

**Bashar Barakah Jackson aka Pop Smoke**, was an artist, writer, producer and entrepreneur.

The name Pop Smoke was given to him by his grandmother and childhood friends. He grew up in Canarsie, Brooklyn, New York. his first introduction to music was playing the drums in church as a child.

Pop Smoke spent two years under house arrest and expelled from middle school for bringing a gun into the classroom.

During High School, he played basketball at RockTop Academy in Philadelphia, before leaving due to health issues.

**Pop Smoke** began rapping when he went to a Brooklyn studio with fellow rapper Jay Gwuapo.

After Jay went to sleep, Pop entered the booth and drop some lyrics on a track he got from youtube.

His first recording was “MPR” and then he released “Flexin” in January 2019.

Pop Smoke signed with Victor Victor Worldwide, which is a division of Universal Music. He became a celebrity with his single “Welcome to the Party” which was produced by 808Melo.

In July 2019, Pop released his first mixtape “Meet the Woo” and during this time he released multiple singles.

He collaborated with artist like Lil Tiay on “War”, “100k” with Calboy and “Gatti” with Travis Scott.

“Gatti” debuted at number 69 on the Top 100 music charts.

In January 2020, Pop released “Christopher Walking” before his second mixtape “Meet the Woo 2”.

The mix tape debuted at number 7 on the top 100 billboard charts. The mixtape featured songs with Quavo,

A Boogie with the Hoodie, Five Foreign and Lil Tiay.

“**Dior**” became the second single released from his album and peaked at number 22 on the music charts.

When 50 cent heard the rapper, he decided to executive produce and finish Pop Smokes debut album.

50 cent brought in **RoddyRicch**, Drake and Chris Brown to feature them on the album.

In April 2020, talk emerged of a documentary on Pop Smoke’s life.

The album was officially released in July 2020 and would be known as “Shoot for the Stars, Aim for the Moon.”

The lead single on the album was “Make it Rain”, featuring Rowdy Rebel.

The album reached commercial success, at number one in several counties, including Billboard top 100.

All 19 songs on the album charted on billboard top 100, with “For the night” featuring Lil Baby and Da Baby.

Pop appeared in his first movie, “**Boogie**” where he was cast as “Monk” in a minor roll playing basketball.

After returning from Paris Fashion Week, Pop was arrested for allegedly stealing a Rolls Royce. Which was being used for a video shoot and returned the following day. But the car was recovered in **Canarsie, Brooklyn**.

After his release, Pop was questioned about a shooting in Brooklyn but refused to talk after his car was seen in the area of the shooting.

Pop was charged with Grand theft auto, he posted bond, agreed to stay away from known gang members and submit drug tests to US Pretrial Services.

Unfortunately a month later, Pop was shot while renting a home in California, which was owned by a Real House Wives Star.

**Written by Tony Tee aka Tony Paris**