

# MACKLEMORE & RYAN LEWIS, WHITE PRIVILEGE

Pulled into the parking lot, parked it  
Zipped up my parka, joined the procession of marchers  
In my head like, "Is this awkward?  
Should I even be here marching?"  
Thinking if they can't, how can I breathe?  
Thinking that they chant, what do I sing?  
I want to take a stance cause we are not free  
And then I thought about it, we are not "we"  
Am I in the outside looking in,  
Or am I in the inside looking out?  
Is it my place to give my two cents?  
Or should I stand on the side and shut my mouth?  
"No justice, no peace,"- okay, I'm saying that  
They're chanting out, "Black Lives Matter," - but I don't say it back  
Is it okay for me to say?  
I don't know, so I watch and stand  
In front of a line of police that look the same as me  
Only separated by a badge, a baton, a can of Mace, a mask  
A shield, a gun with gloves and hands that gives an alibi  
In case somebody dies behind a bullet that flies out of the nine  
Takes another child's life on sight

Blood in the streets, no justice, no peace  
No racist beliefs, no rest 'til we're free  
There's blood in the streets, no justice, no peace  
No racist beliefs, no rest 'til we're free  
/3x

You've exploited and stolen the music, the moment  
The magic, the passion, the fashion, you toy with  
The culture was never yours to make better  
You're Miley, you're Elvis, you're Iggy Azalea  
Fake and so plastic, you've heisted the magic  
You've taken the drums and the accent you rapped in  
Your brand of hip-hop, it's so fascist and backwards  
That Grandmaster Flash'd go slap it, you bastard  
All the money that you made  
All the watered down pop-bullshit version of the culture, pal  
Go buy a big-ass lawn, go with your big-ass house  
Get a big-ass fence, keep people out  
It's all stolen, anyway, can't you see that now?  
There's no way for you to even that out  
You can join the march, protest, scream and shout  
Get on Twitter, hashtag and seem like you're down  
But they see through it all, people believe you now?  
You said publicly, "Rest in peace, Mike Brown"  
You speak about equality, but do you really mean it?  
Are you marching for freedom, or when it's convenient?  
Want people to like you, want to be accepted  
That's probably why you are out here protesting  
Don't think for a second you don't have incentive  
Is this about you, well, then what's your intention?  
What's the intention?  
What's the intention?

"Hands up?"  
"Don't shoot!"

"Pssst, I totally get it, you're by yourself  
And the last thing you want to do is take a picture  
But seriously, my little girl loves you  
She's always singing, 'I'm gonna pop some tags'  
I'm not kidding, my oldest, you even got him to go thrifting

And 'One Love,' oh my God, that song, brilliant  
Their aunt is gay, when that song came out  
My son told his whole class he was actually proud  
That's so cool, look what you're accomplishing  
Even the old mom like me likes it, cause it's positive  
You're the only hip-hop that I let my kids listen to  
Coz you get it, all that negative stuff it isn't cool"  
- Yeah?

"Yeah, like, all the guns and the drugs  
The bitches and the hoes and the gangs and the thugs  
Even the protest outside, so sad, and so dumb  
If a cop pulls you over, it's your fault if you run"  
- Huh?

Damn, a lot of opinions, a lot of confusion, a lot of resentment  
Some of us scared, some of us defensive  
And most of us aren't even paying attention  
It seems like we're more concerned with being called racist  
Than we actually are with racism  
I've heard that silences are action and God knows that I've been passive  
What if I actually read a article, actually had a dialogue  
Actually looked at myself, actually got involved?  
If I'm aware of my privilege and do nothing at all, I don't know  
Hip-hop has always been political, yes  
It's the reason why this music connects  
So what the fuck has happened to my voice if I stay silent when black people are dying  
Then I'm trying to be politically correct?  
I can book a whole tour, sell out the tickets  
Rap entrepreneur, built his own business  
If I'm only in this for my own self-interest, not the culture that gave me a voice to begin with  
Then this isn't authentic, it is just a gimmick  
The DIY underdog, so independent  
But the one thing the 'American Dream' fails to mention  
Is I was many steps ahead to begin with  
My skin matches the hero, likeness, the image  
America feels safe with my music in their systems  
And it's suited me perfect, the role, I've fulfilled it  
And if I'm the hero, you know who gets cast as the villain  
White supremacy isn't just a white dude in Idaho?  
White supremacy protects the privilege I hold?  
White supremacy is the soil, the foundation, the cement and the flag that flies outside of my home?  
White supremacy is our country's lineage, designed for us to be indifferent?  
My success is the product of the same system that let off Darren Wilson guilty!  
We want to dress like, walk like, talk like, dance like, yet we just stand by  
We take all we want from black culture, but will we show up for black lives?  
We want to dress like, walk like, talk like, dance like, yet we just stand by  
We take all we want from black culture, but will we show up for black lives?

Your silence is a luxury, hip-hop is not a luxury /4x

What I got for me, it is for me  
What we made, we made to set us free  
/3x