

To the Beat Ya'll

What Narrative Designers Can Learn From Hip Hop

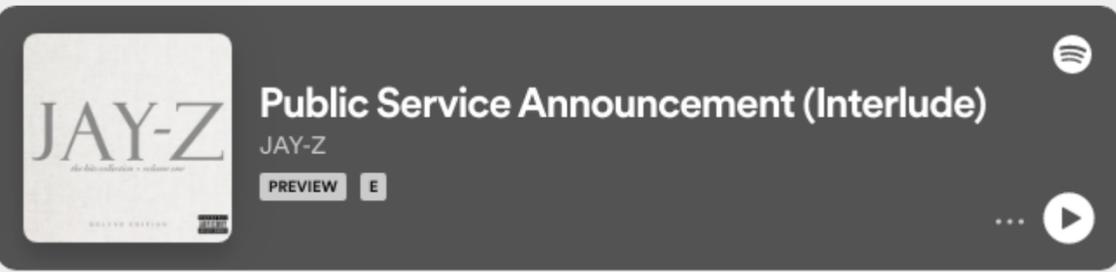
Vibe Check



Intro



- What is hip hop
- Hip hop in games
- Traditional Story Telling
- Hip Hop Story Telling

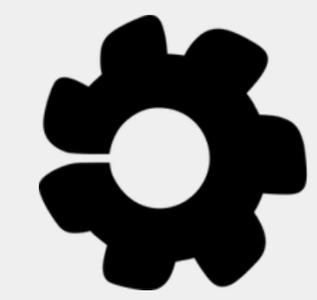


Who Am I?



FIEEA

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

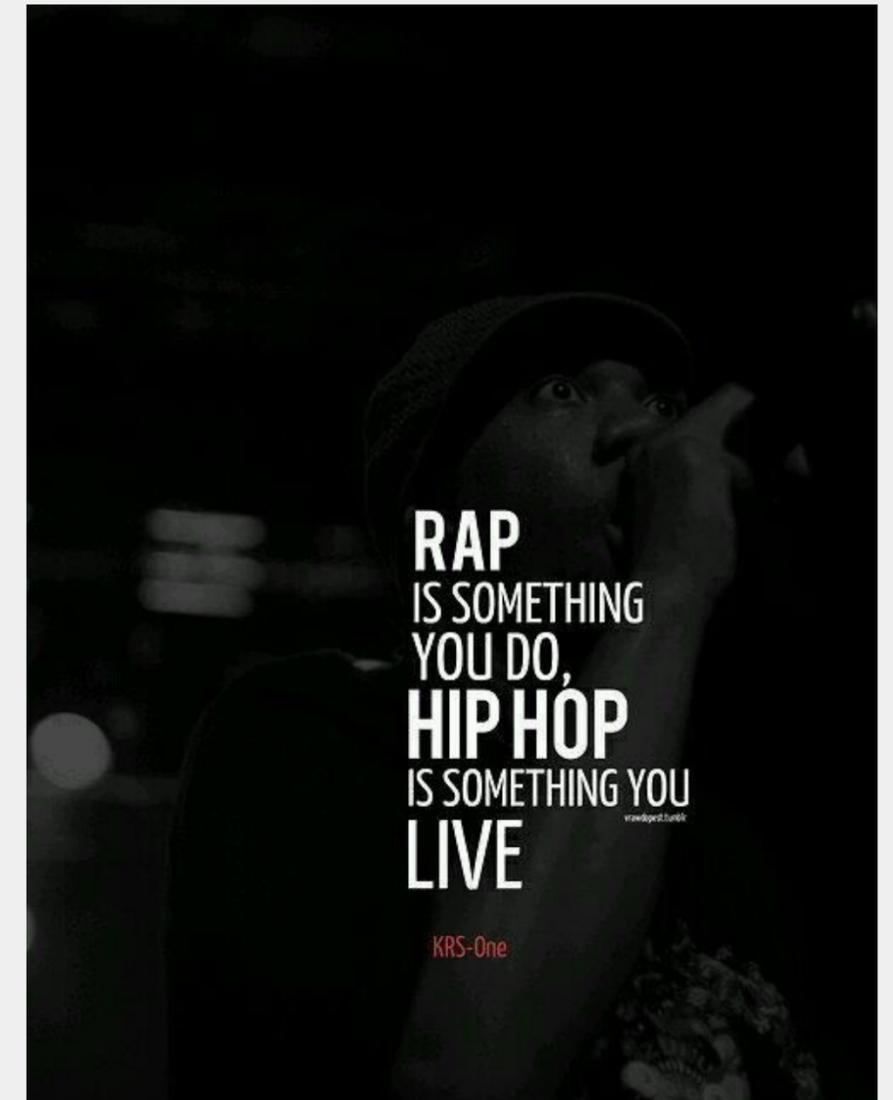


HOUSEMARQUE

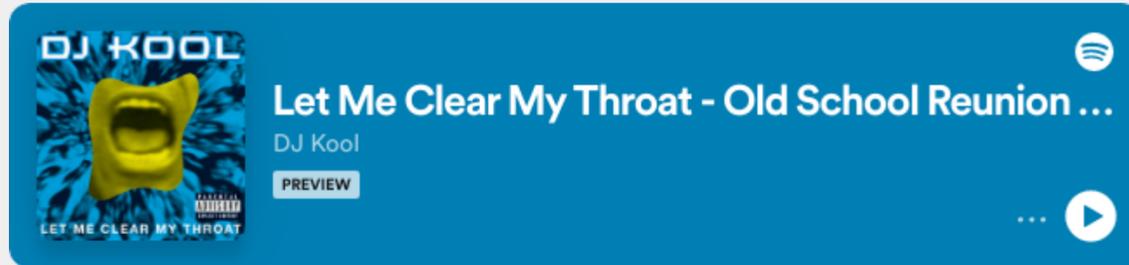
What is Hip Hop

- Hip hop is a culture
- It is more than just music
- It's comprised of 5 elements (give or take)
 - DJaying
 - Emceeing
 - Graffiti
 - Dancing
 - Fashion

hip-hop, cultural movement that attained widespread popularity in the 1980s and '90s; also, the backing music for **rap**, the musical style incorporating rhythmic and/or rhyming speech that became the movement's most lasting and influential art form.



