

# Tabernacle

## Royce da 5'9"

Yeah

I wanna share some shit with y'all  
All truth, all truth Like I'm standing inside a Tabernacle  
I promised not to lie in not one of these verses  
I started out as a battle rapper  
All I knew was Maxells, ADATs, DATs and gats  
My name is Ryan Daniel Montgomery  
Recovering alcoholic, I grew up on 9 Mile  
I'm not a gangster, drug dealer or thug nigga  
Just an MC who made a name with his rhyme style  
Sometime around '95 I found my calling  
And that all coincides with the time that I found my darling  
Now later on in the story I tell you her significance  
But now let's talk about me, specifically  
Three brothers and one sister see  
My daddy taught me consistency with his fucking patterns  
Hallelujah I'm the son of a addict  
My addiction was music  
All I would do is go to the studio and The Shelter  
Listening to Redman and Heltah Skeltah Aye y'all remember that one joint from the Heltah Skeltah album  
called...  
Sean Price be like, "I'm not sure any" yeah that was my shit  
I used to bump that shit all day  
By this time I knew I wanted to be an artist, I didn't want to be anything else  
You know, but my mom had plans for me, she wanted me to go to school, so you know To make mom's happy  
I took some general courses in college  
Took the bus until I got hella bored with that  
Because the bus stop I had to walk to  
Was right across from the first studio I ever recorded at  
Now I would have to assume that  
It was either meant for me to be rapping  
Or meant for me to be laughing at God's  
Geographical humor  
As soon as I stepped foot in the open-mic it was like a reunion  
I was a shoe-in  
I met Kino there too  
And he asked me to manage me  
And that was back in like, let me see  
'97, my girl was pregnant

Hurdles was prevalent  
And nigga it therapeutic just for me to breathe into my mic  
Started learning why the Lord put certain people in my life  
And the way he started blessing me, uh  
I guess before my inner-demons got the best of me  
Like sneezing was my vice  
Needless to say that December 29th was the day I became a believer in fate  
Okay now it's December 28th, my  
day is goin' great  
Kino booked me a show under contract to do that night  
I got a call from my girl's people saying she in labor in the hospital right now, 9th floor  
I get on the elevator  
Elevator stops on the 5th floor, elevator opens up, my uncle's standing there crying  
Now I'm caught off guard, I'm like, what the fuck?  
My uncle standing there like "Ryan, they that way"  
I walk out, I see my momma and that entire side of my family  
Looking like it's some kind of drama happenin'  
I said "what happened"  
They like "Granny's been in a bad accident, and it ain't looking good"  
I'm like "man, what?"  
I'm having a baby four floors up  
Before I froze up  
I'm trying to figure out why the Lord chose us  
Or maybe chose me  
To ride in this emotionally roller coaster  
My momma said "the baby here yet?"  
I'm said "maybe"  
She like "maybe? Baby, go see"  
I walk away feeling like a good father, the same time as a terrible son  
Get to my girl, she 5 centimeters dilated so I waited  
She got to get to 'bout nine 'til it's that time  
And meanwhile I'm more popular in this hospital than the doctors  
Nurses watching, whispering like "that's the one right there"  
Who got the lady in labor on 9 and the other lady dying on 5  
By this time I don't even fuckin' remember that I  
got a show  
Somebody had to remind me. The doors was already open at the venue  
I got emotions runnin' every which way  
All the nurses and stuff is like,  
"We'll keep you posted about the baby, we'll keep you posted about your granny."  
I didn't like seeing my mama like that, so I had to get out of there  
Yeah, I hit the stage at 11:50, killed it  
I got off at about midnight  
With about six types of different emotions floatin' around inside me  
Hopeless, tryna find me  
Hopin' in time God'll guide me  
In the future, just as I was about to leave out  
I saw Kino talkin' to Marshall and then he introduced us  
We talked about collaboratin' and how chasin' this rap thing is aggravatin'

But I'll get back, I got the family waitin'  
I get to skatin'  
As soon as I get to the hospital they tell me that my granny didn't make it  
She just died, I'm feelin' helpless, it hurt me  
On the flip side, my little boy is healthy in the nursery  
I picked him up, looked in his eyes for the first time and just cried  
Ain't no denyin' this is the power of God  
I said, "I love you, Granny" and looked to the sky  
Like even though he just got here, goodbye This is how the story goes  
Powerful day  
Powerful day  
Most significant day in my life  
I mean, aside from meetin' my man Marshall, my son bein' born and my granny dying on the same day  
My grandma didn't live anywhere near that hospital. I learned a lot this day  
I learned that the universe has this way of balancing itself out  
For me to lose such a beautiful soul in my granny, and gain such a beautiful soul with my first born son,  
Little Royce, it showed me that God is real. God is real.  
And you know what they say, God giveth, God taketh away

Songwriters

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