

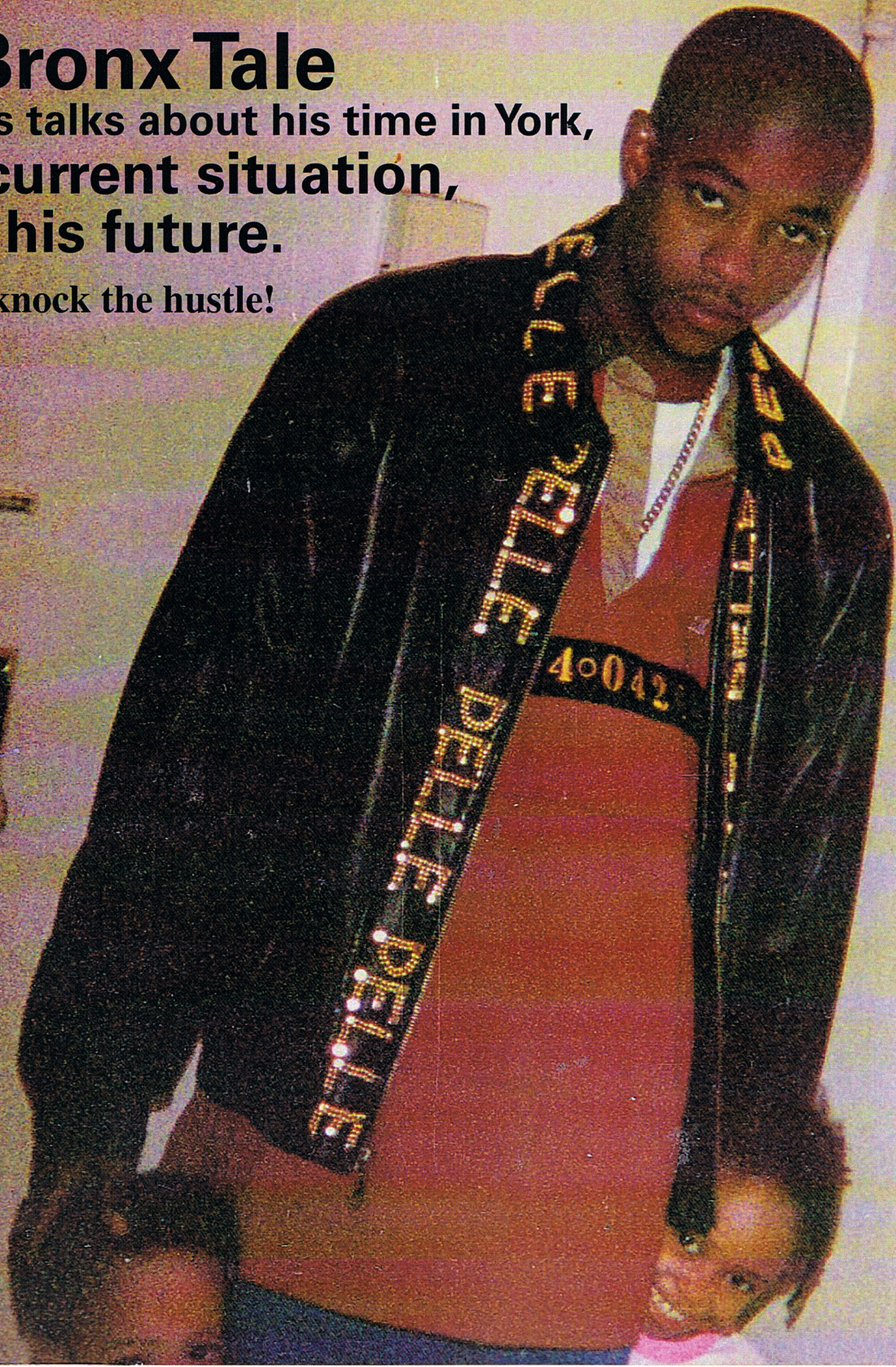
WHY the Magazine

Tysheem Crocker aka Ty Boogie

A Bronx Tale

Boogs talks about his time in York, his current situation, and his future.

