Definition of Hip Hop music

Hip hop music, also referred to as rap music, is a music genre typically consisting of a rhythmic vocal style called rap which is accompanied with backing beats. Hip hop music is part of hip hop culture, which began in the Bronx, in New York City in the 1970s, predominantly among African Americans and Latinos. The term rap is often used synonymously with hip hop music.

Do you know any famous hip hop singer?

In this season, we’re talking about a famous singer, Eminem

Let’s listen to the most famous song from Eminem, Lose yourself. "Lose Yourself" is a hip hop song by American rapper Eminem. It was released in 2002 as part of the soundtrack to the film 8 Mile, also starring Eminem. The film is starring Eminem and Kim Basinger.

Eminem: The Rolling Stone Interview

The loose-lipped rapper isn't afraid of his demons. Should you be?

In a lounge chair in the presidential suite of a Detroit hotel, Eminem sits as he always does: leaning back in his chair, his legs wide apart, eyes straight ahead. He’s dressed head to toe in Air Jordan. Sometimes, he suddenly leans forward to emphasize a point, tucking his hand under his chin or gesturing with a pointed finger, the way he does onstage. His eyes and skin are clear; he looks lean and in shape, and he has an odd, almost angelic glow to him, as if he’s been wandering the desert with hip-hop monks. He’s been keeping late hours, but it doesn’t show, maybe due to better eats. ("Damn, they didn’t get me fries with that,” he says, eyeing a room-service tuna melt. "I’m off that no-carb diet.”) He is relaxed, a king in his castle, ready to greet the world after a year of battle.

You look focused and pretty happy. Have you calmed down?

I’m on probation now, so I don’t have a choice. But I probably would’ve done it anyways -- perhaps it was a blessing in disguise. I’m growing up, and I figure there’s a certain level of maturity that comes with that.

[Starts picking left nostril] Hailie is better at this than I am. You know, when you build a castle with your daughter -- that’s quality time. It’s actually what we live in now, and we built it ourselves.

You’ve said 8 Mile is not a film of your life, but there are many similarities.

I don’t play me in the movie. There are similarities because I sat down with Scott Silver, the script writer, and told him instances from my life that were used in the movie, some exactly the way they happened, some a little bit different. I play a guy named Jimmy who grows up in Detroit and tries to make it as a rapper

You wrote this album during an insane year -- lawsuits, divorce, the threat of jail time. Tell me about the early stages of the album.

"Sing for the Moment" was the first song I wrote for the album; "Cleanin Out My Closet" was the second. I had the line in "Cleanin Out My Closet" -- "I’d like to welcome y’all out to The Eminem Show" -- and it was just a line, but I sat back and I was like, "My life is really like a show." I have songs on the album that I wrote when I was in that shit last year, with a possible jail sentence hangin’ over my head and all the emotions going through the divorce. I went through a lot of shit last year that I resolved at the same time, all in the same year. And, yeah, that’s when half of the album was wrote.
You always talk about your daughter, Hailie Jade, in your songs, but on this album, "Hailie's Song" is a much more personal message. Plus, you sing -- that is certainly putting yourself out there.

That song was stress off my chest. That’s how it is with every song I do; it’s therapy and it’s releasing everything onto a record instead of doing any of it. I really dumped my feelings out in that song. I love my little girl enough to sing to her, for one, and two, it wasn’t easy what I went through last year. Divorce is the hardest thing that I’ve ever worked through -- not that I’m bitter or anything like that. I’m a better person because I went through it, but it was hard at first. You’ve produced more tracks than ever on this album.

Was that a result of having a home studio?

Yeah. I actually know how to program a drum machine now. It used to be so simple -- just writing lyrics and raps, laying vocals and leaving the studio was great. But now that I’m so into producing.

What comes first for you, the rhythm or the rhymes?

It’s both. Sometimes I get a couple lines in my head, and the way they’re going, I go downstairs and make a beat to that rhythm. That’s why a lot of my drum patterns are crazy, offbeat patterns -- because of the rhyme. Now more than ever I try to make my rap go right with the beat. I listen to my older shit, and I can’t stand it, because I fell behind the beat too much.

Now that you have joint custody of Hailie, you’re spending more quality time with her. What’s a typical day like?

When I’m home, I wake her up in the morning, I feed her some cereal, watch a little TV, take her to school and pick her up. Lately, I’ve been taking her to the studio, because that’s where I spend most of my time. She has fun there, there’s video games for her and stuff. Coloring books and crayons - thank God for those. We watch a lot of movies, just typical shit. She’s real into The Powerpuff Girls and Hey Arnold! and Dora the Explorer -- ever seen that one? It’s the same episode all week long because it teaches kids numbers and how to speak Spanish. By Friday, you know it by heart. I watch that with her, then I go listen to my songs over and over.

Do you want more kids?

Oh, no. No more kids for me. I’m cool. I’m chilling now. And no more marriage. I would rather be on a coach flight with ‘NSync at the back of the plane in the last row in them seats that don’t go back -- just stuck there with the bathroom out of order. I would rather have a baby through my penis than get married again. I can’t take what I went through last year. I don’t ever want to experience that again.

Since your divorce, you’ve been linked to a few famous ladies. I’m going to name names; just say true or false. First up, Kim Basinger, who plays your mom in 8 Mile.

No. I know how rumors start. If people see me out and with a celebrity of the female species. I have a lot of respect for Kim Basinger, and I think that she’s a really nice lady and she’s beautiful, and that’s all I’m gonna say. As far as us being together, it’s untrue -- not that I wouldn’t.

Next, Mariah Carey. You two were almost boyfriend-girlfriend, weren’t you?

There’s truth to that. I don’t want to say anything disrespectful because I respect her as a singer, but on the whole personal level, I’m not really feeling it. I just don’t like her as a person. I gotta be honest; I learned a lesson from it: Don’t believe the hype. I have respect for her, but she doesn’t really have it all together. I’ll just say that and that she’s a beautiful woman.

Last up, Baby Spice, Emma Bunton.

That’s a known fact! Nah. I’ve only met one of the Spice Girls, Scary Spice, about three years ago. The funny thing is how off the media is about the women I’ve been with in the business. The people I do get with completely slip by them. But I’ll never tell. I gotta be low-key. My white ass is on display quite a bit, so I gotta keep some shit personal.

So where are you the most honest?
In the songs. If you listen to them and don’t take the words out of context, they’ll tell you why I’m saying this or that. Why do I have to sit here and explain myself? Just listen to the songs. They will tell you everything.