

## Too \$hort "Only The Strong Survive"

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On the microphone in 1993  
Short Dawg made me  
And he don't stop to the beat  
Nothing but a menace to society

I always heard that you gotta be strong if you wanna survive  
Get your diploma, go to college, get a nine to five  
Every year, you're makin' 30 Gs a pop  
Workin', see, and you're tied to the white man's jock  
Movin' out of the ghetto 'cause it troubles you  
Makin' payments on a BMW

I know you never would settle for the minimum snaps  
And have to live in the ghetto where the blacks be at  
And send your kids to a school that don't really teach  
How could I care about a college degree?

You think I wanna get cha  
Take you to the motel and straight get richer  
You must be crazy, smokin' that chronic  
I take you to the motel and then put my rubber on it  
And hope it don't bust so I can stay alive  
'Cause only the strong survive

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So tell me what it is, man, tell me what you want  
Not talkin' 'bout the music but we likes to funk  
Ain't no such thang as a Oakland punk  
It don't matter who you are, you'll be in the trunk

You come twenty-five deep or maybe ten  
If I let your push me, then you push me again  
He was six foot four, they used to call him 'Sir'  
But he was smooth, gunned down by a teenage gangsta

No bigger than me, never could be his self  
Always tryin' to act like someone else  
There just ain't no future for us young black men  
'Cause we always get killed or sent to the pen

But even Malcolm X was a ex-convict  
And you can bet I won't go fo' it next time  
I'm kinda strong with my bullets in the clip  
That's why I never trip 'cause only the strong survive

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You say, "Be a man, let's go toe to toe"  
But that was like fifteen years ago  
They say, "Only the strong will survive"  
But brothers be strong and still they die

But you gotta get around that bush  
All the things we used to do, we can't push  
No more 'cause ain't nobody trippin' on us  
You wanna fight, mess around and get shot up  
See you layin' there, bleedin', losin' the fight  
All behind a broad and that just ain't right

You could live or die, it just doesn't make a difference  
'Cause everybody knows about your sorry ass, simpin'  
for a hoe  
I thought you knew life is but the punk's so fake, he  
can't handle his  
So you weak fizz news ain't no surprise 'cause only the  
strong survive

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