

# Beautiful

Talib Kweli

"I was diagnosed with leukemia, May 2006, right before my 15th birthday  
It made me stronger, and made me who I am today"

"In May of 2010, at age 22, I was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma"

"At 42, I was diagnosed with breast cancer in March of 2010"

"I am a musician, this is the first time I've been in a studio without my horn"

Last year I was diagnosed with colon cancer, but, it's in remission

Next year, my 75th birthday, I want to be here with my horn"

No matter what the obstacle is, we fight through it  
If surviving's only half the battle, we won't lose it  
So have faith that better days are on the way  
I lend my hand to you, whenever you need me I'll stay  
I understand sometimes the world is type cloudy  
But like a plane with so much to gain, we fly out it  
Determination, dedication till the end  
I'm there every step of the way until we win  
cause I believe in prayer in God Almighty  
Get them burdens off your shoulders, send them to the highest  
Yeah, we can beat it, overcome the lows  
Being positive is key, you believe and it shows  
I spread awareness, be mindful of your health  
Be here for one another so you never by yourself  
One step at a time, one time for the cause  
I rap it for the world, I rap it for us all

Don't run away from who you are  
Life's beautiful, beautiful, beautiful (life is beautiful)  
Pick yourself back on up  
Life's beautiful, beautiful, beautiful (life is beautiful)

This the highway of life, we stay 'driven'  
Then at some point, you arrive at a decision  
We flying high, we weather any condition  
We doing more than surviving because we living  
The music feel good, yes sir it'll satisfy you  
like a meal would, real good when it's going down  
It's the flavor that you savor when you wait  
It tastes great, compliments to the chef, he got taste  
Clean your plate, play the music in front of a glass of water  
Take a stale picture, see the crystals forming  
The horns make me feel victorious, the keys make me feel glorious  
The drums make me feel like a warrior  
The track feel 'BIG', Notorious  
Do it for the people feeling trapped in the corridor  
Nobody know what you're going through in a day  
But don't let yesterday ruin today, and they say

Uh, yo, they say it's all for the money, but I don't want to believe it  
I'm a man of my word, so whatever you been hearing is the truth  
Flatline, polygraph, that's me  
We could all use a 'break', spare of Apache  
Catch me crossing items off my bucket list  
cause life is good as you want it to get  
I paint a different portrait with any color I find  
The canvas is the world, and the brush is my mind

I don't mind stepping out my comfort zone  
I think the greatest fear is the one of the unknown  
But if you afraid of living and you afraid of death  
Then I'm afraid you'll never take a step to the left  
or the right direction, tonight's confession  
I used to be scared of my own reflection  
and what would really happen if I fought that vision  
But the matter all along, if it's not good, it's gone

Life is beautiful  
Don't run away from who you are, no

"The journey to recovery has been long and full of challenges and uncertainties  
But today I'm healthy and stronger than ever  
Life is beautiful"