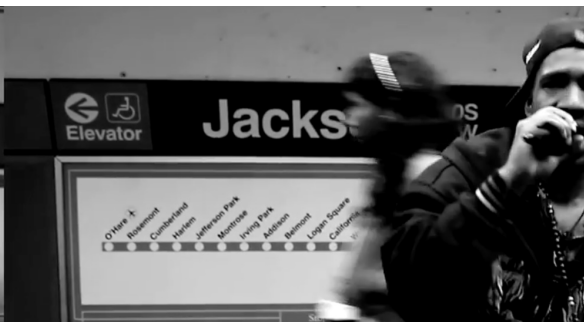




SOLOW REDLINE

BARS BEHIND BARS





4	I KNOW
6	HISTORY OF THE GS
8	DIFFERENT SHADES OF HER
10	ABANDONED
11	STILL RAINING
12	LOVE
13	WHY
14	POVERTY OF THE MIND
16	DISCONNECTED
18	DEATH
19	ONE LOVE
20	CREATORS

I KNOW

Welcome once again to the mind of SoLow
My mother named me Joseph, but some call me Joe, though
You can call me what you like, just enjoy the show
While I explain to you what I already know
My Sun Sign is Aquarius, so to some I'm Mr. Know-it-all
But the truth is, I don't speak on what I don't know at all
Like all the different subjects, I know I can throw at y'all
It's some sides of me that I won't show at all
I know some people don't care for me and I'm okay wit that
Because when I share my opinions, I usually don't take it back
You see, I know I've been through hell, but I safely made it back
So I know a devil when I see one, now take what you take from that
I know people like to judge me and don't even know me
I know not to gamble, cause I don't like people to owe me
I know a lot of history, I studied those before me
So if you know something I don't, I invite you to show me
I know my limitations, so I don't like to drink
I don't hang with shady people cause I know how they think

I've always been a writer, I know my way around the ink
I keep my eyes on the prize, I know what will happen if I blink
 I know how to survive, you gotta pay your dues
 I know why some people cry, cause I been in your shoes
I know how it feel to miss your boat, if you snooze you lose
 I know right from wrong, I ain't never been confused
 I'm different from the crowd, I know we not the same
 I take life serious, I know it's not a game
I know what happens when a lit match meets up propane
 I know if it's an oil fire, use salt to extinguish the flame
Nothing in life is promised, I know if you don't work, you don't eat
 Although I've won a lot in life, I also know the feeling of defeat
 I'm not a sore loser, but I love the rush when I compete
I like to finish what I started, I know when my job is not complete
 I know tomorrow is different, so I plan in advance
 Of all the things I do know, I don't know how to dance
 I know a lot about women, I'm experienced in romance
 I know to treat her like a lady, take her out & hold hands
I know my kids love me, even though I'm not the best father
 Even though I educated, I know I could always be smarter
 I've came a long way in life, but I know I can go farther
 I've done a lot with my craft, but I know I can go harder
That's only some of what I know, I'm not even halfway through
 I know about trials and tribulations, because I had my few
I know some of y'all gone, like this piece this what I do though
 Some probably won't like it, but I already knew

HISTORY OF THE GS

As I Gradually Gain insight on being Great
I mentally Go back to Granny crib, where I could Go outside the Gate
I've always had Goals of Getting Greenbacks and doing Good
Gagging on Green leaves away from Gangways of the hood
The Ghetto is a Gangland, surrounded by pain
Where you don't have to be Gangsta to be Groomed by a Gang
I used to turn on the Game on Gamenight, to Kevin Garnett and Gawkw
Because his Greatness was Genuine, as he Glided to the Goal like a hawk
Everybody wants to be a Gladiator, with jaws as fragile as Glass
Posing as Gorillas, while Gossiping about the other Guy's past
I never had a Graduation, because I never Graduated or Got Good Grades
No cap & Gown for this Graduate, like no Grass in a Gloomy Glade
I would like to be a Globetrotter, but never had a Glimpse of Going Global
There is nothing Glorious where I'm at on the Globe,
There is no Great Geology in being local
Is it Greedy to not want to eat food that's Generic?
Or be Grumpy at Grandparents that leave no Generational wealth for
further Generations to inherit?
I Generally didn't know the difference between a Goose and a Gander
God, I felt Goofy when I found out the difference is Gender