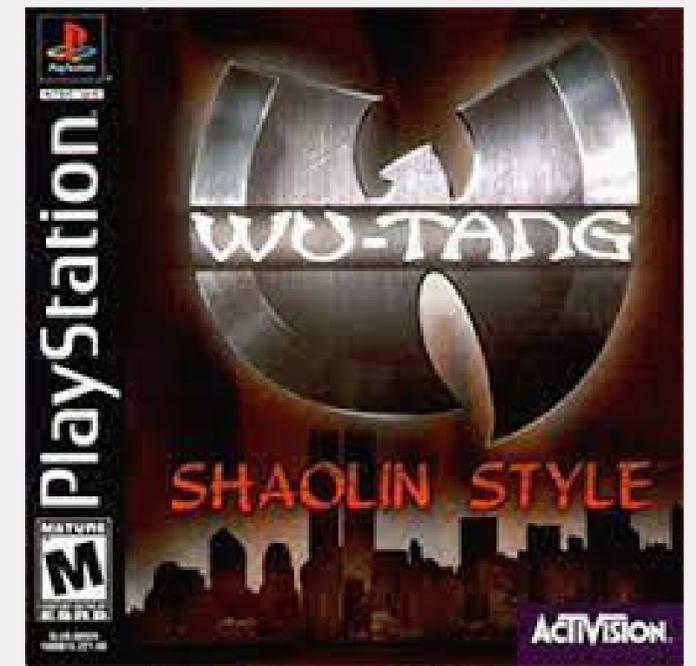
Where it Started At



- New York City, 1970s
- Generally considered to have begun in the Bronx
 - Pioneers include
 - Grandmaster Flash
 - DJ Kool herc
 - Afrikka Bambaata



