

# RP TV #16: Jennilie Brewster

## Transcript

**MUSIC:** ♪ Streets don't love nobody. Gotta find a new route to make it out, man, cuz. Streets don't love nobody. Used to think it was all good, but I found out the hard way. Streets don't love nobody. Used to think the streets was all I knew, but. Streets don't love nobody. Nah. Streets don't love nobody.♪

**Vince:** Yo.

**Var:** Yo.

**Vince:** What's going on, y'all? Thanks for joining us for another episode. I wouldn't say it's a sad episode, but it's another episode. I'm Vince.

**Var:** And I'm Var.

**Vince:** And we got a special guest today, man. Those of you might know him as the background guy behind the camera. You know, the background guy behind a lot of things, man. Alex.

**Var:** AKA Mr. Everything.

**Vince:** You know, Eshleman. Mr. Eshleman, man. What's going on?

**Alex:** Yo. What's good? I'm, I'm the cameraman most of the time. Gosh, I don't even know how to intro myself. I haven't been on a podcast in so long.

**Var:** You the go-to man.

**Alex:** Appreciate that. Nah, the last time I was on the show is in 2024.

I would think so, probably.

**Vince:** Damn, it's been that long?

Damn.

**Alex:** I believe so, yeah, '

**Var:** That's like when we first started.

**Alex:** Not really. You, you were doing this before then. But, but yeah, yeah. So, you know, happy to be here. You know, I think for those of you who don't know me, I'm Alex. I'm the Associate Director of OPEN DOORS.

I've been with the project since 2020. I did start as an intern, but I actually volunteered the summer beforehand. That's when I was an undergraduate student at Cornell University. This was-- I met the guys between my sophomore and junior year. I did a fall credit internship my junior year. Um, they kept me part-time for the next year and a half.

I graduated, I moved to the city, started working with Vince full time, you know. Um, we pretty much were leading the project from then. Working with all the poets, but I mean, like, you know, director. Yeah, so since then it's been four years, you know, almost to the day. It's crazy. You promoted me to director on May of 2023.

And, you know, tomorrow is May 1st. Tomorrow's my last day, so I'm gonna be three years as director, associate director, you know. It's been six years with OPEN DOORS, and, you know, as I was thinking about the other day, it felt kind of special 'cause I was in, I went and visited my old neighborhood, and it's crazy,

I felt like I spent two years working at OPEN DOORS in Ithaca, I spent two years working at OPEN DOORS uptown, and I spent my last two years OPEN DOORS in Brooklyn. Which has been an interesting experience. It just felt like the way things were sectioned apart, like, throughout my time here. But it's been, it's been a good time.

Um...

**Var:** Hell of an experience for you.

**Alex:** Definitely so.

**Vince:** Yeah, man. Like I said the other day, man, we've seen you turn from a boy to a man, literally. You know? Um...

**Var:** From dreads to a afro.

**Vince:** Hell yeah. Word, man. Seen him with the, with the, with the dreads then turning the dreads and the skateboard.

**Var:** Yeah.

**Vince:** Yeah, man. So tell us, man, tell us, what, what, what's your journey looking like?

**Alex:** What do you wanna know? You mean from here? From before here?

**Var:** What's your, what's your, what's your moves, your next moves after this?

**Alex:** All right, boom. So my next career move, you know, I accepted a full-time position as Program Assistant at the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund. It's a foundation. They make grants in New York City to organizations doing creative access, arts and health, youth sports initiative, mental health stigma. Their mission is to increase access and opportunity for all New Yorkers. So obviously I've been doing - not similar work, but, like, work almost under that scope at OPEN DOORS for, like, the past however many years.

So I feel like I'm still mission aligned, you know? I'm still doing stuff where my heart is in a similar place.

**Var:** First off, congratulations.

**Alex:** Thank you, Var. Appreciate you.

**Vince:** Yeah, definitely, definitely.

**Var:** Word. Congratulations.

**Alex:** Yeah.

**Var:** Maybe, maybe you could hook us up then since you--

**Var:** Who knows? Who knows?

You gonna be in there writing grants.

**Vince:** Alex said I ain't saying yeah to nothing.

**Alex:** Who knows? Who knows? Oh, that's funny.

**Vince:** Yeah, man. So tell them, man, with your six years, you know, you've been with OPEN DOORS, man, like, how did it, how did it shape you into the person you are today?

