We keep showin' you and showin' you and showin' you This is what it is
We gon' flow with you, you know it's true, hip-hop
This is what it is

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A man once said that the streets are watchin' us If this be the truth we must keep hip-hop in us They'll never topple us, you done heard them thugs Now, it's time to hear from the philosophers

Buildings fallin', employment stallin' us Now, it's time, the future is callin' us Television is boring us, radio is whorin' us Lurin' us with a chorus plus, you can't even trust

The church, the synagogue, they all deceivin' us
It's time to believe in us
To believe in a hip-hop lifestyle that agrees with us
No squeeze or bust, bo, bo, you find ease with us

The DJ's, the MC's is us
The ice we've seen enough
It's time for hip-hop and this is what it is

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You know we lead a movement
It's called 'I am hip-hop'
Cats debate about it, but I am hip-hop
Cats wanna talk about but I am hip-hop

My cats in New York like "I am hip-hop"
My cats in Atlanta like "I am hip-hop"
Cats in Miami like "I am hip-hop"
Chi-Town like "I am hip-hop"
All over L.A., "I am hip-hop"

Keep the rawness, the gutter the real The movement's growin' like corn in the field KRS-One was born with the steel I'm on top of my game like Shaquille O'Neal

No surprises, hip-hop come in all sizes Now, watch as KRS rises up, up, up, up and away Now, you critics mouth shut, got nothin' to say And that's good for the kids, 'cause hip-hop This is what it is

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Stay focused, focused
Stay focused oh, oh
Yeah, uh-huh, focused
Yo, look, look, this is what it is

Y'all need to stop confusin' the kids Makin' 'em think you gotta do a bid to be hip-hop Man that ain't it Rob a nigga, kill a nigga, man that ain't shit

How you figure, how murder make you hip?
You need to hop to the bookstore and look for Kris
Anything by KRS-One
Will lead you to peace, to love, to unity and havin' fun

Y'all know but some of y'all don't
And some of y'all won't that's why only some of y'all dope
The rest of y'all, food for the Gods
I eat everything but Pop's 'cause I don't eat lard

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We gon' flow with you, you know it's true, hip-hop
This is what it is, is