

## Inner City

### "The Illest Brother"

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Chorus:

Gotta be the illest brother to claim respect  
It takes the illest brother just to get respect  
Got to be the illest brother when it's time to get wreck  
Got to be the illest brother when I get my mic check

I'm one of the illest brothers known to man  
but if you don't understand, see I'm a grown man  
And I stand 5'8" and 3 quarters  
giving orders to my squadron cuz I'm like the sergeant  
or general but let me keep this minimal  
I used to hang with kids who like to live trife with a knife  
Cutting kids for fun and pulling out much guns  
and like riflery champs fellas start to get real amped  
Dead bodies lay stamped to the pavement so I gave it  
some thought  
remembering the brothers who are gone now  
I will make a strong vow to make things right  
ignite the mic, get hype and all that  
Suckers try to menace but they always fall  
flat to the ground as I astound come around  
I'll put you down about the brothers who think they're  
the boss  
think they're getting large but in the end they pay the  
cost  
Of their lives and that ain't the way to go out  
even take their boys with 'em cause they know their  
boys will go out  
But when it comes to facing some time  
they're like crying like weeping, wanna call mom Dukes  
But mom Dukes is fed, fed up with the shit you did  
she knows that you shot and she knows that you  
cripples kids  
But who's to judge when you're trying to survive  
the one who moves first might be the one to stay alive  
So when you think you're hard and dominating the set  
just remember the illest brother claims respect!

Like I said I'm an ill kid, so never dare test me  
they wanna arrest me cuz i'm causing a frenzy  
Fake gangsters come and fake gangsters go

real gangsters chill cuz real gangsters know  
That quietly you stalk your prey on the down low  
cuz too much talk will get you beef on the street  
And brothers in the city have to live this way  
it may cause dismay but Imma' tell it anyway  
Yo guns are easy to get and like a puppet  
some young kid is gonna be the subject of internal  
oppression  
An example of hard times  
cuz to make it out the trap in your mind it's a hard climb  
But even if you change and come right and exact  
there's another brother scheming so just watch your  
back  
I know a brother who thought he had it all  
but little did he know he was bound for a down fall  
He'd pick up the heater and go stick somebody  
he wouldn't give a damn if he killed somebody  
Cuz if somebody would get in the way of him getting  
loot  
there'd be no hesitation he'd just shoot  
It's like The Good, The Bad and The Ugly  
except it's reality and you don't see it on TV  
Brothers keep dying in the streets cuz the streets are  
designed  
to keep you from having peace of mind  
I know an old man, he's got a rifle to stifle  
any young punk, he hides it under his bunk  
And I know a kid who's been to jail  
and he told me that the system had failed him  
So now he's out the joint and he's like flippin' on kids  
and the people in his neighborhood are flippin' their  
wigs  
But you gotta check the move cuz there's a reason  
a method to the madness and you know what I'm  
meaning  
Cuz rather than being the herb, vic, or chump  
you can be just like my man cold holding the pump  
But living like that you take a chance with your life  
but some things in life, sometimes will make you  
uptight  
I'm like an avalanche of knowledge pounding down all  
fools  
all fakes, all snakes  
and ones who try to break the rules and regulations  
Stipulations made by the GangStarr  
you try to flex muscle but you know you can't hang ha  
You're making me vexed but yeah you can go next  
just remember the illest brother claims respect

Chorus repeat

Yo money don't front you know you blew your chance  
and now it's my turn so Imma' take command  
Cuz I'm like the one who's got all the juice  
I always get loose I got the balls to reduce your crew  
Very easily I got more ammo  
I'm like the ill kid the psycho man yo  
Cuz now I'm past the point and I ain't gonna return  
and when it comes to your destruction I ain't really  
concerned  
About the consequences cuz I'm living day to day  
So who are you to comment about me and my ways.  
I get my attitude from living and I never forget  
You got to be the illest brother just to claim respect!

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