Kendrick Lamar?

I think that I finally reached the pinnacle  
of finding myself as an individual  
The world is so typical  
I just wanna be higher than that  
I used to want to be the messiah of rap  
Infatuated with becoming a relevant star  
Trying to say goodbye to the glamorous chains and cars  
that I never had, but wrote it in my raps to make you mad  
Vanity, they say that it can damage me  
So do I really want it?  
If I didn't, I guess I'm a cool cocaine connect  
That means I'll be fronting, hmm  
Cooking in a laboratory, hoping I can tell a story  
that the whole world can feel, like the ones that came before me  
Knowing that I'm misunderstood  
So I gotta get my point across like a snitch would  
And I would never walk in the shadow that never was really there  
or try to fill the shoes of an invisible pair  
And Dame said he proud of my newfound honesty  
and all I could say is, will the radio care?  
Yeah, or should I say no?  
Or should I just stop and come with a whole new approach?  
You heard my Hip Hop when I was sixteen years old  
Well that was me then, now I'm an adult  
Twenty-two like the smallest of guns that you know, most determined  
but with the smallest of funds to show, but I'm not worried

My talent should take me places I've never been  
The world should turn soon as my record spin  
I wanna be the highest, on top of all the bullshit  
The negative you bring, the stress, the violence  
The capital punishment, the loud police sirens  
Too focussed, one word, righteous  
And this is Kendrick Lamar  
and soon y'all know cloud nine y'all  
And that means I wanna be the highest  
Too focussed, one word (righteous)  
Mm, yeah  
That means I wanna be the highest  
Too focussed, one word

Too focussed, too focussed, one word  
Too focussed, too focussed, one word  
Too focussed, too focussed, one word  
Too focussed, one word  
Too focussed, too focussed, one word