## Rising Down (feat. Mos Def & Styles P)

## **The Roots**

Hello, hello, hello, hello Hello, hello, hello, hello Hello, hello, hello Hello, hello, hello

Hello, hello, hello, helloEvery anywhere; heights, plains, peaks and valleys

Entrances, exits, vestibules and alleys

Winding roads that test the firm nerve

Fortune or fatal behind the blind curve

The engine oil purr, lights flash to a blur

Speed work through the earth, make your motor go Tonight at noon, watch a bad moon risin' Identities in crisis and conflict diamonds blindin'

Staring at lights till they cryin'

Bone gristle poppin' from continuous grindin'

Grapes of Wrath in a shapely glass

Ingredients influential on your ways and acts

Zero tolerance to raise the tax

It don't matter how your gates is latched

You ain't safe from the danger, Jack

Made a way before they made the map

Or a GPS, this is D-E-F, leader

I know where I'm goin,' even when it's dark

And being led down that road (Hello, hello, hello, hello)

You don't see that something's wrong,

Earth's spinnin' outta control? (Hello, hello, hello, hello)

Everything's for sale, even souls

Someone get God on the phone! (Hello, hello, hello, hello)

Northside, nigga, Southside (Hello hello hello)

Shit's poppin' off worldwide (Hello hello)Yo, between the greenhouse gases, and Earth spinnin' off its axis

Got Mother Nature doin' back flips, the natural disasters

It's like 80 degrees in Alaska, you in trouble if you're not an Onassis

It ain't hard to tell that the conditions is drastic

Just turn on the telly, check for the news flashin'

How you want it bagged, paper or plastic?

Lost in translation or just lost in traffic?

Yo, I don't wanna floss, I done lost my passion

And I ain't tryin' to climb, yo I lost my traction

They makin' me break, my contents under pressure, do not shake

I'm workin' while the boss relaxin'

Here come Mr. Taxman, he leavin' a fraction, give me back some

Matter fact, next paycheck, it's like that, son!

I'll fuck around and have to hurt a few men

They'll probably chalk it up as a disturbing new trend, hello

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Earth's spinnin' outta control? (Hello, hello, hello, hello)

Everything's for sale, even souls

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Northside, nigga, Southside (Hello hello)

Shit's poppin' off worldwide (Hello hello hello)Should I say hello or should I say that hell is low?

Am I a nigga or a negro? (Tell me) I'm an African American (Yeah)

They sell drugs in the hood, but The Man, he move the medicine (He move the medicine)

He'll prescribe you an augment for everything (For everything)

A little stuffy nose, tell you get some Claritin (Ha ha)

You know I'm hip to it

And it's hard to claim the land when my great-great grands were shipped to it

Look at technology: they call it downloading (Pssh)

I call it downsizing, somebody follow me (Follow me)

Does a computer chip have an astrology (Does it?)

And when it fuck up, could it give you an apology? (Could it?)

Should it say hello or should it say goodbye (Goodbye)

Try to understand how smart and how hood am I?

It don't matter, though

Until we learn that the world don't turn right, we all oughtta scatter, thoughI know where I'm goin,' even when it's dark

And being led down that road (Hello, hello, hello, hello)

You don't see that something's wrong,

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