Don't mess with that dude ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh ooh, ooh

If he's too young, some of them guys got a real big problem Startin' shit they can't finish if you allow them

To get close enough to think you can't live without them

Don't mess with that dude
Say the rule applies to the next type
Insecurity, he's trying to control your life
Tired of feeling scared, somebody gon' come along and treat you right, no

Don't mess with that dude
Cos he's already taken
I don't give a damn what kinda plans you're makin'
Even if the playa says he's plannin on shakin'
Bottom line is he's still takin' so

Don't mess with that dude
And if you're smart you'll leave him alone
He ain't even thinkin' about getting his own
Not a car, not a job, not a place of his own
Comfortable at his mom's tho

Don't mess with that dude
And if he don't wanna pay the bills he have run up then
Don't mess with that dude
And if he lounge at the place while you're workin' I'd a come up here
Don't mess with that dude
And if he lazy, trite, and jealous, and got a wife then
Don't mess with that dude
And if he's all of the above, I'm gonna say it twice then

Don't mess with that dude

Cos it's only a matter of time before he breaks your heart

Don't mess with that dude

And I know it's not easy for ya to play this part but

Don't mess with that dude

If he promise you happiness but he made you cry Said he'd be true to you but he told you lies You're willin to work with him but he just won't try

Don't mess with that dude
And when you're on to the next
Good guy, good background, good sex
Kick it for a minute but if he won't take steps
Pause givin you his last name, yet

Don't mess with that dude

If you got a man then his boys are strictly off limits

If they make noise your style will be diminished

Tell him where to go if he's tryin to cash his feelings, yeah

Don't mess with the dude
And if your man's ever weak enough to be hittin' you

Recognize, real, and take in what I've given you You don't deserve it, you're worth so much more than abuse

Don't mess with the dude
I know the game, I know the rules now
Don't mess with that dude
I heard the lies, I know the truth now
Don't mess with that dude
I've been alone and I been misused
Don't mess with that dude
Now I know what I gotta do, yeah
Don't mess with that dude

Don't mess with that dude

Cos it's only a matter of time before he breaks your heart

Don't mess with that dude

And I know it's not easy for ya to play this part but

Don't mess with that dude