

HOW TO BE COOL



By *Todd Marcell*

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This Book is dedicated to my Dad William “Smitty” Smith the coolest person I know

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Intro: Find You

First things first before you turn the page get **GOD IN YOUR LIFE** you can do nothing without him.

What does it mean to be cool? You think it is all about chilling, going with the flow, naw that is not it. It is about going after your dreams succeeding and doing things the right way holding yourself to a higher standard. Material things don't make you cool, they may look you cool but underneath the surface cool comes from within it is plenty of cats out here riding clean, got paper, got women chasing them but when you get to know them they lame to death. Would you rather have all the fixings and be lame, not me I would rather have all the fixings and my life together. The cool part is you can have that by being real to yourself and everyone you meet. It all starts with respect, treat everyone good like you would want to be treated and you will find favor in whatever you choose. Be a stand up guy and handle your responsibilities make good on your promises, meaning keep your word and strive to do things to the best of your ability and that is how you become cool.

Chapter 1 : Finding Self

Who are you? I know you ask that question to yourself a million times. Deep down inside you know who you are if you have not found yourself yet it is not too late. Drop whatever you doing and search for it. Do you ever feel like you make choices for yourself depending on what people think about you or how people see you? Well you are not being yourself, everyone you look up to it is some reason you look up to him or her. You see yourself inside that person but in still that person is different from everyone else, that is because yawl may have the same make up or characteristics but no matter how hard you try you cannot be like that person. God Made everyone different and he made you different, there is something that you do or quality you have that no one on earth can imitate. Every artist, every teacher, every talent they possess no one can do it but them. That is the first thing you need to find out about yourself. What motivates me? Find out that small detail in you that makes you act or behave a certain way that is you being yourself, this is the way God made me and I cannot change it. That does not mean you have to have this nasty attitude or arrogance about yourself nobody wants to fool with. It means I am confident in whom I am and the person I will become. Once you find out who you are then you can start to mold yourself in the person you would like to become. Being

yourself is as if you are set free you are free to choose whatever you want In addition, whatever it is you choose you do not worry about what people think about you , that is why many people don't pursue their dreams or don't finish them and end up making the wrong choice because they chose the choice of bondage being held down by someone else wishes for them. You are bound because you are afraid to let go or make your own choice. Whatever you choose let it be because you want it not because lil Chris from up the block said you would look or do better doing something else do it because you know in your heart it is the right thing to do because the heart never lies that is what god looks at. Where your heart lies that is where your treasure will be also. When you achieve something you felt in your heart was right no matter the outcome of the situation you know that it was a heart felt try. Hit or miss, you can identify the error and do better the next time. When you do something because someone else does it or try to prove a point to someone then that is what we call flexing, fake ,not being real. Do not ruin your life being a faker listening to others best interest about your life. Once you find yourself and decide to be yourself now you can build that confidence which will lead me into chapter 2.

Chapter 2: Confidence

Confidence what is confidence? Confidence is being proud of what you are and not being able to be moved, meaning u stand firm in your beliefs and who you are .Its like when you

step into a place or walk with that swagger you have this aroma like this is who I am and no one can take that away from me. That is how you earn respect people respect a person when they are true to themselves. Nobody wants to be around a faker or flexor meaning someone who tries to be something they are not or someone who does things they would not normally do to try to show off. A true person can see right through that. How many times have you seen someone in school or on the streets make a complete fool of themselves, because they were afraid that if they were to show their true identity then no one would want to hang around them or think they are lame. When you keep it real and confident in whom you are, you do not care what people think about you. Take Kanye west or Andre 3000 for example them cats be on some other stuff but they are confident in their art so everything they breathe on becomes a masterpiece. You have one common goal everyday that is to be yourself so you can tread your own path. When you find that confidence, it shows in everything you do and with faith, you can achieve it no matter what the odds. BE careful not to confuse faith and confidence they go hand in hand. Faith is the vision that one has set forth to accomplish and confidence is the action you take to make it happen. Confidence believes whatever you choose is the right choice because you have faith in that choice and that choice will get you one-steps closer to where you want to be. In addition, it will make you become a better and more complete person, whether it is what you will wear or what college you are planning to attend your confidence plays a big part.

Chapter 3: Communication

Communication is the key if you want to eliminate or avoid the mistakes made by other people so you do not go down that same road and to get insight on different things going on in your life. I tell you if I had communicated to someone about obstacles I faced in my life; it would have been very different. The first step is wanting to communicate, I used to try to figure out problems or situations on my own but leaning on your own understanding is not a cool choice not saying that you are not right but it may not be the right choice to apply to that situation at that time. You want to choose the wise choice and the wise choice is always right. You need to find someone mostly older or wiser who you feel comfortable talking with, someone who will not judge you or your situation and seek to communicate with them. They would love to share some knowledge with you. In the Chinese culture, the grandfather or older teacher is the wise person everyone goes to for advice. It does not matter who it is but make sure they are persons who you know have good insight or progressed in their lives, if you cant find anyone at the end of my book I will leave my address and you can write or e-mail me whenever you like. When you have situations or questions about life talking to an elder person is very valuable because they have been through that same situation 9 times out of 10 and they can give you insight on things that you probably would have not thought about on your own from lack of experience. Pray about the situation also you can go to God with anything he says in Proverbs 3:5 “In all your ways acknowledge me and he shall direct your paths”. Also when you communicate with someone it opens you up to receive instruction and heals whatever you are going though so if you want to be more wise in your decisions or life you will have to communicate. Don’t keep things bottled up,

every gangster or player had an mentor to get some game from, it make you not less of a man but more of a man to take heed to warnings. Think about it for a second the outcome would have been different on some of those decisions if you would have sought some advice I guarantee.

