

Writers

Nas

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Writin' my name in graffiti
Yes indeedy, I wrote graffiti
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Yes indeedy, I wrote graffiti
I'm hard to read like graffiti

Here's my Galactican citizenship card
Interplanetary mission, I've been discharged to hit y'all
No ancillary staff will assist me
I'm about to show you what that writer's list be
See, I'm a writer in rap form
But these are writers that bomb trains and subway platforms
Courageous, bravest, street creators
They synonymous with DJs, rappers, and breakers
Arms folded, jail poses, ill portraits
Foster kids mixed in with the ill-fortuned
Fat laces, back in the day shit, calligraphers
Taggin' they names, puttin' they signatures in places
Courtyards, sports bars, landmarks, tan Clarks
Jams in the park, they doing art
Big bubble letters all over the city
I see it up in high places, wonder how they did it
Admit it, I always wished that I could do the same
But now the mic is a marker, I'm taggin' up names

Sometimes at night, I would walk with a pen, with a marker, or even some chalk

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Henry Chalfant made Style Wars

A young Kay Slay tag was Dez, go check it out, y'all
Zephyr got a Z sprayed on his back
Sleep by the train tracks in Wildstyle, straight outlaws
Zorro is Lee Quinones
Shout to Saint, Blade, Ink, Seen Cave, Crash, and Topaz
Shoutin' out Taki 183

Cornbread straight out of Philly, Phase 2 out of NYC

The mic is a marker, I'm taggin' more names
Quick and Fuzz, and Cool Sphere out of Queens
Case 2, Easy, Cap, Ghost, Germs

If you into art you should be concerned
These are some of the kings of the graff'
And there's some iconic queens I should add
Claw, Lady Pink goes back

And Mad C, Germany's on the map

On the west, Slick, Dream, Chaka, and Hex

And international writers I can't forget

So let's salute the highly gifted Krylon mystics

This is homage to the ghetto hieroglyphics

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Shout out to TK, Cost and Revs, Bomb 5, Peek, Reese, V.E., Jesus saves
2 Ills, Doze, PJ, Chino, Coco 144, Billy, Vinny, Flashbacks
J.A., Xtc Crew, it's on you, what you gonna do?
Baby 168, 1-Up, Can 2, Bates, Cal First, we get it straight
Can Control, Futura, Estro, On The Run
Rockin' it, suckers, Eli, Old Queens Boys, Mad Style Kings
Most Talked About, Mob Rules, For the Rep, Can't Be Stopped
For the Rush, Dame, 3D style of graff'

When the cops came, they ran away, then returned
Keith Haring Crack is Whack just burns into my mind
It's called vandalism, like a crime
They had intuition 'cause gettin' pitched was a given
Not new to the system, when it's in you, it's like a religion
Fade was Fab 5 Freddy, oh, did I mention?
Crack, Cent, Giz, and Poem
Sitting on the throne, it's Merc, Gnome
And Skeem, Is the Wiz, and Shame
Trap, Invoke in Harlem's Hall of Fame
Ice, Itch most famous for freight trains
The mic is a marker, I'm taggin' up names
Dondi, Sir, Running Man, Wayne, Echo and Totem
Tame One, Ace One, Min One
Samo, that's Basquiat, done
Big shout out to whole Tats crew gang, hit Scrap Yard to rack up some new paint
Made You Look another legendary crew
How ironic I made a song with that name in '02
Sane, Smith, two brothers, one passed
FX crew, Idea and Stash
Risk, R-I-suck, Cope, Revolt, Tracy 168
Doc, TC5 crew, Part, Shy 147, it don't stop
And we all send blessings to these two, to Lou 167 and Rule
So let's salute the highly gifted Krylon mystics
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To all the writers out there that's just gettin' started
Just gettin' ya name out there, keep bombin'