

## Danny Brown on The Downside of Rap

The Joe Rogan experience My rap career is a total different world than what this is My rep career would say what made that bad is that I I've started a little too old so I didn't really get recognition or you know until I was 30 years old And you gotta think I've been trying to do this my entire twenties So when I started to be a rapper get recognition for it and being that I had a bitter attitude towards it You get what I'm saying Because it takes so long for it to happen that happened And now I'm 30 years old it's a 30 year old rapper is like the it's like a ticking time bomb at that point like how much time you got Really So I'm already in my head Like I will say a lot of people say like being a rapper is dangerous like you know cause all the killings and shit like but I would say being a rapper is dangerous in a sense because once you do it you can't do nothing else it ruined you Let's just say OK let's just say I was a rapper and then it failed And then I got to go get a normal job Minimal success You saw my video somewhere I had a couple of you and now I'm working at a job with you Now you're like oh you blah blah So that and everywhere you go somebody that's true So you always recognize that you're always getting acknowledged for your failures But just imagine every time someone recognizes you they're acknowledging your failure that hurts it hurts Of course it does But that's what happens in all walks of life anytime when you fail and people get to shit on you And if you if you work fries at mcdonald's no one cares Don't you remember Gary Coleman from different strokes He started working as a security guard and people would just shit on him relentlessly I like imagine that because if it was just a security guard no one would care You would never walk up to a security guard and go look at this fucking loser A security guard That's exactly what I'm saying The same thing with actors being Danny Brown I can never go back to being I can never go back to being Daniel Danny You don't have to first of all and and don't and don't even don't even think about it You don't have to you're never gonna have to do that I know what you're saying But you you can't think about like worst case scenario and and and dwell on it like that you are of personality and the personality can do anything it wants to do You're a fun guy I think about that And I and I love that too because you gotta think the last album I put out was 2019 Yeah You were saying that that was um you torn infrequently No I worked on that album with Q tip from you know just to be able to work with Q tip which is such a fucking big deal to me for sure And you know it it it gave me confidence in my music to be in the fact that

uh a tribe called Quest was my dad's favorite rap group I remember going to my dad taking me to fucking preschool I mean I'm preschool It wasn't that early but whatever whatever But elementary school my dad taking me to school and he listened to a tribe called class and before I know it one day I'm sitting in the studio with Q tip every day working on the album So it was fucking it was it was a big deal You know what I'm saying It was a big deal for me and you know we made that album and I just think um the world of music has changed so much We're like um a 12th tiktok beat means way more than you putting out a single Hm You understand what I'm saying Like that whole shit changed So the way I grew up the way I grew up like me my favorite rapper is Nas and Nas just put on a new album and that album is fucking amazing And you know why that album is amazing It's because Nas is having fucking fun and Nas is able to make music without any fucking you gotta think Well Nas is really rich Like he's got a bunch of no but I'm saying like right now if he's doing rap right now it's because he wants to do it But it wasn't always like that He had the whole situation of what he went through with his divorces and it's all public He's the best lyricist ever in my opinion He's his fucking shit is so complicated the way he does things back What's that one song where he does backwards rewind That's a brilliant song You want to have this coming broke We don't want to talk about this just for me And I've had the opportunity to meet Nas a lot Like I I wouldn't say a lot but he knows what he means to me You get what I'm saying Yes So actually he was um he wanted to sign me to his label I didn't sign to him because I mean whatever I mean Money man money money man the the the other contract was more money man And that's what it is But sometimes I think about that Did I make a mistake But like damn Just because the artist that I looked up to my entire life that made me be a rapper tried to sign me and I didn't sign with them all because of money Mm And now like even we No I'm not saying like I feel way about being with Warp Like I love Warp Warp is you know they've done part two Warp has made me a better artist than what I actually am How's that Because like OK this even up like the album that I just I made an album um during COVID obviously we were sitting around when nobody could do nothing and I just felt like oh shit I ain't So I just started going to the studio and just start recording songs making music record the album and this is the album that we're gonna release but the album been done for like three years like you know and well what's been the hold up You don't know So so on them that's what happened when you signed the record labels bro You wanna hear bro All right you wanna hear All right let