**Alex:** Um, I feel... Well, that's a great question.

I think just, like, one day at a time is how it happened, you know? It's hard to say, like, you know, I feel like every decision you make, like, you have these, like, little decisions you make throughout your life, and I've been thinking a lot about the idea of these, like, seemingly unimportant decisions, they end up deciding a lot of things, you know? Um, I chose to work at OPEN DOORS because it was the only creative opportunity in my school.

You know, I was a musician, I'm an artist, and I wanted to work with artists, and so that's why I applied to join this team. And so I feel like that has shaped me because it kept me in close proximity to art, you know? Something I tell you all the time, Vince, I'm like, "Y'all knew me before I ever touched an instrument."

Like, I was a musician before I joined OPEN DOORS, but I was just, like, rapping and making beats and stuff, and then I started to play guitar 'cause, you know, I really wanted to expand my production. But then I got into different styles of music, all sorts of things, right? And I feel like OPEN DOORS was a place where I at least had the capacity to, like...

You know, 'cause we were hosting the open mics online for so long. Not just that, but of course, you know, I remember one of my first assignments was to literally make beats for Tito. Like, that was literally one of my first assignments that summer, like, you know. So it was always like, um, of course, you know, I would get to play music at our events sometimes, like at a vigil, at a gala, at a memorial. Not to mention just, like, all the public speaking experience. Like, I'm not really trying to go pro with music or anything, but I feel like just in terms of being a performer, like, you get used to, like, being in front of people and speaking in front of people. You know, like, even when it came to like, um, you know, when we went to Loisaída and they invited us out for an open mic the week beforehand or whatever, when I showed up there, you know, I'm just, like, ready to perform pretty much.

Like, I went to an open mic a couple weeks ago and it's like, I guess what I mean is, like, OPEN DOORS has shaped me in that sense 'cause I'm, feel like I'm able to speak in front of crowds. I don't feel like I'm always the most well-spoken, but I feel like I kinda just, like, am authentic and try to let, like, the charisma do the talking, you know what I mean?

Um, I think that's from OPEN DOORS.

**Var:** You, you... Definitely is. 'Cause y- y- you, you speak better than me because, you know, I, I be fucking up. I'm the one that be cursing a lot, so you gotta do a lot of the talking most of the time, especially at the events. Only time I talk is when it's time for me to say my poetry.

**Alex:** And that's, that's what you're best at, Var. That's when you should be talking, you know? But we also, you know, you could talk at other times too. Like, you don't just have to save it for then.

**Var:** Yeah. I do. But, yeah. There he go.

**Vince:** That's that Brooklyn shit.

**Var:** But you definitely been playing a, a major part with us, yo, since your time here.

And you, heh, you definitely a brother to us, man. You know, you been holding us down for a long time with a lot of things behind the scenes. And you, it's not one time that a person can contact you and ask you for help and you turn them down. And I appreciate that. You know what I'm saying? I know I done text you plenty of times, yo.

Yo, hey, yo, this and that, whatever. And sometimes it's text you regularly, you know what I'm saying? Just to say what's up. But anytime I need help with something, you always help me out, and I appreciate that

**Alex:** Yeah, man, like I know-

**Vince:** Damn, man.

**Alex:** No.

**Vince:** Sound like you about to- Don't cry over here.

**Alex:** Shit, no one's crying, Vince.

Vince, no one's crying.

**Var:** Yeah, don't start that lightskin shit, man

**Alex:** Oh, Jesus Christ.

No, but like, yo, Var, like, there's times when like, um, I know there are certain things I can't help with, you know? And that, that's also like a tough posi-

Like it's, you know, like you said, like I don't wanna just like come around useless or like, you know, I wanna address the shortcomings, you know, I know there's certain thi- Like I, I don't know.

I feel you. Obviously, you know, you can only do so much, you know, and you can only do one thing at a time, right? And I know you understand that of all people, you know? So like-

**Var:** Yeah. ...

**Alex:** It's, it's a, it's a tough balance. I feel like this kind of work is challenging for that reason, you know? But it's a good time. We have fun here.

We had a really good time.

