

Mathematics

Mos Def

[Mos Def]

Booka-booka-booka-booka-booka-booka

Ha hah

You know the deal

It's just me yo

Beats by Su-Primo for all of my peoples, negroes and latinos

And even the gringos

Yo, check it one for Charlie Hustle, two for Steady Rock

Three for the fourth comin live, future shock

It's five dimensions, six senses

Seven firmaments of heaven to hell, 8 Million Stories to tell

Nine planets faithfully keep in orbit

With the probable tenth, the universe expands length

The body of my text possess extra strength

Power-liftin powerless up, out of this, towerin inferno

My ink so hot it burn through the journal

I'm blacker than midnight on Broadway and Myrtle

Hip-Hop past all your tall social hurdles

Like the nationwide projects, prison-industry complex

Broken glass wall better keep your alarm set

Streets too loud to ever hear freedom sing

Say evacuate your sleep, it's dangerous to dream

But you chain cats get they CHA-POW, who dead now

Killin fields need blood to graze the cash cow

It's a number game, but shit don't add up somehow

Like I got, sixteen to thirty-two bars to rock it

But only 15% of profits, ever see my pockets like

Sixty-nine billion in the last twenty years

Spent on national defense but folks still live in fear like

Nearly half of America's largest cities is one-quarter black

That's why they gave Ricky Ross all the crack

Sixteen ounces to a pound, twenty more to a ki

A five minute sentence hearing and you no longer free

40% of Americans own a cell phone
So they can hear, everything that you say when you ain't home

I guess, Michael Jackson was right, "You Are Not Alone"
Rock your hardhat black cause you in the Terrordome
Full of hard niggaz, large niggaz, dice tumblers
Young teens and prison greens facin life numbers

Crack mothers, crack babies and AIDS patients
Young bloods can't spell but they could rock you in PlayStation
This new math is whippin motherfuckers ass
You wanna know how to rhyme you better learn how to add

It's mathematics

[Chorus: x2]

"The Mighty Mos Def.."
"It's simple mathematics" -> Fat Joe
"Check it out!"
"I revolve around science.."
"What are we talking about here?"

... "Do your math" -> Erykah Badu [Repeat: x2] ...
... "One.. t-t-two.. three, four" -> James Brown...
... "What are we talking about here?"...

[Mos Def]

Yo, it's one universal law but two sides to every story
Three strikes and you be in for life, mandatory
Four MC's murdered in the last four years
I ain't tryin to be the fifth one, the millennium is here

Yo it's 6 Million Ways to Die, from the seven deadly thrills
Eight-year olds gettin found with 9 mill's
It's 10 P.M., where your seeds at? What's the deal
He on the hill puffin krill to keep they belly filled

Light in the ass with heavy steel, sights on the pretty shit in life
Young soldiers tryin to earn they next stripe
When the average minimum wage is \$5.15
You best believe you gotta find a new ground to get cream

The white unemployment rate, is nearly more than triple for black
So frontliners got they gun in your back
Bubblin crack, jewel theft and robbery to combat poverty

And end up in the global jail economy

Stiffer stipulations attached to each sentence
Budget cutbacks but increased police presence
And even if you get out of prison still livin
Join the other five million under state supervision

This is business, no faces just lines and statistics
From your phone, your zip code, to S-S-I digits
The system break man child and women into figures
Two columns for who is, and who ain't niggaz

Numbers is hardly real and they never have feelings
But you push too hard, even numbers got limits
Why did one straw break the camel's back? Here's the secret:
The million other straws underneath it - it's all mathematics

[Chorus]

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