



MEMOIR: REFLECTIONS OF A SOUL'S JOURNEY

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"Your memoir is a powerful testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the transformative power of self-discovery. Your journey inspires us all to embrace our authentic selves and find strength in vulnerability. Keep shining your light and sharing your truth – the world needs your voice now more than ever."

-Beyonce

"Your memoir resonates with the universal themes of struggle, triumph, and the pursuit of artistic expression. Your journey reflects the courage it takes to confront adversity and emerge stronger on the other side. Your story reminds us that through music and storytelling, we can connect deeply with others and inspire positive change. Keep sharing your experiences and spreading love through your words."

-Micheal Jackson

"Honey, reading your memoir was like hitting all the high notes in a gospel choir! Your story is as soul-stirring as a power ballad, filled with twists and turns that keep readers hooked like a catchy chorus. And let's not forget your stint as my background singer – you brought the harmonies like nobody's business! But seriously, your journey is a testament to the strength of the human spirit and the power of perseverance. Keep belting out your truth, darling, the world needs your voice!"

-Whitney Houston

"Dude, your memoir's pure funk, like a groovy bassline! Reading it felt like rocking out onstage – packed with energy, soul, and fire! Remember when you backed us up? You were our secret weapon, igniting the stage every time. And those hits? 'September' was all you – crafting funky riffs and soulful lyrics, magic in every note. Your voice? Smooth as satin, hot as a Chicago night! Keep spreading that cosmic groove, brother. You're a true force!"

-Earth, Wind & Fire

"Dreams in the Spotlight: Manny Lane-Scott hopes to become an EGOT winner" 



ALL ABOUT ME:

Hey there, I'm Manny Lane-Scott, a 17-year-old dynamo living in the heart of a city that's almost as lively as my family's daily chaos. Born into a squad of five brothers – yeah, including my twin who's my partner in crime – our household is like a sitcom waiting to happen. With two older bros, two younger bros, and me right in the middle, there's never a dull moment. Sibling rivalry? Let's just say we've turned it into an art form. Now, let me take you on a time-travel journey through the epic family tree. My great-grandparents? They were the OG power couple with a whopping 16 kids. I can barely handle my crew of four brothers, so hats off to them. It's like they were competing in the Olympics of parenting. Gold medal for sure! Growing up, our house was like a mini Broadway, with yours truly as the undisputed star. Picture this: me, center stage, belting out tunes and performing Shakespear plays in the living room. My family? They were the captive audience, forced to endure my artistic endeavors. They say laughter is the best medicine, so consider my family the healthiest bunch around. Now, onto my grand plan: I've set my sights on becoming a famous actor, maybe even nabbing an EGOT. Ambitious? Absolutely. But hey, I figure if I can survive the daily chaos of my family, Hollywood should be a breeze. Sure, I face the usual hurdles – doubters and the occasional empty wallet – but with my family and friends as my hype squad, I'm practically unstoppable. As I stand on the brink of greatness, armed with the spirit of my ancestors and enough determination to rival a superhero origin story, I'm not just chasing my dreams; I'm sprinting after them like a kid chasing the ice cream truck. And if my life were a sitcom, you'd better believe I'd have the best theme song in town. Some people give me the side-eye when they find out I'd rather be rehearsing a monologue than running drills on the field. But hey, who needs touchdowns when you can have standing ovations? When folks learn I prefer rehearsing a monologue to running drills on the field, they give me funny looks. But really, who needs touchdowns when you can get standing ovations? Once, I mentioned to my football team that I'd be quitting after this season to focus on performing arts. They joked if I'd start singing Broadway tunes at halftime – well, I could've, but I didn't want to steal the spotlight. Despite their teasing, I held my head high and strutted away, leaving them to wonder why they weren't the ones belting out show tunes in the shower. Sure, being a theater kid might make me a target for some good-natured ribbing, but I've never let it dim my spotlight. If anything, their laughter just adds fuel to my theatrical fire. Because at the end of the day, I'd rather be a standout weirdo than blend in with the crowd. After all, where's the fun in being normal?

ACTING CAREER:



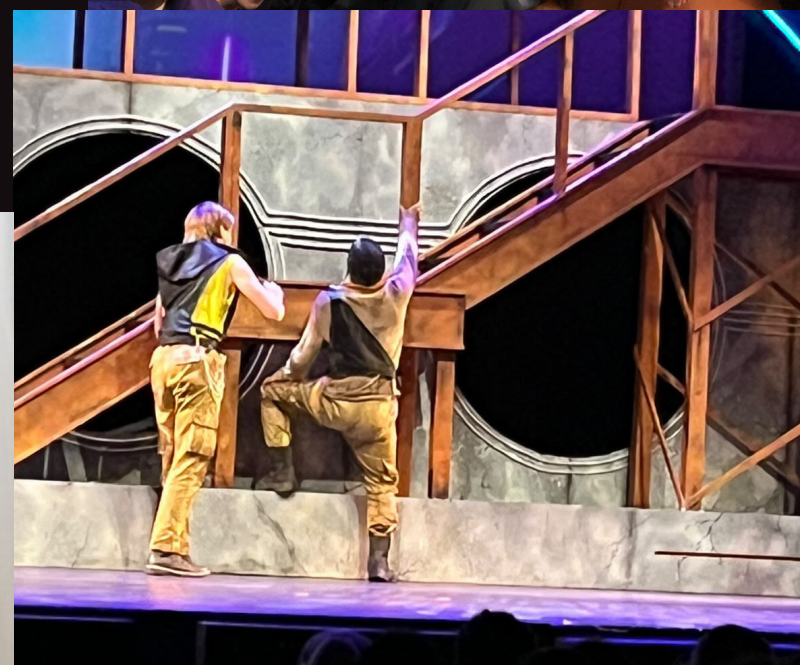
Well, y'all know, I wanna be a professional actor so bad. Like, it's been my dream forever. See, when I look at actors on TV or in movies, I feel this kinda spark inside me, like I could be up there too, telling stories and making people feel things. But here's the thing: I don't just wanna be any ol' actor. Nah, I wanna be different. I wanna stand out, you know? Not just 'cause of my talent, but 'cause of who I am. I wanna be a role model, especially for brown skin kids like me, but, for all kids, no matter their race. Growing up, I didn't always see folks on screen who looked like me. And when I did, they weren't always in roles that showed them as smart brave, or cool. So, I wanna change that. I wanna show the world that brown skin kids can be heroes, and can be the ones who save the day. When I'm up there on stage or in front of the camera, I wanna make sure people see themselves in me. I wanna tell stories that resonate with all kinds of people, stories that make 'em laugh, cry, and think. And maybe, just maybe, I can inspire someone out there to chase their own dreams, no matter where they come from or what they look like. So yeah, that's why I wanna be a professional actor. Not just for the fame or the fortune, but to make a difference, to show the world that we're all more alike than we are different, and that dreams don't have no color.



Being the only black dude in the cast sometimes feels like sticking out like a sore thumb, but hey, I ain't complaining! It's like being the secret ingredient in a recipe – you know, the one that makes everything taste better. Take "Urinetown," for example. Yeah, you heard that right, a musical about pee! Who would've thought, right? Anyway, in "Urinetown," I was like the funky spice in a funky stew. And let me tell you, wearing those ridiculous costumes made me feel like a king of the latrine! Who knew a guy could look so fly in overalls?

Then there's Shakespeare. Yeah, that old guy with the funny words. When we did "A Midsummer Night's Dream," I was the mischievous character in the story – Puck. People were like, "Wait, Puck's supposed to be white!" But hey, I made it work. Who said fairies couldn't have a little extra flavor? And don't even get me started on "Romeo & Juliet." Some folks were straight-up shocked to see a black Romeo. But come on, love doesn't see color, right? Plus, it was fun messing with people's expectations. They were expecting a vanilla Romeo, but I served up some chocolate swirl instead!

So yeah, being the only black guy in the cast can feel a bit like being the odd one out, but I wouldn't trade it for the world. I get to bring my own vibe to these ancient tales and add a little twist to the classics. And hey, if it means wearing a toga or belting out songs about pee, count me in! Shakespeare may be old-school, but with a dash of me, he's never tasted so good!



URINETOWN

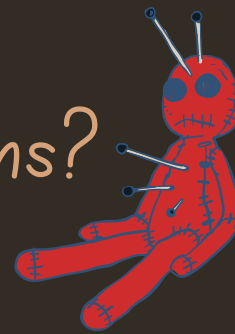
In all honesty, when the auditions for Urinetown were announced, I found myself hesitating. Doubt gnawed at me, whispering uncertainties about whether I should even try out. But one of my teachers, sensing my apprehension, gently encouraged me to be open-minded and take the leap. And oh, how grateful I am for that nudge of encouragement. Stepping into the audition room felt like stepping into the unknown, my nerves tingling with anticipation. Yet, as the process unfolded, I discovered a newfound sense of purpose and passion. The energy in the room was infectious, fueled by the collective excitement and determination of everyone involved. As rehearsals began, any lingering doubts melted away, replaced by an overwhelming sense of belonging. Together with my fellow cast members, we embarked on a journey of self-discovery and artistic exploration. We laughed together, cried together, and poured our hearts into every scene, building not just a performance but a foundation. Through it all, Ms. Louchard's guidance provided a steady anchor, urging us to strive for excellence while remaining humble and dedicated to our craft. And with Ms. Carr's choreography and Diana's musical genius, our production of Urinetown blossomed into something truly extraordinary. So, as I reflect on this unforgettable experience, I'm reminded of the power of being open-minded, taking chances, and embracing new opportunities. For it is in those moments of uncertainty that we often find our greatest joys and discoveries. And for that, I am endlessly grateful. Within this remarkable cast, several individuals have left an indelible mark on me, both professionally and personally.

First and foremost, there's my friend Sam. Sam is not just talented; he's a force to be reckoned with. His presence on stage is magnetic, drawing the audience in with every word he speaks and every note he sings. Yet, despite his incredible gift, Sam remains remarkably humble, always willing to lend a helping hand or offer words of encouragement to his fellow castmates. Then there's Maya, whose quiet strength and unwavering dedication keep us all grounded. Maya has a way of leading by example, approaching every rehearsal and performance with humility and grace. Her presence reminds me to stay humble and focused on the task at hand, even when the excitement of the stage threatens to overwhelm me. Arjun and Kabir, the identical twins, bring an infectious energy and sense of fun to every rehearsal. Watching them perform is like witnessing a masterclass in sibling synergy, as they effortlessly complement each other's movements and expressions. Their talent is matched only by their warmth and camaraderie, making them a joy to work with both on and offstage. And then there's Lev, my dear friend whose shoulder I can always lean on. Lev has a knack for knowing exactly when I'm having a bad day, offering a comforting presence and a sympathetic ear whenever I need it most. His friendship is a constant source of strength and support, reminding me that I'm never alone, even amid life's challenges. Of course, these are just a few highlights from a cast that is filled with talented and special individuals. Each member brings their unique strengths and contributions to the table, creating a rich tapestry of talent and camaraderie that I feel incredibly fortunate to be a part of. As our run of Urinetown comes to a close, I find myself already looking forward to the next opportunity to work alongside these remarkable people once again.

As we wrap up our production of Urinetown, I can't help but imagine what the future holds for all of us. As we take our final bows and share one last round of applause, I can't shake the feeling that this won't be the last time we'll be celebrating together. I have this dream – a big dream – that one day, we'll all be sitting in the front row, dressed to the nines, as we wait to hear our names called at the Tony Awards or the Oscars. I can picture it now: Hudson, Kirby, Sam, Maya, Arjun, Kabir, Lev, Diana, Ms. Louchard, Ms. Carr – all of us, together, cheering each other on as we accept our awards for Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Director, Best Choreography... the list goes on. It's a dream fueled not just by ambition, but by the incredible talent and dedication I've witnessed in every one of my castmates. I've seen the way they pour their hearts and souls into their performances, the way they push themselves to be the best they can be, and the way they support and uplift each other every step of the way. So yes, as we bid farewell to Urinetown and look ahead to what the future may hold, I hold onto this dream tightly. Because I truly believe that with the talent, passion, and friendship we've cultivated together, there's nothing we can't achieve. And when that day comes – when we're all sitting in that front row, basking in the glow of our collective success – I know it will be a moment we'll cherish forever. After every Urinetown show, as I went around collecting money from the audience, something unexpected would happen. People would spot me and want to snap a picture! Can you believe it? Little ol' me, posing for photos like I was some kind of superstar. It was pretty hilarious, to be honest. But you know what was even cooler? Seeing how the young kids in the audience looked up to me. They'd come running over, eyes wide with excitement, asking for a picture or just wanting to say hi. It made me feel like a hero or something, you know? Like I was inspiring the next generation. I gotta admit, it was a pretty surreal experience. Here I was, just doing my thing on stage, and suddenly I had fans cheering me on every step of the way!

