

## C and D

Two guys bicker about new records.

**C:** We meet again.

**D:** Indeed. [goes to fridge, returns with chilled brownie]

**C:** Okay? We are ready to begin. D, I wish you clarity.

**D:** Yes. Focus pocus.

**Kool Keith**

*Global Enlightenment Part 1 DVD (MVD)*

**C:** I thought this was gonna be Keith being oh-so-weird but actually it's him being clever... He's talking philosophy.

**D:** He's talking seltzer water.

**C:** He's talking about theft, it's a favorite subject of his. And this is about how he dealt with that: by doing something that is unstealable. Listen to what he's saying...

**Kool Keith on screen:** I learnt that people like to steal your sodas. Seltzer water, people don't like it. You could send a big jug of seltzer water around, and nobody would touch it... But people taking my Hawaiian Punches, people drinking all my Tropicana? That happened for weeks, and months. Seltzer water keeps people away. It's like a twist. I really don't like it myself, but I like it *because* people don't like it. You have to do it that way. But you have to learn how to like it, like, 'Ah, it's so good to have a glass of seltzer water.'

**C:** That's the way I've felt about Keith's last, uh, five records. They're hard to like! But now I gotta listen to them again, because they were hard to like *on purpose*.

**D** [musing]: Hmm. I have to admit I did not even bother hearing those records.

**C:** Keith is brilliant even when he's talking about being weird as a conceptual survival strategy. The whole thing is a sustained critique of status-obsessed modern hip-hop. So, he's supposed to be showing how large he's living, that's what hip-hop stars do on their DVDs.

But here he's living in a hotel. He's eating at Popeye's. He's got no hot women on his wing so he follows one around and buys her some shorts. He hangs out with music star friends, that is, a streetbusking guitarist. He has trouble finding liquor. When they show him on tour, all he's doing is walking down the street. The whole thing is done straight....

**D:** Even straighter than the Turbonegro film.

**C:** Which is saying a lot, when you think about it.

**Kool Keith on screen:** I'm always touring, even when I'm walking.... Do I think I'm above the streets? I *am* above the streets, at my mentality level. Everybody now raps behind the microphone and a couple of bodyguards and they say they're 'the streets.' You see a lot of rappers, they walk around with a lot of people with 'em, with headsets—their reality is not even reality. It's a *fantasy*. I don't sit in an SUV, doing my documentary, ride around and talk about 'I was in the streets, I live the street, I am the streets.' You mean you *ride* through the streets. Ha. You know what I'm saying?"

**C:** He's goofing like Sun Ra. Everything has at least two and a half meanings.

**D:** Thirty-five minutes of new stoner comedy-philosophy.

**Little Freddie King**

*You Don't Know What I Know (Fat Possum)*

**D:** [looking at cover, reading the album title] "You don't know what I know?" I have a feeling he knows the same thing Kool Keith knows. What it is I do not know but I am trying to know.

**C:** It's obviously a Fat Possum production.

**D:** Which means it's thick enough to eat with a fork.

**C:** Raw John Lee Hooker feel, without sheen or Clapton cameos.

**D:** John Lee Hooker would never have a song called "Crack Head Joe."

**C:** It's about time someone paid tribute to a crackhead.

**Blowfly**

*Fahrenheit 69 (Alternative Tentacles)*

**C:** Blowfly is an old R & B songwriter dude who's been running the crude parody game for 750 years. Wears a cape and mask to protect his secret identity. Totally classic if you're in a certain mood.

**D:** We have to give him some major credit for the cover picture, which is a takeoff on the Bad Brains' first album cover, only Blowfly is doing a urine lighting strike on the Capitol building!

**C:** Blowfly has to be experienced live, he's a comedian provocateur goofball.



# Thrones

Day Gate, Dollar Short CD & Gatefold 2LP sum39

This very special compilation contains many tracks that are taken from hard to find previous Thrones releases and also rare, previously unreleased tracks. Beautiful packaging designed by Stephen D'Malley with humorous anecdotes/liner notes by the man himself: Joe Preston. This is the first official Thrones release in five years.

SOUTHERN LORD [www.southernlord.com](http://www.southernlord.com)

Photo by Debra A. Zeller

Andy Cobic of Vetiver

