

## Brother Ali

### "Gather Round"

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[Verse 1: Brother Ali]

Ain't no stopping the calling I'm a warrior scholar  
With the pad and the pen or with the sword and the  
chopper  
Look at how far I got if you lost I could guide you  
In between two extremes like Safa and Marwa

In the desert like Bedouins in search of water  
Except we're thirsting for power up in this urban drama  
Every day our sons and daughters are led to the  
slaughter  
Indoctrinated by a complacent social order

Decapitated they're trying to cut our jugular vein  
That's the sacred lifeline from heart to the brain  
Make us blind to mankind's suffering pain  
Ugliness worldwide that's done in our name

So the only thing we're seeing is what we can gain  
Precious blood shed in vain and nothing is changed  
Drugged up in daze in a comfortable maze  
Upscale slaves in luxury cages

[Hook: Brother Ali]

But the weak keep crying and the innocent dying  
And these are the times when the real freedom  
fighters gather 'round

I said the cities catch fire and the flames grow higher  
And the poor and the pious get inspired and decide to  
gather  
'Round

When the times get dire and the mighty are liars  
And the righteous fighting for their life get organized  
and gather  
'Round

When the prophets are silenced and the tyrants are  
giants  
And David sets his sights on Goliath and we finally

gather  
'Round

[Verse 2: Brother Ali]

Hostile environment locked in a conflict  
Wandering lost in an impossible climate  
Boxed in confinement democracy hostage  
Bound for the towers monsters in the cockpit

Following blind unconscious accomplice  
Judged by time indicted for our silence  
Couple years ago I made a statement  
Can't figure a single Goddamn way to change it

As of late I made adjustments to my language  
Numbers are the only thing the people gain strength in  
If we're going to change we got to step up our relations  
Got to see our own selves in each other's faces

Share each other's spaces give each other room  
And hear each other's pain bare witness to the truth  
And the ground gets holy when the ground is stood  
And the goods may odd but the odds are good

[Hook]

[Verse 3:]

"That is why I challenge you now to stand together.  
Because together we've got  
Power and we can make decisions."

[Amir Sulaiman:]

Justice...  
Is somewhere in between reading sad poems and 40  
ounces of gasoline crashing  
Through windows

Justice...  
Is between plans and action  
Between writing letters to congressmen and clapping a  
captain  
Between raising legal defense funds and putting a gun  
on the bailiff and taking the  
Judge captive  
It is between prayer and fasting  
Between burning and blasting

Freedom...  
Is between the mind and the soul

It is between the lock and load

Between the zeal of the young and the patience of the  
old  
Freedom...  
Is between the finger and the trigger  
It is between the page and the pen  
Between the grenade and the pin  
Between righteous anger and keeping one in the  
chamber

So I say down with Goliath  
I say down with Goliath

But we must learn, know, write, read  
We must kick, bite, yell, scream  
We must pray, fast, live, dream, fight, kill and die  
Free

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