And hey, if you find yourself free in November 2024, you should definitely come check out our production of Macbeth. Trust me, it's gonna be legendary!

Would I play in Horror films?



You all might be asking yourselves, would Manny play in horror films?

Alright, so picture this: you're watching a horror movie, right? And it's all spooky and suspenseful, and then BAM! The black character bites the dust faster than you can say "Run, girl, run!" Why does this always happen? It's like they got a target on their back that says "Victim Numero Uno." Now, let's talk about those white folks. They see a creepy old house and what's the first thing they do? "Let's split up and explore!" Yeah, because that's a genius plan, Karen. And of course, the basement is calling their name like it's a treasure trove of bad decisions. Like seriously, why do they always gotta go down there? Do they think they're gonna find another white person hiding behind the cobwebs, ready to have a tea party? But hey, let's not forget about the black friend who's always like, "I ain't going in there, y'all crazy!" Smart move, my dude, smart move.



Let's dive deeper into the horror movie madness. Have you ever noticed how the black characters are like the voice of reason, but nobody ever listens to them? They're always trying to save everyone from their own stupidity. "Don't go in there!" they yell, but do the others listen? Nope, they just keep on truckin' towards their doom like it's a Sunday stroll. And let's talk about the classic horror movie setting: the spooky cabin in the woods. Why is there always a group of clueless teenagers who decide it's a great idea to camp there? Like, have they never seen a horror movie before? Haven't they heard the saying, "If you hear banjo music, run the other way"? But nope, they're too busy roasting marshmallows and flirting to notice the impending doom lurking in the shadows. Oh, and let's not forget about the one character who's like, "I'll be right back." Yeah, sure you will, buddy. You might as well start to plan your funeral at that point. In the end, horror movies are like a rollercoaster ride of clichés and questionable decisions. But hey, that's part of the fun, right? Just remember, if you ever find yourself in a horror movie scenario, stick with the black character and for the love of all that's holy, stay out of the basement! So to answer your question, yes, I would play in horror movies if the producers paid me my worth.



Viola Davis isn't just an actor; she's a force of nature. Her performances are like a masterclass in storytelling, emotion, and authenticity. Watching her on screen isn't just entertainment; it's a revelation. It's no wonder she inspired me to pursue acting myself. Seeing Viola embody characters with such depth and complexity made me realize the power of storytelling. She doesn't just play roles; she inhabits them. It's like she breathes life into every character she portrays, making them feel real and relatable. But it's not just her talent that inspired me—it's her journey. Viola didn't have an easy road to success. She faced challenges and setbacks, but she never gave up. Her perseverance and determination taught me that anything is possible with passion and hard work. So, I decided to follow in Viola's footsteps. Every time I step on stage or in front of the camera, I channel her spirit—the passion, the intensity, the vulnerability. Viola Davis isn't just a role model; she's a beacon of inspiration, showing me that being an actor is about telling stories, touching hearts, and making a difference.

Back in the day, Viola Davis had it rough, growing up in Central Falls, Rhode Island, where money was tight and kids could be harsh. But despite the challenges, she didn't let the teasing about her clothes get her down. Instead, she turned her situation into her superpower, showing resilience and determination. It's inspiring to see how she transformed her struggles into success, becoming a Hollywood icon. "The Help" showcased Viola Davis's incredible talent, especially as Aibileen Clark. She brought depth and emotion to the role, making us laugh, cry, and reflect on important issues. And let's not forget about Minnie's fried chicken – it practically stole the show! The movie wasn't just entertaining; it was a journey through friendship and empowerment. The big message in "The Help" is about being kind and fair to everybody, no matter what they look like or where they come from. The movie shows how hard life was for African American maids in the 1960s, especially in Mississippi. It teaches us that we should stand up against unfairness and treat everyone with respect. "The Help" also tells us that when people come together and support each other, they can make a real difference in the world. So, it's all about being nice, being fair, and fighting for what's right. Viola Davis's story reminds us that with grit and determination, we can overcome any obstacle. She's a true inspiration, showing that you don't need fancy clothes or a privileged background to achieve your dreams. So, the next time you're feeling discouraged, remember Viola's story – if she can conquer the world smelling like yesterday's laundry, you can achieve anything too!





SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

When it comes to school activities, I definitely stand out. Whether I'm taking the lead in the school play or engaging in clubs, my enthusiasm and energy are unmistakable. I thrive on activities that let me express myself creatively and connect with others. During drama rehearsals, you'll always find me fully engaged, whether I'm acting out scenes from Shakespeare or singing with all my heart. My knack for bringing characters to life and captivating audiences with my performances is something I take pride in. I put in the hard work and dedication needed to excel in acting, and it's evident in every role I take on. However, when it comes to Math and Science, my excitement dwindles. I understand their importance, but I struggle with the complex concepts and problem-solving they entail. Instead, I prefer subjects that allow me to unleash my creativity and storytelling abilities. Despite my reluctance toward Math and Science, I am determined to succeed in all my classes. With encouragement from my teachers and support from my friends, I am committed to overcoming my challenges and making the most of my education. Maybe in the future, I'll find a way to merge my passion for acting with these subjects. But for now, I'll continue to shine brightly in the spotlight, both on stage and off.



BERKELEY LIFE



My life has revolved around Berkeley since I was born. I know this city like the back of my hand, and it's become a huge part of who I am. Berkeley is a busy place, with lots of things happening all the time. There are colorful murals painted on the sides of buildings, and street performers playing music on every corner. I enjoy walking around and taking it all in. One thing that's special about Berkeley is how much we care about important issues. I see people protesting for fairness and helping those in need. And I think that's very important. I have friends from different backgrounds, and we have fun together doing things like going to the park or playing sports. Sometimes we even go to the farmers' market and try different foods. Living in Berkeley has taught me to appreciate diversity. I've learned about different cultures and ideas, and it's made me a more open-minded person. I'm grateful for growing up in such a cool place, and I can't wait to see what adventures Berkeley has in store for me next.

SOULFOOD



Dinnertime at our crib is like being front-row at a comedy show hosted by my mom and grandma. They're setting the table, spinning stories hotter than grandma's collard greens, diving deep into how our folks back in the day rocked the kitchen with their cooking game, especially when it came to perfecting that sacred art of frying chicken just right. Let me tell you, those tales are wilder than a stand-up routine by your favorite comedian, and they come with a side of historical knowledge fresher than the veggies in our garden.

Now, let's talk about the grub – it's so good, that it'll make your taste buds do the happy dance. The fried chicken? Crispier than your best dance moves. The collard greens? So tender, they practically melt in your mouth like butter on a hot biscuit. And don't even get me started on grandma's cornbread; it's so fluffy, it's like it's floating off the plate. Oh, and the sweet potato pie? Let's just say it's sweeter than the tea at a Southern picnic.

As we chow down on this feast, we're not just filling our bellies; we're savoring the flavors of our roots, spiced with a dash of humor and a sprinkle of love. It's a culinary adventure that leaves us rolling with laughter and reaching for seconds. If Gordon Ramsay ever dared to step into our kitchen, he'd be in for a taste of tradition, with a side of real talk.

“Manny is honestly such a fun and creative person to be around. He lightens up whatever room he’s in and never fails to make people laugh. His dedication and determination are so inspiring, and I do not doubt that he will make it far and achieve his dreams. He’s hardworking and charismatic and an amazing friend. I look forward to watching his career progress, and his creativity flow!”

-Chelsea Lears

“Manny is a joy to be with both on and off stage. whenever he dains to grace an audience with is presence you can feel the joy in the room. When not on stage he’s still making people smile weather that be laughing at one of his jokes feeling the love that he radiates whenever you talk to him.”

-Lev Goldmiller

“Manny is a walking jokester. When I'm not around him someone is giving him an addictive personality. He's always providing enjoyment around him that catches onto others. He's magnetic and a great person to be around spreading good vibes like butter on bread. He's creative like giving his character in Urintown a whole different person which set a high bar for the next Urintown musical I'll see. If there's anything I'd change about him I wouldn't. Love you, Manny.”

-Oliver Grisales

“Bro Manny’s like pretty cool. Bro is just chill like that. This man popularized the term rizz. Me when no Manny: 😞 vs. me when Manny: 😊”

-Sam Canny

“Manny is one of the most considerate and sweet people I know! Every time he walks into the room he manages to light up people’s faces- his positive energy is infectious. His jokes & wit never end. I’ve watched him take miserable ones. His perseverance and humor make everyone he comes into contact with strive to have fun and do better. He seems and appreciate every person he meets; he literally wrote the entire cast of Urinetown. You will never meet a more caring, funny, compassionate, and kind soul as Manny Lane-Scott.”

-Kirby Duncun

“Manny is honestly one of the most fun people I know. Every room he enters just lights up with an energy I can't even describe. Whenever I see him in the halls, he just puts the biggest smile on my face. Also, while onstage, he's such a great actor. The emotions, the comedy, he's just a joy to be around.”

-Nevo Naftalin-Kelman

“Manny is a very passionate person and has high aspirations. He is energetic and kind. It was so much fun to be in a cast with him. Manny is driven and I believe that through hard work he can achieve anything he sets his mind to.”

-Maëlle Griffin

“Manny is one of the most caring people i have met in high school. he is always looking out for everyone else and always has your back. He is also one of the funniest people and will always bring laughter to the classroom no matter the situation. Manny always brings energy to the space he’s in even if he isn’t 100% that day.”

-Cia Torres

“Manny is one of the greatest actors the Bay Area, and soon the world will witness. With great humor, he delivers us with priceless memories. His great attitude, and unique music taste, fill our lives with great joy and humor.”

-Reese Cutzz

“Manny's awesome! He's always friendly and helpful, spreading happiness wherever he goes. Hanging out with him is like a boost of joy! He's real and kind, like a treasure. Plus, he's funny and sweet, making every moment fun!”

-Paulina Unrue

“Manny is a magnetic and inspiring presence who effortlessly brings people together with his humor and compassion. Conversations with him are guaranteed to brighten your day, as he has a knack for turning even the toughest experiences into laughter. His kindness and caring nature make him a joy to be around, and starting your day with him is simply the best.”

-Meghan Malone

“Manny is by far the most interesting person I've met. His one-of-a-kind personality definitely sets him apart from others and although he may seem a bit weird to me sometimes, no one ever made it big trying to be someone they're not. I know Manny will become someone amazing.”

-Jacob Winkleman

“Manny is one of the sweetest guys I know! His dedication to writing letters to the entire cast to Urinetown left us all I'm sure feeling a lot more loved. Not to mention his natural talent for making you feel at ease on stage and off. Manny is truly one of a kind.”

-Elowyn Andrejko

“Manny is a great person, always looking out for others while keeping them smiling & laughing. He brings talent and life to any stage he's on and catches the spotlight with his humor and charm. I'm so grateful to have gotten to work with him and been even a small part of his life because it is the best thing you can be.”

-Ken Kemnitz

“Manny is honestly one of the most amazing people I've met. He's able to be lighthearted & funny but still thoughtful and kind. He is so spirited and finds a way to make everyone leave with a smile.”

-Maya Babij-Ross

“I met Manny in my first year of high school and we were in a musical together. I can't even express how much fun we've had over the time we've known each other but whenever I see Manny, my day is already better. He is such an amazing and funny person and is always a joy to be around. He definitely helped me adjust to high school and made it more enjoyable.”

- Arjun Hermon, Thing 1

“Manny is one of the funniest and liveliest people I know. He lights up every room he walks into with his signature wit and smiles equally prepared to entertain the masses or to have deep conversations about life. As a performer, he shines naturally on stage and is a very gifted actor who is always ready to learn about and dive deep into any character or scene. He also is a genuinely kind and caring person who looks out for everyone around him and is always prepared to stand up for the things & people he cares about.”

-Sophie Novick-Prucher

“Manny, he's just a guy from my high school, but he's the kind of person who radiates joy throughout the entire cast during productions. With his ability to make everyone laugh and feel at ease, Manny creates a welcoming atmosphere wherever he goes. He's the type to surprise you with a heartfelt handwritten letter praising your personality and expressing gratitude for working together. Affectionately dubbed "Old Grandpa," Manny is the go-to sage for guidance whenever life throws a curveball.”

