

## Nas

# "Life Is What You Make It"

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Yo ill will, ruff ryders  
What what, straight like that

You a killer or a hustler, dealer or customer  
Gangsta or buster, youngster or old nigga  
A weed head, a coke sniffer  
You rich or a broke nigga  
Know you all relate to this shit that I wrote niggas  
Lots of my mans trapped up in a max  
Penatentary, sending me letters, I answer back  
That eventually, we be all bentley'ed out  
Throwing campaigns, fuck it, I'm running for White  
House

My niggas control Senate, pipe seats, jeeps tinted  
Mad Lewinsky chicks, some kinky shit  
Did dirt, now I knew it would come back one day  
So I'm on point, scrap, prepare for gun play  
Stared at one face, thought it was beef, he looked  
familiar  
Ready to blast, nigga gave me daps, said "I feel ya  
Can't believe how my life changed  
From the hood, the first time in my life I can say I did  
the right thing"

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Everyday shit around the way, shit got me stressed  
So I keep on the vest in case a nigga wanna test  
I got no time for games 'cause I'm all grown up  
You wanna joke nigga? Laugh when you get blown up  
See how funny it is when your kids ain't got no father  
'Cause you played it sweet, now you floating in the  
harbor  
Shit is hectic, so respect it for your health

Didn't think it was right, you should've checked it  
yourself

Life is too short to get caught up in some dumb shit  
Wake up one day, 40 years old on some bumb shit  
Time flew by, you was too fly to see the light  
Everyday it's getting darker, then comes the night  
Now what? Realize that you ain't got shit  
Not long ago you was the man on some hot shit  
So just peep the flow yo', cause you already in this  
Make sure your shit is right kid and handle your  
business

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Make history before you go  
Fuck the misery, you livin' po, we gettin' doe  
Except the dollars other reasons why I'm living yo', time  
is viable  
Low and behold, the young, black, and powerful  
Got to eat yo, everyday my daughters feet grow  
You wack and cheap with the doe, my heat could blow  
Payin' doctors when I'm born, a preacher if I'm buried  
That's why cash is needed for my kids to inherit

Gotta pay just for living, tax life is a b'ness  
If you catch a bad deal, watch your life diminish  
Deals made by God and the Devil, and we in it  
Pawns in the game, can't complain or say shit  
Just strap up and hold on, hope for the best  
Prepare for the worse, no fears no nothing on earth  
No tears if I'm dumped in a hearse, I won't be the first  
Nor the last nigga, let's get this cash nigga

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