**Vince:** Yeah. We definitely, definitely had a good run, man. Like Var said, man, you're family, man. So, you know You'll still be around, man. You'll still be-

You know you locked in with us. ...

-involved in some capacity, you know? Um...

**Var:** You and your skateboard. ...

you know, I'm gonna be texting your phone, man, saying, "Yo, Alex, man, what the fuck?"

Definitely, what's up.

**Vince:** Yeah, man, so you going, taking off on this new journey, man, and I definitely wish you the best. Yeah, man, bring that money back to home base, man.

**Var:** Yeah.

No, I'm fucking with you.

**Alex:** Oh, man, he's making the

I didn't even start yet. They're gonna see this interview and be like, "What, yo?"

Gonna get me caught up, Vince.

**Vince:** Man, yeah, they're gonna be like, "Oh, what? That's the plan?"

**Alex:** Yo. Oh, Jesus.

**Vince:** But nah, man, um, yeah, man, how you feel about, you know, being about to be the one to really, you know, be involved in giving the money, you know, um, to people that deserve the money?

**Var:** Yeah, instead of being the one to have to write and ask for it.

**Alex:** Mm. ...

**Var:** Now, now you're being the one that's the people that's asking basically.

**Alex:** You know, it feels, um, truthfully, it doesn't feel like all that different in terms of, like, the social impact of it or whatever. Like, the biggest difference to me is that being that we have many grantee organizations, I feel like I have a hand in different causes. You know, different people doing different kinds of work, affecting different social issues.

It feels like, personally, I will be connected to social justice in a much broader sense, rather than just focusing, say, on disability justice, long-term care reform, gun violence prevention. You know, like, it's like I'm always gonna be a disability justice advocate. That's something I cared about before I worked at Open Doors.

So I don't think that my values are changing. I think I will just have expanded opportunity to work alongside more people.

**Var:** I mean, it, it's expanding, but like, like I said, it, it's a big difference from you going from writing and asking for a grant to now you're, you're the person reading the grant that's basically coming to you from the person that's asking for it.

You know what I'm saying?

**Alex:** No, definitely. So it's a big difference. Yeah, no, it's a different skill set, you know. But, you know, they hired me 'cause they think I'm qualified, right? They wouldn't, they wouldn't have given me the opportunity if they didn't think I could do it. So all I can really hope is I'm the right person for the job, you know, and I'll, I'll figure it out really once I get started.

Like, it's, that's kind of a tough question to answer, I guess, is what I'm saying from this point in time. You know what I mean?

Yeah.

Like, I don't really...

**Alex:** I, I know some of what to expect, but obviously, you know, I'm entering uncharted territory.

**Var:** I mean, like I said, to me, that's a major crossover to me.

**Alex:** Yeah.

**Var:** That's a, that's a, that's a big step. And I guess, like we said, congratulations to you, man.

**Vince:** Yeah, big step and a relief.

**Var:** Yeah.

**Vince:** especially, you know what I'm saying, having to worry, "Oh, damn, did I write this grant right?" You know?

**Var:** Yeah.

**Vince:** Are they gonna give me the money for it? Then if they don't, I gotta freaking see where I messed up in this one and, and be better in the next one. I get it, Yeah, man. Um, yeah, I, I think, I think they definitely gave you the job 'cause they think you qualified. I, I think you qualified, man. Yeah.

**Var:** Oh, you more than qualified.

**Vince:** You definitely would catch on, you know? Um, you definitely catch on to things quick. Yeah, man, yeah. I'm predicting your future now, man. Got this nice job, man. You gonna relax, man. You gonna, you know what I'm saying, find a potential wife, you know what I'm saying? Settle down, you know what I'm saying? Bring us a niece or a nephew.

**Alex:** Whoa. A niece or a nephew.

**Vince:** You know?

**Alex:** Nah. Yeah, I don't know about all that.

**Var:** Alex said, "I might bring a dog around."

**Alex:** Yo. I don't know about niece or a nephew.

**Vince:** You know what I'm saying? You know your mind, your mind will change, man. Your mind, you know, it might change, man. Your, your thoughts might change.

**Alex:** I don't know what he's talking about.

**Var:** Like I said, Alex gonna bring a dog around before he bring a--

**Vince:** You ain't even say no to the wife, man. So the wife is possible then.

**Alex:** I don't know what he's talking about, Vince.

**Vince:** Damn, so scratch all that, right?

**Alex:** He's just chatting.

No idea what he's

going on about.