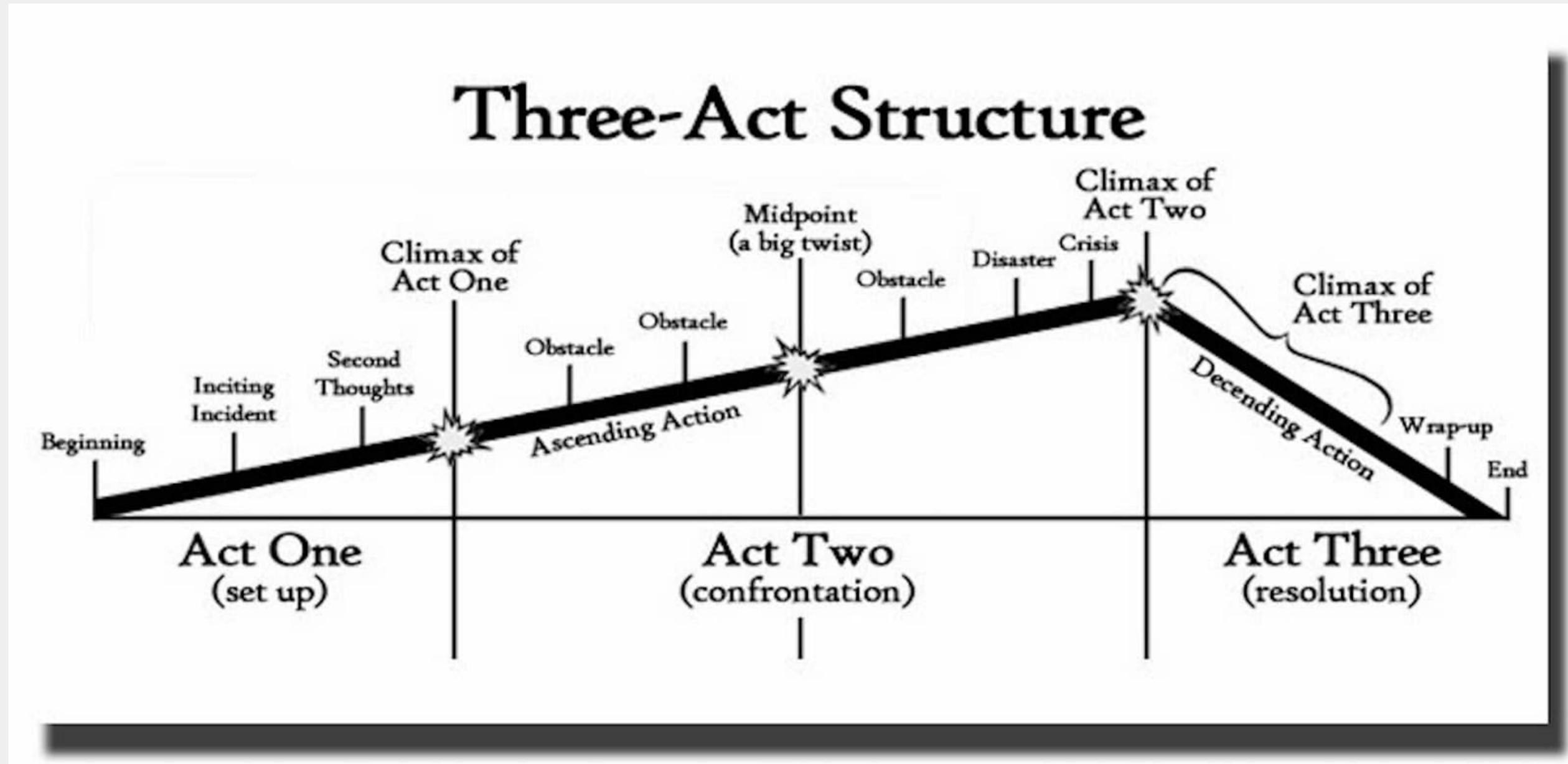
Hip Hop in Games



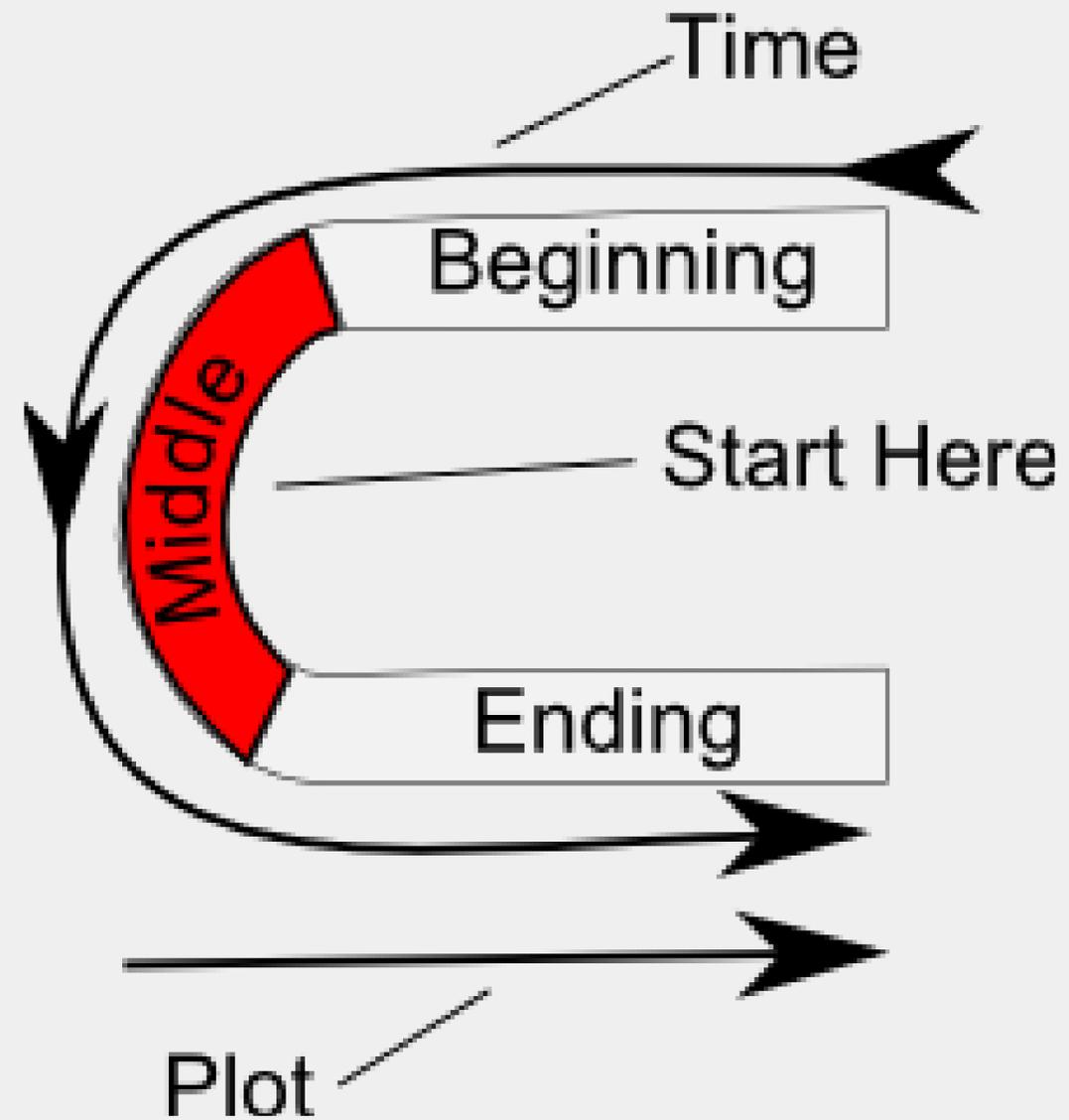
Story Structures



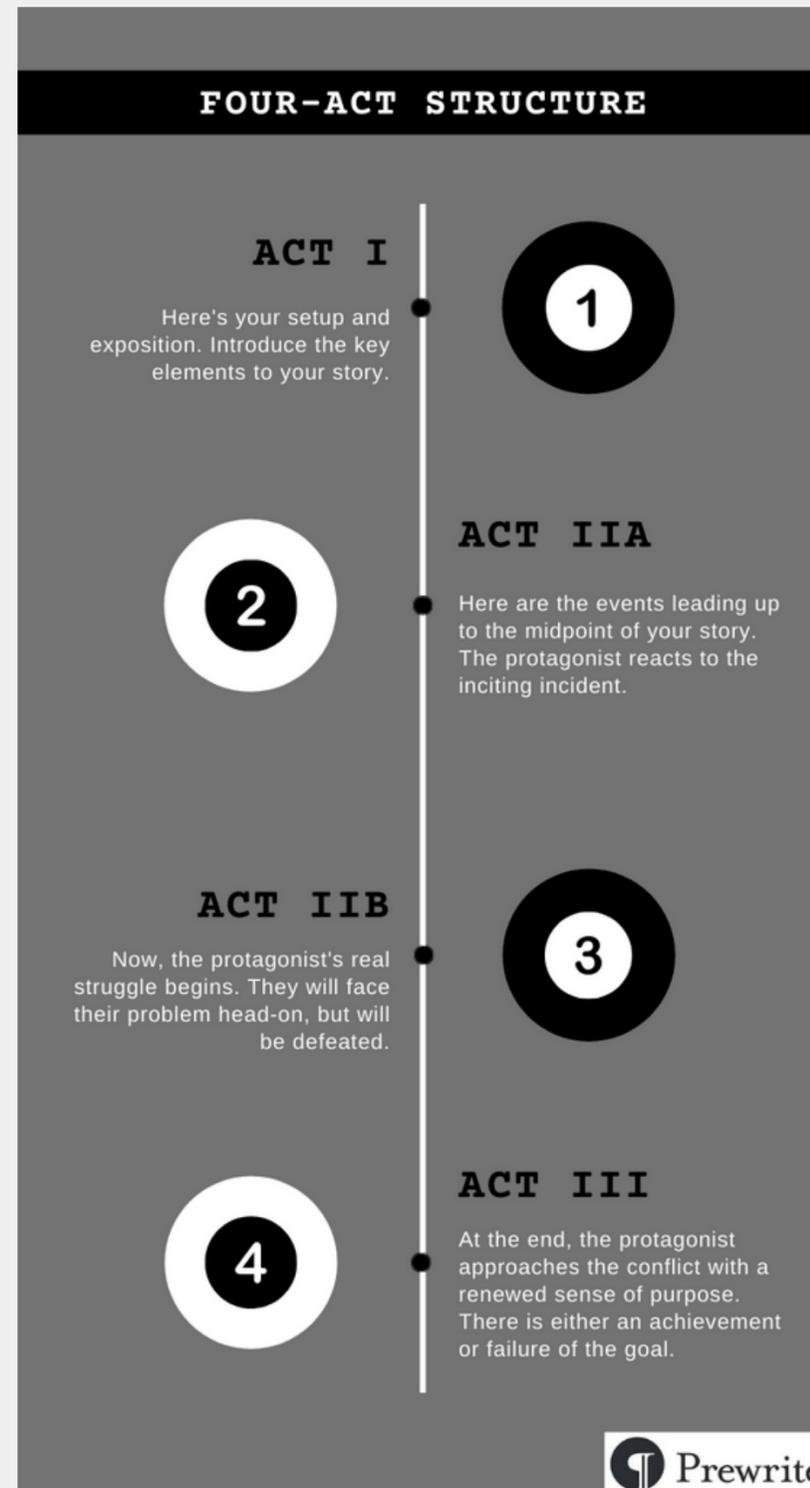
Traditional Story Structures



Traditional Story Structures In Medias Res

