

# Outkast, Mainstream

[Verse 1:]

Revolutionary, scary  
Thought provoking, spoken,  
Words of a chain I don't feel but I see,  
visions from me  
at twenty three making us free in my community  
one day is what I live for,  
ain't thinking about no hope no more  
I got my boots I kick it till I get with  
Adapt and overcome, oh hum hum  
Go get my gun, load up for fun, and put down with the frown  
What goes round comes round from M.L.K. to cascade  
I know its through them plenty figures  
cocaine dealers walk the wrong side  
up in they rides,  
looking cleaner then I seen them the last time  
Then selling dimes, now its quarter keys, stacking G's  
In the South Indies  
my nigga them folks riding bicycles among vehicles  
off in the hood  
Knowing each and every nigger sellin', but can you blame  
the fact the only way a brother can survive the game  
the block hard to get by the dope dealing, fatal killings  
in fair times so writing rhymes  
it ain't just the police  
we kill each other just lost another brother  
fast living will get you took,  
thinking it can't happen to you and then it do  
off crooked schemes its just a dream  
floating face down in the mainstream

[Chorus:]

Think it is when it ain't all peaches and cream  
that's why some are found floating face down in the main stream

[Verse 2:]

They swan divin'  
fit they name be thrashing an album  
go-kart rushin' to finish their album then you find them  
lost, dog paddling, back stroking, what done happened?  
be rhymin' catching the day when the recipe calls for black and  
wrong ingredients,  
maybe too much herbs and spices,  
maybe you got hungry for the wrong dish  
southern greens and this entice them how them joke the same  
so I'm gonna sing just like them to get where they at  
I'll even break my by back to touch their rim if I gotta  
My alta mater be that I follow  
I bite whatever that's looking tasty, water it down then swallow  
I hope you vomit, won't call no names cause that's not my job  
it just applies to whom it may concern you know who you are  
but if you don't you never will, you just receive the steel  
but then it might get ugly cause trust me niggas do feel  
the way that I felt when I wrote this, but we must stay in focus  
we kings and queens up in this thing, get rid of all them jokers  
face down, face down, face down

[Chorus]

[Verse 3:]

I let you stay in my crib, now you know where I live  
when you was hungry, fed you a hot meal, look at the hand you deal  
me crudball business giving niggers inches so here, take a foot  
luck only counts in rabbit's feet and horseshoes,  
experience is sometimes the best teacher until we get our own plate  
I hope you don't mind me eating off of yours,  
process momma moping like jerry  
meanwhile, fairies of the street tinkling pixie dust over greenery  
never to obtain another level of con-science  
only to test, to poke and see  
why laying here, they scheme over one another mouth to feed  
??? with a decision to make, now words shake your destiny  
but a missile will take it all the way just as quick as you can say  
I wish I never did what I did now face this bid  
it was the company you kept, the many places you slept  
when you shouldn't have, geeking like a rat, jumping like a trap  
contributing to sin and your nigga bitch in the court showing paper thin  
got you niggers where they want you again,  
floating face down in the mainstream  
thats why, thats why, thats why

[Chorus]

[Verse 4:]

Everybody's a player, rubbin them kangols on their head  
thinking its all about your clothes, nigger its all about your self  
the way you feel about your life, the times that you done shared with  
your friends and family, up and down like hoes give head  
to dicks oh, six, serving them in the mix, but ain't no mystery  
you know the history about this clique bitch  
oh, what, you want me to call you slut?  
then why you fucking all them niggers letting them all up in your guts  
but see that AIDS I'm afraid that's why I play the quiet role  
I lay in the cut, every month thinking I'll let that fire roll  
like chimneys, and smoke signals, maybe peace pipes even  
my partners call me Big Boi and my first name is not Steven  
in the mainstream, home team banging them with these hits  
in the mix flowing like some motherfucking swordfish

[Chorus x4]