**Vince:** I'm saying predicting your future, man. Soon you gonna tell me like, "Damn, remember that episode, man?"

" Remember when I was saying all that?"

**Var:** Anything's possible, man.

**Vince:** You know, we gonna be at the wedding or the baby shower and you gonna be like, "Damn, Vince, remember that episode, man?"

Where, where I was like 'Hell no.' Now look."

You know? Baby Alex.

**Var:** Little A Boogie.

**Alex:** Oh my God.

**Vince:** Oh, man, you never heard of speaking things into existence, man?

**Alex:** Nah, I be manifesting shit. Definitely so. But just the right shit. I'm not trying to manifest a damn kid. Like what? They're not paying me that much.

Damn. Like what you think this was?

**Vince:** Alex say, "I live in New York City, goddammit."

**Alex:** Mm-mm.

**Vince:** Oh, man.

**Var:** He said, "I manifest the right shit."

**Alex:** Yo.

**Var:** Oh.

**Alex:** Yeah, but, but let me ask you a question. I'm gonna turn the tables now.

All right, let's go.

Let's go.

I'm gonna turn the tables now.

**Vince:** Let's go.

Mr. Director. So let me, what, what, what is the next step for OPEN DOORS?

What's next? Obviously it's the 10 year. I know some of what we got planned for the 10 year, 'cause you know, I've been around recently. You know, other than Fade, Not even just Fade. You know, I, I know about Fade, and we, we know about Fade. They know about Fade.

You know what I'm saying? They don't know too much about it.

**Alex:** But they do. They know a little bit though.

**Vince:** All right. All right. So boom, we gonna move forward with some force, man. After we get our chess pieces in place, you know, get the right people in place, you know, I got a vision. You know? And my job is to make everyone realize my vision, see my vision, you know, so they can see.

But yeah, I, I see, you know, us... It's 10 years, right? But we veered, kind of veered from our, our original mission, into, into meaningful things, you know, and meaningful things came out of that in the, in the last 10 years. You know? But what I see is moving forward in the next, you know, the next chapter of OPEN DOORS is going back to our roots, one.

Trying to get in these schools, talking to these kids. Continue, you know, with our art, you know, with doing it through our art, you know. Um, and now we're-- right now we're, we're, we're trying to, you know, coordinate things with Coler. You know, do more partnership things with them. Um, what I wanna see, and what I wanna help every reality poet get to is to

where they fuck-

Yeah, where the fuck-

I was about to say, like, we can't cuss, but this is our shit.

**Var:** Fuck that. Fuck you talking about?

**Alex:** Fuck that.

**Var:** Fuck you talking about.

Where, where the fuck they supposed to be. You know, where they wanna be. You know, the things they wanna achieve individually. Things they, you know what I'm saying, wanna achieve as a group, you know?

Um, but also, you know, you said they know about Fade, but, you know, um, I think Fade can also tell our story in a way, you know, in a powerful way. Just like it did the first time. You know? But I feel like if we, you know what I'm saying, we, we, we gotta get it out there. You know? We gotta, we gotta nail this one, you know?

Get it taped right, get a nice, you know, video, um, even if we can't travel with it at the time, which that's my dream, is to travel with it. You know, get that footage out there. Let people know who we are and what we stand for. Yeah, so in the next 10 years, man, I see us, see us rising, man.

Rising. You know, the fight, the fight always gonna be the fight, you know? But as long as, you know, we don't give up, man, one day shit gonna change for the better for everybody.

**Alex:** You gotta give a crazy speech at the 10 year so that it could get like a, "I had a dream" quote.

That's what I see for you. Like- ... you know, the same way they talk about like John Lewis and MLK, we're gonna be hearing Vincent Pierce. But for that to happen, you need some quotes, Vince. You need some good quotables.

**Alex:** So get on your speech writing shit.

**Vince:** Yeah, man. Yeah, I'm definitely gonna write something up, man, for the 10-year barbecue.

Um, nah, that's gonna be some, some, some historical Obama shit. You know what I'm saying? Man, you got some more questions for me, man?