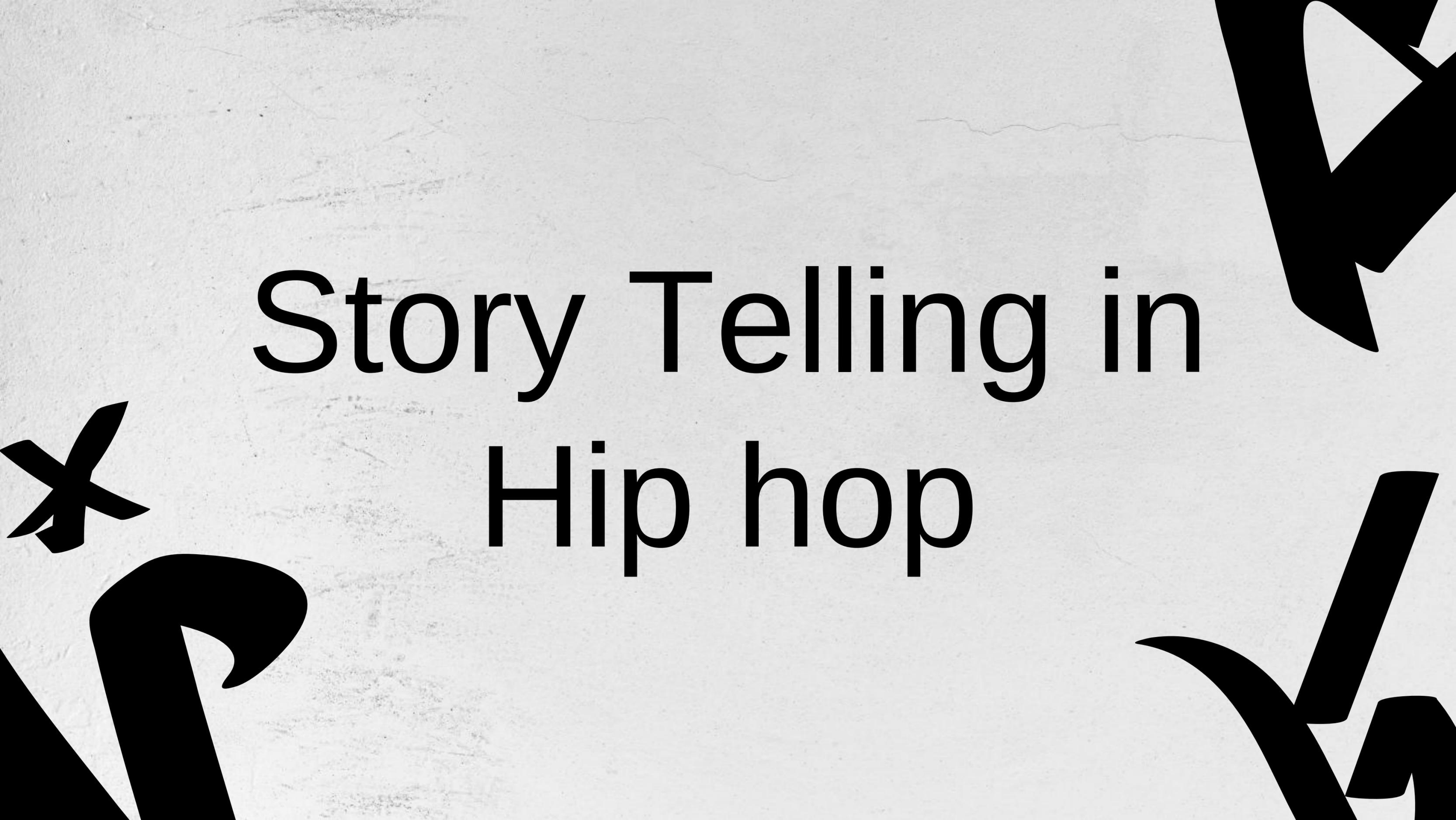


Traditional Story Structures



Traditional Story Structures





Story Telling in Hip hop

3 is a magic number

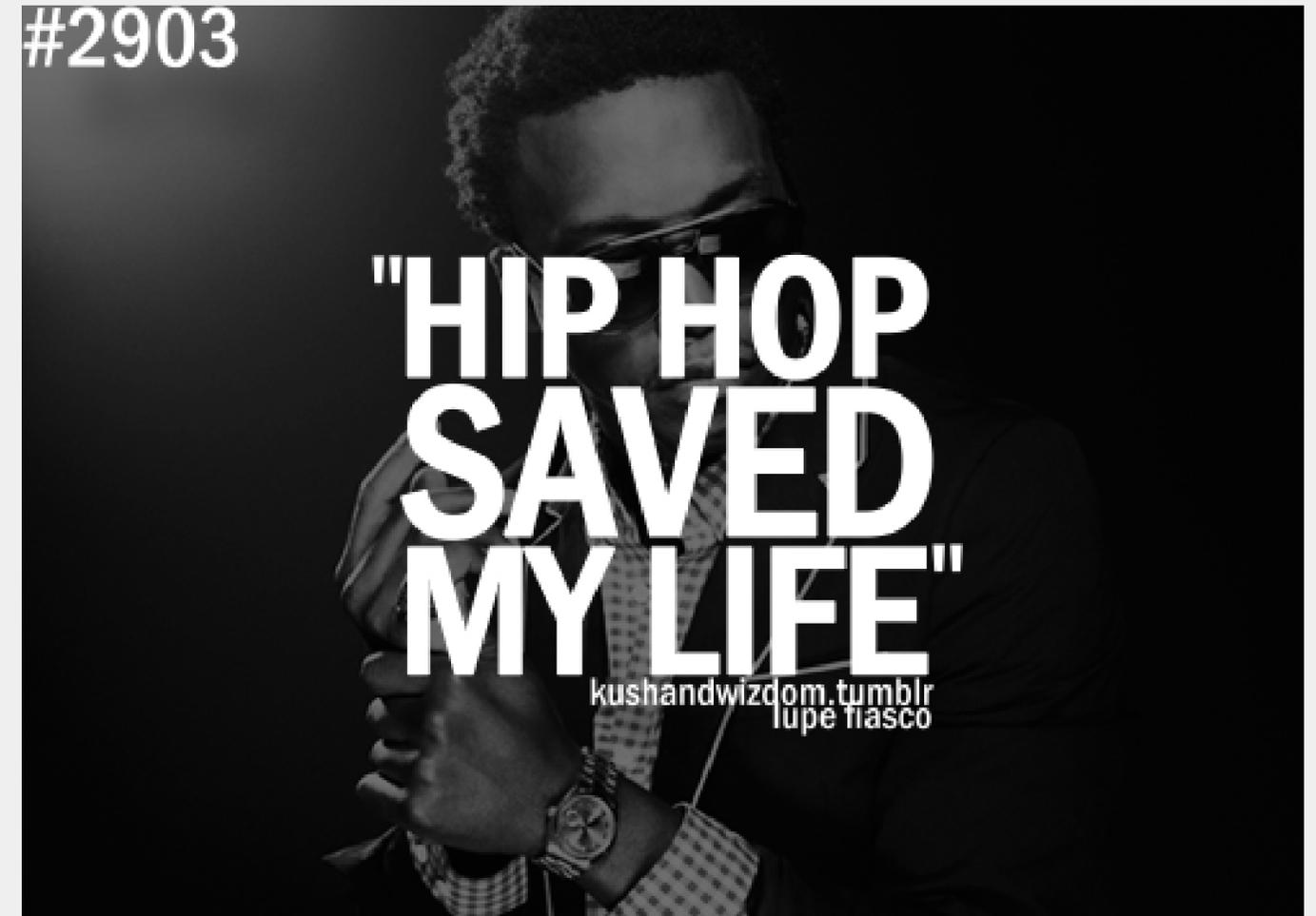
- Who are they?
- Why do I care?
- What is their problem?



