

I Can

Nas

I know I can
Be what I wanna be
If I work hard at it
I'll be where I wanna be I know I can
(I know I can)
Be what I wanna be
(Be what I wanna be)
If I work hard at it
(If I work hard at it)
I'll be where I wanna be
(I'll be where I wanna be) Be, b-boys and girls, listen up
You can be anything in the world, in God we trust
An architect, doctor, maybe an actress
But nothing comes easy, it takes much practice
Like, I met a woman who's becoming a star
She was very beautiful, leaving people in awe
Singing songs, Lina Horn, but the younger version
Hung with the wrong person, got her strung on that heroin Cocaine sniffing up drugs all in her nose
Coulda died, so young, now looks ugly and old
No fun 'cause now when she reaches for hugs people hold their breath
'Cause she smells of corrosion and death
Watch the company you keep and the crowd you bring
'Cause they came to do drugs and you came to sing
So if you gonna be the best, I'm a tell you how
Put your hands in the air and take a vow I know I can
(I know I can)
Be what I wanna be
(Be what I wanna be)
If I work hard at it
(If I work hard at it)
I'll be where I wanna be
(I'll be where I wanna be) I know I can
(I know I can)
Be what I wanna be
(Be what I wanna be)
If I work hard at it
(If I work hard at it)
I'll be where I wanna be
(I'll be where I wanna be) Be, b-boys and girls, listen again

This is for grown looking girls who's only ten
 The ones who watch videos and do what they see
 As cute as can be, up in the club with fake ID
 Careful, 'fore you meet a man with HIV
 You can host the TV like Oprah Winfrey
 Whatever you decide, be careful, some men be
 Rapists, so act your age, don't pretend to be Older than you are, give yourself time to grow
 You thinking he can give you wealth, but so
 Young boys, you can use a lot of help, you know
 You thinking life's all about smoking weed and ice
 You don't wanna be my age and can't read and write
 Begging different women for a place to sleep at night
 Smart boys turn to men and do whatever they wish
 If you believe you can achieve, then say it like this I know I can
 (I know I can)
 Be what I wanna be
 (Be what I wanna be)
 If I work hard at it
 (If I work hard at it)
 I'll be where I wanna be
 (I'll be where I wanna be) I know I can
 (I know I can)
 Be what I wanna be
 (Be what I wanna be)
 If I work hard at it
 (If I work hard at it)
 I'll be where I wanna be
 (I'll be where I wanna be) Be, be'fore we came to this country
 We were kings and queens, never porch monkeys
 There was empires in Africa called Kush
 Timbuktu, where every race came to get books
 To learn from black teachers who taught Greeks and Romans
 Asian, Arabs and gave them gold when
 Gold was converted to money it all changed
 Money then became empowerment for Europeans The Persian military invaded
 They heard about the gold, the teachings and everything sacred
 Africa was almost robbed naked
 Slavery was money, so they began making slave ships
 Egypt was the place that Alexander the great went
 He was so shocked at the mountains with black faces
 Shot off they nose to impose what basically
 Still goes on today, you see? If the truth is told, the youth can grow
 Then learn to survive until they gain control
 Nobody says you have to be gangstas, hoes
 Read more, learn more, change the globe

Ghetto children, do your thing
Hold your head up, little man, you're a king
Young princess, when you get your wedding ring
Your man is saying "She's my queen" I know I can
(I know I can)

Be what I wanna be
(Be what I wanna be)

If I work hard at it
(If I work hard at it)

I'll be where I wanna be
(I'll be where I wanna be) I know I can
(I know I can)

Be what I wanna be
(Be what I wanna be)

If I work hard at it
(If I work hard at it)

I'll be where I wanna be
(I'll be where I wanna be) Save the music y'all, save the music y'all
Save the music y'all, save the music y'all
Save the music

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