

# Be Somebody

Sheryl Lee Ralph

I want to be somebody  
I want to make a difference  
Little boy caught in a drive-by  
Witnessed the killer who made his daddy die  
And 'cause he identified and signed the dotted line  
He could feel it in his stomach, he signed away his life  
Little boy who once was the leader of his class  
The little source of joy, always neatly dressed  
Now would hang his head and be left crying at his desk  
Was found with his mother, lying in her lap  
With two bullets in his chest  
And, oh my God, what is this madness?  
I will not let it kill by gladness  
And, oh my God, what is this madness?  
My joy inside will send this message  
I want to be somebody  
I want to make a difference  
For we all are children of the mother  
I want to be somebody  
I want to make a difference  
For we all are children of the father  
Outspoken man, leading sisters and brothers  
Picked himself up from hustling, drugs and gutters  
Doing time on the inside, he found a higher power  
Now, back with a mission to help us help each other  
Respected from bourgeoisie to homeless in the street  
From universities, Africa, the middle east  
And through the threats of death he spoke truth and set men free  
But the power of the truth made enemies of the weak  
He was killed by his own people  
And, oh my God, what is this madness?  
I will not let it kill my gladness  
And, oh my God, what is this madness?  
My joy inside will send this message  
I want to be somebody  
I want to make a difference  
For we all are children of the mother  
I want to be somebody  
I want to make a difference

For we all are children  
Ignite this fire inside, this light that is the truth  
Shake off the system's chains, no longer be their fool  
In the face of brutality, show the other cheek  
Trigger-happy policing will never kill our dignity  
And, oh my God, what is this madness?  
I will not let it kill my gladness  
And, oh my God, what is this madness?  
My joy inside will send this message  
Lift up your heart and see  
Open your heart and see  
Open your heart and see  
Lift up your voice and sing  
Lift up your voice and sing  
Lift up your voice and sing  
I want to be somebody  
I want to make a difference  
(Lift up your heart and see)  
For we all are children of the mother  
(Open your heart and see)  
I want to be somebody  
I want to make a difference  
(Lift up your heart and see)  
For we all are children of the father  
Open your heart and see

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