The 3 C Structure

- Character
- Care
- Conflict

○



Hip Hop Saved My life

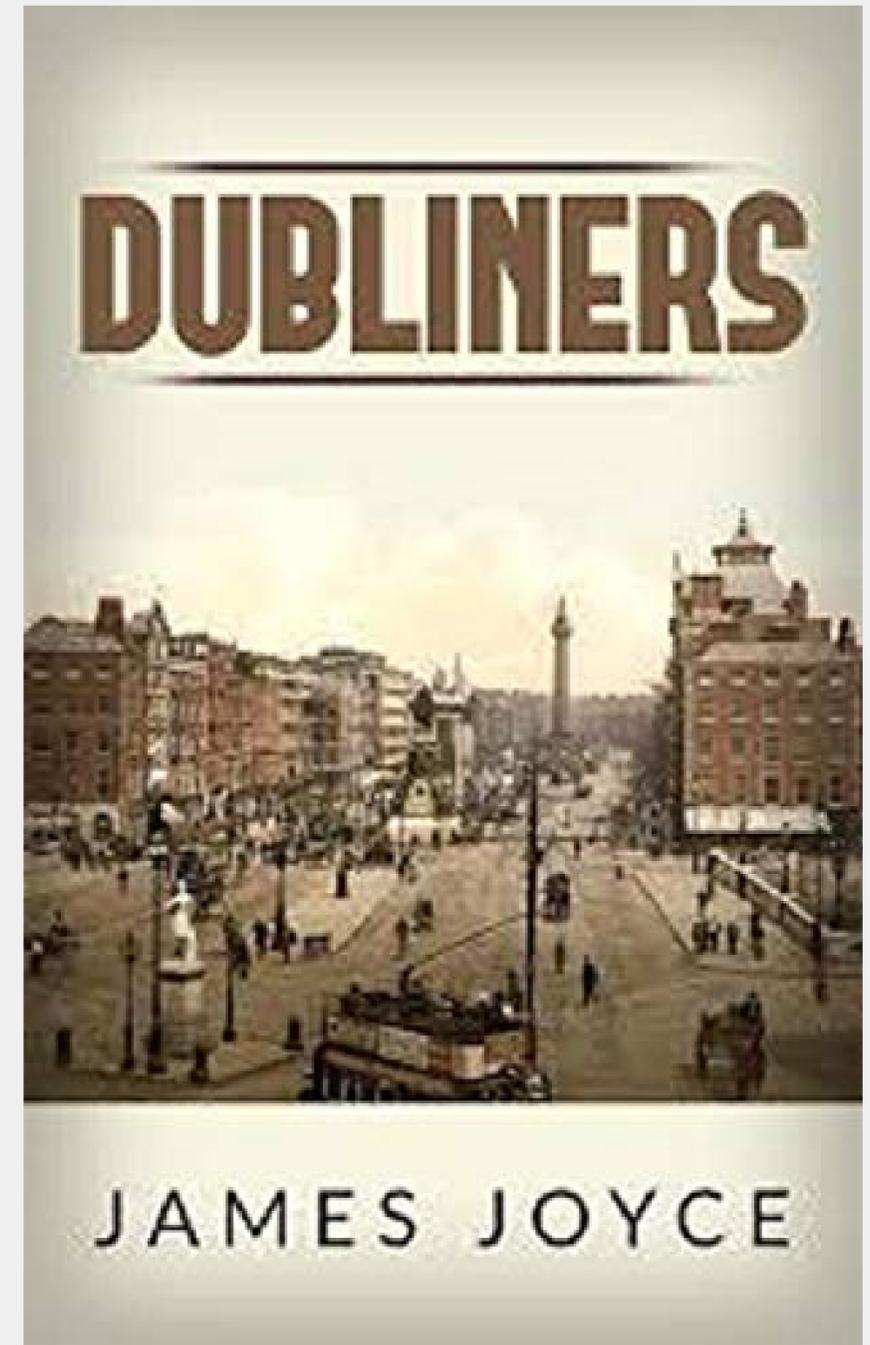
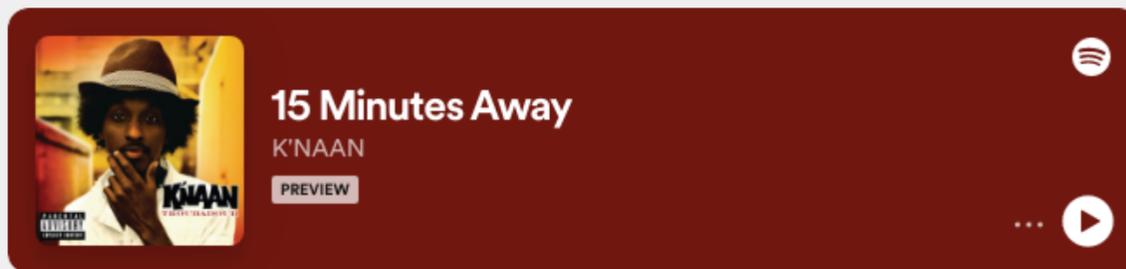
He said: "I write what I see
Write to make it right, don't like where I be
I'd like to make it like the sights on TV
Quite the great life, so nice and easy"
See: now you can still die from that
But it's better than not being alive from straps
Agreed, a Mead notebook and a Bic
That click when it's pushed and a wack-ass beat
That's a track that's weak that he got last week
Cause everybody in the stu' was like: "That's that heat!"
A bass-heavy medley with a sample from the 70s
With a screwed-up hook that went "stack that cheese"
Something something something, "stack that cheese"
Mother, sister, cousin, "stack that cheese"
He couldn't think of nothin', "stack that cheese"
He turns down the beat, writer's block impedes
Crying from the next room, a baby in need
Of some Pampers and some food and place to sleep
That plus a black Cadillac on Ds
Is what keep him on track to be a great MC