I sometimes wish I could Gravitate to a different Galaxy
To be Generous with other planets and show the Genius underrated artwork in
my Gallery
I don't believe in Giants and Ghosts, Ghouls, or anything Ghoulish
All that Gibberish, Gibe, Gobbledygook to me is just plain foolish
I want to Get married and be a Groom, but I Gotta find a Godsend for a wife
She doesn't have to be a Gorgeous, Gaudy, Grand, Glittering, Glorious, Goddess,
just be good for my life
One day I want a Gigantic, Gargantuan mansion with a Guesthouse
With Guards in the Guardroom of the Guardhouse to protect me when I'm
stressed out
I hope God Guide the jury to say "not Guilty" so I can Get Gone (In other words)
Disappear, Get out, shift Gears, Go home
I know Goof-balls, I know Goons, I know Good and bad people
I know Gold-diggers on the Gold coast, people that sing Gospel, turn around,
and do evil
I grew up a Go-Getter, Generating wordplay with ease
My Gene pool creates Geniuses, and that's my General history of the Gs.

DIFFERENT SHADES OF HER

She is beautiful, alluring
Wonderful, assuring
Graceful, appealing
Tasteful, yet revealing
She is dazzling, delicate, benevolent
Angry, mystical, malevolent
Marvelous, enticing
She is the cream of the crop, the icing
She can be mean, livid
Conforming, exquisite
Accomplished, active
Businesslike, attractive
She can be presumptuous, illicit
Unconventional, explicit
She has been demoralized, disconnected
Crushed, neglected
She can be outspoken, rude
She likes to daydream, brood
She can sing, she can dance
She has a captivating stare, a mesmerizing glance
Her hair is as short as a brief conversation
Sometimes as long as the Nile
She is full of grace, attractiveness, and unparalleled style

She is uncontrollable, violent
Incoherent, reserved, and silent
She is tender, sleek, smooth, and glossy
Commanding, dominating, bossy
She has been penniless, broke, tapped out, poor
Hurt, destroyed, torn apart, sore
At the same time rich, upper-class, paid
Well-off, wealthy, she got it made
She is righteous, commendable, deserving, blameless
Flagrant, sinful, hardened, shameless
She is a soldier, a principle, a teacher
A leader, a servant, an usher, a preacher
She is the police, a prisoner, a fighter
A rapper, a poet, a writer
A model, a stripper, a porn star
She is 1 in a million, a born star
She is homeless, a bag lady
A construction worker, the flag lady
She is a boxer a wrestler, she is strong
She is a team player, and even stronger alone
A princess, a royal queen
She is wife material, with or without a ring
She is an aunt, a sister, a mother
A girlfriend, a baby mama, a lover
She is tougher than leather, yet as soft as a fur
She comes in different shapes, colors, sizes, and varieties,
Because She Is Her

ABANDONED

I sometimes feel alone
left behind, by myself, on my own
Everybody I love is all gone
I've been pushed to the side, dismissed, disowned
Who would be at my funeral if I were to pass away?
I'm not askin because I feel bad today
I just have to say
It hurts to the core to be treated as a castaway
Am I a bad apple, spoiled and rotten?
Is that why I'm hurting, feeling downtrodden?
Will this pain be stoppin or am I just temporarily forgotten?
Imagine wakin up feeling froze because you slept out in the cold
I'm not just talk bout frostbitten toes
When I say "left out in the cold"
I'm talkin by yourself, being discarded Nobody cares, totally disregarded
I'm fighting this depression, trying my hardest
But still I lose every round, regardless
You can see it in my face, it can't be imitated
There is a shell up over my heart that can't be penetrated
I don't know how to love because it's never been demonstrated
I feel empty inside, like my soul has been eliminated
like I'm in a relationship and just got dumped
on the side of the road in the middle of nowhere and can't get a jump
I might cry soon in my throat, I feel that lump
Deflated like a car tire, no access to a pump
Imagine being pushed away, always rejected
People give you the cold shoulder and don't care how you affected
No sense of security, never being protected
You don't have to be an orphan for you to be neglected
When will I see heaven? I'm living in hell
Ain't nothing goin good, I'm not doing too well
I wanted to write something uplifting, once again I failed
You think this poem is sad? Imagine rotting in jail
in one of these cells