**Alex:** Um, I, uh, who's winning the NBA championship this year?

**Vince:** San Antonio Spurs.

**Alex:** Good pick. Good pick.

**Var:** Who you pick?

**Alex:** Honestly, I have not been watching games this year. I got no idea.

Me neither.

Who's even good? I mean, all the series are at six games right now, right? Like they're all go- Every, every, every one of them is 3-2. Yeah.

**Vince:** Well, well Phoenix is gone.

**Alex:** Okay, okay.

**Var:** Who they lost to? The Lakers, right?

**Alex:** Nah, it's Rockets.

**Var:** The Lakers didn't win last night?

**Alex:** No, they lost last night.

**Vince:** The Lakers lost last night, yeah.

**Var:** I thought they were gonna sweep these niggas.

**Vince:** Yeah, had, had a chance to take them out last night. Two nights, two games. You know?

Yeah.

**Var:** That's crazy.

**Alex:** And they saying, um, I think, what,

Luka is gonna be injured even if they do make it to that next series.

No, Lakers aren't winning this year.

**Vince:** Nah, definitely.

**Alex:** I would love that, but...

**Vince:** Definitely not.

**Var:** Well, we know who definitely ain't winning? The Knicks.

**Vince:** Oh, man.

Come on, man. Why you say that, man?

You root for the home team. Come on, Var.

Nah.

Even though, you know-

No.

Even though, even though, you know, might be right because, you know what I'm saying,

there's two players that frustrate me over there, man.

Jalen?

How can, how can, how can you only have two points in the playoffs, man,

and you a starting player, man? Come on, man. Yeah, and I'm gonna say his name, Mikal Bridges. What are you doing, man?

**Alex:** You messed-- You blew his parlay or something. That's why Vince is talking like that.

**Vince:** It happens, man.

He definitely blew my parlay a couple times.

It happens.

**Alex:** He doesn't care. He doesn't care about the game.

**Vince:** He definitely blew my parlay a couple times, you know?

He had a bad game, man.

And then when I don't pick him, he, that's when he wanna have a good game.

**Var:** Exactly. Shit happens.

Man, you know? And they, they try to blame it on what's-his-name don't wanna give up the ball, man, but that ain't- nah, man. You know?

Listen, man, you could have a bad day sometimes, man. He just be off sometimes.

**Vince:** Yeah, sometimes.

**Var:** Yeah.

**Vince:** A starting five player, man, in playoffs, man.

**Var:** Listen, man.

**Vince:** With two points. Come on, man.

**Var:** Yeah.

**Vince:** Is it Vegas? Come on, man. Consistently too. Nah, man. Alex's right, he definitely blew my parlay. Him and Josh Hart.

**Var:** Oh, damn.

Not too much on Josh Hart.

You can't, you can't rely on Hart.

**Alex:** Not too much on Josh Hart.

**Vince:** Oh, man. Yeah, he another one.

**Var:** You can't rely on him.

You know? He's another one, man.

Let's go Knicks, man. Yo, guys, step up and let's play, man. Get Atlanta out of here like y'all going to.

**Vince:** I know y'all making it to the second round.

**Var:** If, if they do it, they ain't going no further than that.

**Vince:** Well, you know, um-

**Var:** I, I can see them going to the second round, maybe.

**Vince:** Yeah, man. The playoffs, man, I, I, who I got winning is, San Ant, my, that, you know, that's my, my home base, man.

That's my team since Tim Duncan, you know, David Robinson,

Ginobili-

I, I ain't been watching it, so I can't-

Parker, big shot.

I can't say.

**Alex:** He's aging himself.

You're dating yourself, Vince.

You know what I'm saying?

Talking about David Robinson.

**Vince:** Yeah, you know what I'm saying?

Gen Z don't know who that is.

**Alex:** Who is that?

**Vince:** Oh, you don't know, you don't know who David Robinson is? You know who David Robinson is.

**Alex:** I'm trying to pretend like I don't know who that is. 'Cause I'm young, Vince.

I don't know, I don't know who that is.

**Vince:** You don't know?

**Alex:** That's back when Tim Duncan, man.

**Vince:** You don't know who David Robinson is for real?

**Alex:** I know who, he wore 50, right?

**Vince:** Yeah, man.

Yeah, I know who that is.

You know who David Robinson is, man. Come on, man.

