



A Letter From A Loser

March 3, 2017

July 6th, 2012 I released my very first project entitled Soul Food Scriptures EP with a good friend of mine by the name of Sabir Muhammad. The only people that were waiting on the project were probably my friends and a few people who saw my 23 years video. As a team Sabir and I created an ardent set of tracks mixed with bassy, soulful instrumentals outlining conscientious, verbal poetry. The project was low-budget but that didn't distract from the vibe of the album. I spoke from experiences on tracks like "Everyday Thang" and "Truth Be Told". I tried to stay positive by being faithful and looking upwards while living a life full of issues and concerns. My goal with that project was to paint a life once lived. I had a story to tell at the time. A blog once said, "Big Meats has a story to tell, as well as some lyrical talents and abilities to showcase. I played the album a few days before my third project "Boy Meats World" drops and reflected on my experiences, emotions, events, and triumphs that help create a body of work that my friends and day one fans calls "a local classic." I couldn't be more proud of that project. Thanks to the ones who gave me the fuel to continue to inspire others.

You heard my passion, my fears, my pain, my love for people, and from that grew a foundation of people that believed in my me as well as my music. Fast-forward almost 5 years later that foundation continues to grow and you're still cheering for the "College Grad Loser." As I get older I slowly began to see the world for what it was. I didn't end up with a record deal after that first project. I ended up in Sylvester. Back at my grandmother's house, in my old room I left behind in 2007. It hurts to move back and see the same people doing the same things they were doing when you left. It hurts because you have love for those people and you want to see them reach their dreams and goals. But at the same time the streets and the corner can become very comfortable, which causes you to become complacent and

okay with your situation. You began to think, "I got my homies, a little money in my pocket, an enough for a 40oz and a black and mild. That's all I need." I almost got sucked back into that life. Copping a 40 oz and a black and mild to ease what little pain I thought I had. At the same time I knew this wasn't the life I wanted. While I was going through my problems in Sylvester, my best friend was going through his problems back home. Both of us were hungry for a way out. It wasn't that we didn't care for the people or our friends and family in our hometowns, we just knew what we wanted in life was going to happen where we were so we both made that decision to make it happen.

We loaded up ours car, both which was barely holding it together and made that journey to the Atlanta. We pretty much moved with nothing. A duffle, a TV, a few pair of shoes, our computers and we started a new chapter in our lives with no intentions of looking back. Our first night we went to Popeye's, grabbed some food and went back to our empty apartment and sat on the living room floor because we didn't have any furniture. We ate our food, smiled, laughed and began to dream about all the great things that could be accomplished. I personally wanted to do something great to show the next kid out of Sylvester that he or she could do the same with a little faith and hard work. Our first semester of grad school went well. We ended with high GPAs on our way to our second semester. I was excited, Villa on the other hand wanted out, he wasn't feeling grad school, but quitting wasn't part of the game plan. It's funny cause at the end of the day when second semester started he was in classes and I was forced to drop mine due to previous school loans going into default and was denied financial aid until I went through a rehabilitation program for 10 months. Resulting in me being withdrawn from my graduate program and Georgia State University.

The Financial Aid album came about after being dismissed from Georgia State University after a misunderstanding with financial aid, resulting in me taking a break from school. I was ashamed, embarrassed, and down on my luck. I went into a state of depression. I locked myself in my room, applying for jobs, questioning myself, losing sleep. I literally had to take sleeping pills to go to sleep and get some rest. There were days I would literally stay up all night plotting my next move and I would try to sleep all day until Villa got home from school so I could ask him about school and prepare to go workout. When you're in that four corner room by yourself and your thoughts get the best you, it can drive you insane. No money in my account, my best friend Villa helped me out as much as he could to make sure I didn't have to move back home because I was too prideful to ask for help from my family. But I made sure Villa stayed in school and got his masters for both of us. I was probably in one of the lowest points in my life. I finally caught a break and was blessed with a job at Finish Line selling shoes. It didn't