- Character
- Care
- Conflict

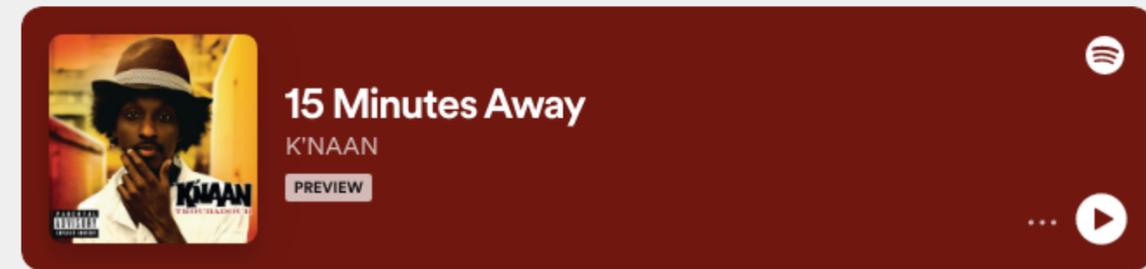
Vignettes

- Slice of life
- Short stories



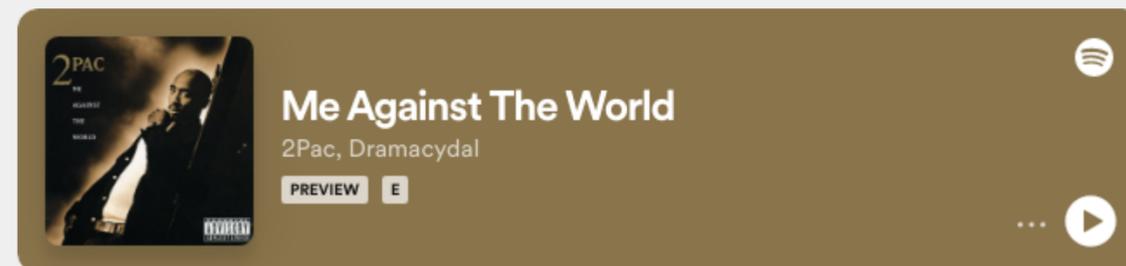
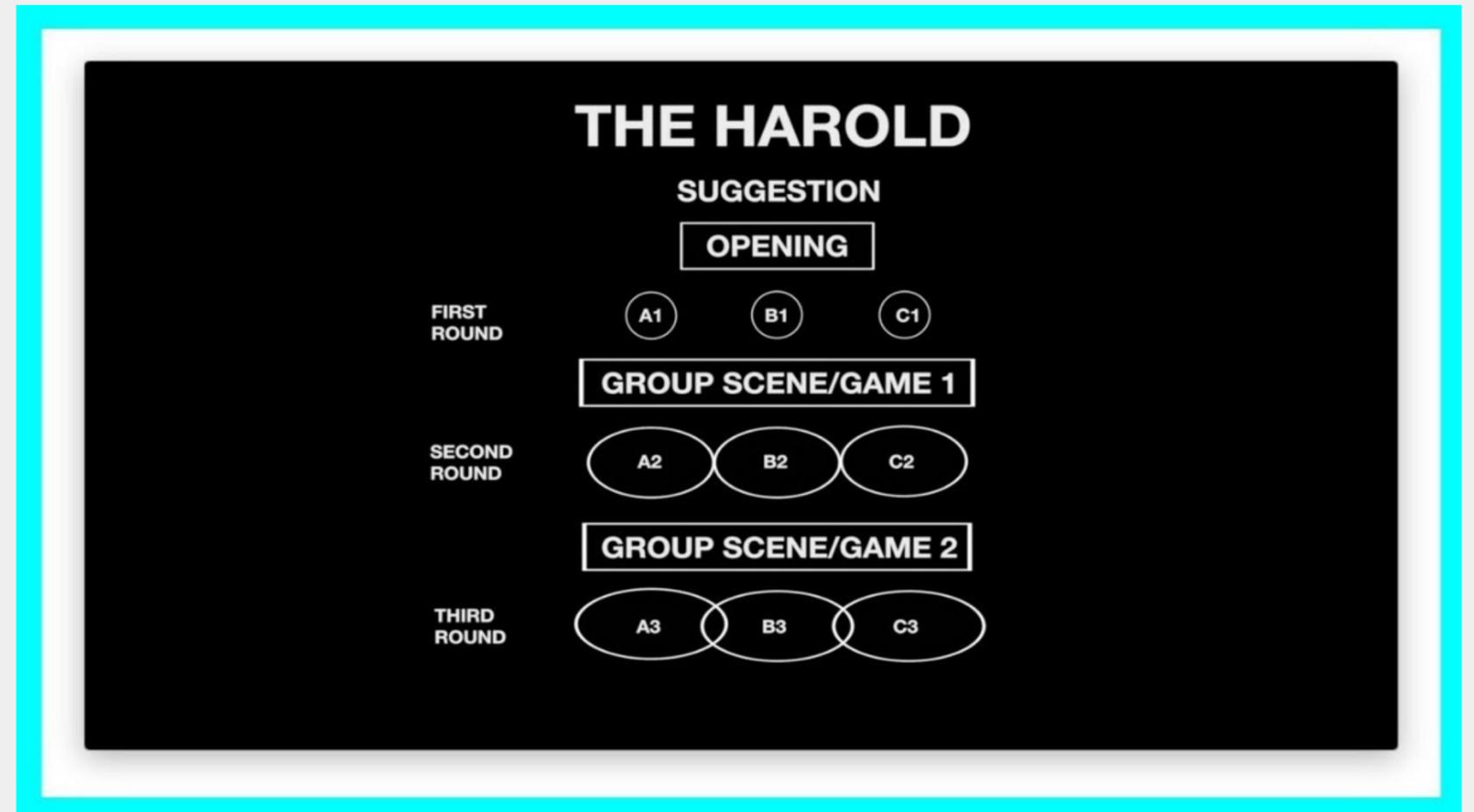
15 Minutes Away

The worst thing is the waiting man,
Its spiritually draining,
I guess I could repaint it, but don't think I'm complaining,
I'm in my small apartment,
This month has been the hardest
I couldn't afford some omelets,
I'm broke like an empty promise
Sometimes when im in a meeting, and everyone else is eating,
I feel so awkward asking, so I pretend like I am fasting,
My girl had paid my payments,
She wants to save my anus,
She says my loves contagious but my pride is so outrageous
She sent me Western Union, so I can make it doin'
It felt so good when she said write down this eleven digits
I go out to receive it, I'm desperate and I need it,
Feels like an angel's speaking, I can hardly believe it



Verse-Chorus Structure

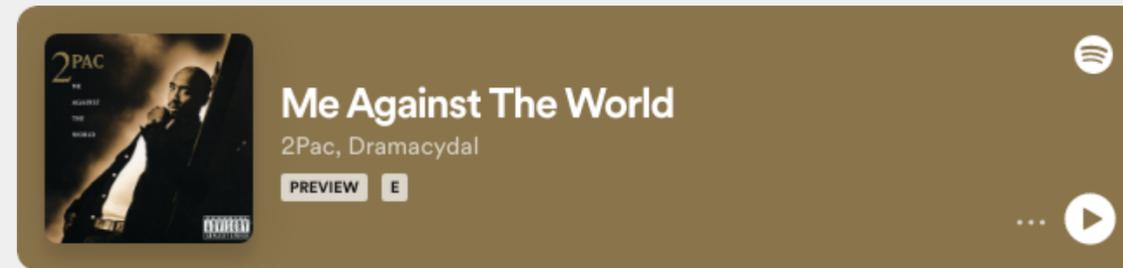
- Opening -> Verse -> Chorus
(repeat) -> Bridge (sometimes) ->
Button
 - How do we apply this to games



Me Against the World

Verse

Can you picture my prophecy?
Stress in the city, the cops is hot for me
The projects is full of bullets, though bodies is droppin'
There ain't no stoppin' me
Constantly movin' while makin' millions
Witnessin' killings, leavin' dead bodies in abandoned
buildings
Can't reach the children, 'cause they're illin'
Addicted to killin' and the appeal from the cap peelin'
Without feelin', but will they last or be blasted?
Hard-headed bastard, maybe he'll listen in his casket
The aftermath, more bodies being buried
I'm losing my homies in a hurry, they're relocating to the
cemetery
Got me worried, stressin', my vision's blurry
The question is "will I live?" No one in the world loves me
I'm headed for danger, don't trust strangers
Put one in the chamber whenever I'm feelin' this anger
Don't wanna make excuses, 'cause this is how it is
What's the use? Unless we're shootin', no one notices the
youth
It's just me against the world, baby
Me against the world, ooh yeah
It's just me against the world



Chorus 1

It's just me against the world
Ooh, ooh
Nothin' to lose
It's just me against the world, baby
Oh, ah-ah
I got nothin' to lose
It's just me against the world
Oh-oh
Stuck in the game
Me against the world, baby