**Var:** Him and Tim Duncan was the Twin Towers.

**Alex:** Sure.

**Vince:** You know? Ginobili, Parker, you know?

**Var:** They had a squad.

**Vince:** You know, everybody, everybody, damn near everybody-

They had a serious squad.

Everybody was from overseas over there. Killing. Fundamental basketball. You know what I'm saying? But they, but they back to that right now. They playing, they balling. Wemby.

I ain't seen them play. I ain't watched the game.

They balling.

**Var:** Last night and the other night was like the first two nights I got to watch a game. And that's when the Knicks won. Eh, go Knicks.

**Alex:** All right, what else now? What's your next question?

**Vince:** Listen, man. Continue to be you, wherever you are, you know? Um...

**Var:** Get to, get to where you going and continue to doing what you do, man. Be, be great at what you do. You know? I see you getting there and getting promoted throughout time, man.

Throughout time and, and the work that you do. 'Cause you definitely a hard worker. So I see you being supervisor or some shit.

**Vince:** Yeah, definitely. Definitely, man. You got the potential, man. Stay looking forward, man. Don't let nothing get you down, man. And yeah, definitely, definitely, you know, stick around, man. Come through for that fish, man.

**Alex:** I'll be at the barbecue.

I'll be there.

**Vince:** Army style.

**Var:** Goddamn. Like Jay?

**Alex:** Not like Jay.

**Vince:** Nah.

**Alex:** Not like Jay.

**Vince:** Nah, nah, I'm talking, yeah, you know, fast. But, but, but Jay, you know what I'm saying?

Oh, okay.

Jay gonna make love to his food. And hate when you fucking with him while he eating. You heard?

**Var:** And be sloppy with it.

**Vince:** Yeah.

**Alex:** Man said make a big mess.

**Vince:** Shit's gonna be everywhere.

**Var:** Mad sloppy.

**Vince:** Word, man, we should've saved his special bowl, man.

**Alex:** Oh, Jesus Christ.

**Var:** I'm surprised that shit's still ain't here with spaghetti in it.

**Alex:** Just somewhere around this room.

**Vince:** Speaking of Jay, he here, man. You got the shirt on, you know.

Yes, sir.

He's sitting there laughing at us, man.

Yeah.

Talking about him.

**Alex:** He's holding the snack up in the shirt.

**Var:** Jay never had a neck. He ain't holding nothing up. Jay ain't got no neck.

**Vince:** So yeah, man. Yeah, like I said, man, continue to be you, man, and stick around, man. Come back around. Don't be a stranger, man. And yeah, man, thanks for everything.

**Var:** Appreciate you, brother.

All right. So are you, are you, are you somebody that likes to say this where I wanna be and this where I'm gonna be in 10 years?

**Vince:** This where I wanna be in five years. What they call it, the vision board?

**Alex:** Yeah, I am that kind of person actually. Some- I feel like, honestly though, it's, I think it's really important not to set too limiting of goals. Because what I realized actually is that I achieved most of the goals I set for myself when I was in like high school and shit, but then I, I realized that...

I don't, like for instance, like I, boom, my goal at the time was like, "I'ma get a job, I'ma move to New York, and I'm gonna make music when I get there," right? I like unironically did all those things, but then I realized, you know, it's like I didn't, I don't even really wanna go pro at music, like that badly.

I mean, it'd be cool or whatever, but like that's not my main thing, you know? I have other, my, I have different values. I don't know.

If it happen, it happens, right?

Yeah. But, but exactly. But it's like, I mean, not even just if it happens, it happens, 'cause you gotta like grind for that.

But like there's other things I would prefer to grind for. But my point is, it's like then in terms of the hierarchy of goals though, like no, I'm definitely that kind of person. I would like... You heard me mention this in the meeting the other day, I have a hard time thinking past four weeks. Like I do a lot of 30-day challenges.

Like that's like a big thing for me. I like to stack like 30 days. But no, in terms of like the 10-year thing though, it's like one of my goals, I wanna have like

10,000 hours of practice on the guitar, right? And it's like, I know about how many hours I have right now 'cause I practiced 4 hours a day for 365 days when I started, which gives me a decent point of reference. And I had to take mad time off.

