

## The Peale, Baltimore

*Out of the Blocks* Storytelling Series

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/>

*Out of the Blocks* is supported by PRX and produced with grant funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Cohen Opportunity Fund, The Hoffberger Foundation, Patricia and Mark Joseph, The Shelter Foundation, The Kenneth S Battye Charitable Trust, The Sana and Andy Brooks Family Fund, The Muse Web Foundation, and the William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund, creator of the Baker Artist Portfolios



Mookie ([00:01](#)):

Mookie, 4600 block of Liberty Heights in Gwynn Oak. I been shot up here, bullet wounds. You see it? I been through it. An unknown guy put the gun to my head. I blocked it, then I pushed him, broke off. Boom, boom, boom, some more.

Speaker 2 ([00:19](#)):

Where did it happen when you got shot? Were you out on this block?

Mookie ([00:24](#)):

Yeah, right there, about 20 feet away from me, where we standing right now.

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Tay-Rock ([00:28](#)):

My name Tay-Rock. We do what we do. You know what I mean? Not saying too much. You know? Man, it's hard, for real, man. (Beep) been shot 11 times. You feel me?

Speaker 2 ([00:41](#)):

Did you just say you got shot 11 times?

Tay-Rock ([00:42](#)):

Yeah, 11 times, right here. Right here where we standing at, right here, at once. I got shot in the head twice, the neck, shoulder, arm, hands, stomach, back. Yeah, tipped up. Came back, yeah, like it never happened.

Speaker 2 ([00:59](#)):

And now you're standing back here on the same spot where you got shot 11 times?

Tay-Rock ([01:02](#)):

Yeah. Yeah, and I ain't scared. Ain't no scared in my blood, yeah.

Little Nat ([01:07](#)):

Man, Little Nat, 4600 and 2800 R and G, you feel me? It's not like a (beep) want to do this stuff. This how, sometime, it got to be. You feel me? Everybody can't be the good person that go to school. Everybody can't be a president. Everybody can't be a lawyer. If your generation was raised to sell drugs, you're going to wind up selling drugs. It's a possibility you might go to school, but you're going to wind up selling drugs. You're going to wind up doing something, because it's always in that person. You feel me?

You're not supposed to be looking out for nobody else to give you a handout. That's why I'm glad my mother raised me the way that she raised me. You feel me? She ain't never give me (beep) for real. She made me go get it myself. That's why I'm still out here surviving right now. You feel me? You can't just come out here thinking you're going to get respect and it's going to get handed to you; (beep) getting smoked like that on sight.