me give you my rundown story I mean three years I might need another drink I think you need another drink I might need a drink Yeah All right So check this out Denny Brown being a regular rapper from Detroit whatever the fuck All right whatever sir Thank you Cheers I'm not even gonna go into Tony A O and G on it all weird shit just to get to the point of So um I remember being it's a um festival in New York at the time was called CMJ Festival which was like cool It was like you know same thing as south by southwest What is the Texas That's what it was for uh New York And they had this festival CMJ festival and at one of these shows they had um at Brooklyn Bow Fools go records through a show and Kanye showed up and they shut the whole shit down Like and I couldn't go I I couldn't get in I was like and to me I was like man fools go records like man they like the shit like if I could ever be cool with fools go record like uh whatever I can do to be done with Fo Records I would do You know what I'm saying Type of shit So then shit goes on you I ended up getting a situation I start talking to fu Go and um I don't think they were really into so of me at the time but Q tip from a tribe called Quest was real close with a track who's one of the owners of uh foods go and um they hung out and um a track was like man we thinking about signing Denny Brown and Q tip was like \*\*\* thinking are you retarded Like this is one of the illest n he broke it down to him Like what makes me so ill Which I can we can talk about that has to be nice No I'm literally like super ill like when it comes to like rap like it's just like cheating Like I'm like steroid like it's super like I can cheat like it's super ill So so then so then he was like fuck it Yeah I'm gonna sign it cause so then I already knew I was gonna get signed to Foods Go We already had this to each other So there's no negotiation on what the shit was So I was going to interviews already like I would do interview and they'd be like what's gonna happen We move and I'd be like oh I'm signing the Foods Go So bum to say that we we signed a contract I signed for \$5000 literally \$5000 and it was South by Southwest happening the next week and I had like two shows that so I literally spent the entire signing bonus at South by Southwest the next week So I had no money Super broke whatever the fuck I'm living off my girl You get what I'm saying Like her banking on me making it as a rapper kind of situation you know what I'm saying So we do whatever we do we get that But then the album comes out and at the time no one really thought about the album I would I would think no one I did But at that time no one thought that the album would be like a a big deal End up the album come out at one fucking album of the year in spin magazine It ended up being one of the best albums I ever

had in my career Like but when you think about it's like a person back against the wall when you listen to the album I back then So well this is and the whole concept of the album is um you know rap music is all about being young 20 year old The whole album the album is called 30 This is an album about a 30 year old rapper just now starting to get a break and how he feels you know Yeah So yeah and the album did good It did good it did good It did good I'm saying not like sales wise or anything like that but culturally it did good and it got recognition So I was able to get a lot of shit from that and you know I got a lot of deals and signed a lot of shit And then my next album after that was old it's called and but that charted Billboard But it was a lot of money like I spent like it was a lot of money spent in that I say that to say this OK as me as a kid from Detroit Got good at rap All right I know how to rap A record label signs me I rapped for this record label Make an album in my head As when you start to make music you wanna be as experimental and to be you as much as point you don't understand is the thing called music business So you're not thinking about business you're just thinking about art I'm just trying to make the best Me Illmatic was the greatest album ever heard in my life So to me it's like Illmatic and other one is Cannibal Ox Cova Like so to me it's like I'm trying to make albums to mirror those I'm just trying to like as me as a rapper or as an artist or a musician just trying to like shit that I was influenced by like trying to make a piece of art that could stand next to that you know what I'm saying But at this point in life that shit don't matter no more cause there's too much money to be made behind this shit You know what I'm saying So I didn't care about this shit And then now what so do you think that by trying to make something that stands next to that somehow or another You lose money Definitely How come because time change time change is how the shit that we liked in 1994 We don't like it in 2004 I still do I think we gotta think about the kids dude I still listen to cool G rap Have you listened to Playboy Cardi No See well I don't listen to anything Playboy Cardi know everything I don't have time bro Playboy Cardi can shut down this whole shit Can we play some of it Can we play some of it We can play some what Which uh No no no just some See Look I'm gonna be a hater now by saying no but no no no we're not gonna play no playbook Why Cause this is my Joe Rogan interview ok Let him know about the fucking it's not gonna hurt you if he gets a little love All right you just gave him some Playboy cardi does not need no I'll tell you we'll play that We'll play a little of that just to educate me and educate the people that listen to and then we'll play Give me a Dan Brown track Give me a Danny Brown

track that you like I definitely don't want to hear your mind after this play  
Playboy Car Stop breathing bro You don't get it I don't get it Help me out My  
music is like stand up comedy in that sense Oh You wanna hear some of my  
uh stand up comedy rap Sure we'll do that We'll do that We don't have to uh  
bitch only thing you gotta know my dick test the ground When I'm saying  
I'm the float See that's the thing about rap Like um you know me I was into  
comedy and so I took my whole shit from comedy to our raps So what I  
would do I would just sit around and write punch lines all the time So I write  
punch lines So think about this Look I'm about to give y'all \*\*\* the game So  
it's 16 bars of verse It's four punch it's four lines four verse So let's just say if  
I sit around I listen to a Joe Rogan episode Someone says ill punch line on  
there Uncle Joey He might say some crazy shit like uh you get what I'm  
saying Just some crazy shit A line just one line I can take that one line It's  
four it's 16 bars so one line could create four bars So every line I get four  
bars So I need four lines to give me a 16 Mm Yeah No