

# Smile

## K'naan

My tragedy's different  
My life's deep, listen,  
Gotta bail, I'm limpin  
Walked outta hell's kitchen  
Why bother cherishin'  
My past is everything, wrong, and my arrogance  
Walk down the stairs pissin'  
Cop us cause they're bitchin'  
Life isn't fair, singin'  
Blues and my rap drippin'  
Ooze out the blood sinkin  
Deep down to earth thinking  
Leave out a nerp chicken  
I should run, forfeit, and everything I know listen!

I was the misdirected  
I was the least expected  
Hop on and get rejected  
Walk on and feel neglected  
I feel like I'm the message  
Unheard but I'm the message  
I'm the last prolific remaining offer from the gutter

Shot was my girlfriend  
When we was younger  
Her I was scarred yo  
Bullets I survived though  
Death it's came easy  
Truth the games needs me  
Never let them see me down, smile while I'm bleeding

[Chorus:]  
Smile when your struggling  
Smile when your in jail  
Smile when your dead broke  
Smile and the rents due  
Smile you ain't got friends now  
Smile and no one knows you  
Never let them see you down smile while you bleeding

Smile when he leaves you  
Smile cause girl he needs you  
Smile plenty single mothers cry the tears you do  
Smile despite the war  
Smile despite the pain yo  
Never let them see you down smile while you bleeding

To my man Kareem in prison  
I can't speak your name  
It hurt me that you never listened  
It can't be the same  
I had to grow my intuition  
Had me deep in pain  
Cause I knew my options were either broke or the prison chains  
I can't do it  
I can't see it, look  
Dammit, I can't blow it  
I got a judge telling me my life's key  
They will throw it  
No sir  
I plan to have a chauffeur  
It seems to me this chopping crack is really going no where

Therefore  
I'm resurrected  
They call me  
The poor injection  
I infect you with the real  
The dusty feet philosopher's  
I spit, so sick  
I skid out  
I'm fallin'  
I'm shit outta luck and I'm trapped but I'll get out

Can you help me  
I'm going crazy  
My mom plays trix and I beat on the floor like bush wick  
My fists bloody and blistered  
A pair like I'm ballistic  
I just stare at the red and smile while I'm bleeding

[Chorus]

There are a few things you gotta take into account  
I'm not an entertainer I've never been a clown

I was born where the mothers give birth while they frown  
I would walk with the kids that would bra sound ah  
Never really thought I'd make it to fourteen  
And anybody wanted to fight I was most keen  
Plus I had a little temper it was often foreseen  
Yo say something bout my momma id shoot ya dead out clean  
But ya gotta keep in mind that I grew up Mogadishu (tell em)  
The only law was gun law  
And we don't walk with a pistol  
You get laughed at for being so insensitive to the environment  
Cause how will you be heard when those big boys are firin'  
War is no place for a child  
Especially if hes rollin' with an ak and a smile  
He had witnesses on mother bloody in a towel  
But please, please, please, please  
But never let em see you down smile while you bleedin'

[Chorus: x2]

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