Out of the Blocks Storytelling Series | 400 E. Patapsco Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland Recorded by Aaron Henkin; Photographs and Music by Wendel Patrick Produced for the Out of the Blocks website, created by the Peale, https://ootb.thepeale.org/



Scott Spencer (00:00): All right. My name's Scott Spencer. I'm on 400 Block East Patapso.

Speaker 2 (00:06): What's on your mind? What are you up to today?

Scott Spencer (00:09): I just got my daughter back and now spending all my time with her. That's about it. I went to jail. My baby's mother was pregnant and started doing heroin, crack, anything she can get her hands on, pills. And she gave my daughter up for adoption at the hospital and just gave her away. I came home after doing like three years and I've been looking for ever since. Nine months later, I got her back and she's in my arms.

Speaker 2 (00:37): What's your daughter's name?

Scott Spencer (00:38): Anna.

Speaker 2 (00:39): What was it like the first time you get to see Anna after you'd gotten out of prison?

Scott Spencer (00:45): Like a weight being lifted off my shoulders. Because I never wanted to be a bad bother. My father was never there for me, so I vowed to never let that happen, and I stuck to my guns and I got her.

Speaker 2 (00:56): So what are you doing now to make ends meet? Pay the bills?

Scott Spencer (00:59): I work as a dishwasher during the day and I work night shift as a security guard, And I fight for a living too, doing MMA.

Speaker 2 (01:07): How'd you get into that?

Scott Spencer (01:10): Being on the streets, fighting all the time, getting into fights. You know, because I mean, obviously as you can see, I'm white. So it's kind of you got to prove yourself around here type thing. And if then that's the way it rolls then you know. My father actually right above here used to go to the boxing gym when he was boxing professionally and that's where it all kind of started. Figured I might as well start doing something with my life. So I've been doing that now for about, since I was like 13. I'm 24 now.

Speaker 2 (01:36): And these fights, is it a pretty good purse on the line? How does that money thing work out?

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Scott Spencer (01:40): If you win, it's usually about \$100, \$300 because I'm not up there real big yet, but you know, I'm working on it. Things take time. So you want to make the money, put time into it. When it's show time, it's show time. That's it. There is nothing else matters. The only thing that matters is beating the living crap out of this person until they don't get up. Simple as that. I got a daughter to feed. What do they got? You know what I mean? That's the way I look at it.

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