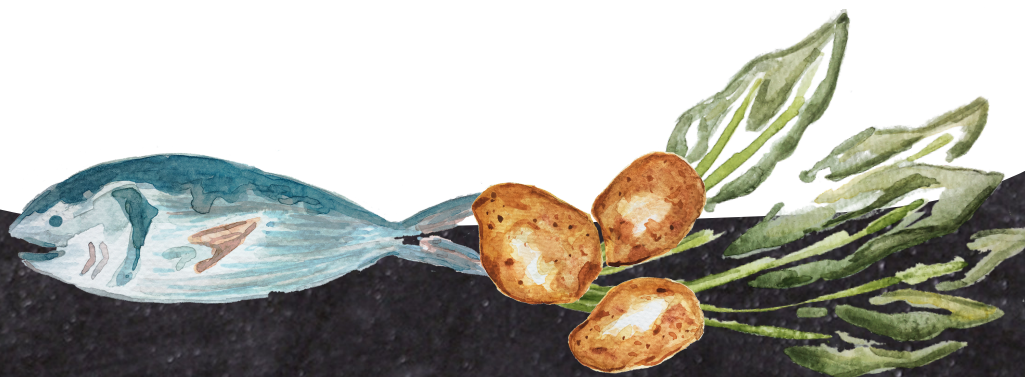
-Syuzanna Shyroyan

“Manny is a good team member and good in social situations and is very dedicated to what he does. and doesn't quit when he had a task at hand. he's positive and brings good energy to the people around him.”

-Atticus LaBang

Recipe

Oh, lemme tell ya 'bout our fam's secret butter rolls recipe. It's somethin' real special, passed down through generations, and guarded with utmost care. The taste? Oh, it's beyond words. Each bite is like a little piece of heaven meltin' on my tongue. Picture this: a soft, golden-brown roll, warm from the oven, with just a hint of crispy sweetness on the outside. But it's what's inside that truly makes it magical. Layers upon layers of buttery goodness, so rich and indulgent that it feels like a warm hug from my ancestors themselves. My great-grandma, bless her soul, was the one who started this recipe. She had a gift for bakin' and shared her love through those butter rolls. She passed it down to her children, Aunt Betty bein' one of 'em, one of her oldest daughters. Aunt Betty, she's the one who knows how to make 'em just right, every single time. Now, Aunt Betty and her siblings passed it down to their kids, and then to their grandkids, and on and on it goes. Each generation learnin' the secret, keepin' it close to their hearts, just like we do. But here's the bummer part—my grandma doesn't know it. Such a bummer. I reckon it must've skipped her somehow. It's a shame 'cause I know she'd love to be a part of the tradition too. Maybe we'll have to organize a butter rolls intervention for her! There's somethin' 'bout the taste of these butter rolls that's so much more than just dessert. It's a connection to my roots, a reminder of the love and warmth that fills our family gatherings. And even though I may not know the exact recipe, I feel honored to be a part of this legacy, carryin' on a tradition that stretches back through generations. So, if you ever have the chance to taste our family's butter rolls, consider yourself lucky. Because not only are you experiencin' a delicious dessert, you're also gettin' a glimpse into the heart and soul of our family. And trust me, it tastes even better than it sounds.





INGREDIENTS

Butter Rolls

For the dough:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, cold and cut into small pieces
- 1/2 cup milk

For the filling:

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

For the sauce:

- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 1 cup water
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract



DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat your oven to 375°F (190°C). Grease a 9x13-inch baking dish.
2. In a large mixing bowl, combine the flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt. Cut in the cold butter using a pastry cutter or your fingers until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs.
3. Gradually add the milk to the flour mixture, stirring until a soft dough forms. Turn the dough out onto a floured surface and knead lightly until smooth.
4. Roll out the dough into a rectangle about 1/4 inch thick.
5. In a small bowl, mix the softened butter, brown sugar, and cinnamon for the filling. Spread this mixture evenly over the dough.
6. Roll up the dough tightly from one long side to the other, forming a log. Cut the log into 12 equal slices.
7. Place the slices, cut side down, in the prepared baking dish.
8. In a saucepan, combine the granulated sugar, butter, and water for the sauce. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring constantly until the sugar is dissolved. Remove from heat and stir in the vanilla extract.
9. Pour the sauce evenly over the butter rolls in the baking dish.
10. Bake in the preheated oven for 25-30 minutes, or until the rolls are golden brown and the sauce is bubbly.
11. Serve warm, optionally with a scoop of vanilla ice cream or a dollop of whipped cream on top.

Enjoy your delicious African American dessert butter rolls!

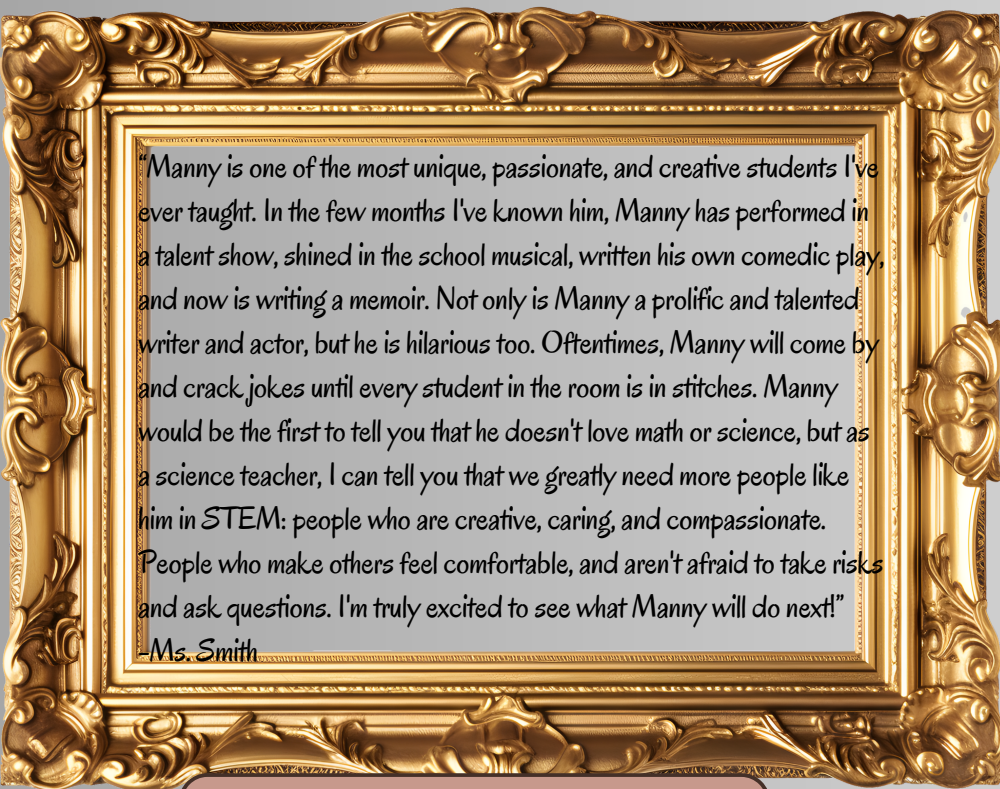
NOTE:

"Savor the tradition of African American dessert butter rolls, a sweet embrace of heritage."

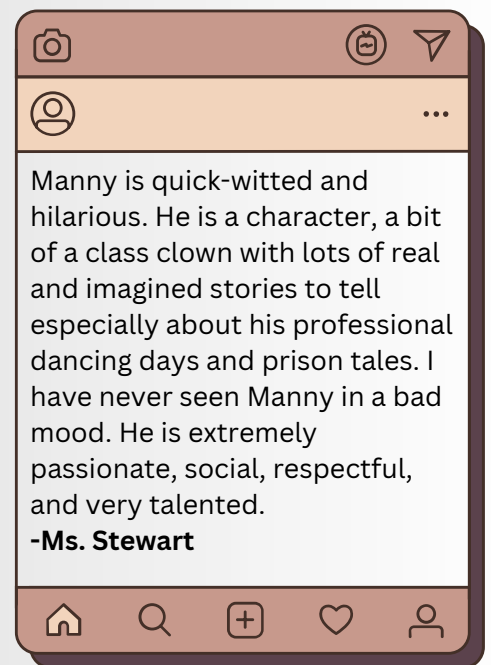
TEACHERS



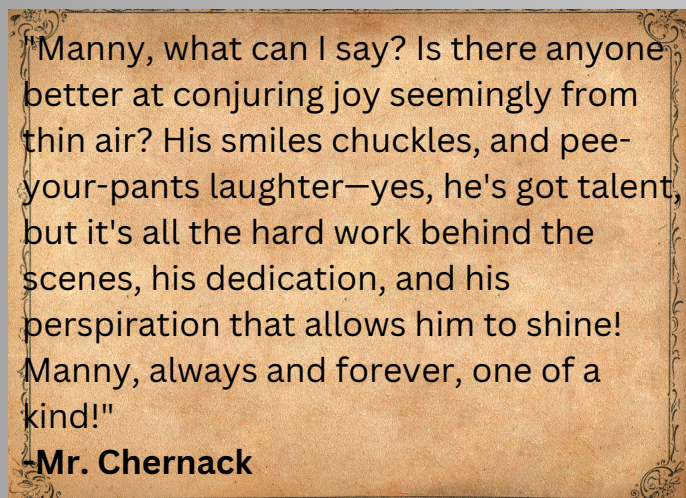
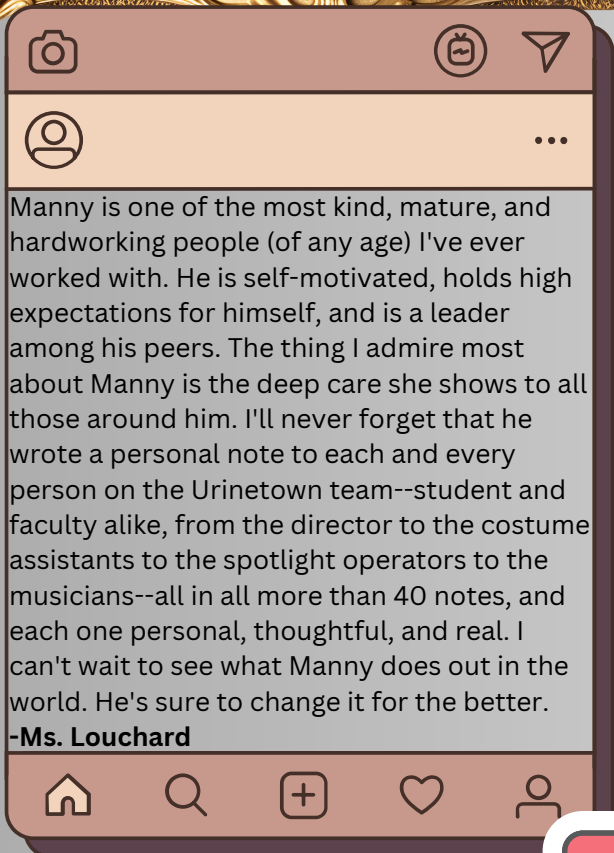
Having teachers who keep pushing me to do my best in class, even when I'm feeling lazy or just not in the mood, is like having a personal trainer for my brain. I mean, sure, there are days when I'd rather be binge-watching Netflix or perfecting my snack-eating skills, but thanks to their never-ending encouragement, I somehow manage to get through it. It's like they have a sixth sense for when I'm slacking off, and they swoop in with their assignments and pop quizzes to keep me on my toes. I swear, they must have some kind of secret teacher telepathy or something. And let's not even get started on their enthusiasm for extra credit. It's like they're running some kind of underground bonus point racket, and they won't rest until every last worksheet is completed and every test is aced. But hey, I'm not complaining – those extra points could mean the difference between a passing grade and a summer spent in summer school. So here's to the teachers who keep us on our toes, even when we'd rather be kicking back and doing absolutely nothing. They may drive us crazy sometimes, but deep down, we know they've got our best interests at heart. And who knows? Maybe one day, I'll look back and thank them for helping me become the scholar I was always meant to be.



