

When Ure Hero Falls by Tupac Shakur

when your hero falls from grace
all fairy tales r uncovered
myths exposed and pain magnified
the greatest pain discovered
u taught me 2 be strong
but im confused 2 c u so weak
u said never 2 give up
and it hurts 2 c u welcome defeat

when ure hero falls so do the stars
and so does the perception of tomorrow
without my hero there is only
me alone 2 deal with my sorrow
your heart ceases 2 work
and your soul is not happy at all
what r u expected 2 do
when ure only hero falls



Die Hard (Song Excerpt) by Kendrick Lamar

Been waiting on your call all day
Tell me you in my corner right now
When I fall short, I'm leaning on you to
cry out

We all got enough to lie about
My truth too complicated to hide now
Can I open up? Is it safe or not?
I'm afraid a little, you relate or not?
Have faith a little, I might take my time
Ain't no saving face this time



Sunshine (Song Excerpt) by Latto

Pray for my enemies, Lord, I need clarity
They ain't got empathy for me, they stare
at me
They used my couch when they needed
the therapy
Took what they needed but never took
care of me
They saw a dollar sign, treat me like
currency



My Honest Poem (Excerpt) by Rudy Francisco

I was born on July 27th; that makes me a Leo.
I don't really know what that means.
I'm 5 foot 6,
I weigh 145 pounds, I don't know how to swim,
And I'm a sucker for a girl with a nice smile and
clean sneakers.

I'm still learning how to whisper;
I'm often loud in places where I should be quiet,
I'm often quiet in places where I should be loud.
I was born feet first and I've been backwards
ever since.
I like ginger ale . . . a lot.

I've been told that I give really bad hugs.
People say it feels like I'm trying to escape;
Sometimes, it's because I am.



Please Don't Tell Me by Rupi Kaur

Please don't tell me
To keep smiling
Because we are
All liars
With smiles



Ladies First (Song Excerpt) by Queen Latifah

I break into a lyrical freestyle
Grab the mic, look into the crowd and see smiles
Cause they see a woman standing up on her own
two

Sloppy slouching is something I won't do
Some think that we can't flow (can't flow)
Stereotypes, they got to go (got to go)
I'm a mess around and flip the scene into reverse
(With what?) With a little touch of "Ladies First"

Who said the ladies couldn't make it, you must be
blind

If you don't believe, well here, listen to this rhyme
Ladies first, there's no time to rehearse
I'm divine and my mind expands throughout the
universe

A female rapper with the message to send the
Queen Latifah is a perfect specimen



Still I Rise (Excerpt) by Maya Angelou

Out of the huts of history's shame

I rise

Up from a past that's rooted in pain

I rise

I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,

Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.

Leaving behind nights of terror and fear

I rise

Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear

I rise

Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,

I am the dream and the hope of the

slave.

I rise

I rise

I rise.



A Concrete Clock by Brett Vogelsinger

The
clock
on
the
wall
says
it's
five
'til
three
but
the
kids in my class say
it's five 'til free.

