

First Day of School
Outfits

Written and Illustrated
By Omar Touray

First Day of School Outfits

Acknowledgements

To all the people who believed in me when no one else did:

My Mom

My Dad

Ms. Brooks:

Thank you guys for believing in me when I didn't believe in myself and for also holding me to a high standard. I would also like to thank you for sticking by my side no matter how annoying I got and for showing me what true love is.

Preface

The purpose of this book is to tell the story of how my first days of school has played a major role in my confidence, how I view first impressions, and how I am easily able to make friends no matter where I go. The book also tells the story of why fashion plays such a pivotal role in my life. Growing up I had to build the confidence to remain myself no matter what school or environment I was in. This is an important skill, especially when your'e in an environment where everyone is trying to pull each other down. You will see how fashion helped me get through the toughest and brightest times of my life.

Table of Contents

Kindergarten	6
First Grade	8
Second Grade.....	10
Third Grade.....	12
Fourth Grade.....	14
Fifth Grade.....	16
Sixth Grade.....	18
Seventh Grade.....	20
Eighth Grade.....	22
Ninth Grade.....	24
Tenth Grade.....	26
Eleventh Grade.....	28
Twelfth Grade.....	30
Freshman Year of College.....	32
Sophomore Year of College.....	34
Author Biography.....	36

Kindergarten

The first School I ever attended was P.S. 90 which was located in the South Bronx of New York City. To be exact it was located on Sheridan Avenue between McClellan and 166th Street. The location of the school was in one of the most dangerous neighborhoods within the Morrisania area, which is a residential neighborhood in the southwestern part of the Bronx. I went to school there between the grades of kindergarten to 4th grade. It was the first school I ever had a first day of school at and kindergarten is when my journey through life and my first day outfits started, which was in the year 2002.

The first day of school is basically a Fashion contest and everyone wants to look good and sharp with the new clothes that their parents bought them. My very first understanding of this came in kindergarten. My parents bought me my first outfit which was a purple vest that had black polka dots with two little side pockets on them, some purple and white checkered shorts that had black suspenders on them and black sneakers to match. I remember waking up the morning of my first day of school and going to the bathroom *to brush my teeth* with white Colgate toothpaste so that my *breath had a nice smell to it* and took a *shower with vanilla dove soap* due to its *elegant smell* it left my body with. Once I was done, I *brushed my hair* and added some *petroleum gel* to it so that *my hair was nice and shiny and had a nice little glow to it*. After I added my favorite *body lotion, cocoa butter*. This supplement made *my melanin skin look nice and rich, while also keeping my skin from being dry and ashy*. Upon finishing up I *put on some baby powder due to its smell and so that I wouldn't sweat my nice clothes out*. At this age, I hadn't started wearing deodorant yet so *I would put body oil around my neck and ears* so that I would *smell good* for the entire day at school.

My first ever first day of school out had so much sentimental value to me because it was the first outfit I had ever worn to school. I remember being so nervous in school on my first day due to the fact that I didn't know anyone and felt like my parents were literally dropping me in a foreign country and going home. My outfit was the reason I made my first friend, he gave me a compliment and we started speaking from there. Also, I remember the teachers telling me I looked nice which actually gave me the confidence that school wouldn't be so bad and that the people there were nice. Those little compliments were the reason I felt good wearing my outfit and what made me have such a close connection with my little polka dot vest and checkered shorts.



First Grade

After getting through Kindergarten in P.S. 90, which was located in the residential area of Morrisania on Sheridan Avenue between McClellan and 166th street, I know had pre-prep I needed for the beginning of my journey through life and school. Kindergarten gave me the space where I can get away with a lot due to the fact I was still viewed as a baby, but now it was time for first grade, and I had a year of experience now. Although I'm still very young, I can't get away with certain things anymore. I started first grade in the year of 2003 and was very excited to show off my out-fit on the first day of school to my friends that I had made in the previous year. I was 6 going on 7 due to the fact my birthday was at the end of the year.

My first day of school in the First grade was very memorable due to the excitement I had to return to school and link up with my friends that I hadn't seen over the summer break. It was the first time in my life I had ever been in a position where I came to school on the first day and already had my group of friends that I was close with. Even at the tender age of 6, I was excited to make a fashion statement and even laid out my outfit the night before. I wore a plaid blue Sean John sweater that my mom got me which was a top-of-the-line designer clothing at the time, some black and grey checkered pants, and some blue and black sandals that my dad got me when he went to Africa.