Manny truly has a good heart. He wears his emotions on his sleeve and is an open good person to many around him. His solid sense of humor and good nature make him an easy and refreshing person to be around. I look forward to seeing Manny every day. One of the academic qualities that Manny has that enjoy is that he gives it an honest go. I know math is hard, yet Manny often perseveres. In all, he's a good egg!
-Mr. Goldfield

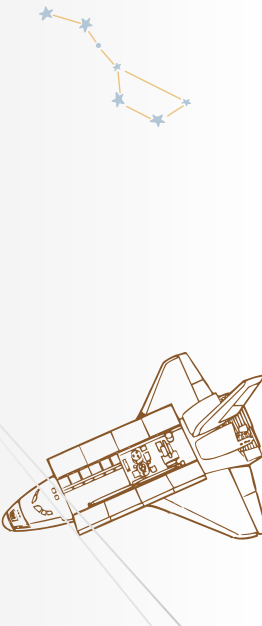


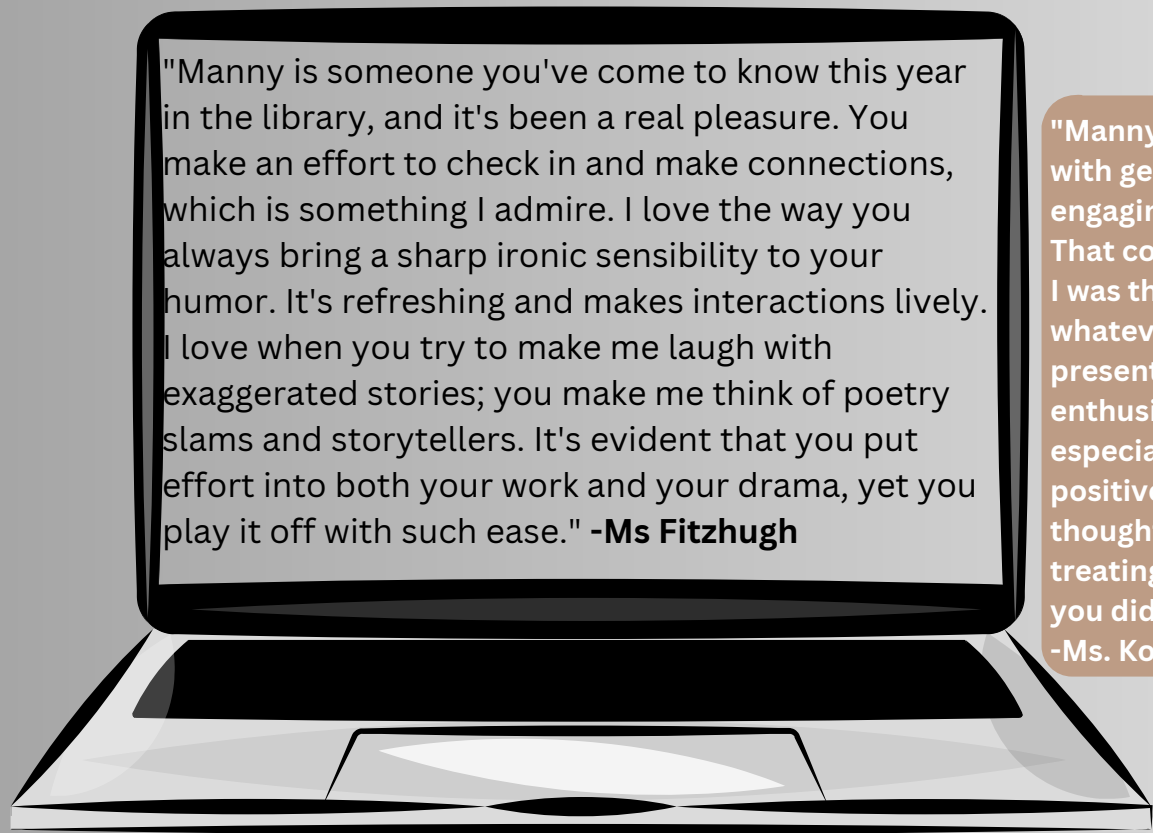
Manny brings an unparalleled positive energy to the room. He is an outstanding member of our school community. Manny always makes the extra effort to be kind and generous to all. Even through his junior year at BHS, Manny will make it a point in his day to stop by on a regular basis just to say hello -- this of course, always makes my day so special. If you are so lucky to know Manny, you understand how meaningful it is to have him in your life. It has been a privilege to know Manny for the past three years and it will continue to be a privilege to know Manny moving forward. Manny always brings a special level of care and consideration to all that he does, whether that's saying hello or all his creative projects. I am so excited to see what happens next!
-Ms. Fong



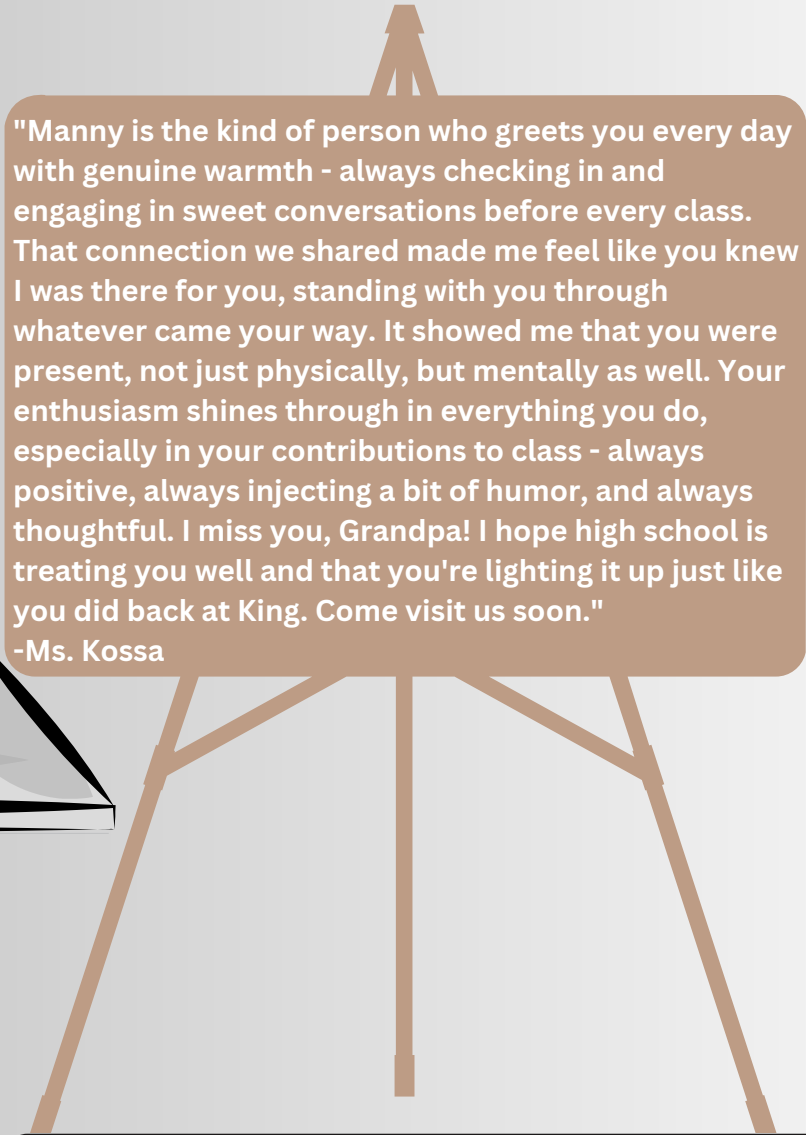
It has been a privilege to get to know Manuel Lane-Scott during my first year at the Berkeley High library. Manny makes good use of library resources and as a result we are able to have conversations on wide-ranging topics. He is creative and has a wonderful imagination. Both of these talents were put to good use in Manny's role as Old Man Strong in this year's production of Urinetown. Manny is also very self-aware, openly discussing his experience and role in the world as a young Black man as well as his place in his family's structure. I appreciate Manny's perspective on many things and always learn from our conversations.
-Ms. Bogie

"I know Manny as an eager, devoted actor; a comic centerpiece of the Urinetown cast. What I noticed most about Manny was how PRESENT he was. Even when he didn't need to be in rehearsal, he came. He clearly LOVED being part of the cast and often helped others to stay focused and keep things running smoothly. I was taken aback to receive a heartfelt, thoughtful card from Manny after opening night, especially since I hadn't had much interaction with him directly as a choreographer. Even though he wasn't in any of the scenes I directed, he had been paying attention at all those extra rehearsals he voluntarily attended -- noticing the details, taking in as much as he could. I was FLOORED to realize afterward, that Manny had written a personal letter of appreciation to EVERYONE in the cast and crew -- over 40 people! It had taken him months...which means he had spent the majority of the time we all worked together thinking about how much he appreciated EVERY SINGLE PERSON he was working with. That is extraordinary, and says a lot about how Manny chooses to engage with the world around him."
-Ms. Carr

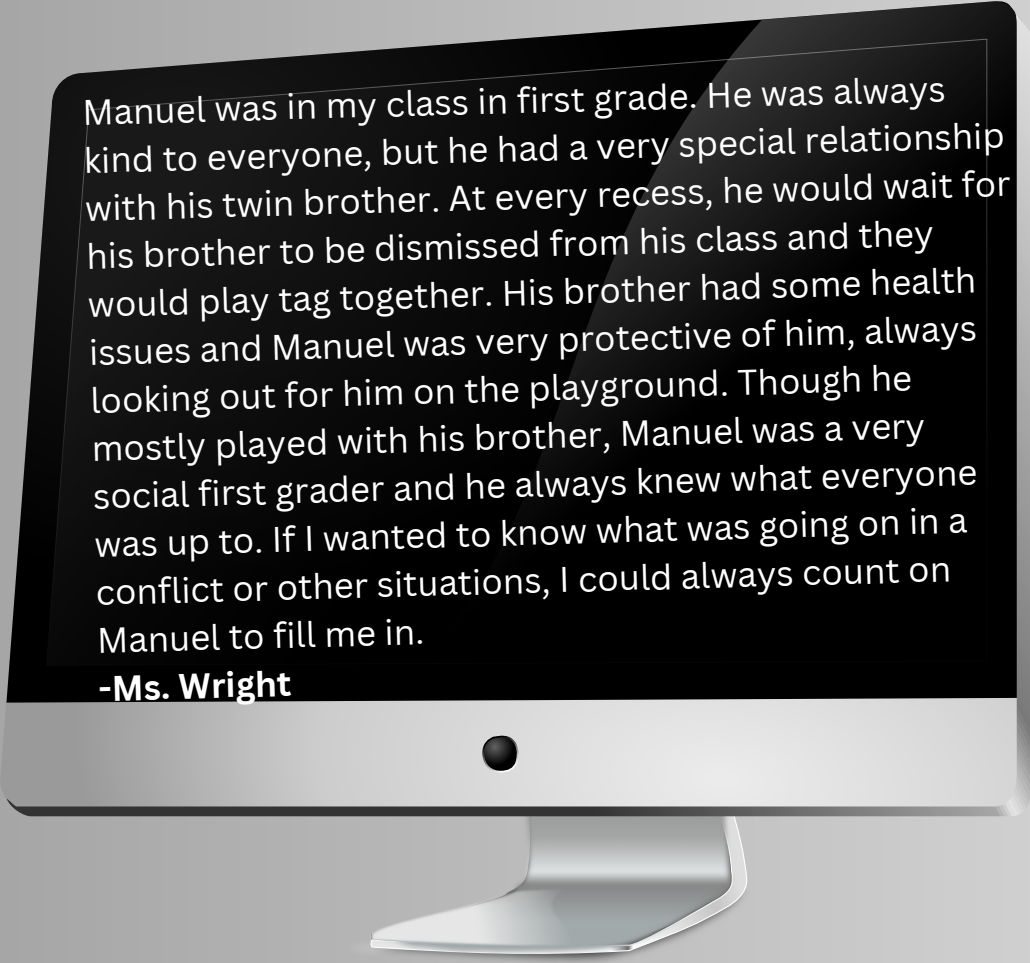




"Manny is someone you've come to know this year in the library, and it's been a real pleasure. You make an effort to check in and make connections, which is something I admire. I love the way you always bring a sharp ironic sensibility to your humor. It's refreshing and makes interactions lively. I love when you try to make me laugh with exaggerated stories; you make me think of poetry slams and storytellers. It's evident that you put effort into both your work and your drama, yet you play it off with such ease." -Ms Fitzhugh

