

Performance, Feedback, Revision

The first version of this rap was pretty primitive
It was like, “Yo, yo, the origin of species
Ain’t no feces, dawg, believe me...”
And that’s all I could think of
So then I thought, this needs to be re-written
And sometimes people ask: “How does your show get written?”
Like this: performance, feedback, revision
And how do I generally develop my lyricism?
Like this: performance, feedback, revision
And how do human beings ever learn to do anything?
Like this: performance, feedback, revision
And evolution is really an algorithm that goes
Like this: performance, feedback, revision
So the genetic code of every living creature was written
Like this: performance, feedback, revision
See, the genes are like a text with a thousand pages
And revision occurs in the random changes
That come from mutations, and when they see the light
That’s the performance, that’s the *phenotype*
And natural selection is the feedback side
That’s about who survives and whose genes catch rides
In the next generation, yes, what I’m saying
Is that a rap performance like this is the best illustration
Of the way *descent with modification* works
‘Cause the performance is necessary to change the words
To decide which have an impact and which to send back
To the drawing board, in fact I just did that
When you failed to react, ‘cause any line can change
And mutations occur when I improvise on stage
‘Cause up until this moment, everything I said was off the page
But... (Freestyle improvised rhyme)
And that’s how my show gets written and re-written
Like this: performance, feedback, revision
And anyone can use this algorithm to learn anything
Like this: performance, feedback, revision
But remember, you get the feedback, and you make the decision
Like this: performance, feedback, revision
You wanna know about evolution? This is the definition
Like this: performance, feedback, revision