

# Cut My Teeth

## Dilated Peoples

The strong prey upon the weak  
This is where I learned to stand on my own feet  
So much I see  
On the streets of Venice Beach is where I  
Cut my teeth  
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Cut my teeth  
I remember how it all began  
I used to switch graffiti tips on cans with both hands  
No chance  
I knew they couldn't stop this rush  
Our bus bench was a stop, and they ain't stopping the bus  
I caught the fever  
At sixteen I copped a beater  
Now it's me against the world  
Sit in my own two-seater  
I drove slow on roads that lead freedom  
What I believe in  
Known that I'd be leaving  
Let me in jump up the timeline to current events  
I went around the world twice on award tours  
It never ends  
Mike Will did, but others didn't make it  
Others still hungry, so the others gonna take it  
Shit is basic when you put it the pot and let it simmer  
Like the sun been setting later in the Summer than the Winter shit  
Where I'm from I keep the oven sizzling  
I cut my teeth at Venice Beach  
Then hit my peoples with some of the wisdom  
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Cut my teeth I learned a nickel cost more than a dime  
Before I learned to rhyme  
Crenshaw and Venice  
St. Charles is more specific  
Then Pico and Fairfax the Ethiopian district  
Everything changes  
Noticing both of them look different  
I can think back  
Though life goes on so keep living  
Didn't step to OGs on the block to seek wisdom  
Or I'd be cripin'  
But they teach the street systems  
Street soldiers and street politicians  
I'd keep listening  
Smoking in the homey's rental  
Blazing instrumentals  
Something like a steel elephant trunk came through the window  
Eyes traced the barrel to a friendly face  
"Caught you slipping!"  
Broke the blunt  
Gave us back the lit half and kept dipping  
Had that beach cruiser whipping  
Then stopped  
He turned around, came back and told me  
"It's a war zone, go home!"  
Draw something  
Matter of fact, write something raw for me  
Call you tomorrow."  
That was the last time that I saw him  
But I took it as a sign  
Standing at the crossroads  
I saw a different world was mine  
It was with me all the time  
Appreciative, never satisfied  
Inspired to climb  
Eyes wide  
Mid city lit that fire inside The strong prey upon the weak  
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Song Discussions is protected by U.S. Patent 9401941. Other patents pending.

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