

## Talib Kweli "Get By"

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[Talib]

Yeah.. my Lord.. yeah

[Verse 1: Talib]

We sell, crack to our own out the back of our homes  
We smell the musk at the dusk in the crack of the dawn  
We go through "Epidodes II," like "Attack of the Clones"  
Work 'til we break our back and you hear the crack of the bone  
To get by.. just to get by  
Just to get by, just to get by  
We commute to computers  
Spirits stay mute while you eagles spread rumors  
We survivalists, turned to consumers  
To get by.. just to get by  
Just to get by, just to get by  
Ask Him why some people got to live in a trailer, cuss like a sailor  
I paint a picture with the pen like Norman Mailer  
Me and Willa raised three daughters all by herself, with no help  
I think about a struggle and I find the strength in myself  
These words, melt in my mouth  
They hot, like the jail cell in the South  
Before my nigga Core bailed me out  
To get by.. just to get by  
Just to get by, just to get by  
We do or die like Bed-Stuy through the red sky with the window of the red eye  
Let the lead fly, some G. Rap shit, "Livin' to Let Die"

[Chorus: Background singers]

This morning, I woke up  
Feeling brand new and I jumped up  
Feeling my highs, and my lows  
In my soul, and my goals  
Just to stop smokin, and stop drinkin  
And I've been thinkin - I've got my reasons  
Just to get (by), just to get (by)  
Just to get (by), just to get (by)

[Talib and background singers]

(ba ba ba, ba da bada, ba da bada, ba da bada, ba da bada)

Just to get (by), just to get (by)

Just to get (by by by by by by)

(ba ba ba, ba da bada, ba da bada, ba da bada, ba da bada)

Just to get (by), just to get (by)

Just to get (by by by by by by)

[Verse 2: Talib]

We keeping it gangster say "fo shizzle", "fo sheezy"  
and "stayin crunk"

Its easy to pull a breezy, smoke trees, and we stay  
drunk

Yo, I activism - attackin the system, the blacks and  
latins in prison

Numbers of prison they victim black in the vision

Shit and all they got is rappin to listen to

I let them know we missin you, the love is unconditional

Even when the condition is critical, when the livin is  
miserable

Your position is pivotal, I ain't bullshittin you

Now, why would I lie? Just to get by?

Just to get by, we get fly

The TV got us reachin for stars

Not the ones between Venus and Mars, the ones that  
be readin for parts

Some people get breast enhancements and penis  
enlargers

Saturday sinners Sunday morning at the feet of the  
Father

They need somethin to rely on, we get high on all types  
of drug

When, all you really need is love

To get by.. just to get by

Just to get by, just to get by

Our parents sing like John Lennon, "Imagine all the  
people watch"

We rock like Paul McCartney from now until the last  
Beatle drop

[Chorus: Background singers]

This morning, I woke up

Feeling brand new and I jumped up

Feeling my high's, and my low's

In my soul, and my goals

Just to stop smoking, and stop drinking

And I've been thinking - I've got my reasons

Just to get (by), just to get (by)  
Just to get (by), just to get (by)

[Talib: repeat 2X - with background singers]

Yoyoyo, yo  
Some people cry, and some people try  
Just to get by, for a piece of the pie  
You love to eat and get high  
We decieve when we lie, and we keepin it fly

Yoyoyo, yo  
When, the people decide, to keep a disguise  
Can't see they eyes, see the evil inside  
But there's people you find  
Strong or feeble in mind, I stay readin the signs

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