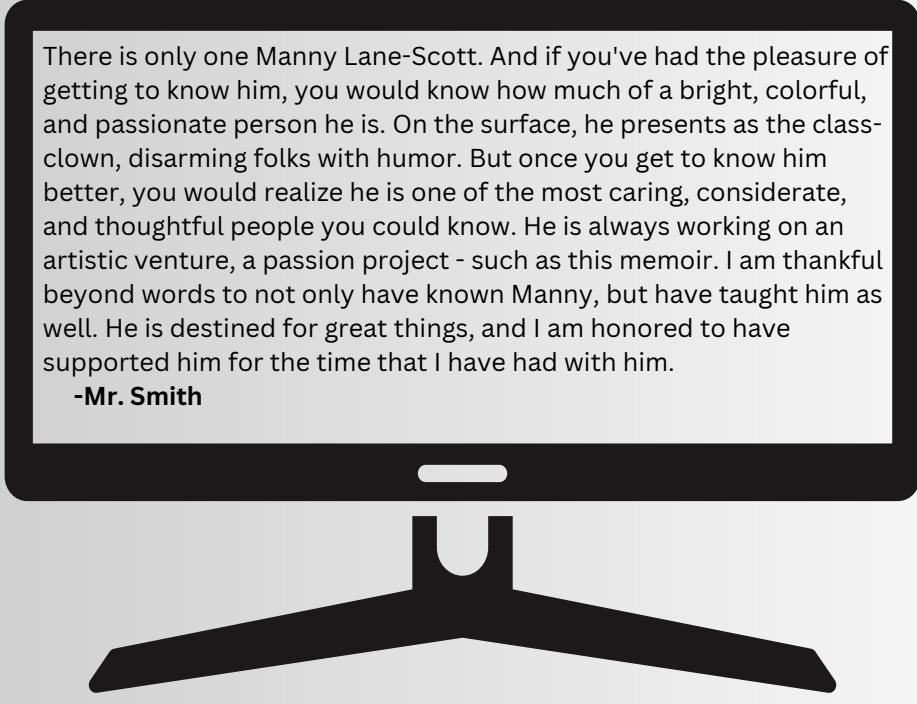


"Manny is the kind of person who greets you every day with genuine warmth - always checking in and engaging in sweet conversations before every class. That connection we shared made me feel like you knew I was there for you, standing with you through whatever came your way. It showed me that you were present, not just physically, but mentally as well. Your enthusiasm shines through in everything you do, especially in your contributions to class - always positive, always injecting a bit of humor, and always thoughtful. I miss you, Grandpa! I hope high school is treating you well and that you're lighting it up just like you did back at King. Come visit us soon."
-Ms. Kossa



Manuel was in my class in first grade. He was always kind to everyone, but he had a very special relationship with his twin brother. At every recess, he would wait for his brother to be dismissed from his class and they would play tag together. His brother had some health issues and Manuel was very protective of him, always looking out for him on the playground. Though he mostly played with his brother, Manuel was a very social first grader and he always knew what everyone was up to. If I wanted to know what was going on in a conflict or other situations, I could always count on Manuel to fill me in.

-Ms. Wright



There is only one Manny Lane-Scott. And if you've had the pleasure of getting to know him, you would know how much of a bright, colorful, and passionate person he is. On the surface, he presents as the class-clown, disarming folks with humor. But once you get to know him better, you would realize he is one of the most caring, considerate, and thoughtful people you could know. He is always working on an artistic venture, a passion project - such as this memoir. I am thankful beyond words to not only have known Manny, but have taught him as well. He is destined for great things, and I am honored to have supported him for the time that I have had with him.

-Mr. Smith



THE LOVE TRAIN



As I navigate the twists and turns of high school romance, I often find myself reflecting on the lyrics of Stevie Wonder's classic song, "Isn't She Lovely." With its upbeat melody and heartfelt lyrics, the song serves as a reminder of the beauty and wonder of love. As I encounter different crushes and potential love interests, I can't help but wonder if one of them might be the girl Stevie Wonder sings about - the one who lights up a room with her presence and steals my heart with her smile. I imagine dancing with her under the stars, just like in the song, and feeling the magic of love in the air. Yet, despite my longing for romance, I know that finding the right person takes time and patience. I take solace in the hopeful message of the song, knowing that somewhere out there, the perfect girl is waiting to be discovered. As I continue my journey through the sea of high school romance, I remain optimistic, buoyed by the timeless melodies of Stevie Wonder and the promise of love's sweet embrace.

I have to say watching my friends embark on the journey of romantic relationships fills me with pride and joy. Seeing them find happiness and fulfillment in their partnerships brings me a warm sense of satisfaction, like watching a garden bloom with vibrant flowers. Each time I witness a friend's relationship blossom, my heart swells with pride, knowing that they've found someone who appreciates and cherishes them for who they are. Whether it's seeing them hold hands, share inside jokes, or simply bask in each other's company, I delight in witnessing the love and connection that my friends have found. As I observe my friends navigate the ups and downs of love, I can't help but admire their resilience and commitment to each other. I know that building a strong and healthy relationship takes time and effort, and I'm proud to see my friends invest in their partnerships with honesty, communication, and mutual respect. But more than anything, I'm grateful for the happiness that my friends' relationships bring into their lives. Whether it's celebrating milestones together or simply being there to lend a listening ear, I take pride in being able to support my friends as they embark on this new chapter of their lives. As I watch my friends grow and flourish in their relationships, I'm reminded of the beauty of love and friendship, and I feel grateful to have such amazing people in my life.

That song "Marvin Gaye" by Charlie Puth? It's like my lifeline, especially when it comes to expressing how I feel about this girl. It's more than just a song; it's like a mirror reflecting all the emotions swirling inside me whenever she's around. The lyrics, especially "It's so subtle, I'm in trouble, but I'd rather be in trouble with you," resonate with me on a deep level. It's like they understand the delicate balance of excitement and uncertainty that comes when you like someone. And the melody of the song? It touches my soul deeply. Every beat, every note, it's like it's syncing up perfectly with the rhythm of my heartbeat whenever I'm with her. So, when I hear that song, it's not just background noise. It's a reminder of all the highs and lows of falling for someone, and it's a reassurance there's something special worth holding onto. You know, what's both thrilling and a bit nerve-wracking about this whole thing is that she doesn't even know how much she means to me. She doesn't realize the depth of my feelings or how much I care for her. And that's okay because I'm not doing things for her as if I were her father, but rather, I want to do things with her. It's not about impressing her or trying to win her over; it's about sharing experiences and creating memories together. Whether it's exploring new places, trying out new hobbies, or just spending time together, I want her to know that I value her presence in my life. I want to laugh with her, dream with her, and just be myself around her. Because when I'm with her, I feel like I can truly be me, without any pretense or masks. And that's something I cherish more than anything. So yeah, she may not know it yet, but I'm hoping that one day she'll see just how much she means to me and that she'll want to build something special with me too.



Music taste



Let's give a round of applause to music artists – those magical beings who sprinkle a little melody and rhythm into our lives and make everything just a bit brighter. Seriously, have you ever listened to a song and felt like it was speaking directly to your soul? That's the power of music, my friends. These artists aren't just singing into a microphone – they're weaving sonic tapestries that have the power to transport us to another dimension. Whether we're dancing like nobody's watching or belting out lyrics like we're auditioning for *The Voice*, music has a way of making us feel alive in ways we never thought possible. And let's not forget the countless lives that have been changed by the power of a single song. I mean, who hasn't turned to their favorite tune for a pick-me-up on a bad day or found solace in the lyrics of a heartfelt ballad? Music has a way of connecting us all, reminding us that we're not alone in this crazy journey called life. So here's to music artists – the unsung heroes of our playlists, the maestros of our emotions, and the rockstars of our hearts. Keep doing what you do best because the world would be a much duller place without your musical magic. And hey, if you ever need a backup dancer or a karaoke partner, you know who to call! Let's take a peek behind the curtain of the music studio, where music artists spend countless hours crafting the perfect tune. I'm talking late nights, early mornings, and enough coffee to keep even the most caffeine-resistant person buzzing for days.

You see, recording a song isn't just a one-and-done affair – it's a meticulous process that requires patience, precision, and a whole lot of trial and error. From laying down the initial tracks to fine-tuning every last detail, music artists pour their heart and soul into every note. And let's not forget the endless takes, the endless retakes, and the endless debates over whether to use the first version or the fifteenth. It's a delicate dance between creativity and perfectionism, with no shortage of passionate arguments and creative disagreements along the way. But in the end, when that final mix is locked in and the song is ready to be unleashed upon the world, all those long hours and sleepless nights are worth it. Because music has the power to move us, to inspire us, and to remind us that even in our darkest moments, there's always a melody waiting to lift us and carry us through. So here's to the music artists – the unsung heroes of the studio, the architects of our emotions, and the wizards behind the soundboard. Keep doing what you do best because the world is a brighter place with your music in it. And hey, if you ever need someone to fetch you a fresh cup of coffee or offer some moral support during those marathon recording sessions, you know where to find me!

Alright, gather 'round, folks! Let me tell you about a musical wizard named Max Martin. This guy? He's like the secret sauce behind some of your favorite pop hits. You know those songs that get stuck in your head for days, the ones you can't help but sing along to? Yeah, chances are, Max Martin had a hand in making them. This dude is like the Santa Claus of pop music — except instead of toys, he delivers chart-topping hits. I'm talking about tracks that make you wanna dance in the shower and sing into your hairbrush like you're headlining Madison Square Garden. Max Martin doesn't just write songs; he crafts masterpieces. He's got this magical ability to blend catchy melodies with irresistible hooks like he's mixing up a batch of musical crack. And let me tell you, once you hear one of his tunes, you're hooked for life. But here's the kicker: Max Martin isn't just a one-hit wonder. Oh no, this guy's got more hits than a pinata at a birthday party. Britney Spears? Yup, he wrote "Baby One More Time." Backstreet Boys? "I Want It That Way" is his handiwork too. Taylor Swift? You betcha, he co-wrote "Shake It Off." I mean, seriously, you can connect him to pretty much every pop star on the planet, and chances are, he's written at least one of their bangers. So next time you're jamming out to your favorite pop anthem, just remember: somewhere behind the scenes, Max Martin's probably sitting in his studio, sprinkling his magic songwriting dust and making musical dreams come true.



BREAKING NEWS



JAY-Z'S GRAMMYS SPEECH ABOUT BEYONCÉ REITERATES AN ONGOING ISSUE WITH THE AWARDS

"But, you know, some things — I don't want to embarrass this young lady, but she has more Grammys than everyone and never won album of the year. So even by your own metrics, that doesn't work. Think about that. The most Grammys, never won album of the year. That doesn't work," he continued.

BEYONCÉ ACCEPTS INNOVATOR AWARD AT 2024 IHEARTRADIO MUSIC AWARDS



The speech by Beyoncé expresses gratitude towards Stevie Wonder for his influence and recognition, acknowledges the challenges of innovation and the importance of perseverance despite criticism, and calls for openness to new forms of art and expression within the industry.

BEYONCÉ + STEVIE WONDER



GREAT GRANDPARENTS



In an era where large families were the norm, my great-grandparents stood out with their bustling household of 16 children. Imagining the chaos of such a lively environment, filled with constant noise, chores, and inevitable sibling rivalries, it's clear that amidst the commotion, a strong sense of warmth and camaraderie bound them together. Their decision to embrace such a large family spoke volumes about their values – a deep-rooted belief in the importance of unity, support, and sticking together through thick and thin. The journey of my great-grandparents to homeownership in Oakland adds a touch of whimsical charm to their tale.

Acquiring a quaint house for a mere \$800, they undoubtedly felt like they'd struck gold. My great-grandmother, a diligent office worker by day and a culinary wizard by night orchestrated the household with precision, balancing hugs and homemade cookies with ease. Meanwhile, my great-grandfather's passion for trains added an extra layer of color to their lives, captivating everyone with his larger-than-life personality.

Tragedy struck when my great-grandfather passed away, leaving my great-grandmother adrift. Yet, from the shadows emerged my step-great-grandfather, a beacon of laughter and love. Embracing his role with open arms, he not only swept my great-grandmother off her feet but also embraced her children as his own. However, fate dealt another blow with the loss of my uncle Roy, followed by the sudden passing of my step-great-grandfather. Through these heart-wrenching moments, my great-grandmother's resilience and unwavering love for her family shone brightly. Despite the weight of her grief, she refused to be consumed by despair, finding the strength to carry on and keep the flame of hope alive. Their story, marked by love, loss, and resilience, serves as a powerful reminder of the enduring strength found within familial bonds. Through life's trials and tribulations, they stood together, leaving behind a legacy of courage and perseverance that will inspire generations to come.