Can't knock the hustle!



The Plot

It was 1995 I had just touched in York. At this time, there were several crews, sets, squads, and associates running around. Out West, you had several playas. Out Parkway, you had several playas and other sides of town, there were playas as well. In the jungle aka South Side, there were several different playas in that region alone from the locals to out of towners all was in one melting pot.

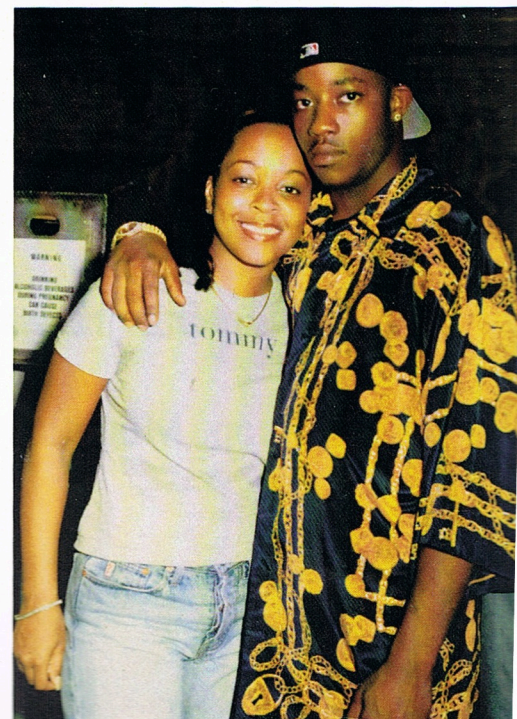
I can say for myself that for me through my eyes, at that time, that area was different from others. I had the opportunity as time went by to meet an individual. We met through a female acquaintance. This individual and I went and ate lunch. We politicked and talked about life in general. Before meeting him and having lunch, I myself am very observant about my surroundings. I've seen him out and about. By me being a congratulator and not a hating dude, I respected playboy's style. It kind of reminded me of myself.

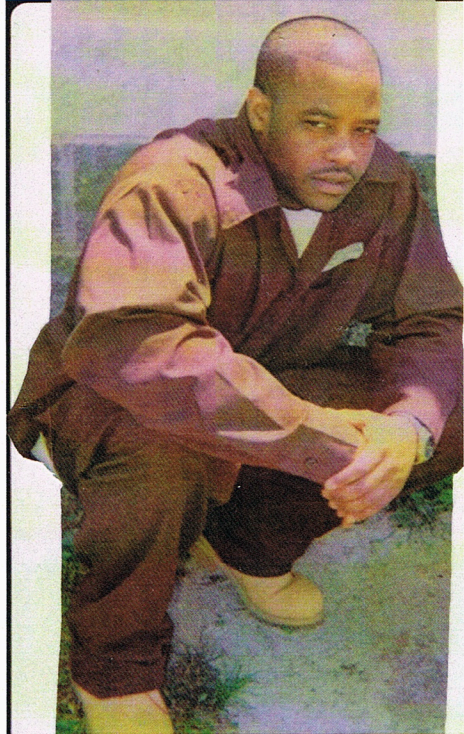
I guess you get that vibe when you're cut from a similar cloth. After that lunch, in which we both tried to use chop sticks☺ I come to know that individual. Fast forward years later as our friendship grew, I remember hearing about his situation. One day when I tried to call him and he didn't pick up, my spider senses sensed something was wrong. It hurts to be having to even write this because of my friend and brotha situation. I would rather be in a lounge somewhere popping a bottle with him laughing.

I can say to this day that he is a friend. Back then and now, he is still one of those dudes. My man is incarcerated but it's a saying "You can lock the body but you can't trap the mind". He just changed his hustle. So as you enter into the Bronx Tale By' Tysheem Crocker aka Ty Boogie, understand his past, present, and his future. He was on that boat for those who don't know him. Much love my friend. Us here at WHY the Magazine will always support you.

