

# Then And Now

## Nick Edward Harris

From the age of 10 I used to do a paper route  
Just so I could see the paper round  
So I could splash in the corner shop  
And buy sweets till my teeth would rot  
I used to play football, I used to like dancing  
Man, I tried everything, even karate  
After 5 years I had to pull it  
'Cause black belt can't teach you how to dodge bullets  
I never knew what I wanted to be  
Oh, I knew what the man above wanted for me  
They said Jehmal, you're smart enough to be a doctor or a lawyer  
But fuck that, them jobs are boring  
And footie's getting dry like raving  
But shout out to Craig, he's some other kind that made it  
I don't know my profession yet quite  
But one day I'm gonna get signed  
Just write the check  
I'm out here spending money so I gotta make it  
Rest to make it, things are different so  
Don't you take this shit for granted  
When the money's in your hand, yeah  
My big bro's MCing now  
I might have to try this out  
And Dizzee Rascal's on TV now  
Shit, this could be my way out  
Good at English but I hate reading  
Good grades, just a few exclusions  
My story's inspirational and with the right help  
I can execute this out to the nations  
Or my words can lock down the pavement  
Skip Jamma's basement, Eskimo dance aside  
Winding, take it straight to the big stages  
That'll be amazing  
But damn, I gotta make some  
I'm doing it independent, spent before you make some  
Think I know my profession now, guys  
Damn, I got stars in my eyes  
Just write the check  
I'm out here spending money so I gotta make it

Rest to make it, things are different so  
Don't you take this shit for granted  
When the money's in your hand, yeah  
If you ever knew what was getting sold  
Just so we can pay for videos  
8R from the bottom we roll  
So when the checks came the first hundred bags got blown  
Shout at us boy, better know  
Me and Skeppy from the north side  
We tried it on our own so they approached us  
We never approached the majors and now look, we majors  
Just write the check  
I'm out here spending money so I gotta make it  
Rest to make it, things are different so  
Don't you take this shit for granted  
When the money's in your hand, yeah  
Just write the check  
I'm out here spending money so I gotta make it  
Rest to make it, things are different so  
Don't you take this shit for granted  
When the money's in your hand, yeah, uh  
Oh baby, oh yeah  
Oh yes, I'm making money, baby  
Oh yeah

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