

## Cassidy "The Message"

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It's a real bad time for black celebrities  
They lockin' everybody up

Michael Jackson, James Brown, Tupac, R. Kelly  
OJ Simpson, Mike Tyson, Kobe Bryant, Jay-Z, Mystikal  
P. Diddy, Allen Iverson, Snoop Dogg, DMX  
Styles P, Shine, Beanie Segal, Lil' Kim

Is it because I'm black?  
Is it because I'm black?

When you black you got to hustle, got to struggle and  
strive  
And not every cat that goes through that struggle  
survive  
But he got to stay stronger and keep the struggle alive  
They say the struggle died, I say the struggle revived

Hey you, my profession is going through oppression  
That's why I'm so stressed and I'm working with no  
rest  
And no question I'ma fight for y'all 'cause I don't like it  
y'all  
We make half as much as them, we workin' twice as  
hard y'all

It ain't fair sometimes you see and hear the signs  
I ain't Farachan but I got knowledge and I'm sharing  
mines  
I swear it's time to be aware that they fear you mind  
And they fear your heart, you want to change here's  
the start

I'm tired of watchin' cops outline my peers and y'all  
I'm trying to make a move, I'm not tryin' to make the  
news  
They say the consequences worst when we break the  
rules  
To get back and right you got to make a sacrifice

Is it because I'm black?  
Is it because I'm black?

We got some problems we need solve  
Here's our chance to get them handle  
Just take the boycott in Alabama for example  
They stop ridin' the bus till they address their affairs  
And they ended segregation in less than a year

So imagine what our status if we made a contribution  
We?ll probably be able to change the constitution  
I can't see no other kind of solution  
We deserve our reparation, it's time for a revolution

I?m a step ahead of Satan, I read it in Revelations  
Forget your reputation, let's make it a better nation  
'Cause they trying to cage us in make us slaves again  
Eventually it's meant to be the new plantation, the  
penitentiary

For centuries they had a plan we let them executed  
Everyday another brother getting executed  
And all our artist getting arrested I expect  
improvement  
It?s a message in the music, I suggest you use it

Somebody tell me what can I do  
Will I survive or will I die?

On the streets it's hard to survive why, is it because I?m  
black?  
Hot Shot got rock, I can't bring my cousin back  
Five-hundred thousand sold, gold, yeah, it wasn?t plat  
But Clyde gave me another try 'cause I wasn?t whack

And now I'm buzzin' back, yeah, I got my budget back  
Renegotiating got a mil to do a dozen tracks  
Yeah, I?m eatin' only reason is because I rap  
My homies eatin' only reason is because of crack

They can't get a job so them niggas quick to rob  
Quick to steal, quick to kill, grip the steal, quick to ride  
Malcolm X, Martin Luther King we cant forget them  
guys  
These politician, hypocrites they got us hypnotized

That why I kiss writt, why we got to lift our eyes?  
'Cause if we keep ?em close they just goin' keep  
control  
And hold our sisters and brothers in the pen  
And we was born guilty 'cause the color of our skin

Is it because I?m black?

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