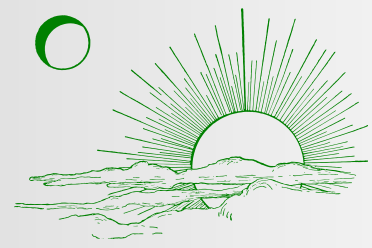
In the year 2020, as the world grappled with unprecedented challenges and uncertainties, my great-grandma closed her eyes for the final time and embarked on her journey to heaven. It was a moment that marked the end of an era, the passing of a beloved matriarch whose presence had been a guiding light for generations. As she bid farewell to this earthly realm, she left behind a legacy of love, resilience, and unwavering faith. Her memory lives on in the hearts of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, a beacon of hope and inspiration in times of darkness. Though her physical presence may be gone, her spirit remains ever-present, a comforting presence that continues to watch over her family from above.



And as we mourn her loss, we take solace in the knowledge that she is at peace, reunited with loved ones who have gone before her, and basking in the eternal embrace of heaven. My great-grandma was truly a force to be reckoned with – a master chef in the kitchen, a whiz at crossword puzzles, and a connoisseur of classic tunes that could make even the grumpiest soul tap their toes. Her love for cooking was legendary, and I could still taste the mouthwatering dishes she whipped up with effortless grace and skill. But it wasn't just her culinary prowess that made her special – it was her knack for making every moment feel like a celebration. Whether she was belting out tunes by James Brown or Aretha Franklin while stirring a pot on the stove, or challenging me to a friendly game of crossword puzzles, she had a way of infusing joy into even the simplest of activities. And then there were those moments when she would pull me close, plant a big kiss on my cheek, and tell me how handsome I was. Sure, it might have embarrassed me at times, but deep down, it warmed my heart knowing that she saw the best in me and wanted me to know it. In a world that can often feel chaotic and uncertain, my great-grandma's love was a constant source of comfort and reassurance. Her infectious laughter, her warm hugs, and her unwavering belief in the power of love and family are memories that I will cherish forever.



TWIN AKA (MY OTHER HALF)

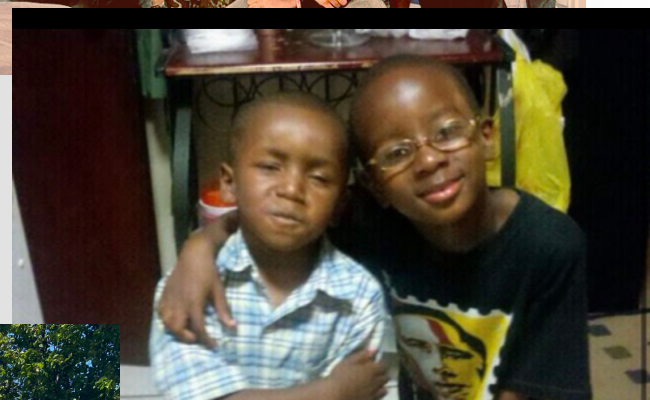
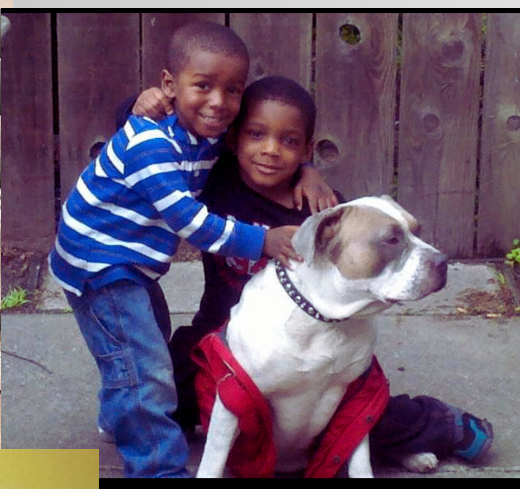


Being 23 seconds older than my twin brother isn't just a coincidence; it's a tactical advantage I've been using since the very beginning. Picture this: I emerge from the womb, blinking into the harsh light of the delivery room, and what's the first thing I do? I turn to my brother and say, "Hold on a second, bro, I gotta soak up this life energy first." Okay, so maybe I didn't say that (I was too busy crying my eyes out), but in my mind, that's exactly what happened. And let me tell you, those 23 seconds of extra-life energy have come in handy more times than I can count. From the moment we entered this world, I've been one step ahead of my brother, whether it's snagging the last cookie or calling shotgun in the car. And sure, he might roll his eyes and grumble about being the younger twin, but deep down, I know he's secretly grateful for my wisdom and foresight. Being the older twin isn't just about being born first; it's about setting the tone for our dynamic duo. And let me tell you, I've been setting the tone since day one. My twin is my yin to your yang, the sugar to my coffee even though I don't drink coffee, the peanut butter to my jelly, the Batman to my Robin. Together, we both make an unstoppable team. We finish each other's punchlines, we share inside jokes that no one else understands, and we can communicate with just a look. Sure, you might fight like cats and dogs sometimes, but at the end of the day, you know you've got each other's backs. Because no matter what life throws your way, you know you've always got your twin by your side, ready to tackle whatever comes your way.



LANES BROTHERHOOD

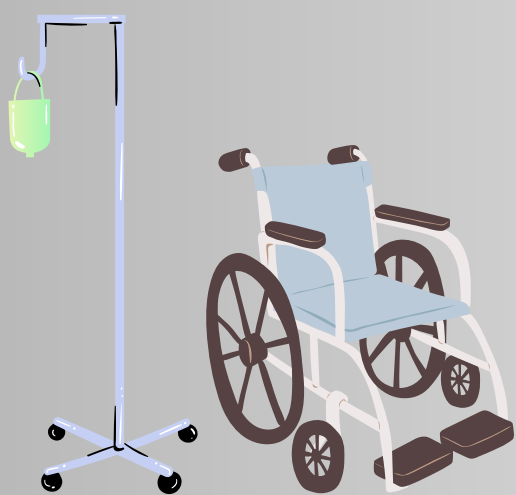
Brotherhood is like being part of an exclusive club, where the members share a bond that's stronger than anything else. Growing up with four brothers has been a journey filled with laughter, love, and occasional chaos. It's a journey that's taught me the true meaning of loyalty and support. In a world where it sometimes feels like everyone is out for themselves, having a group of brothers who always have my back is a priceless gift. Whether it's offering a listening ear during tough times or standing by me through the highs and lows of life, their unwavering support has been my rock. Sure, there have been moments of bickering and disagreements, but those are just part of the journey. What truly matters is knowing that no matter what happens, my brothers will always be there for me. They're my closest friends, my confidants, and my biggest supporters. They say blood is thicker than water, and I couldn't agree more. The bond I share with my brothers is unbreakable, and I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world. Together, we've laughed, cried, and grown stronger, and I'm grateful for every moment we've shared.



Daddy issues



Sometimes, I sit alone in my room, staring at the empty space where my dad should be. He's never been there for me, especially when it mattered the most. I wanted him to be my biggest supporter, especially as I dreamed of becoming an actor. But every time I looked for his encouragement, all I found was silence and indifference. I remember when my twin brother fell sick and was in the hospital. It was a tough time for our family, but my dad was nowhere to be found. He didn't bother to visit, to check on him, to show any sign that he cared. And that hurt. It felt like a piece of me was missing, just like my dad's absence. I always wished he'd stay, that he'd be there when I needed him. But he chose a different path, one filled with drugs and distractions. It's like he's running away from everything, including us. Every night, I pray for him to find the strength to overcome his struggles, and to be the father I've always needed him to be. But it feels like those prayers are just disappearing into the darkness, unanswered. There's this song lyric by Kelly Clarkson that echoes in my mind, "Piece by piece, he restored my faith That a man can be kind and a father could stay" It resonates so deeply because it feels like my dad left behind all the broken pieces of our family, never bothering to pick them up. And piece by piece, I'm left trying to put myself back together, longing for a father who may never truly be there. When I think about my future children, I know they'll carry a heavy load. Growing up without a dad is tough, but I promise I'll be there for them, no matter how hard life gets. They'll know they're loved every day, and I'll always put them first, just like my mom did for me. They'll live with the legacy of her last name, "Lane," a reminder of her strength and love that will guide them through life's twists and turns. Even though I wish things were different, I'll do everything in my power to give them the love and support they deserve, hoping they never feel the same pain I did growing up.



Uncle
Anthony Lane



"See You Again" by Charlie Puth and Wiz Khalifa is like the soundtrack to my life's bittersweet moments, especially when I think about my Uncle Anthony. Trust me, the song's more than just a tear-jerker; it's a rollercoaster ride of emotions with a side of laughter. I never got to meet Uncle Anthony, but my mom's tales of his antics could rival any comedy show. He had this superpower of turning even the grimmest situations into laugh fests. I mean, who wouldn't want an uncle like that? Mom says he could charm the socks off anyone and had a knack for making even the stiffest folks crack a smile. Then, life threw us a curveball with the news of Uncle Anthony's car accident. It hit us harder than a ton of bricks. But amidst the tears, my mom became this unexpected superhero, holding our family together like glue, all while carrying the weight of her brother's loss. It's like she traded her cape for tissues and a shoulder to cry on. The guilt trip. Ever been on one? I have. It's the whole 'what if' scenario that makes you question everything. Like, what if I'd been born earlier? Could I have been the ray of sunshine Uncle Anthony needed before he left? It's a real head-scratcher, let me tell you. And let's not forget the naming ceremony. My mom went full-on sentimental and named me and my twin bro after her brothers – Anthony and Manuel. Talk about pressure, right? But hey, no complaints here. It's like we're carrying on a legacy, one goofy antic at a time. Listening to "See You Again" brings all these memories flooding back – the laughter, the tears, and everything in between. It's a reminder that life's a crazy ride, but even in the darkest moments, there's always a glimmer of hope and maybe a punchline waiting to be delivered.





My uncle would always wake me and my sister up at 3:00 am for food, which usually consisted of pancakes and burgers. He was very close to us and always made sure we were well-fed and happy. We cherished watching his videos and looking at his photos because they brought us so much happiness and laughter. He was incredibly family-oriented, and it was evident in everything he did. His sense of humor was unmatched; he was funny, goofy, and straightforward. He remained headstrong and steady despite life's challenges, always pushing forward. He took pride in achieving his high school diploma, a testament to his determination. Above all, he wanted his family and friends to remember that he was there for them, no matter what. His presence in our lives was marked by moments captured in pictures, where his funny, straightforward, family-oriented, and loving nature shone through.

-Manique Gabriel

My little brother attended the same school as me, and he always had a knack for attracting my girl friends, but he also made sure to protect me from other boys. He had a deep love for our family and was extremely protective of his siblings and parents. Known for his playful nature, he enjoyed giving everyone nicknames. Despite becoming a father at the young age of 14, we shared many good times and made countless cherished memories together. Despite the humble living conditions, with Mama and Daddy sharing one bedroom, they always managed to make the best of it, bringing laughter and joy, with my brother often being the life of the party. We had a strong relationship, being close in age, which allowed us to share many experiences and grow together. One unique trait of his was his meticulous attention to his shoes, ensuring they were always clean and he looked his best every day. Becoming a father for the first time was a significant milestone for him. I feel a deep sense of sorrow because I miss him dearly. He had an immense love for family and was especially protective, particularly towards children, often expressing his affection with the phrase "ANT LANE LOVE THE KIDS." His ability to bring smiles to people's faces was truly remarkable. He had a talent for quietly resolving conflicts before they escalated into bigger issues. As his sister, I cherished our bond and valued his unwavering support. He loved his family unconditionally, evident in his nickname "Bola" and his bright, motivated, and ambitious personality. He will always be remembered as a loving, caring individual who brought joy and positivity into the lives of those around him.

-Tina Mack

My son would often be found laughing and engaging in deep conversations, emphasizing the importance of unity with his mantra "All one." We shared a beautiful relationship filled with love and understanding. He had a passion for sports, particularly basketball and track, earning numerous trophies in both. Witnessing the birth of his first child and later his first grandchild brought him immense joy. He was a happy person who brought light into any room he entered. Despite facing challenges, he remained a pillar of strength, holding our family together with my wife and me. I always admired his talent for dancing and his ability to captivate any audience. He cherished moments of togetherness, whether it was enjoying meals as a family, attending barbecues, or simply being surrounded by loved ones, where he often took on the role of the life of the party. He tackled obstacles with grace and integrity, always striving to do what was right, especially when it came to his children. His love for all children, not just his own, was evident in his interactions and his dedication to teaching and nurturing them. Yes, pictures captured his essence perfectly—radiating happiness, brightness, and humility.

