

# One Day At a Time

Kelli Ali

Sometimes it's hard to wake up in the mornin'  
Mind full of demons, I don't wanna hear 'em anymore  
Got me heartbroken, fine, so many babies screamin'  
'Cause they seein' destruction before they a see human bein'  
So they start smokin' weed, we'll never get our day  
Until we learn to pray, keep our families in shape  
'Cause they all broke an' why do ghetto birds die?  
Before we learn to fly, somebody else's child caught in guns  
Smokin' weed can all make a change  
So I'm told but I haven't seen the change unfold  
I keep hopin' please, if you prefer to breathe  
Communities in need of people that will lead  
Keep your eyes open now, can only say I'll try  
Until the day I die, I promise to be wise  
With my heart open, greed brings only misery  
A way to tragedy, so I stay sucker free  
Only a few chosen rise, my ghetto queens, rise  
Don't be afraid to try, too many of us die  
For the door to open wide, my brothers be wise  
Stay focused on the prize, though everybody dies  
We can only learn to take our anger an' our hate  
Control our mental state, settle down an' just set it straight  
Maybe we can learn to take a second to pump our brakes  
'For we said it, regret it later an' let it escalate  
'Cause by then it's too just late, there's so much we can take  
And there's only so much someone can swallow an' tolerate  
Up to the point that he just breaks, snaps an' that's all it takes  
You'd think that we was learnin' from other rappers mistakes  
But we ain't  
It's plain to go against, with every artists comes the image  
He portrays an' a picture that he paints  
But in the midst of all this anger an' this angst  
Never once did you hear me say I'm a gangster  
An' I ain't hear no complaints  
But I know that I will always continue to grow  
As long as I lead an' never follow no one else's shadow  
There will never be another me an' that I can guarantee  
That's why the fuck I remain sucker free  
To this day the game will never be the same

No matter how much fame or success they attain  
There will never be another me an' no matter what they do  
    There will never be another you  
    You can search but you'll never find  
    You can try to rewind time  
    But in your hearts an' your minds, we will never die  
We are forever alive an' we continue growin' one day at a time  
    Don't be caught in the publicity an' caught in the hype  
    Rappers are regular people minus money an' light  
    Searchin' for fortune an' fame an' super stardom  
All the jewelry, all the cars, whose crew is the hardest  
    Now the hip hop police, the villains is watchin'  
    An' kids think beef is they only option  
    Outlaws born filthy, guilty as charged  
    My memories could die but Makaveli lives on  
    You think the industry is fun an' no pity with guns  
An' when your money is up, that's when your enemies come  
    So if he died an' came back, would he try to save rap?  
    We needin' a change, the drama remains  
    I spent my whole life fightin' myself  
    That I can't win, so I'm invitin' some help  
    An' every now an' then I take rights from the left  
    I'm still just like a kid lookin' for stripes on my belt  
    An' that there is a fight in itself  
    So I just pray an' hope God take a like to myself  
    No matter how much, I try stay alive  
I'm gonna die mad, still standin' there in love with my pride  
    My heart frivolous beats, we past that  
I'm tryin' to keep some income comin' in an' collect on my ass cap  
    The rappers in the game ain't changed  
    An' I finally realized that we not in the same game  
    The hatin' will never end, so I guess I'll deal wit it  
    Them 4 5 with cop killers, just some steel wit it  
    The streets is military, you gotta be a soldier  
    Gotta stay leery an' keep your eyes on the rollers  
    They do what they gotta do to shackle an' hold us  
    So we gotta do what we gotta do to keep rollin'  
    One way at a time, keep the faith in your mind  
    An' we continue growin' one day at a time, damn