Sincerely,
Romello

Old school pic.
R&B singer and
Ty Boogie





“A Bronx Tale” Tysheem Crocker aka Ty Boogie Speaks! Can’t Knock The Hustle!

WHY: What has been happening since you’ve gone to prison? Has anyone been showing You any love and keeping in touch with you?

BOOGIE: Since being sent to prison, I’ve grown a lot. I fell when I was 21, and no question, a lot of people have been showing me love & keeping it 100. I’ve actually been blessed. Of course my family and I have a few beautiful rainbows that always seem to shine through in my storms of life, if you know what I mean. There are a couple of my homies who’ve been extremely supportive. My supporting cast never cease to amaze me and then there’s a lot of people who I now know to be frauds.

WHY: At what age did you become involved with the street life? At what age were you introduced to York city?

BOOGIE: My romance with the streets started when I was around 11. I just could’nt seem to escape the allure. Naturally, when you come from a family like mine, who were heavily entrenched in the street life, it’s all you know. I believe I was about 16 when I got introduced to York City; stayed for about a week and left with no plans to return. Then around the time I was 18, I found myself back in York. By then, after a second stint in prison, I thought I had a thorough understanding of what I wanted to do with my life and while doing my thing, I met a lot of good people in York, guys and girls.

WHY: From those who know you, you appear to have a lot of love in York, yet you have haters as well as we all do. How do you feel about that?

BOOGIE: Actually, I didn't know I still have a lot of love in York. That's new to me... Word up☺. (Smiling) For York to be a small town, it has a rather fast pace. When prison engulfs you, you can easily be forgotten. 1 or 100 years. However, when I bump heads with the real cats from York who I know from the streets, got money with, helped out in one form or another, I'm always thoroughly embraced...

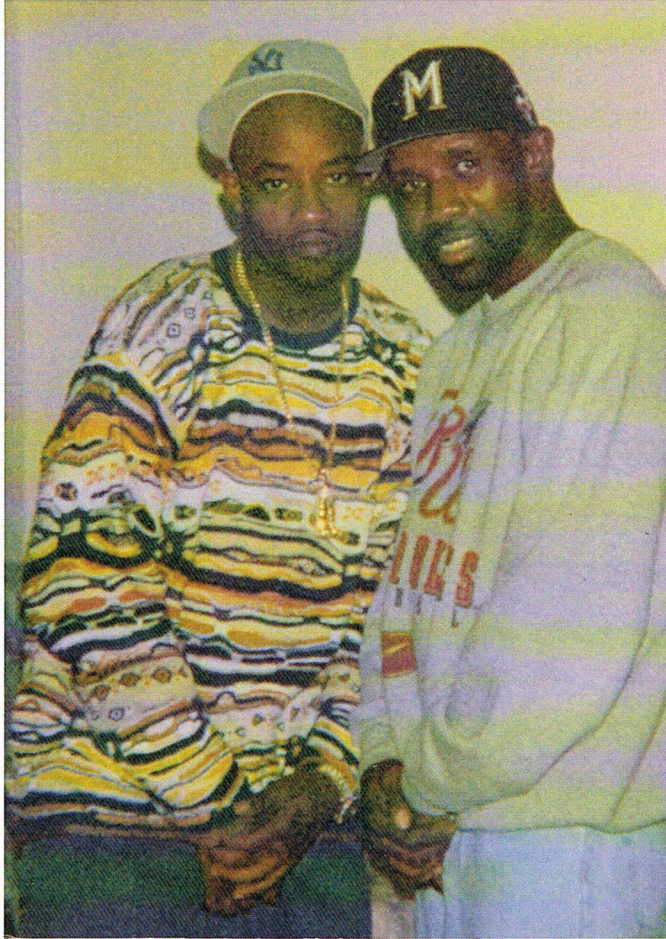
The haters I do know about. Any kind of success breeds hatred. You get some rhythm in the courts, cats hate cause they know what you are capable of in the streets. I've experienced it. You on top of your game out there, then praying for your downfall. I've experienced that. It is to be expected, and I thrive off of it. Failure is not an option. Cats like me, we come up even if the sun don't so I take the hate in stride.