STILL RAINING

All the military powers, the soldiers and bombs
Can't stop a storm overhead so desperate to come
You can't trust the politicians cause they work with the devil
Put your faithgar in one of them the whole earth with get leveled
Gangbangers with a badge to protect serve
Every time they get made it affects the world
I think we need another Noah to come build an ark
We ain't going nowhere like a car still in park
Everybody getting wet and it's cold and sickness
Little girls' heads swell when they notice they thickness
Manmade disease but it ain't no cure
What if the president caught it? Well, I ain't so sure
Money get you what you want like a cure for AIDS
Ain't it magic how it magically just goes away
I think we need some sunshine before we all get drenched
If this is a dream, then I think we all need to get pinched
It's still raining
We need the rain to stop, to change this plot
You ready for a change or not
It's still raining
We need sunlight in the air
It's still raining
We need the rain to stop to change this plot
You ready for a change or not
Dear Lord, if you hear me, we need a way out
We can't afford to sit back and watch it all play out
Everybody going wrong, can't find a safe route
Kids living on the streets where they forced to stay out
Tsunami took lives, Katrina took homes
I know this poem won't right all wrongs
But have mercy on us Lord, we are not that strong
We can't fix this on our own
It's still raining.

LOVE

Who gone love me when I feel I'm down on my last
If I'm broke and need some money, who done let me borrow cash
Who gone stand with me when I feel like I'm alone
If I got nowhere to go, who gone let me in their home
If I gotta get from A to B and can't get that far
Who gone be the one to come through and give me a ride in their car
Who gone be my best friend, my closest of kin
Take me to church and teach me to repent for my sin
Who gone walk with me, who gone talk with me
Hey, if I'm lost in this world, who gone get lost with me
Who gone be my best friend or my closest buddy
When I'm down and out hug me, who gone love me
When this world got me down and they trying to judge me
Who gone stand like a mountain so they can't budge me
Sometime I find myself wondering where the love at
If I'm always showin love, who gone show the love back
Who gone love me
Come take a walk in my life and see what I see
What is a nightmare or a dream to you is my reality
Come and see the kids that die, the mothers that cry
The tears in their eyes and the politicians that lie
If you walk in my life, you gone see a lot of pain
Better bring an umbrella, cause it's gone a lot of rain
You just might go insane from problems on the brain
end up in a hospital cause you couldn't maintain
If you walk in my life, you wake up to discover
little kids growing up every day tougher and tougher
With nobody to love them or nobody to care
Then we wonder why they run the streets or end up out there
Cause they living this life and I'm telling you all the facts
Some of y'all won't understand cause you didn't come from that
Sometime I find myself wondering where the love at
If we always showing love, who gone show some love back
Who gone love us

WHY

Why?

Why rappers rap so bad and the gas so high

Politicians get in office and they always lie

Why they tell you that you innocent until proven guilty

But the hearing for a bond is on day one, can you feel me

Why the child support don't support the children

Am I raising them or buying her building

Why so many guns on the street if they wanna stop the killing

Why your favorite rapper still got problems and they got millions

Why don't you own a home, but got expensive jewelry

Why you ain't got gas money but got on some Amiris

Why take the father out the house and let the system raise the kids

How you gone get rehabilitated serving a natural life bid

Why you pay for her BBL but not her tuition

Why you overweight and your kids suffer from malnutrition

Why we stop using starch & putting creases in our clothes

Why is the world so disrespectful to those that get old

Why everybody gotta outshine the other

Why is everything bad in our life our father's fault, what about the mother

Why G.C.I. always playing the same songs

Why is the majority of the day spent looking at a phone

Why is a grown human being drinking milk from a cow

Why you coward till you around a familiar crowd

Why is it legal to hunt deer and slaughter hogs

But Mike Vick went to jail cause his people fought some dogs

Why you say no snitching but buddies with the police

Why is there a war on drugs but a prescription for percs

Why people lazy in the world but go to jail and work

POVERTY OF THE MIND

How much can your money do for you, your family or community
If it can't buy equality, peace of mind, or immunity
You got concert tickets, new clothes and shoes and drive a hellcat
When you return from the concert in dirty clothes, scuffed up shoes,
and out of gas, your home is where your hell at
How can you thumb your nose at your own people but share the same
stomping ground
When you have so much in common, why is it so hard to find common
ground
A few dollars more than the next have you feeling you are suddenly entitled
Really you are mentally imprisoned if you don't feel survival is most vital
Imagine being in jail where your spending limit is \$125
And you got family on the outside that need that money so they can survive
Meanwhile people locked up with you wearing the same clothes lookin at
you funny
Watching bags every store day counting the next man money
It's amazing to hear people use words like poor, broke, and bum
When our people fighting and dying over crumbs living in the slums
Asking questions thats plain dumb like "where you from"
When you came from the same place where I come from
Poverty