-Richard Williams

My brother would often take us to Nations where we'd indulge in chili cheese fries, creating cherished memories. We were as close as brothers could be, and I confided in him about everything, knowing he was a good listener. He had a keen sense of style, always impeccably dressed with decent shoes, and took pride in smelling good. The thought of him having children brought him immense joy. Although his absence fills me with sadness, certain songs evoke both sadness and happiness as they remind me of him. He could be blunt at times, with a short temper, but overall, he was straightforward. I wish he could have seen my grandchildren and his own. His love for children was evident, and he was adored by them. "ANT-LANE" holds special significance, perhaps as an inside joke or a memorable experience we shared. Despite his struggles, I hold onto numerous pictures and letters from his time in jail, a testament to our bond. He was undeniably handsome, funny, knowledgeable, generous, and always had a solution to any problem.

-Ronnelle Georges

My brother, used to come to my house at 2 or 3 in the morning to take a drive, smoke, or just bend the rules. We were like twins, inseparable. He ran track, enjoyed being with kids, loved buying shoes, and cars, and wooing women. When he started having kids, I stood by him through his trials, even when he was in jail. Hearing Bebe & cece winans "If Anything Ever Happens to You" brings me joy, yet tears to my eyes. He always kept me happy, with a smile on my face, and fiercely protected his loved ones. He'd solve problems through role-play and sometimes, unfortunately, through violence. As his sister, I cherished him. His favorite musical was Grease. He was a caring brother, father, son, and uncle, never tolerating any nonsense, and always fair. His nicknames were Ant-lizzo, Ant-lane, doo-doo. I have pictures of us, him being my friend, brother, and protector, with a warm heart and handsome demeanor - **Melina Lane**

My baby-daddy would always cherish the moments we shared when our son was born, and despite our tumultuous relationship, those memories remained precious to him. Despite the challenges we faced, there was still love between us. He had a deep affection for children and family, enjoying moments together, watching soap operas, and relishing in homemade meals I prepared. Witnessing the birth of our son was a pivotal moment for him, embedding a profound sense of responsibility and love. Certain music smells, and movies trigger fond memories for me, bringing happiness despite the circumstances. He instilled in me the importance of family, prioritizing them above all else, and viewing them as the foundation of his life. Loyalty was a defining trait of his personality; he was outgoing, the life of the party, exuding confidence wherever he went. A hustler by nature, he was determined and driven, always striving to provide for his family at any cost. I offered him genuine love and gave him the gift of our son, who became his legacy. Family held immense value to him, and he treasured the dynamics that bound us together. Through pictures, we capture moments frozen in time, reflecting his strength, fearlessness, love, compassion, and courage.

-Toby Stinson (my aunt)

"My cousin had a head on his shoulders, always funny, yet quiet, with humor always at the ready. We shared a great relationship; he called me names only he could get away with, yet never disrespected me. He was fiercely protective of his loved ones, especially the girls in our family. I had the privilege of watching him grow up, and I was surprised when he had his first daughter at the young age of 14. I miss him dearly, filled with memories of his infectious laughter and his knack for making people happy, especially within our family circle. He was undoubtedly a clown, always goofy and never shying away from a bit of mischief. Yet, he handled situations with remarkable poise and was always supportive, especially when I needed a big cousin to lean on. He had a funny and loving personality, evident in every picture we took together as kids. His absence leaves a void, but his real, funny personality lives on in our hearts." **-Terren Masters**



WARNING

When my son was just a baby, his big Afro always brought a smile to my face. Watching him grow, I marveled at his remarkable athleticism, from playing football to even jumping over a moving car once, a feat that both terrified and impressed me. But his greatest joy came from starting his own family, fiercely protective of his loved ones, like the time he confronted his dad for touching his bike. He was a loving and caring son, though we faced our share of ups and downs. There was that incident where he accidentally broke his dad's jaw, but he later apologized, showing his remorse and maturity. His life was complex, balancing relationships, hustling, and his passion for sports. Becoming a father himself, especially at such a young age, surprised and worried me deeply. Amidst moments of deep sadness and self-doubt, I questioned my abilities as a father, feeling like I had failed him at times. Yet, he commanded respect wherever he went, known for his toughness and loyalty. Fearless, he never shied away from a challenge, always standing up for his beliefs. I struggled to be the father figure he needed, experiencing moments of madness, but through it all, he taught me never to cower in the face of adversity. I hold onto memories of him through his clothes and pictures, reminders of his journey from a self-made man to a devoted father. He was vibrant and fearless, and his legacy will forever endure in the hearts of those who knew him.

-Melvin Lane

"My dad and I used to go to the park, and I'd spend some weekends with him even though he and my mom weren't in a relationship. Despite that, we had a great relationship; he's my dad, my superhero. He believed in tough love, loved sneakers, dressing well, and cherished family above all else. Whenever I hear 50 Cent or see photos of him, people say I look just like him. He impacted my life in a major way, teaching me to always try my best and be there for my loved ones. Dad was a real comedian, always ready with a joke. He faced life head-on, never shying away from challenges. When I graduated college, I was upset he wasn't here to see it. Family always came first for him, and he instilled in me the values of doing your best and staying true to your roots. He adored his dog, Fats, a red-nosed pitbull. He had a penchant for collecting objects, especially clothes and shoes. He was a leader, a family man, brave, tough, and loving. I wish he was here to see me raise my son and to meet his grandson. I can only imagine the joy he would have felt seeing another generation of our family grow and thrive." **-Demareyeh Lane**

My big brother would often entertain us with lots of musical performances, often imitating his favorite group, New Edition, as he always aspired to be the lead singer. We shared a fun relationship filled with jokes and laughter, creating cherished memories. Music was a significant part of his life, and he enjoyed spending time with our family, often incorporating music into our gatherings. When he had his first daughter, it marked a new chapter in his life, filled with love and responsibility. We often reminisced about the fun times we shared, reflecting on the joyous moments. He possessed an incredible amount of patience, especially evident during tea parties with our younger siblings, and he had a knack for listening and engaging in meaningful conversations. His talent for impersonating characters from TV shows and movies never failed to make us laugh, showcasing his comedic abilities. No matter the challenge, he always found a way to overcome it, demonstrating his resilience and determination. He cared deeply for his family, including my daughter Destiny, and he was known for his generosity and kindness towards others. The phrase "ANT-LANE" held special meaning for us, perhaps as an inside joke or a reminder of shared experiences. Looking at his pictures, we're reminded of his fun-loving, outgoing, and popular personality, always impeccably dressed for any occasion. -Nesha Williams

Oh man, let me tell you about my uncle! He was like a second dad to me, always spoiling me rotten just like his own kids. Remember the time he dragged me to some dollar store and bought me this Fat Albert necklace that probably weighed a ton? Then, back at home, he made me feel like I was strutting down a catwalk, standing on the bed and striking poses like I was some superstar. He was all about looking fly, you know? Always rocking his best threads and bling, trying to impress the ladies. But don't let his fancy attire fool you, he was a big softie at heart, especially when it came to family time and clowning around at birthday bashes. And let me tell you, he had this crazy way with words and could talk his way out of any jam, even if he did have a bit of a hot temper. But hey, who doesn't, right? He'd always find some goofy way to fix his problems, with a little help from his friends and family, of course. But you want to know the best part? He'd always call me and my cousins "Red nose pit" for some reason. Guess he thought we were a bunch of clowns or something! Ah, good old Uncle Anthony, a real stand-up guy, family-oriented, impulsive as heck, and loving every minute of it. - Gary aka Nookie Lane

My son's first steps at two years old brought immense joy to our household; I vividly remember the excitement when friends witnessed this milestone while I was in the kitchen, fetching him some juice. Our relationship was filled with love and humor; we often joked that he resembled me, but in truth, he always had my unconditional love from the moment he was born. He fancied himself a good dancer and had a talent for comedy, enjoying running track in his spare time. Becoming a father at a young age was unexpected, yet he embraced fatherhood wholeheartedly, becoming the youngest father I knew and adoring his children deeply. Photos and videos of him fill me with joy, especially when we listen to "Dear Mama" by Tupac, a song he dedicated to me, expressing his admiration for my strength as a mother. He held me in high regard, respecting me deeply and recognizing the significance of our bond. His humor, love for others, and humility defined him; he worked diligently in Oakland, cleaning and driving cars, never seeking recognition. Despite life's unpredictability, he remained a devoted father, brother, uncle, grandpa, and son. Nicknamed ANT-LANE, ANT-BOLA, and known by his initials ALL, he was affectionately referred to as "my baby." I cherish items that remind me of him, such as a shirt from his ex-girlfriend, clothes, pictures, and a drawing displayed in my living room, serving as reminders of his presence and the love he brought into our lives. -Deborah Williams

My nephew would often visit my house, and we'd spend quality time together; he had a knack for jokes and was quite the charmer with the ladies. We shared a special bond, one that was close, honest, and built on a solid foundation of trust. He had a heart of gold and a soul that radiated warmth; whenever he entered a room, he brought light and joy with him. He took pride in his appearance, particularly when it came to impressing the ladies, always dressing impeccably for any occasion. One of my proudest moments was witnessing him graduate, a milestone we celebrated together. Certain photos, videos, and music evoke strong emotions in me, especially when Tupac's music plays, prompting us to have our little party—he was convinced he was a good dancer. Card games were another favorite pastime when he visited. He treated everyone with love and respect, especially his children, siblings, and parents, embodying the principle of loving everyone unconditionally. Despite his gentle nature, he was brave and wouldn't tolerate being underestimated. When faced with challenges, he confronted them head-on, consistently succeeding against all odds. He had a heart of compassion, always willing to lend a helping hand to those in need. I treasure the photos I have of him, each one a reminder of the love and memories we shared. His motto, "one love," encapsulates his essence—lovable, caring, driven, protective, and undeniably sweet. - Doc & Cheryl Clemons

My uncle used to scratch his beard on my face, leaving me laughing and squirming in protest. Our relationship was filled with laughter, jokes, and a deep sense of camaraderie. He wasn't just looking out for me; he cared for everyone in the family. Money, shoes, clothes, and music were his passions. He introduced me to the sounds of 50 Cent, teaching me not just about music but about life through his lyrics. He was into women of all colors, sizes, and races, embodying a spirit of openness and acceptance. Whenever I stumble upon videos, music, or pictures of him, a wave of nostalgia washes over me, bringing back memories of the good times we shared. He taught me how to strut like a member of G-Unit, imparting his swagger and confidence. A true hustler, he always made sure we had change in our pockets and looked good while doing it. He was a ladies' man, charming and charismatic, but also a devoted family man. He didn't stay in one place for long, always chasing after the next opportunity. I wish he could see my children and all his grandchildren and nieces and nephews. He had a special nickname for me, "Nook," a term of endearment that still echoes in my ears. In his way, he taught us the importance of cherishing our loved ones. I remember going through his closet, and him telling me I could keep some of his clothes when I got older, a gesture of his enduring presence in my life. Funny, hustler, ladies' man, family man, and goofy – he encompassed so many qualities that made him unforgettable. The memory of all my boy cousins gathered at the park, taking a photo together, is etched in my mind as a snapshot of the bond we shared under his watchful eye. - Emmanuel Gabriel Jr.



SHOWTIME

So, like, for three whole years, I've been the big cheese, the head honcho, the host of my very own talent show. Yup, you heard it right. I, stand in the spotlight, soaking up all the applause and laughter. But let me tell you, my journey to this stage started way back when I was just a wee lad, slingin' rhymes as the Poet Laureate of my middle school. Back then, I was all about the words, man. Crafting verses that made people go, "Whoa, did a 6th grader write that?" But hey, I wasn't just about the serious stuff. I had jokes too, sneakin' in here and there, like little surprises hiding amid all those fancy words. High school came rollin' around, and I was ready to take on the world with my wit and charm. I gave the 8th-grade graduation speech, now, the one where I didn't trip over my own feet on the way to the stage. And let's not forget about the Black History oracle fest – three years runnin', baby! But it wasn't until I stumbled into stand-up comedy that I found my true calling. Private gigs, collaborative sets with other funny folks – you name it, I've done it. And let me tell ya, there's nothin' like the sound of a room full of people belly laughin' at your jokes. It's like music to my ears, if music was made up of snorts and cackles. Oh, and get this – I was the headliner for my school talent show! That's right, they saved the best for last, and boy did I deliver. It was like my comedy special, right there on the cafeteria stage. Now, about those haters. You know, the ones who just can't stand to see you shine? Well, I've got a little something for them, inspired by none other than Taylor Swift. You remember "I Forgot That You Existed." It's like the ultimate shrug-off to all the negativity and drama. You just wave goodbye to those toxic vibes and keep on living your best life. So here's to Taylor, to shaking it off, and to never letting anyone dull your shine. After all, the best revenge is success, and I plan on being successful as heck.



