

## Krs-One "Rising To the Top"

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[Incomprehensible] to you super listeners how you  
doing tonight?

All you fly guys and fly girls  
Welcome once again to the world famous  
Mister Magic Rap Attack and of course I am  
[Incomprehensible]

Way way back before the 'Hots' and the 'Powers'  
We used to listen to live mixin' for hours  
Roxanne Shanté, U.T.F.O.  
Mister Magic Rap Attack some of y'all know

But I was in the shelter in weakness  
Homeless, turntableless and microphoneless  
Fresh gearless but still I was fearless  
And focused on being the dopest MC alive

It's '85, LL's on Def Jam with the best jam  
And Whodini's on Jive, man you know I had to survive  
New York City was crazy in the 80's but damn it was live

So here comes the Juice Crew with MC Shan  
Shanté's already the queen, Marley's already the  
man  
Y'all don't really understand  
When you throw on Shanté or Shan it got live in the  
jam

So we went to Mister Magic  
If anybody had to power to put you on he had it  
We gave up the demo tape no love lost  
But it seems Mister Magic just brushed us off

Somehow we heard we were whack  
Every track, and that we shouldn't even call back  
Right there my jaw dropped, no doubt  
But it made me see what I was all about

And I'll keep rising to the top while my mind go  
Give it all you got, give it all you got  
I'll keep rising to the top while my mind go  
Give it all you got, give it all you got

We'll keep rising to the top while my mind go  
Give it all you got, give it all you got  
We'll keep rising to the top while my mind go  
Give it all you got, give it all you got, give it all you got

In the spot new hip hop and Latin Quarters  
And the Union Square and the rooftop  
We used to hear them tunes pop in the parking lot  
Where it got dark a lot me and Scott La Rock

But it was all for the hip hoppers  
Salt-N-Pepa answered Doug E Fresh with 'The Show  
Stoppa'  
MC Shan was gonna challenge LL  
ShantÃ© was battling 3 or 4 groups at the same time  
what the hell

Answer records were big then after ShantÃ© did it  
Everybody was trying to spit them so we spit off  
To tell you the truth it was the only way an MC could get  
on

We answered MC Shan's 'Queensbridge'  
A dope jam about where he was from and where he  
lived  
But in the Bronx there was these kids  
KRS, Scott La Rock trying to live

And I'll keep rising to the top while my mind go  
Give it all you got, give it all you got  
I'll keep rising to the top while my mind go  
Give it all you got, give it all you got

We'll keep rising to the top while my mind go  
Give it all you got, give it all you got  
We'll keep rising to the top while my mind go  
Give it all you got, give it all you got, give it all you got

This it what an MC was we had a strong street buzz  
Marley and Shan showed us some love and love never  
hurt  
'Cause while Shan was with Marley we was with DJ Red  
Alert

Every Friday night, every Saturday night  
On the airwaves the battle was right  
Under New York nights, smog and lights  
Jargon at night the Roxy used to get so hype

You could put on your headset

And get what heads didn't get yet  
Live MCs going, "Check, check"  
Spitin' rhymes over the radio set

These are the days and the ways I can never forget  
So I don't forget it to Marley and Shan I am indebted  
For the start of my career these guys could take credit

For my rappin', the whole battle they let it all happen  
Marley and Shan and ShantÃ© could have been gun  
strapping cousin  
But they wasn't and you know why  
'Cause we was on some real hip hop let's keep it  
buzzing

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