Waking up in up the same place, looking at the same face
Too many people stuffed in the same space,
drugs leave our heads full of brain waste
How many banks do you own
How many of us own multiple homes
If you die today how much wealth will you pass on
How many frivolous items have you wasted cash on
Did you know you were your own worst enemy
The ones you call your friends are not who they pretend to be
And if you and money is so much of a simile
Then why can't you get approval for a loan from lending tree
I don't know maybe you can if you scam for it
If you used to wealth why go out on a lam for it
Some women sell their bodies to a man for it
But me I refuse to compromise who I am for it
My 9-5 won't buy a mansion but the kids are fed legally
They don't live in a castle but they can hold their heads high regally
They can't always afford to wear the latest fashions
But they are educated and follow their own dreams and passions
To travel sometimes we might need public transportation
And there is no guarantee to be a yearly summer vacation
I teach my kids we don't need to always shine
because too much brightness can leave a person legally blind
I work to get ahead while some hustle to stay behind
Trying to appear rich but suffering from poverty of the mind

DISCONNECTED

I used to wake up to the sound of music
The vibration of bass from the radio
The glow from the TV playing a video
I never thought I'd ever lose it
I would sit in the tub for hours
bubbles filled up to the top
Water extremely hot
And when I was done I'd stand up and shower
I'd go to the large vanity mirror
freshen my breath with some soap
Wipe away the mist so it's clearer
A quick shave with portable liners
Pick socks and underwear that's unused
A hat that matches the shoes
A t-shirt and jeans designer
I'd go down to the kitchen to cook
grits, sausage, bacon, and eggs
Waffles, pancakes, or toasted bread
The kids can smell it before they come look
After I clean up I walk the dog
Most people get nervous on sight
Some people would ask "Do she bite?"
While I teach her to fetch with a ball
I drop off my children at school
My son can play sports like the pros
My daughter as beautiful as a rose
All of their friends tell them "your father is cool"
Connected

Now when I wake up to the sound of music
The radio is stuck on one station
People banging on doors feeling impatient
Reality and reams become confusing
Voices yelling for “first in the shower”
There’s forty-four people in line
It’s only one man at a time
The water only stay hot for one hour
There is no mirror up on the wall
My reflection is checked in a window
The court system got us in limbo
Ain’t no outdate for no one at all
No liners, we use Magic Shave
That’s so strong it peel off your skin
From the hair on your head to your chin
This cream cuts closer than blades
The clothes that we wear are the same
Bob Barker created the shoes
The shirt and the pants have been used
DOC is the designer name
Breakfast and lunch is jelly and bread
No orange juice pancakes or meat
Boiled eggs, one day of the week
The toilet is right by the bed
Now my children are out there alone
My daughter is going off to college
My son is acquiring more knowledge
And we only get to talk on the phone
Disconnected

DEATH

Love is the reason for breathing
The real nourishment the body is needing
Every soul is hungry for feeding
Every truth hungers for believing
Life has one promise that's death
The body's only defense for that is breath
It fights until the last one left
Then the return to dirt is next
You become a memory, similar to a myth
Stories of your life become gifts
Something in the universe suddenly shifts
Everything you've ever done is reduced to clips
Ones that never showed you love shed crocodile tears
The last amount of mourning come from once you spent the most years
The genuine ones face their worst fears
Someone they never wanted to miss is no longer here
But death is not all bad there's no more pain
No more feeling good deed were done in vain
No more fighting with bouts of depression
No living up to expectations fear of regression
No more feeling loved or appreciated
No more trying to scrape by being intoxicated inebriated
No more being lost scared and afraid
No more hustling working or struggling to stay paid
No more diseases destruction and wars
No more separation between rich and the poor
A permanent sleep no nightmares left
Because death assures that you will experience
No More death

