

# beats, rhymes, & culture

Florence Louis-Charley

## DROPPIN THE NEEDLE JUNE 10, 2004

(I WONDER WHEN I WROTE THIS. NAH IT'S WEAK)  
THE MONEY'S YA RELIGION SKY THE LIMIT LIVE LIFE  
NUMBERS IS BIG BUSINESS MAKES THE POOR LIVE TRIFE  
THE GLIMMERS OF HOPE PROVOKE THOSE WITHOUT DOLLARS TO DREAM  
THROUGH YOUR EXISTENCE BECOME WEALTHY KNOWLEDGE IS KING  
PIMPS AND CARD SHARKS THIEFS MURDERERS WITH HARD LUCK  
ADDICTS AND FIENDS PROSTITUTES PASSIN' FOR TEENS IS MY SOCIETY  
COPS THAT SHOOT BLACKS IS ROUTINE FOR NOTERIETY  
GROW UP WATCHIN' WELL DRESSED NIGGAS WITH CHARMS  
BEAUTIFUL LADIES ON THEIR ARMS  
DANGEROUS NEW CARS WAS MY FANTASY FOR NAS  
RUBBIN MY LIPS WITH CAMPOPHENIQUE  
STILL BEHIND THE EARS WET TURNED OUT TO BE  
PIONEERS VETS AMONGST HUSTLERS CRACK SELLERS AND LIERS AND  
SQUARES...

(NAH THAT WAS WEAK THERE)

MY PEOPLE BE PROJECTS OR JAIL NEVER HARVARD OR YALE  
PARDON ME TYPE IN MY 2WAY WHILE I'M CHARGIN' MY CELL  
IT'S HARD TO BE ICED UP WITH GUCCI GOD POVERTY'S REAL

"BOOK OF RHYMES," NAS, GOD'S SON