make ends meet but it was something. My mom agreed to pay half of my rent. I was in a better place mentally but still felt empty. That's when I realized it time to hit the booth. I called up Sab once again for a chance to make a project with him. During the process he introduce to me the beat that would become "Rappin" and the first single off of my album. I blessed with a second job during the album process. I bust my ass there until I was brought on as a full-time employee. That was a major blessing. This was also around the time I link up with Don G who I had heard about through Sab and JJay. He was gracious enough to bless me with some beats for the album. Financial Aid was released May 3, 2015. It was my best project at the time. I opened up a little more in that project. I literally shed tears while recording the track "Rand University" which became my personal favorites off the album. Although it was a good project, I didn't feel the love I felt I deserve. But I pushed hard copies of that cd for \$5 until I was able to pay for a new home studio.

Fast-forward I decided it was time to finish what I started and went back to graduate school to attain my MBA. I also decided to it was time to drop another project. I was blessed to have a guy who I consider a good friend of mine now to come to me and lay it all on the line. He believed in my music and vision and was willing to help spread the real. Shout to the homie Sean, Much love to you bro. I called on Don G for help. He didn't hesitate to say yes. The process began. I added my roommate Stan to the formula to help with filming the process and the homie Steve who came through with the studio time. My brother Villa was there for what I needed him there for, to be what he has always been; my best friend and supporter. I was ready to create Boy Meats World. It was a long process. Probably the longest I ever spent on an album, but I had a lot to say and I wanted this one to turn heads. I wanted people to never forget who Meats is and what he's about.

This project is special to me because this was the first time I gave you all of me. My fears, my insecurities, my flaws, the want of being accepted, love, family, my need of wanting to be loved, my emotions that I kept bottled in for so long. I'm not a perfect individual, I go through the same emotions, problems, and daily bullsh*t like any other person. I am no better than anyone reading this letter. I wanted to show my growth. My road to becoming the man I know I can and still strive to be. On this album, I wore my heart on my sleeve. My goal was to tell the story of a kid with a dream who progressed into a man who was not going to let anything stand in his way of becoming or pursuing what he wants out of life. Along the way the boy hit some bumps and setbacks. He was influenced by different people along the way. He cared about what people had to say. He's fake, he doesn't care about the people back home, he's too nice lol. "If those opinions were worth ten cents, I'd be rich." But I digress. There was some motivation from his friends. There was some

mistrust. There was some pain, as well as happiness. There were some good times and there were some bad ones but in the end he finds peace within himself and has faith everything will be all right.

I don't know what you're currently going through in life. Some of you are currently in college trying to figure everything out. Some of you may have graduated and currently on the job hunt. Some are applying and currently going to graduate school. And those in graduate school some of you are working part-time maybe full-time jobs. Some are about to enter the next chapter of your life. Maybe you're about to ask the girl you love to marry you or maybe you've already taken that step and you're in the process of living happily ever after. But for those who are not, the ones that tried college and it wasn't for you. For the ones that just graduated college or graduate school and can't find a job. The ones who are following their dreams and things aren't going as planned. Keep pushing, keep grinding, and don't give up. I could have given up numerous times making this album or on my weight-loss journey, but I always remember what a good friend of mine told me. You never know who's watching you. You never know who needs to see you do something great. Don't let them down. Sometimes life isn't all about us as much as we think it is. If I reached one person with my music or grinding to live a healthy lifestyle and be happy with themselves, I feel I have accomplished what I set out to achieve.

I still want more. I'm not satisfied. I still dream. The dream gets bigger and bigger as time goes on. My goal is to never get complacent. I'm giving more time to my craft and my passion. I'm learning to set time aside for myself and learning more about me. I still have personal problems. I still fight insecurities. I still fight things I can't control sometimes. But I'm making the effort to change that. I'm learning to invest more in people because at the end of the day when I all those worldly possessions and material things are gone. The ones that love and care about you we always be there. My friends will always be there. My parents will always be there. My grandmother will always be there. My brothers will always be there. Sylvester will always be there. The Eastside of the city that we know as the "SUB" will always be there. And Meats will always be there for them. So believe in yourself, believe in others. Cause I do. We will all be greater. Middle finger to the naysayers. Tell em' to watch the greatness.

-Meats

College Grad Losers