Chapter 4: Educate Your Self

Education is the key. This is probably the most important chapter in this book. My brothers and sisters first let me tell you what great opportunity you have to get an education. Do you not know people died to get an education; people fought their whole lives so you could get an education. The slave masters knew that if you could read you could educate yourself and break all the chains, stereotypes, and misconceptions about yourself. What will you do without an education work hard all your life, you do not want to work hard it is about working smart. Why forgo your talent, dream and abilities to end up working a 3rd of your life just make ends meet because that is what is going to happen. You are going to be limited to a certain number of professions, yea you can have a trade or a business but if you do not have any education how are you going to market that trade or run that business. You can say I will get someone else to run it and him or she will run your butt out of town because they will get experience from you, quit open up shop right across the street, and take all your clientele. That is why I do not understand why people drop out of school; you are making it 10 times harder for yourself. Getting and education is cool not getting one is stupid I never

understood why people mostly guys skip school to go hang around a bunch of more stupid guys I would rather be in school where the girls are and they don't be making no money it be one cat out there making the money everyone else just hanging. I tell you what after you decide that you want to get some business about yourself and you go do what it takes, go back to the hood about 7 or 8 years from now them same cats you used skip school and act foolish with they still gone be in the same spot I guarantee. I put that on everything like young jizzy. Your favorite rappers and actors and entertainers them cats aren't stupid you may think that flossing and stunting is all they do you crazy them cats smart . Rapping is just 10% of the artist the rest is business you have to know your audience, completion, and know how to read them contracts or you gone end up like mc hammer pumps in a bump. Behind close doors, them people be studying their craft as if they are going to take the S.A.T. It don't matter if you are not smart in an certain area become smart in that area you want to pursue this is education. An expertise in the area of your choice then you can hire people to handle what the other things. Get an education so when you have kids you will be able to help them, its like if you don't learn pass an elementary school education how are you going to teach them about grown man stuff. You can only tech someone what you know. No matter what u do educate yourself in order to be successful. No one can take knowledge away from you the more you know the more you grow.

Chapter 5: Decisions

Decisions, decisions to make, this was a song by ATL's own conscience rap group Goodie Mob. The song was about the decisions we make will either make you or break you. I know people come up with all kind of clichés about how to make a

sound decision; well one thing I know is it is either a bad or a good decision. Every decision that you make has different consequences but every decision you make effects others besides yourself. If you make a bad decision, you may hinder your plans or not be in position to help others in the future. Making the right decision will stir you away from those pitfalls and future problems. Let tell you the importance of making the right decision. Making the right decision relives stress because you will not have to worry about that decision coming back to hunt you later on in life and it will come back.to hunt you The day you come out of your mothers womb, you have a record it is up to you to keep it clean. Your record travels with you until the day you leave this earth so if you do something foolish that bad decision can leave a permanent satin on your record and it could hold you back from certain opportunities. One thing is for sure if you have made a bad decision, you will usually get a chance to turn it around. If you would make the right decision, first then you will not have to worry about correcting anything. Make decisions that will move you ahead not set you back. To know the difference between a bad decision and a good decision listen to your instinct aka sprit. You spirit lets you know that a bad decision is not right but we all going to make them but try to make sure they are less costly as possible. Do not make decisions on impulse or limited knowledge about the situation. A good decision has weeded out the consequences of the choice. For example” Lets say you have this friend who just got his drivers license and he is known to dapple in drugs and he swings by your crib and gets you to go for a ride, now knowing that there is a good chance he could be riding dirty are you gone to ride with him? If you all do get pulled over and he has some drugs how do you know if he is going to claim them you don’t know so if you are not sure of a situation then get more info on it and make your decision then not because you think so you need to know so. We all make bad decisions

but know your facts and go with the decision you think will progress you legitimately.

Chapter 6: The Seed

Now that you have determined that you want a prosperous rich life, we have to plant a seed meaning you have to set up a plan to get you there. Right now, you can write your own destiny. Don't you know you can be anything you want to be that is guaranteed no you this is not a mistake I repeat you can be anything you want to be as long as you follow your plan. God has given you the desire, the vision, the dream, that talent, that skill you have without barley even trying. In the words of shawty lo get, get get it mane. First, let us start with what you want to do listen to that spirit, what is that feeling you get when you close your eyes and dream. What is that thought in the back of your head you keep thinking about repeatedly? What is that burning desire that will not go away? Whatever it is educate yourself on it become a student of it. There are millions of books and publications on what you want to become, if you cant find no luck in the book store then try the library or internet and its free but whatever it is start now don't let another day go by without planning your future. Back to communication find someone in that field or area you are pursuing and read up on him or her, learn from him or her find somewhere he or she are speaking at and attend. Now you

have to sketch a plan put something in writing start at the smallest point possible meaning what can you do now that can get you started on your future. Take gradual steps don't try to learn it all, I know when you get started it is going to be exciting but take your time get knowledge step by step, so when you get your break thru you will be fully prepared.

OUTRO

The bottom line young brothers is to take advantage of the opportunity at hand do not settle for less be all you can be. You are going to have some haters, but when they hate you that means you are doing something right, and they trying to pull you down. They know if you go the distance, you will achieve it. Things are going to get bleak but if you are true to yourself and your mission God tells us that if you take one step he will

take two he just wants you to try take a swing at your dreams and goals. Keep your eyes on the prize and never give up because when you give up they (haters) win and if they win nobody wins. Go ahead get that paper and when you make it in whatever you choose, you will look back and be proud that you chartered the course and got what's yours and didn't give up and I'm telling you it is a feeling like no other and that's real talk so being cool isn't so bad after all uh.

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