

# Jay-Z, Hard Knock Life (Ghetto Anthem)

[Jay-Z]

Check the bassline out, uh-huh  
Jigga (bounce wit it), uh-huh uh-huh uh-huh, yeahh  
Let it bump though

[&quot;Annie&quot; sample]

It's the hard knock life (uh-huh) for us  
It's the hard knock life, for us!!  
Steady treated, we get tricked  
Steady kisses, we get kicked  
It's the hard knock life!!

[Jay-Z]

From standin on the corners boppin  
to drivin some of the hottest cars New York has ever seen  
For droppin some of the hottest verses rap has ever heard  
From the dope spot, with the smoke Glock  
fleein the murder scene, you know me well  
from nightmares of a lonely cell, my only hell  
But since when y'all niggaz know me to fail? Fuck naw  
Where all my niggaz with the rubber grips, bust shots  
And if you with me mom I rub on your tits, and what-not  
I'm from the school of the hard knocks, we must not  
let outsiders violate our blocks, and my plot  
let's stick up the world and split it fifty/fifty, uh-huh  
Let's take the dough and stay real jiggy, uh-huh  
And sip the Cris' and get pissy-pissy  
Flow infinitely like the memory of my nigga Biggie, baby!  
You know it's hell when I come through  
The life and times of Shawn Carter  
nigga Volume 2, y'all niggaz get ready

[&quot;Annie&quot; sample]

It's the hard knock life, for us  
It's the hard knock life, for us!!  
Steady treated, we get tricked  
Steady kisses, we get kicked  
It's the hard knock life!!

[Jay-Z]

I flow for those 'dro'ed out; all my niggaz  
locked down in the ten by fo', controllin the house  
We live in hard knocks, we don't take over we borrow blocks  
Burn em down and you can have it back daddy, I'd rather that  
I flow for chicks wishin, they ain't have to strip to pay tuition  
I see you vision mama, I put my money on the longshots  
All my ballers that's born to clock  
Now I'ma be on top whether I perform or not  
I went from lukewarm to hot; sleepin on futons and cots  
to King Size, dream machines, the green fives  
I've seen pies let the thing between my eyes analyze life's ills  
Then I put it down type braille  
I'm tight grill with the phony, rappers y'all might feel we homies  
I'm like still, y'all don't know me, shit!  
I'm tight grill when my situation ain't improvin  
I'm tryin to murder everything movin, feel me?!

[&quot;Annie&quot; sample]

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It's the hard knock life, for us!!  
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Steady treated, we get tricked  
Steady kisses, we get kicked  
It's the hard knock life!!

[Jay-Z]

I don't know how to sleep, I gotta eat, stay on my toes  
Gotta a lot of beef, so logically, I prey on my foes  
Hustling's still inside of me, and as far as progress  
you'd be hard-pressed, to find another rapper hot as me  
I gave you prophecy on my first joint, and y'all lamed out  
Didn't really appreciate it, til the second one came out  
So I stretched the game out, X'ed your name out  
Put Jigga on top, and drop albums non-stop for ya, niggah!

[&quot;Annie&quot; sample]  
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.. It's the hard knock life!!  
.. It's the hard knock life!!

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