That morning *I brushed my teeth with the flavored blue Colgate toothpaste so that my teeth could be nice and white, while also making my breath smell good. Next, I washed my face with face wash over the sink so that my face would have a special glow to it. Once I was done, I took a shower using Irish Spring due to the refreshing smell and cleanliness it left the body feeling once I was done showering. After showering, I did my normal routine of brushing my hair, but I wrapped it with a drag so that my hair would look darker and fuller, allowing my haircut to look very sharp. I then put on A+D, which is a Greece that's good for dry skin and healing cuts so that my skin wouldn't be dry and looked shiny. To top it all off I wore some body oil that smelled like vanilla so that I could smell good while looking good.*

This outfit meant a lot to me at the time because it was the first time I ever owned a Sean John clothing. For as long as I could remember, I have always been a fan of P. Diddy and when his brand became popular, I wanted to be able to wear it. I still remember the looks on my friends faces when I wore the sweater on the first day of school. They all showered me with compliments, and I was just so grateful for my mom because she was the one that surprised with the sweater. I even had a couple of girls in my class that gave me a compliment, which really made me love my outfit and made my first day of school in the first grade so memorable.



Second Grade

By the time second grade rolled around, I really had my own taste for fashion. Up until this point, my parents would dress me up for the most part and I would have to ask if I could wear certain things to school. I was still attending P.S 90 in the very wild South Bronx, but the second-grade entrance to get in the school was on 166th street and Sherman Avenue. I was growing up fast and was no longer treated as a kid in school. This was the year 2004 and the teachers made it very clear that all second graders will be punished for things we knew weren't supposed to be doing. Still, through the strictness of my teacher I was still happy with the energy that the first day of school brought. I was especially excited because this was the first year that I really had full control of what I would wear to school.

The first day of school in the second grade was amazing. I remember getting up extra early that morning so that I can prepare to wear my outfit for the first day of school. My dad bought my outfit that year and it was a nice red and white Polo by Ralph Lauren button down shirt, some black jeans with black and grey zig zags going through them at the kneecaps and some red and black Jordan twelves to go with them. Once my outfit was prepared, *I brushed my teeth with White Crest toothpaste, specifically for teeth whitening and good breath. Next, I used Listerine so that I could kill any bacteria in my mouth that I didn't get while brushing my teeth and also so that I could have an extra fresh mouth. After I used face wash so that I could have a nice glow to my face. After, I jumped in the shower and used the blue Irish Spring so that my body would be fresh and clean before I went to school. While in the shower I also put shampoo in my hair so that my hair would shine and combed it after due to the fact that I let my hair grow into an afro for 2nd grade. After I was finished with my shower, I put on Cocoa Butter so that my skin would be nice and smooth, which was very important because I would be wearing a button-down shirt. I then put on baby powder so that I wouldn't sweat my nice shirt out and added body oil that smelled like cherries so that I can smell good.*

I had a special bond with this first day of school outfit because it was the first time I felt like an independent young man. As I stated earlier, I always had to make sure my parents agreed with my outfits, so it meant a lot to me for me to be able to wear what I wanted without them adding their opinions. What really made me proud and feel good, was that I got the attention of my crush in the school that year. So not only did I get to choose my own outfit, but my crush gave me my first attention due to that outfit. My second grade first day of school outfit was legendary.



Third Grade

The start of my third-grade year really brought a different kind of excitement and nervousness to me that I didn't have in the previous years. I was 7 going on 8 in the year 2004 and I was 2 years away from being in middle school. I was still attending P.S. 90 at the time, and the second and third graders shared the same entrance located on Sherman Avenue and 166th street. Being a third grader made me excited because I was now a part of the upper classman in my school, which came with a certain level of respect from the teachers and I knew I would be graduating soon, which would make my family members very proud of me. While this may be the case, it also made me nervous because I knew I would have to start over and make new friends being that everyone would be going to whatever middle school was near their houses.

I remember I literally couldn't sleep the night before the first day of school started in the third grade. I was just filled with too many kinds of emotions. I ended up just picking out my clothes while watching a movie so that I can calm down. That year, my mom bought me a navy blue Pelle-Pelle crew neck sweater, with some checkered pants. I had been working with my uncle that summer, so I bought my self some navy blue and grey sandals to go with my sweater and pants. Once it was time to get ready for school I jumped out and went *to go brush my teeth with the blue flavored Crest toothpaste, which was good for cavities and good breath.* Next, *I washed my mouth with the green Listerine which attacked the bacteria in my mouth viscously.* After *I washed my face with black soap so that my face can be smooth and shine,* especially when the light hits it. I then jumped in the shower and *used Dove vanilla soap so that my body would be clean and gave my body a nice smell.* Upon getting out the shower, *I combed my hair* so that it would be nicely put together and I wouldn't have any naps which would ruin my outfit. I then *used baby oil so for the shine it would give skin as well as the smell it left on my body.* I then *used some Muslim oil that smelled like strawberries* that I got from my mosque so that my classmates would smell me when they walked past me.

