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Ain Ai*

7:45 AM

Bus in 10 minutes, Terry. Better get ready.
Now for the number three song this week. Up from number five.

It's 2-bit, with check that fool.

With this ice around my neck. With this ice on my grills.

24s on my Benz, you know I got skills.

Living large... I roll hard.
Yeah, yeah!

Keep it real.

Terry, turn off that damn TV! You're gonna miss the bus.

School Bus

Read it, Rap!
Yeah, man. I think I’m gonna drop out next week.

I only came to meet girls, anyways.

You know how it is.

What the hell are you looking at?

What’s up, bros?

Nothin’.
What's up, guys?

Hey, Terry. How's it going?

How's school going so far?

It's going all right. I only wanted to come and check out the girls. See how it was, it's kind of lame.

I don't really need it, so, I think I'm going to drop out.
What?

Punk was here!

Hey, Terry!

Yeah, Mosom?

Yeah, I’d love to. But I’ve got a lot of homework to do. Ah, I’m sorry.

So, are you going to help me with this tractor, like I asked?
WELL, YOU BETTER GET TO IT THEN. THERE’S NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOUR EDUCATION.

OKAY, I’LL TALK TO YOU LATER, MOSOM.

OKAY. YOU BETTER STUDY HARD.

I WILL.

GANGLAND
4 HOURS LATER...

TERRY, QUIT PLAYING THOSE STUPID VIDEO GAMES - AND TURN THE TV OFF!

I DON'T WANT YOU STAYING UP TOO LATE. YOU'VE GOT SCHOOL TOMORROW.

Yeah, like I'm even going to school anymore.

There's no way you're dropping out. Not while you're in my house.

What did you say? You said you're not going to school anymore?

Ah, yeah. I'm kinda... quitting.

What?!

Yeah, well, it doesn't matter. 'Cause I'm going to be a big time rapper like 2-Bit, and when I get big and famous, I won't let you stay in my mansion.

What?! Who do you think you're talking to?

What?! No way you're going to be a rapper, you sing like a fart!
COME BACK HERE! WAIT 'TIL I TELL YOUR GRANDFATHER ABOUT THIS.

WHAT?!

MMM...HELLO?

OKAY, YOU'RE GONNA SPEND THE WEEKEND WITH YOUR COUSIN, BUT THIS ISN'T A REWARD.

DAVE'S PRETTY TICKED OFF AT YOU. YOU SHOULD HAVE HEARD HOW MAD HE WAS WHEN I TOLD HIM YOU WERE DROPPING OUT.
SO DON'T EXPECT A WARM WELCOME.

TERRY.

HEY, DAVE.

PAY THE GUY.

ALL RIGHT. NOW DON'T STEAL ANYTHING.
WOW, LOOK AT YOUR PLACE! IT LOOKS SO MUCH BETTER THAN THE LAST TIME I WAS HERE.

YOU'VE GOT THE Z-BOX 720!

AND THE PX3!

AND A NEW 24 INCH MONITOR?

HOW MANY DVDS DO YOU OWN?

HOLY CRAP!
Whoo! You've got Gangland II, Collar Valor III, Point Blank, Dead Risin'.

Yeah, I got them all. I got 'em all.

Oh, man. I stayed up all night designing a new game. This is too early for me.

All right, genius. Let's get down to brass tacks here.

So, you want to quit school.

And become a gangster rapper?

...Yeah.

Oh, hey, man. Don't get embarrassed. I didn't bring you here to poop all over your dreams. If that's what you want to be, that's what you want to be.
REALLY?

Yeah, man. I was your age when I knew what I wanted to be.

The only problem is the quitting school thing. What's up with that?

I don't know. I just don't see the point.

And it's boring.

Of course it's boring! It's school!

But it's just something we have to do.

If it was fun and easy, no one would drop out. No one likes to wake up and do stuff all day.

Well, not me.

Oh, really?
AND WHY IS THAT?

OH, COME ON, TERRY. DON'T GIVE ME 'I DON'T KNOW'. WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT WHY YOU FEEL YOU'D BE DOING BETTER OFF WITHOUT SCHOOL.

I DON'T KNOW.

COME ON, MAN. WE CAN TALK ABOUT IT, OR I CAN SEND YOU RIGHT BACK HOME AND YOU CAN TALK ABOUT IT WITH YOUR ANGRY MOM.

NO, NO. DON'T!

SO, COME ON. WHAT'S GOING ON?

I DON'T KNOW. THERE'S SO MUCH MORE THAT I'D RATHER BE DOING, YOU KNOW?

I THOUGHT THAT WOULD GET YOUR ATTENTION.

WELL, LIKE WHAT?

YOU KNOW... HANGING OUT WITH MY FRIENDS. TALKING TO GIRLS... PLAYING SPORTS AND STUFF.

Yeah, well those are all pretty good reasons.

Yeah?

Yeah, but most of those things you can do at school anyways, right?

Okay. So now I know why you wanna drop out of school. But do you know why we want you to stay in school?

Yeah, I guess.

So they're all pretty lame reasons to drop out, don't you think?

Yeah.
Yeah, to get an education and stuff.

Yeah, well, that’s part of it. But do you know what the other part is?

No. What?

The other part is your future. Let’s say this whole hip-hop thing doesn’t work out. Then what? What are you going to fall back on?

Um... I don’t know.