WHY: As we all go through life, we all encounter our moments with haters in our presence. Do know that the ladies love you out here☺.

BOOGIE: Again, a surprise... Didn't know the ladies love me in York. I know once upon a time quite a few did love me. But these are idealistic times we're living in. A lot of females have a lack of strategy in the prioritizing. And somehow, they think it's cool for a nigga to be only as good as the last thing he's done. If you ain't doing nothing, we can't be friends.



I'm telling you this from the vantage point of that plight and since not many from the 17403 are in contact, they don't know what I got going on. For those ladies that still harbors some form of affection, passion or compassion for Boogie, I appreciate that. Word up. As odd as it may seem, there are a few females out there that left a lasting impression on me.



WHY: Despite your differences with any mistakes that you may have come across in your life, you have a lot to look forward to in the future. How does this make you feel?

BOOGIE: My future is very bright. Brighter than many would believe. After a vigorous writing campaign that lasted a couple of years, I was able to secure a Philadelphia lawyer by the name of Joseph Viola, and some former federal investigators and they jumped on my case. With them, and because of two independent causes—(1. Evidence not known to the defense during trial now being admitted as part of the record; 2. The prosecution's star witness recanted, admitting that he made false

statements under the orders of his lawyer and prosecution)—I've been able to rest at night in peace, and rise with the sun and a renewed zeal. I'll be home soon. Lord willing.

WHY: Since you have been gone, what have you been doing with your life? Are there any changes you have encountered?

BOOGIE: Since I've been held captive, there has been many changes. Most noticeable, my physical appearance. I no longer resemble the pretty thug the ladies loved, but more so now a grown ass man always deep in thought. I took 6 courses in Business Technology, studied contract law, then I wrote my first book entitled "Respect The Struggle". Triple Crown was suppose to publish it but that fell through. Then I had a situation with Essence Best Seller Wahida Clark for my second script "Street Generals" which she said she was feeling, but at the time she was boxed in too.

Then Shannon Holmes was suppose to help me get it popping, but it didn't happen. To date I have seven scripts, and I started my own company with my brothers Omar and Dell entitled "Street Generals Publishing" which will release "Respect The Struggle" February 2010, a novel based on the wonder years of a reckless but mindful minor. They'll come my whole catalog one at a time, as well as some aspiring authors I have under contract.

WHY: Looking back at life, is there anything you would want to change?

BOOGIE: In hindsight everyone has 20/20 but the one change I'd make if I could would be the company I kept and the level of trust I relinquished. People today are still paying for the disloyalty I experienced because trust is no longer a benefit of the doubt type thing, but something that is rewarded. I spent the last decade in prison because I was loyal to cats who weren't loyal to me. Cats I grew up with, cats I was hurting the streets with. I was offered 2 years to turn snitch. Five to ten years for a statement in the dark, I'd never have to repeat on the stand. Picture me cooperating, even if I knew something. I'd rather die a "G" than live a rat.

WHY: You left your stamp on a lot of youth that knew you. Do you have any encouraging words that may help guide them through life in a positive way?

BOOGIE: Leaving my stamp on the youth wasn't something I anticipated when I was doing my thing hard but if I did, I hope it was for always keeping it 100 and not just because of the money I generated, or the honeys I've dated. As you can see, all that has is monetary value. Here today, gone tomorrow. Reputation is what you think about, someone's character is what you know about.

My advice to the youth would be: look at success and failure with the same intensity. It is through that that you may learn life's lessons without having to experience them all yourself. And last, victory is not inevitable, just as defeat is never total if you can figure out how to handle the aftermath skillfully and with just the right spin...