This outfit meant a lot to me because it was the first time, I had ever made my own purchase on an item that I was wearing without the help of my parents. During the summer between my second and third grade year, my uncle had me working with him in his mechanic shop and would pay me every day that I came. Through this I was able to save my own money and purchase the sandals I wanted for school. Being able to just buy something on my own made me wanted to work harder and really instilled the discipline of working for what you want instead of asking or better yet stealing, which was an activity that many kids in my neighborhood were taking part in due to the poverty rates.



Fourth Grade

Being that my third-grade year was such a growth year, I really wasn't nervous to start fourth grade. In fact, I looked forward to graduation and meeting new people. School started in September, so I was getting ready to turn 9 in a couple of months during that year in 2005. The fourth graders actually had their own separate building which was located on Mccellan and Sherman Avenue in the Bronx. I could feel myself maturing into a young man during this time and I remember just being so ready to accomplish the goals that I had set out for myself. Due to working and some of the life experiences I had encountered by this time, I was just so confident and determined to make my stamp in the world. The beginning of fourth grade, was the beginning of my journey to become successful.

I remember being extra calm during the first day of school of fourth grade. This was a first because throughout all the other years I was always either very excited, very nervous or both. That morning I woke up and *did a light workout so that my muscles could be defined*, and I would have an extra boost of energy in school. After I was done, *I brushed my teeth with Colgate for extra whitening of the teeth, cavities, and good breath*. I then *washed my face with dove face wash for the refreshment it gave my face and the smoothness it left my skin*. Next, *I took a shower with old spice body wash so that my body would be clean and the long-lasting smell it left*. The soap smell would literally stay on your body the whole day unless you started sweating. During my shower, *I then used dove shampoo on my hair so that my hair was nice and clean and had the pleasant smell of dove soap*. After my shower *I used Vaseline coco butter lotion for the smoothness it always left my skin*. I then finished off *by putting on baby powder so I wouldn't sweat and the body oil that smelled like cherries*. My outfit that year was cool to me. I had a smokey black and purple True Religion jersey to go along with the purple True Religion shorts and some black and purple Nike sandals that I had wanted for a very longtime (P.s. You can see why I decided to work out this morning, I wanted my arms to look good in the jersey).

This specific outfit was significant to me because it represented the confidence, I had in myself that year. I was willing to come to school on the first day with a jersey and not care what anyone had to say about my body being that I was very skinny at the time. This outfit allowed me to express myself in a way that I never had up until that point and I attracted people to me because they could see my confidence through my aura. Through this outfit I learned that what you wear, and body language will do all the communicating for you as far as the kind of energy you want to give off to others. Through this outfit I was able to give off a very confident and nonchalant vibe that I never did in the previous years.



Fifth Grade

The first middle school I ever attended was JHS 145, which was also located in the South Bronx of New York City. It wasn't too far from my elementary school, but it was definitely a little walk and in a whole different neighborhood. To be exact, the location of the school was on Teller Avenue and 165th street. The area of the school was worse than my elementary school and gang violence was a natural occurrence in that neighborhood and even within in the school. In fact, people were making complaints about getting robbed and beat up inside of the school. I was walking into a real war zone in 2006 and really didn't know what to expect. I just prayed for the best and hoped God answered my prayers.

The time had finally come and the first day of middle school was finally here. I remember being nervous due to the fact that I would have to start all over and make new friends again, not to mention the fact that I had heard so much negative comments about the school and its high gang activity. With all that being said I was still excited and motivated to make a fashion statement on the first day. I remember laying out my nice black, red, and white rugby sweater that had the words 'Bum' on it, my red and black pants I got from GAP, and black and red new balance sandals. I wanted to make a good first impression in school, even though I knew I was risking getting into a fight with a gang member.

That morning I brushed my teeth with the blue flavored Colgate that was good for teeth whitening and good breath. I then used Listerine so my mouth could be fresh and have a very little chance of smelling bad (Especially on the first day of school). Next, I used Cetaphil face wash so that my face would be smooth and have a nice glow to it. After I jumped in the shower and used the blue Irish Spring which really attacked the dirt on your skin and left you smelling like some fresh blue berries. Also, I used Dove Shampoo so that my hair would be clean, moisturized and have a good smell. After my shower I used my favorite lotion so my skin would be smooth and smell good, coco butter. I then used the first cologne I ever bought by Calvin Klein so that my clothes would smell good and the middle school girls would notice me. Last, but not least I used baby powder so that I wouldn't sweat my clothes out.

This outfit meant a lot to me because this was the best outfit I ever had ever worn up until this point and because I got my first compliment in middle school from a female in my grade in this outfit. I felt like I was the best dressed and when a girl from my grade told me I looked nice, my confidence went through the roof. Not to mention a lot of the guys in my class was asking me where I got my sweater from. This outfit helped me make friends fast during the time, which was what I needed being that I was in a school infested with gangs. It felt good to get acknowledgement from my peers and make the good first impression that I was aiming to make.



