

# Time For Us To Defend Ourselves

MC Shan

Tales from the rhymeside, fact or fiction?  
I look at justice as pain infliction  
Sit back, relax while I bust this  
There's a big loophole in justice  
Law enforcement to serve and protect  
But in my neighborhood they break your neck  
Police are ruthless-minded, wicked and villanous  
But not just I see you're killin us  
What about the parents of the kid y'all killin?  
Better yet that's blood you're spillin  
Not doin anything wrong, so catch me  
Sellin dope records? Boy, snatch me  
Sunny days, my dark clouds lifted  
You fail to understand that I'm poetically gifted  
Knowledge ain't nothin but a book on your shelf  
With justice in mind think deep to yourself

(If the government has refused to defend the negro)  
(The descendants of slaves)  
(It's time for us to do whatever is necessary to defend ourselves)  
(But you're advocating violence?)  
(Time for us to do whatever is necessary to defend ourselves)  
(If the government has refused to defend the negro)  
(Time) (Time for us to) (defend ourselves)

Contra a code for police in the projects  
Ready to fly that head like an object  
'Shan, you're makin records, why you wanna stay there?'  
That's where I was raised, and my son's gonna play there  
Let me tell you what justice did  
For a close friend of mine named Rich Kid  
They ran a worn-out line that he snuffed em  
Then he beat em down he and cuffed him  
A gun and a badge gives a feeling of toughness  
After subdued they continue with roughness  
According to the laws of the land we're defenseless  
Thinkin that their jobs are beatin you senseless  
Takin the names of fairytale props  
There's one silly sucker called Robo Cop  
The media skipped right past it  
Robo Cop just put Rich in his casket  
The bottom line: he wasn't under arrest  
He needed ambulatory assistance for pains in his chest  
If not for justice he would be in good health  
My he rest in peace and think deep to yourself

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We all live with police brutality  
They say it's false - no, it's reality

Not just a storyboard cause I live it  
All I gotta say is somethin must be done with it  
See, the cops are sort of deranged  
Think every fly car means drug change  
They pull me over for a routine, check me  
What he has in mind is to disrespect me  
"Where'd you get the money for a fancy car?"  
Got you sucker, what you know about rap, huh?  
I'm just a young man tryin to make it  
Remember the name and don't ever mistake it  
All you could say was when I passed by  
Is, "That's M.C. Shan, don't he look fly?"  
Although you thought that civil rights died  
You need to wake up and see it from the brightside

(2x)

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