Chorus 2

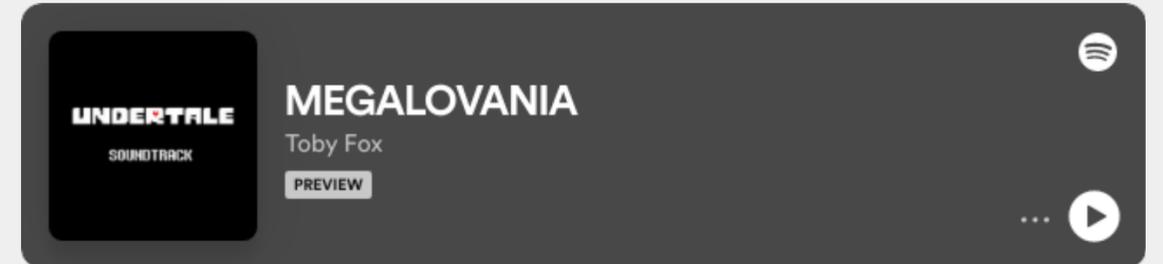
Ooh-hoo
It's just me against the world
Me against the world, ooh-ooh
'Cause it's just me against the world,
baby
Hey
Me against the world
Ooh yeah
I got nothin' to lose
It's just me against the world, baby
I got nothin' to lose

Spoilers ahead

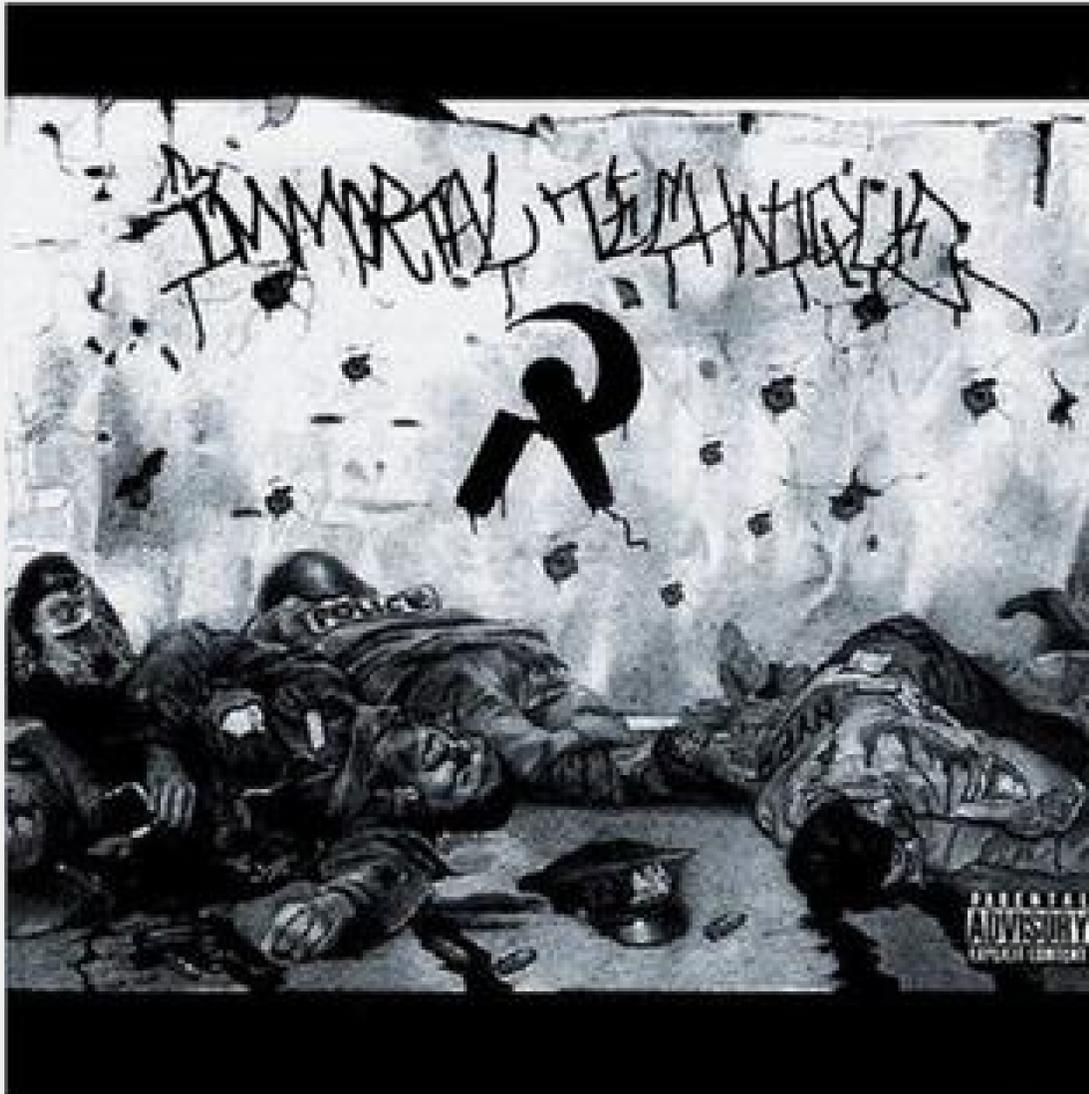
UNDEERTALE

Verse 2

- Undertale exemplifies this
- Each boss fight, which is also narrative, is a chorus
- Each section (snowdin town, core, etc..) has its own unique plot lines (verses)
- The secret lab acts as the bridge



Economy of language



- No throw away words
 - Language reinforces itself through repetition
 - Less use of adverbs or descriptive terms
- Hierachy of language
 - Actions > Ideas > descriptions

Economy of Language - Alright

Intro

Alls my life I has to fight.

Alls my life I...

Hard times like, "Yah!"

Bad trips like, "God!"

Nazareth, I'm f***ed up, homie, you f***ed up,
but if God got us then we gon' be alright.

Verse

Uh, and when I wake up.

I recognize you're lookin' at me for the pay cut.

Behind my side we lookin' at you from the face down.

What Mac-11 even boom with the bass down.

Schemin' and let me tell you bout my life.

Painkillers only put me in the twilight.

Where pretty p**** and Benjamin is the highlight.

Now tell my mama I love her but this what I like.

Lord knows, twenty of 'em in my Chevy.

Tell 'em all to come and get me,

reapin' everything I sow.

So my karma come and Heaven no preliminary hearing.

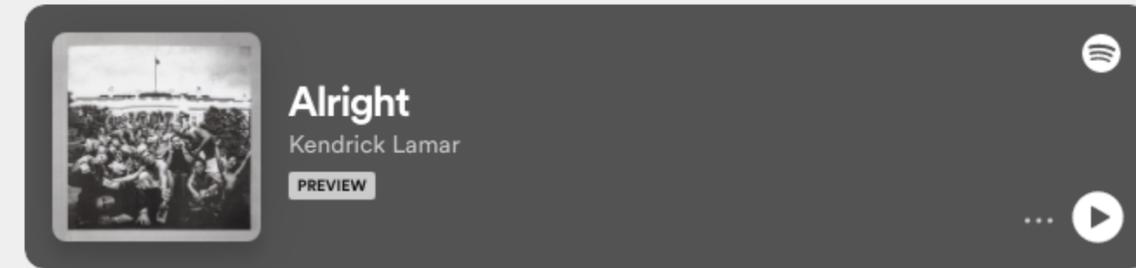
So my record and my motherf***ing gang stand in silence for the
record, uh.

