

# Hard Knock Life (Ghetto Anthem)

JAY-Z

Check the bassline out, uh huh  
Jigga, uh huh, uh huh, uh huh, yeah  
Let it bump though 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 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  
Let's take the dough and stay real jiggy  
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 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!  
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  
It's the hard knock life, for us  
It's the hard knock life, for us  
Steadas treated, we get tricked  
Steadas kisses, we get kicked  
It's the hard knock life, for us  
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Steadas treated, we get tricked  
Steadas kisses, we get kicked  
It's the hard knock life  
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, till the second one came out  
So I stretched the game out, x'ed your name out  
Put jigga on top, drop albums non-stop for ya, nigga  
It's the hard knock life, for us  
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