

# Boogie Down Productions, Ya Strugglin'

[Kwame Toure']

Africans in America try to identify  
totally with their master in every respect  
They are the only ones who can not do it  
but they are the ones who will go to all extremes to do it  
\* laughing \* (check it out) \* then laughing some more \*  
They can not be disguised  
but they will attempty to disguise themselves

[KRS-One]

I'm on a search, not for a car or a miniskirt  
But the words I wish to exert  
will hurt, damage or upset the ego  
You wanna be macho, yeah, but we know the deal  
Jheri curls just ain't gettin it  
KRS-One is only down for pickin it  
Pick the afro, need no Soul Glo  
or Carefree Curls, that's just a no-no  
Where oh where, are all the real men  
The feminine look seems to be the trend  
You got eyeliner on, chillin and maxin  
See you're a man with a spine extraction  
So what I'm askin is plain to see  
Are there any straight singers in R&B?  
All I see, is the light-skinned buffy  
Tryin hard, to be Mr. Tuffy  
Yet in fact, you're Mr. Softie  
with the beige contacts on, yo you lost me  
I ain't with it, never will, never have  
How can your son even call you dad?  
Your skin is bleached and your nails you just buffin  
Take a look at yourself man, YA STRUGGLIN'

[Kwame Toure']

Africa is so strong, that once she puts a stamp on you  
four hundred years of cold weather, death,  
and all that fryin your hair shall not disguise you  
As a matter of fact, she is so strong  
that no matter what chemicals you put in your hair  
she will come back and snatch it up  
\* audience laughter \*

[KRS-One]

Tell me  
Are you proud man, of who you are?  
Or does your pride come out of a jar  
Cause if you bought it, put it on, or sprayed it on  
I tell you right now, it won't stay long  
Cause if it ain't natural, it ain't kosher  
It's like buyin and wearin a culture  
If that culture ain't yours naturally  
it's his, not yours, actually  
You better wake up and smell the coffee  
Look in the mirror and think Mr. Softie  
People change, when they are ashamed  
of how they look or from which they came  
Are you ashamed, of original black?  
If you're not, why does your hair look like that?  
Why is your nose straighter, from surgery?  
I think you're really in a state of emergency  
You're not sane to the African aim  
so you're insane, and you need to obtain  
ANY, average rap album sculpture  
and study it, JUST, to learn your culture

Even though, you don't think it's music  
It's the blackest you'll EVER get so use it  
The blue-eyed black man to me is buggin  
Take a look at yourself man, YA STRUGGLIN'

[Kwame Toure']

\* audience laughter \*

Yess.. capitalism will confuse these people, have them totally confused

They will try every way to identify with their masters, every way

Go to extreme lengths \* laughter \*, I'm telling you, seriously!

Capitalism will confuse them y'know tell them the truth's a lie

I saw a sister the other day and I spoke to her about her hair

she said, &quot;I don't care what you say, I'm still gonna get my perm!&quot;

I told her, &quot;It's not a perm, it's a temporary&quot;

\* audience laughter \*

Try in every possible way to identify..