WU-TANG BLACKOUT POETRY CHALLENGE
@ THE MEDFORD LIBRARY / April 12-30

Once you have created your blackout poem(s) bring them to the Medford Library and get a special sticker and/or poster (while supplies last)! We’ll also be featuring select entries on our social media accounts so make sure to include your name somewhere on your entry if you want recognition. You can even give us your Twitter or Instagram handles so we can tag you!

Below are 7 verses from select Wu-Tang Clan songs to get you started, but feel free to find your own and cite the verse and song. Just make sure to black out inappropriate language.

GZA’s verse from “Protect Ya Neck”

The Wu is too slammin' for these Cold Killin' labels
Some ain't had hits since I seen Aunt Mabel
Be doin' artists in like Cain did Abel
Now they money's gettin' stuck to the gum under the table
That's what you get when you misuse what I invent
Your empire falls and you lose every cent
For tryna blow up a scrub
Now that thought was just as bright as a 20-watt light bulb
Should've pumped it when I rocked it

[Inappropriate language blacked out]
This goes on in some companies
With majors, they're scared to death to pump these
First of all, who's your A&R?
A mountain climber who plays an electric guitar?
But he don't know the meanin' of dope
When he's lookin' for a suit-and-tie rap
That's cleaner than a bar of soap
And I'm the dirtiest thing in sight
Matter of fact, bring out the girls, and let's have a mud fight!

#WuTangForTheLibraries
@JCLS_Tweets
@JCLSOregon (IG)
U-God's verse from “Impossible”

United Nations, gun bias style patient
Formulating rap plural acapella occupation
Conquer land like Napoleon, military bomb fest
We want sanitary food, planetary conquest
Thug peoples on some hardco' body
Get your together 'fore the Illuminati hit
Dreams is free and escape is sleep
For a fool peep jewels, keep tools for tough time
The rule of rough mind, elevate, stay behind
The sun gotta shine, keep on, cremate
The whole Babylon, times up, move on
Kings on your pawn, checkmate, no fakes
Supposed through the gate, case closed
Things get froze, when it comes time, chosen ones
Will holding guns, we take flight with no fright
And attack, never fear cause our words is clear
What's been done can't be undone Son, we can't care
Cause the last days and times are surely here
Snakes and flakes get blown, by the righteous ones
Divine minds bind, we unified as one
Half of black folk, we half broke, smoke a bowl of weed
Our everlasting essence stay flying over Egypt

#WuTangForTheLibraries
@JCLSTweets
@JCLSOregon (IG)
Masta Killa’s verse from “For Heaven’s Sake”

Now all pay tribute to this entity
A spark that surges through the undergrowth
Overwhelming the populace from the entry
The Wu-Tang Dynasty, has emerged
From this elite fleet I was appointed to strike the vital nerve
Mouths tend to utter and speak empty words
Observe the magnetic attraction as we breathe
Seeds of MC’s that these fake industry
Feed off, the chrome might tend to squeeze off
And spray, an array of shots
That travel downwind, just respect my prolific pen
As I ascend, the minds of the weak
To rise and take power Eiffel tower-ing over the land
As we stand, expanding our cream
A dollar to every grain of sand
Let the mind use the physical as planned

Inspectah Deck’s verse from “Hollow Bones”

Fleeing the crime scene speeding
Beefing leaving behind cream, not even peeping that I was leaking
Won’t see the precinct just got a recent case beaten
Still jakes are creeping, don’t blow your spot, stay the weekend
Keep the Ruger peeling who’s squealing few knew the dealings
Keep the steel concealed in ’cause we got no time for feelings
Eyes on the building guards are on the corners illing
Million dollar block villain plotting on a killing
Feel like, a superhero talking like a true De Niro
They boost his ego found him broke down, reduced to zero
Cops fill reports hoping I’ll reveal my source
U-God's verse from “Gravel Pit”

Yo, step to my groove, move like this
When we shoot the gift of course it's ruthless
Grab the mic with no excuses
In a sec, grab the Tec's and loot this
Executing, shaking all sets, and I'm breaking all hecks
I'm taking all bets, move all best, who want the dram' next
You all stank, we got the bigger bank
Bigger shank to fill your tank
Still the same kill you for real, while you crank
Slide, do or die, fry to bake
Admire the greats, on fire wit a heart of hate
Bitter shark, every part I take, heavy darts that quake
It's okay, all fakes, get caught by the dropkicks
You know the thrill, yes it's Park Hill
Yo we hit 'em with the hot grits
On the go, check the flow, saying Wu don't rock shit
Stop quick, hold the gossip, stop sweating my pockets
I hear the hot 🎶
**RZA's verse from “Never Let Go”**

Never let go, the all-eye-seeing, the supreme  
Never let go the love of your seeds, or your queen  
Never let go your heart, or the place you started  
The feeling that I had, Wu-Tang had just charted  
The old earth departed, I give thanks to the martyrs  
I never let go the love I have for thy father  
Never let go the glow  
The more I know the more that it shows  
I won't let go, even if I decompose  
Your seed will carry it on, we need to carry it on  
Pass the baton, life is just the marathon  
And ain't' playing to win it, it's an epidemic  
Never let go, that's what the god recommended

**Method Man's verse from “A Better Tomorrow”**

Wake up, get a hold of your life, go get your cake up  
The motto in the streets is you eat, or you get ate up  
Straight up, you tired of waiting, go get your weight up  
My peoples tired of waiting for reparations to pay us  
Screaming Jesus can save us, I, I get the Bentley if I save up  
But that's just another trick to enslave us  
Push the minimum wages  
Put, put our fathers up in them cages  
Then watch out when mother struggled to raise us  
But, but my ambition won't let me live in this poor condition  
That doesn't care about color, creed, or your religion  
Priests, politicians gotta listen to opposition  
From my position, we still ain't got a pot to piss in