Oh, you better believe my show is gonna be a rollercoaster ride of epic proportions! I'm talking Hollywood stars rubbing elbows with regular folks, like you and me, sharing stories and laughs like we're old pals catching up at a backyard barbecue. And let me tell you, I've got big dreams. I'm not just settling for the usual suspects - I'm scouring the globe for the most outlandish guests I can find. I'm talking astronauts who've been to space and back, ninja warriors who can climb walls with their bare hands, and maybe even a talking parrot who knows the secrets of the universe (hey, a guy can dream, right?). But here's the best part - I'm not taking myself too seriously. Nah, I'm throwing in some wacky segments and silly games to keep things lively. I'm talking about challenges like "Guess the Celebrity Smell" or "Dance-Off with Grandma" - you never know what's gonna happen next! So grab your popcorn and buckle up, 'cause "The Manny Lane-Scott Show" is about to hit the airwaves, and it's gonna be a wild ride full of laughs, surprises, and maybe even a few celebrity secrets spilled along the way. Hold onto your hats, folks, 'cause I've got some serious star power up my sleeve! I'm talking about none other than Oprah Winfrey and Ellen DeGeneres gracing the set of "The Manny Show." Yeah, you heard me right - we're talking about the queens of daytime TV coming to hang out with me like they're just one of the gang.

I can already see it now - Oprah sharing her wisdom and dropping truth bombs like it's nobody's business, while Ellen's cracking jokes and pulling pranks like the mischievous comedian she is. It's gonna be a talk show showdown for the ages, and I'm right in the middle of it all, soaking up the spotlight like a pro. But hey, I'm not one to hog the spotlight - I'm gonna make sure everyone gets their moment to shine. So whether you're a Hollywood A-lister or just a regular Joe with a cool story to tell, you better believe there's a seat waiting for you on "The Manny Show." And who knows, maybe one day, you'll find yourself rubbing elbows with Oprah and Ellen too! Hold up, hold up - we've got some breaking news here! I'm not just bringing Oprah and Ellen to the party, oh no. I'm teaming up with none other than Queen Bey herself - that's right, Beyoncé - to write a theme song for "The Manny Show." I can already hear it in my head - Beyoncé's powerhouse vocals belting out the catchiest tune you've ever heard, while I'm laying down some sick rhymes about laughter, love, and chasing dreams. It's gonna be a musical masterpiece for the ages, and I'm gonna be right there in the studio, pinching myself to make sure it's real. And let's not forget about the music video - we're talking Beyoncé busting out some killer dance moves while I'm trying to keep up with my best dad dance. It's gonna be a sight to behold, folks. So mark your calendars and set your DVRs, 'cause "The Manny Show" is about to make its grand debut, and with Beyoncé on board, it's gonna be a show-stopping extravaganza you won't want to miss!

Alright, picture this: I'm sitting at the Emmy Awards, sweating like a popsicle in the Sahara Desert. Then, outta the blue, they call out my name - Manny Lane-Scott, winner of the Best Talk Show Host Emmy! Now, you'd think I'd jump up and do a victory dance, right? Nah, I'm too busy trying to remember how to breathe. But eventually, I waddle my way up to the stage, tears streaming down my face like a waterfall. And let me tell you, my acceptance speech? It's like a rollercoaster of emotions. I thank my mom, my dog, and even my dad who said I'd never amount to anything. But hey, who's laughing now, Dad? So there I am, standing on that stage, clutching my Emmy like it's a golden ticket to Willy Wonka's chocolate factory. And as I walk off, grinning like a Cheshire cat, I know one thing for sure - I'm gonna need a bigger mantelpiece for all my awards. Get ready to be shooked up! It's going to be a rollercoaster of laughs, surprises, and maybe even a few tears of joy. Get ready for the ride of your life! (At the bottom these are some of my favorite shows to watch!)

HOW TO GET AWAY WITH MURDER



Disney

Disney has been more than just entertainment for me; it's been a lifeline during some of my toughest moments. One particular song, "Hakuna Matata," from The Lion King, held a special significance. At first, it seemed like a catchy tune about carefree living, but its deeper meaning gradually unfolded for me. During times of stress and anxiety, I found solace in the words "Hakuna Matata." It means "no worries" in Swahili, but it embodies a philosophy of resilience and optimism. Instead of dwelling on my problems, I learned to adopt a Hakuna Matata mindset, facing challenges with courage and a sense of possibility.

However, not everyone understood my connection to Disney. My father, in particular, dismissed it as frivolous and even detrimental. He didn't believe in my dreams and often told me to stop listening to "those people," insisting that I wouldn't amount to anything. His words stung, but they also fueled my determination. I realized that my dreams were valid, regardless of what anyone else said. Disney characters like Simba, who faced adversity with unwavering bravery, became my role models. They showed me that it's possible to defy expectations and pursue my passions.

Over time, I learned to tune out my father's negativity and focus on what truly mattered to me. Disney provided not only entertainment but also valuable life lessons about resilience, kindness, and the power of believing in oneself. In the end, I proved my father wrong. I pursued my dreams with tenacity and perseverance, overcoming obstacles along the way. And as I look back on those difficult times, I'm grateful for the comfort and inspiration that Disney provided. It taught me that no matter how tough life gets, there's always room for a little Hakuna Matata.



PUBLIC SPEAKING

Public speaking? Yeah, that's my jam! I mean, who wouldn't wanna be the big cheese up on stage, right? But lemme tell ya, for lots of folks, it's scarier than a horror movie marathon. Picture this: you're up there, sweatin' bullets, with all eyes on ya. Suddenly, your brain decides to take a vacation, leaving you stranded without a map. It's like trying to juggle flaming torches while riding a unicycle – not exactly a walk in the park. But hey, I get it. We've all been there. It's like your stomach's doing the salsa, your knees are knockin' like they're tryin' to get into a locked door, and your voice sounds like a chipmunk on helium.

But you gotta roll with the punches. Sure, you might flub a line or two, but that's just part of the charm, right? I mean, who doesn't love a good blooper reel? And you know what? Despite all the nerves and the occasional slip-up, I gotta say, I enjoy it. Yup, you heard me right! There's somethin' exhilarating about standin' up there, holdin' court like a boss. It's like a rush of adrenaline, mixed with a sprinkle of magic dust.

I mean, what's the point of havin' a voice if you ain't gonna use it, right? And me? I use mine to make people laugh. Yep, I'm a comedian – that's my job. And let me tell ya, there ain't nothin' better than seein' a room full of faces light up with laughter. So next time you're feelin' like a deer in the headlights, just remember – we're all in this together. And hey, if all else fails, just picture the audience in their undies. Works like a charm, every time!

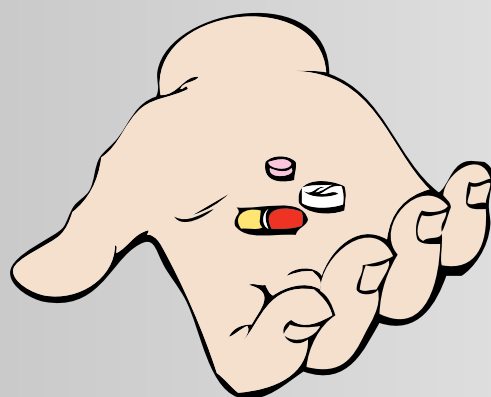


Experiencing panic attacks was one of the toughest challenges I've ever faced. The feeling of overwhelming anxiety, the racing heartbeat, the sense of impending doom—it's like being trapped in a nightmare with no escape. But I knew I couldn't let it consume me, so I took the brave step of seeking help. Getting support wasn't easy. It took courage to admit that I needed assistance, but I'm so glad I did. Through therapy, medication, and the unwavering support of my loved ones, I began to find ways to cope and manage my panic attacks. During this tumultuous time, I turned to my passion for music as a form of therapy. I poured my heart and soul into creating my 3rd album, "When Darkness Comes Light." Each song became a reflection of my journey, capturing the struggles, the moments of despair, and the glimmers of hope that guided me through the darkness. The title of my album speaks volumes about my experience. It symbolizes the idea that even in our darkest moments, there is the potential for light to emerge. Through my music, I found a way to channel my pain into something beautiful and meaningful. Creating "When Darkness Comes Light" wasn't just about making music; it was a transformative journey of self-discovery and healing. Each lyric, each melody, carried a piece of my soul, allowing me to express emotions that I couldn't put into words. Today, as I reflect on my journey, I realize how much my album has shaped me. It's taught me resilience, courage, and the power of self-expression. It's shown me that even in the depths of despair, there is always a glimmer of hope waiting to be found. Some people have to deal with their own demons. It's a reminder that we're not alone in our struggles and that there's always hope for a brighter tomorrow. As I continue on my journey, I carry the lessons learned from "When Darkness Comes Light" with me. It's a testament to my strength, my creativity, and my unwavering belief in the power of music to heal and inspire. And hey, I had my management team take it down from all music platforms because, you know, sometimes you just gotta hit reset, like when you accidentally delete your entire essay before saving—oops! But fear not, folks, because there will be many more to come.

PANIC DISORDER

&

MANY MORE





Wedding Dreams

I wanna tell you a quick story- Have you ever had one of those crushes that just won't quit? Well, let me tell you about mine. There's this girl, right? I've been crushing on her for what feels like forever – well every time I see her, it's like Cupid's arrow smacks me right in the chest all over again. I mean, I could be minding my own business, just trying to buy a snack at the vending machine, and bam! There she is, looking all cute, sassy & stuff, and suddenly I'm back to being a bumbling mess. But you know what? I wouldn't trade it for the world. It's like love isn't just about grand gestures or even sweeping someone off their feet – it's about those little moments that make your heart skip a beat. Whether it's catching her eye across the hallway or sharing a laugh over a cheesy joke, those are the moments that make it all worth it. Because even if she never knows how I feel, just seeing her smile is enough to make my day a little brighter.



When I think about finding my future wife, John Legend's song "Ordinary People" plays in the back of my mind. It's like he's singing about the kind of love I hope to find one day - real, raw, and imperfectly perfect. I want a love that's not just about grand gestures or fairy tale romances, but one that's grounded in the everyday moments, like sharing a cup of coffee in the morning or laughing at each other's silly jokes. You know, the kind of love that's built on trust, understanding, and a whole lot of patience. And hey, maybe we'll have our ups and downs, like any ordinary couple, but that's what makes our love story special. Because even when life throws us curveballs, we'll face them together, hand in hand, just like John Legend sings about in his soulful melodies. So yeah, when I find my future wife, I want our love to be just like John Legend's song - honest, authentic, and beautifully ordinary. Sometimes, the most extraordinary love stories are the ones that start with two ordinary people falling for each other, flaws and all.



I WANNA THANK YOU

Hey there, folks! Before I sign off, let me be real for a moment, dreaming big is what I do best. First off, I'm setting my sights on snagging a spot at a performing and theatre arts college. Yeah, you heard that right – I'm gonna be rubbing elbows with future Broadway stars and learning the fine art of jazz hands. I mean, who wouldn't wanna spend their days belting out show tunes and perfecting their dramatic monologues? But wait, it gets even better. I've got my sights set on Hollywood, baby! I wanna be on TV, strutting my stuff on the small screen like a pro. And you know who I wanna meet while I'm there? Beyoncé. Yeah, Queen Bey herself. I mean, she's practically royalty, right? Meeting her would be like winning the lottery, except instead of cash, you get a lifetime supply of inspiration from an Icon.

And hey, while we're talking about dreams, let's talk EGOT. That's right, I'm aiming to become an EGOT winner – you know, snagging an Emmy, a Grammy, an Oscar, and a Tony. Piece of cake, right? I'll have fans screaming my name, my own TV show, and making my family proud, even the ones who are up there watching from above and also making history! 'Cause hey, making people laugh, cry, and feel all the feels? That's what it's all about, folks. So yeah, that's the game plan, folks. Performing arts college, TV stardom, meeting Queen Bey, EGOT status, and making my family, friends & teachers proud. Easy peasy, lemon squeezy. But hey, if anyone can make it happen, it's gonna be yours truly. So stick around, 'cause this is gonna be one heck of a ride.

Thanks y'all for tuning in!

