

## **Black Star**

### **"K.O.S."**

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[talib kweli]

So many emcees focusin on black people  
extermination  
We keep it balanced with that knowledge of self,  
determination  
It's hot, we be blowin the spots, with conversations  
C'mon let's smooth it out like soul sensation

We in the house like japanese in japan, or koreans in  
korea  
Head to philly and free mumia with the kujichagulia  
true  
Singin is swingin and writin is fightin, but what  
They writin got us clashin like titans it's not excitin  
No question, bein a black man is demandin  
The fire's in my eyes and the flames need fannin (3x)

With that what? (knowledge of self) determination  
\*repeat 4x\*

[singer]

Things i say and do, may not come quite through  
My words may not convey just what i'm feelin

[talib kweli]

Yes yes come on, yes yes  
Knowledge of self is like life after death  
With that you never worry about your last breath  
Death comes, that's how i'm livin, it's the next days  
The flesh goes underground, the book of life, flip the  
page  
Yo they askin me how old, we livin the same age  
I feel the rage of a million niggaz locked inside a cage  
At exactly which point do you start to realize  
That life without knowledge is, death in disguise?  
That's why, knowledge of self is like life after death  
Apply it, to your life, let destiny manifest  
Different day, same confusion, we're gonna take this  
Hip-hop shit and keep it movin, she'd a little light  
Now y'all bloomin like a flower with the power of the  
evident  
Voices and drums original instruments

In the flesh presently presentin my representation

With that what? (knowledge of self) determination

\*repeat 6x\*

- - - - these two parts overlap - - - -

Things i say and do, may not come quite through

My words may not convey just what i'm feelin

\*repeat 2x\*

[talib kweli]

The most important time in history is, now, the present

So count your blessings cause time can't define the  
essence

But you stressin over time and you follow the roman  
calendar

These people enter cona like gattaca, you can bet

They tryin to lock you down like attica, the african  
diaspora

Represents strength in numbers, a giant can't slumber  
forever

I know you gotta get that cheddar whatever

Aiyyo i heard you twice the first time money, get it  
together

You must be history, you repeatin yourself out of the  
pages

You keepin yourself depleatin your spiritual wealth  
That quick cash'll get your ass quick fast in houses of  
detention

Inner-city concentration camps where no one pays  
attention

Or mentions the ascension of death, til nothing's left

The young, gifted and black are sprung addicted to  
crack

All my people where y'all at cause, y'all ain't here

And your hero's using your mind as a canvas to paint  
fear

With, broad brush strokes and tales of incarceration

You get out of jail with that knowledge of self  
determination

Stand in ovation, cause you put the hue in human

Cause and effect, effect everything you do

And that's why i got love in the face of hate

Hands steady so the lines in the mental illustration is  
straight

The thought you had don't even contemplate

Infinite like figure eight there's no escape..

From that what? (knowledge of self) determination

\*repeat 4x\*

Things i say and do, may not come quite through

My words may not convey just what i'm feelin  
\*repeat 2x\*

..

Things i say and do, may not come quite through  
My words may not convey just what i'm feelin  
\*repeat 2x\*

What i'm feelin, what i'm feelin, ooooh, what i'm  
feelin...

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