But it's like, long story short, it's like, I know I would like to have that many hours. And it's like it's a arbitrary thing, 'cause you could practice for 10,000 hours and still suck. You know what I mean? So I have goals that are like long-term goals, 'cause you gotta set long-term goals.

If your goals aren't long-term enough, then it's like, what are you really doing? No, but it's like the long-term goals are frustrating too, 'cause it's like you really have to be patient for them. Like truthfully, one of my biggest goals, one of the driving forces in most of the decisions I make, is that I want my own place to live.

I'm not really with this roommate shit. It's lame. I really don't fuck with it. I kinda hate it. Uh, I like my roommate. Like I have a good roommate, but it's just like I want my own shit. I want my own place to have my own shit. I don't like having roommates. It's no fun at all. So I understand that if I want that, then I gotta do certain things now to have that before I'm grown.

'Cause it's like I'm still in the age range where it's acceptable, but like you get to a certain age...

**Var:** It's like, fuck that.

**Alex:** Yeah.

**Var:** Yeah, you say, "Nah, fuck that. I, I gotta be on my own."

**Alex:** Mm-hmm.

**Var:** Exactly.

You said, "I'm tired of this roommate shit."

**Alex:** Yeah.

**Var:** I feel you, son.

**Alex:** But like even so, it's like that's the kind of goal, like that's just like, that's just staying afloat.

Like that's nothing even like... That's not even, that's not even like a real achievement if you think about it.

**Var:** Nah, that's a level up for you.

**Alex:** It is.

**Var:** It is. 'Cause you, you from going to being a, a roommate to having your own. There's nothing like having your own.

Yeah.

It's like that's your name. That's in your name.

You know what I'm saying?

**Alex:** Yeah.

**Vince:** Hell yeah. Hell yeah. You don't gotta, worry about nothing, you know?

**Var:** You got the keys. You owner of that. Whether it be house, apartment, whatever, you know?

**Vince:** Yeah, man. So I, I definitely hope you reach that goal, you know?

**Var:** Nah, he definitely gonna reach that goal.

**Vince:** Definitely coming through. You know what I'm saying? Make sure it's wheelchair accessible. You know? If it ain't wheelchair accessible, man. Yo, what's wrong with y'all, man? All these damn apartments not accessible, man.

Oh, yeah.

And when y'all say it's accessible, I can't even barely fit my chair through there.

**Var:** You can barely get through the hallway and through the door.

**Vince:** Yeah.

**Var:** Gotta put your chair down and turn, squeeze in this way. Nigga, it's bad enough El's door right in the corner.

**Vince:** Yeah.

**Var:** His shit wicked.

**Vince:** Yeah, yeah. Luckily he got that manual chair though, you know?

**Var:** But even still, for us, that shit wicked, son.

**Vince:** Yeah,

**Var:** yeah.

You got two other doors right there.

**Vince:** Yeah, man. Appreciate your service, man.

**Var:** We love you, kid.

**Vince:** Appreciate your service, man. Like I said, man, stick around, you know? Don't become a stranger. You know what I'm saying? We won't let you become a stranger, first of all.

**Alex:** Nah, 'cause you told me that you - 'cause I'm curious about this Fade soundtrack, and you said you still might need some, like, instruments on it.

**Vince:** Yeah, definitely, definitely, definitely, definitely, definitely. Fucking definitely.

**Alex:** You know?

**Vince:** Yeah, man. So, you know, come lock in one day, you know? Get you some, get you some credits on the album, man.

**Alex:** Yeah, man. I'll come through here, bring my guitar. We got this one over here, but it's a little busted up.

I like it, though. I want one just like that.

**Vince:** All right, man. Appreciate you, man, for sitting down in the hot seat today, man, on your day before your last day.

**Var:** Once again, right before your date, your last day, like you said, it's your way to go out, son.

**Vince:** Hell yeah, man.

**Var:** Get you a motherfucking podcast then Freestyle Friday. That's it, baby.

**Alex:** Yeah, thanks for having me. I appreciate it.

It's good to be here.

Yeah, definitely, definitely, definitely.

**Var:** Appreciate y'all for watching.

**Vince:** Definitely. Like, comment, share, subscribe. OPEN DOORS NYC on every platform. Peace, y'all.

**Var:** I'm Var.

**Vince:** And I'm Vince. We out.