Exactly. You don’t know. But that’s okay. You don’t have to know right now.

You have a lot of time to figure that out. But you have to start preparing. You have to start preparing right now.

Not yet. But I want to. Bad.

Let’s say you’re Point Blank.

With a video game?

Yeah, dude. Have you played Point Blank yet?

All right. Scoot over, chump.
Since this game represents your life, you have to simulate in the game the choices that you're making right now.

So, you quit school. You lose math, English science, art, etc.

No math? Lose your night vision.

No science? No jetpack.

Actually, you probably don't need any of this boring, enhanced synthetic armour. So let's get rid of all that.

No English? No weapons.
ALL RIGHT. SO NOW THAT WE GOT RID OF THAT BORING, DUMB, USELESS STUFF, LET'S SEE WHAT WE HAVE LEFT.

YIKES! NOT MUCH LEFT UNDER THERE, EH?
LET'S START THIS SUCKER.

ALL RIGHT, CHAMP. YOU'RE UP.

AW, MAN. THIS IS GONNA SUCK.

COME ON, JUST GIVE IT A TRY.

HOOOOP! YOU BETTER GET STEPPIN'. HERE COME THOSE HOVER JETS.

OH, LOOK AT 'EM GO! TOO BAD YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR BOOSTER PACK OR YOU COULD HURRY UP AND BLAST 'EM.
COME ON! RUN!

ALL RIGHT, LET'S SAY THOSE HOVER JETS REPRESENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES.

BUT YOU'RE NOT BULLET PROOF ENOUGH WITHOUT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

OH, SNAP!

NO! NOT THE MISSILES!

OH, I CAN'T LOOK!

OH, THAT WAS ROUGH.

OH!
Okay, you've got another guy left.

Keep your head up, you've got a tank coming in.

Now let's say this tank represents your opportunity to get into university.

By beating it, you get in. Aww, but you don't have any high power energy beams to blast 'em.
That's too bad.

Boom!

Aw, man. What was the point? There's no way I could win, anyways.

Exactly. What's the difference between losing at this game because you have no options...

And losing at life because you have no powers...

All right. Let's try this again with your powers on.

FULL ARMOR MODE

LOADING
Okay, here you go. Here come those job opportunities again.
Yeah! You got ‘em all because you got your high school diploma.
MAKES A HUGE DIFFERENCE -- ALL THOSE POWERS ON, HUH?

USE YOUR HIGH POWER MICROWAVE SENSOR AND SEE IF YOU HAVE ANY THREATS COMING IN.

OH, HERE COMES THAT CHANCE TO GET INTO UNIVERSITY AGAIN.
HE’S BITING HIS LIP.

YEAH, DUDE! MESS ‘EM UP WITH YOUR ENERGY BEAMS.

OH, NO. YOU’RE KILL-O-METER IS FULL. GIVE ‘EM YOUR DEVASTATOR MOVE.
YOU DID IT!
YOU'RE IN UNIVERSITY!

LEVEL UP
NEW RELEASES AVAILABLE

YEAH!!
RIGHT ON, BRO! DUDE, YOU DID BETTER THAN I DID, FEELS PRETTY GOOD, HUH?

YEAH, IT ALWAYS FEELS GOOD TO FINISH A LEVEL.

YEAH, WELL, TAKE THAT FEELING AND MULTIPLY IT BY A THOUSAND, AND THAT'S HOW YOU'RE GOING TO FEEL WHEN YOU FINISH HIGH SCHOOL.

Yeah, man.

Really?

WHAT ABOUT UNIVERSITY?

OH, DON'T EVEN GET ME STARTED ON HIGHER LEARNING!

YOU MEAN IT DIDN'T SUCK?

YOU KIDDIN' ME?

DUDE, I NEVER HAD SO MUCH FUN IN MY LIFE. I MEAN, DON'T GET ME WRONG: IT WAS TOUGH.
YOU KIDDIN' ME? THERE'S A REASON WHY THEY MAKE SO MANY MOVIES ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE. YOU KNOW WHAT I'M SAYIN'? YOU KNOW, YOU KNOW.


WERE THERE ANY CUTE GIRLS THERE?

ALL RIGHT. SO DID I DO A GOOD JOB OF CONVINCING YOU TO STAY IN SCHOOL?

YEAH. YEAH, I THINK I'M GONNA STICK IT OUT.

RIGHT ON, MAN. ALL RIGHT. LET'S GO GET SOME SUSHI.

2 DAYS LATER.
Hey, Mosom,

So how was your trip to that big city?

It was fun. I liked it.

And Dave, how is he?

He's good. He says he's coming home for Christmas.

Oooo, that's good.

When I was your age, I had to quit school to help my father work around the farm. Back then, it was different. You weren't allowed to leave the reserve without permission from the government. I see you kids now. You've got so many opportunities.

I'm so glad that Dave and you had a chance to talk. He was pretty upset when I told him you were thinking of quitting school.

That was you who called him? I thought it was mom.

Oh, no. That was me. It's important to me that my grandchildren take their schooling seriously.

No one can tell you what to do. You can even vote. Your world is unlimited. The only thing that can stop you is you not taking your education seriously.

Mosom, I want you to know that I'm staying in school.

Right on! I'm so proud of you, Terry. It's a hard choice, and it's hard work. But it opens up so many worlds, my boy.

Mosom?

You still need help with that tractor?

Oooo, that's good.