ONE LOVE

You'd like if you asked for money and I gave it up willingly
Put you ahead of myself even if it was killing me
Help you fight no matter the cause
Don't expect change from you no matter the flaws I do for you? You don't have
to reciprocate When I celebrate you ain't gotta participate
Right or wrong I should always take your side
My enemies are your friends no matter how hard we collide
What Dirk say? It's all love
I got your back broski, I won't budge
You be doing some snake shit but won't judge
You change up. Ain't no grudge
Naw man, fuck my feelings. It's all about you
You can count on me to do shit for you that you wont even do
You aint loyal to no squad, no gang, no mob, or no crew
Gone stab me in the back!!! I'll just pretend not to have a clue
I guess we ain't tight if we don't do the same drugs
We in an era where people turn on they own blood
So-called friends get with opps to drag your name in the mud
So if it aint none, the why we saying one love
Don't approach me no more with that G-shit or that partner shit
Especially if you only say what you saying on some politics
I see through your facade, your love is a mirage
A collision in traffic I would be inclined to just dodge
I'm too old to fall for the oke doke
I can't cut my homie off just cause I know he broke
I won't change on somebody cause of the crowd
I wont play the bully either, cause I got a child
Who I am today is who I'll be tomorrow
Even if I'm down and out and have to beg or borrow
I'll never let material things make things make me feel bigger
If you get hit in the back it wont be me behind the knife or the trigger
If I say I got love for you I really mean it
People be quick to change up on you. I know cause I seen it.
Don't let'em get to you, If they do it once they'll do it twice
Don't accept no favors, they always come with a price
People ain't real no more, I'm going to keep it a buck with you
I don't do fake shit, if I fuck with you I fuck with you
Don't expect me to be perfect that only comes from above
I got love for a lot of people so I'm not limited to one love

CREATORS

I create creators
I've watched teammates become infiltrators
I like to debate, though I'm no great debater
Consistently serving punchlines like a waiter
I listen to other poets and can't help but to smirk
because I can hear my work
So you can call me a jerk
or just admit, hey, the truth hurts
Smoking all these Christmas trees
Murdered my memory
But even though I read off the paper, I still give you good energy
I'm not young anymore and I won't pretend to be
But I know firsthand you are your own worst enemy
I got shot five times cause I chose to gangbang
I went to jail for selling drugs cause that's how I chose to maintain
The game 30 year ago and today is still the same game
Only difference is they using switches now cause they can't aim
I did this to yall, that's why I try so hard to help change your thoughts
That's why I'm at a law table trying to help you fight the case you caught
But I won't tell you that your decisions ain't your fault
Cause I was told if you talk that talk you gotta walk that walk
I never beat my kids even though I was abused
Even when I rebelled I acknowledged there were rules
Life is a lot like chess you gotta think ahead before you move

I create creators
You ain't winning if you ain't got haters
Don't confuse uplifters with degraders
Don't be a Rod Waver
Wearing your heart on your sleeve
Don't turn away help just to be deceived
Don't stay in a toxic relationship with the opportunity to leave
Next time you get mad stop!!! Think! Breath...
I did this to yall
I gave you my vision of the streets and you brought it to life
I told you women were garden tools not a mother or a wife
I told you, you ain't safe in these streets without your pipe
I told you everything wrong was right
I was wrong
So mimic my words if they'll save you later
Allow my flaws to sharpen your mind like a razor
Talk about the old man reading his poetry off the paper
You are my creation
I enjoy watching my creations
Because I create creators



WRITE SOLOW REDLINE AT COOK COUNTY JAIL:

JOSEPH LANE #20230728042

2700 S CALIFORNIA

CHICAGO, IL 60608





**CHECK OUT SOLOW REDLINE ON THE NET
SPOTIFY, SOUNDCLOUD, YOUTUBE & FACEBOOK**

**SUPPORT SOLOW BY DONATING TO HIS CASHAPP
\$LIYAHMESHELL19**

PUBLISHED BY MIDWEST BOOKS TO PRISONERS

LOUD MONEY MUSIC GROUP PRESENTS

APR 30 **\$20 ENTRY**

SINGLE RELEASE

SoLow Redline

"GIMME MY CHECK" MUSIC BY DJ THREESTACKS

FOR MORE INFO CALL (888) 508-LMMG (5664)

17011 WATERFORD DR 9:00PM-UNTIL

21+ EVENT

FRI FEB 7TH

Chicago Spittaz

HYPOP EDITION

ASTORIA LOUNGE

2020 N KOSTNER CHICAGO IL

DOORS OPEN 8PM
SHOW STARTS 9PM TIL 2AM
TEXT SPITAZ TO 555999 FOR SLOT INFO

**HEADLINING
SOLOW REDLINE**