Tell the world I know it's too late.

Boys and girls, I think I gone cray.

Try and decide my vices all day.

Won't you please believe when I say...



- Actions
- Ideas
- Descriptions

Chorus

we gon' be alright.

we gon' be alright.

We gon' be alright.

Do you hear me?

Do you feel me?

We gon' be alright.

we gon' be alright.

Huh, we gon' be alright.

we gon' be alright.

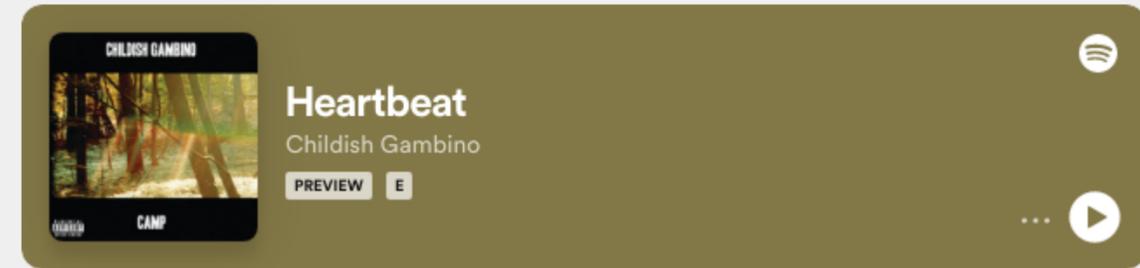
Do you hear me?

Do you feel me?

We gon' be alright.

Economy of Language - Heartbeat

I know what your boy like
Skinny tie and a cuff type
He go and make breakfast
You walk around naked
I might just text you
Turn your phone over, when it's all over
No settlin' down, my text go to your screen
You know better than that
I come around when you least expect me
I'm sittin' at the bar when your glass is empty
You thinkin' that this song's comin' on to tempt me
I need to be alone like the way you left me
You start callin', you start cryin'
I come over, I'm inside you
I can't find you
The girl that I once had
But the sex that we have isn't half bad
Text say, "That it's not fair"
That's code for "He's not here"
And I'ma flirt with this new girl
And I'ma call if it don't work
So we f** 'til it come to conclusions
All the things that we thought we were losin'
I'm a ghost and you know this
That's why we broke up in the first place



- Actions
- Ideas
- Descriptions



KANYE WEST 

@kanyewest

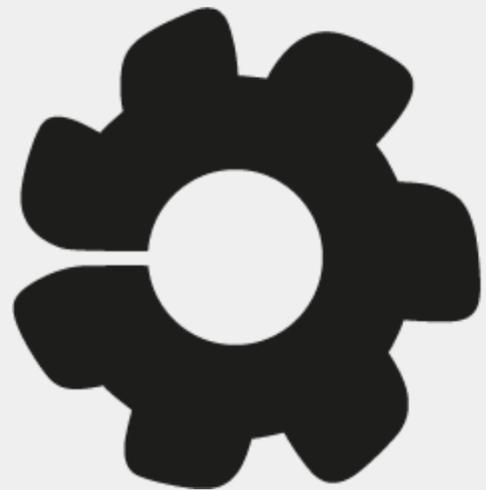


once again I am being attacked for
presenting new ideas

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In case You're wondering...



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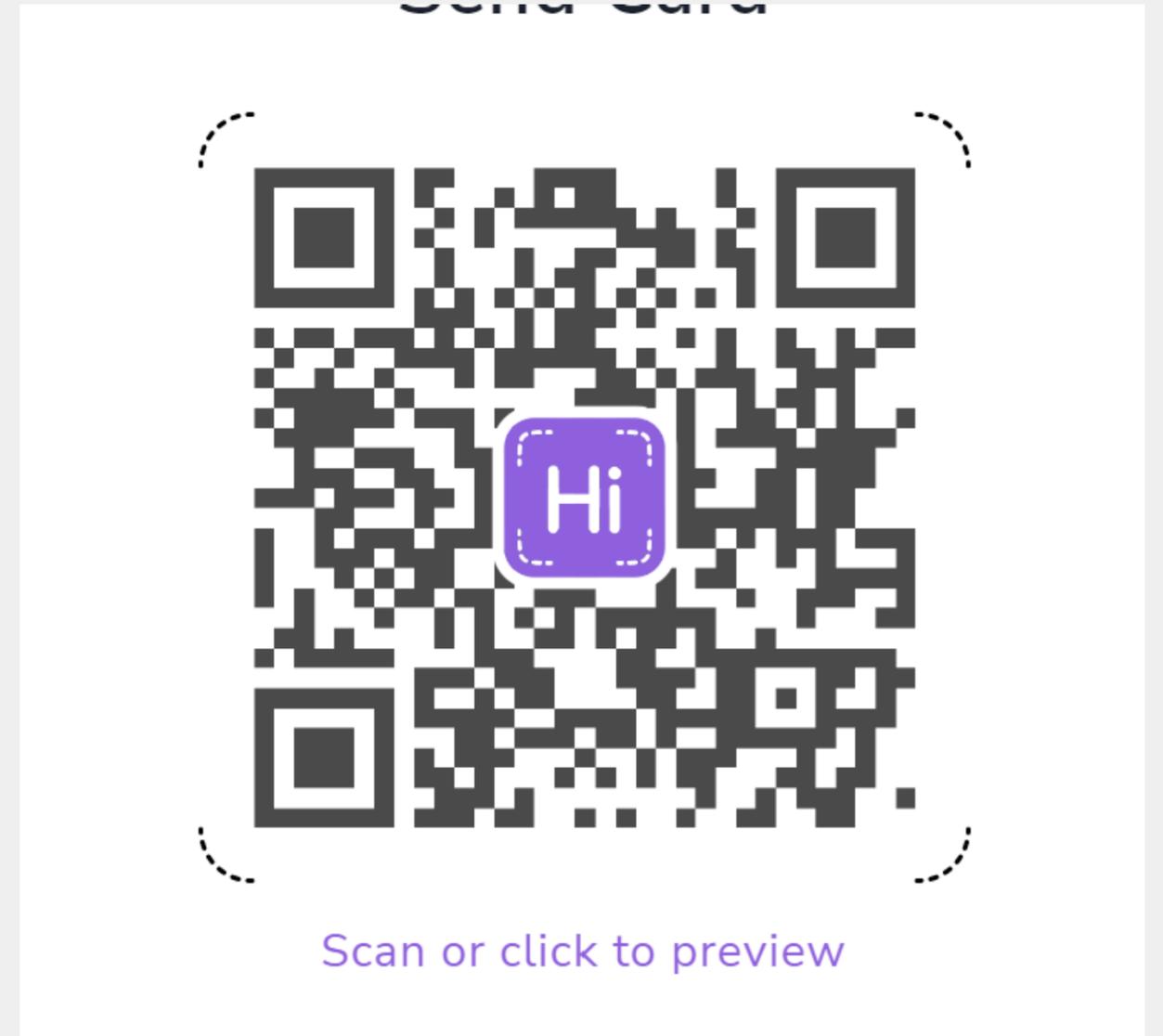
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Playlist



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