Sixth Grade

I ended up having a good time during my fifth-grade year. I met new people, had good grades, and became popular in school because of my basketball skills. This made me very confident and excited to start my sixth-grade year and I looked forward to having another great year. I was still attending JHS 145, which was located on 165th street and Teller Avenue in the South Bronx. Although the school was pretty much ran by the gangs that that were around the school, I became one of the few people who didn't have to worry about much because the same people who were in those gangs respected me for skills on the court. In fact, I had their protection. This was a pretty cool feeling to have in 2007 because I was totally nervous coming in as a fifth grader in 2006.

I remember waking up early that morning so I can lay my clothes out. That year I received a nice orange and white silk shirt with flowers on them as a gift and couldn't wait to wear it on the first day of school. I laid it out on my bed with some nice black and white pants I got from old navy and some orange and black sandals to match. Once I was done laying my clothes out, I went to the bathroom to start getting ready. That morning, *I brushed my teeth with ultra-whitening Colgate toothpaste, which gave my teeth the extra sparkle I needed.* Next, *I washed my face with Dove face wash so that my face would look smooth.* I then jumped in the shower *and used old spice body wash that smelled like strawberries so that my body would be nice and clean while having a nice smell to it.* After, *I used dove shampoo so that my hair would also be clean and have a nice smell.* Upon getting out of the shower *I combed my hair so that my hair would look nice and presentable.* I remember *using coco-butter that morning so that my skin would be glowing and smooth.* I then *used old spice deodorant that smelled like vanilla so my underarms would smell good* for the entire time I was in school. I then topped everything of with *my fathers Ralph Lauren cologne that smelled very good so that people would smell me when I walked past them.*

This outfit meant a lot to me because it was the first time I had ever worn a silk shirt up until that point of my life. I felt like a movie star, and I just remember all my friends and classmates telling me that I looked very nice in my clothes. Some people were even telling me that I was the best dressed in the school and I remember I just couldn't help but smile being that I like to be one of the best dressed when I actually put the effort into doing so. This outfit really helped me raise my confidence in the fashion department because it let me know I can try new types of clothes and still get a good reaction from them as long as I put the outfit together correctly.



Seventh Grade

I started my seventh-grade year in a brand-new school. It was the year 2008 and although JHS 145 was a very dangerous school, I must admit that I had some good times over there and even met some great people. My parents hated the school and really made it their business to make sure I transferred even though I wanted to stay. I had already made a lot of friends and was even popular in school, so I really didn't want to leave, but my parents insisted. So, like the old saying goes, every good thing must come to an end, and I ended up getting transferred to a private school called St. Angela Merici. This school was also located in the South Bronx of New York City, but the exact address of the school was on 164th street and Morris Avenue.

I remember being upset during the first day of school during my seventh-grade year. I was starting over at a new school and would have to be 'the new kid' all over again. I always hated the process of having to make new friends, being that you just never know a person's true intention. Nevertheless, I still had to make my fashion statement on the first day. That year I bought a purple checkered crewneck sweater with polka dots on it from Calvin Klein, some grey and white pants with stars on them from Sean John, and some purple and black sandals from Prada.

That morning I brushed my teeth with the blue flavored Crest that's good for cavities and teeth whitening. I then used the green Listerine to kill all the bacteria/germs within my mouth. Next, I used black soap for my face so that I would have that extra glow and smooth skin when I wore my clothes. After washing my face, I got in the shower and used the blue Irish Spring soap called Icy Blast for the cool refreshment it brought to the body. Next, I used dove shampoo to have my hair smelling good and feeling nice and soft. I then got out the shower and brushed my hair so I wouldn't have any naps in my hair. I then used Gillette deodorant for the fact that its strong and the smell stays the whole day even if you sweat. After, I used baby oil for the fact it left my skin nice and smooth. Last, but not least I used Versace Cologne, so I made sure I smelled good the whole day.

This outfit meant a lot to me because it served its purpose of making a good first impression at school. I remember all my classmates looking at me trying to wonder who I was, and some people gave me a compliment saying they liked my outfit. The females in my class were being nice to me and tried to help me feel comfortable on my first day of school. I was shy and my outfit made people want to be around me. I called this outfit 'the savior' being that it saved me from being bored and making some of my friends pretty quickly.



Eighth Grade

St. Angela Merici didn't end up being so bad after all and I actually had an okay time during my seventh-grade year. I can't say I liked the school more than JHS 145 because I had much more freedom to do what I wanted there, as opposed to the strict rules that come with private schools, but it was definitely a dope experience. During the start of my eighth-grade year, it was the year 2009 and St. Angela was still located on 164th Street and Morris Avenue in the gritty streets of the South Bronx. Although I preferred my old middle school over St. Angela during the time, I can honestly say it was the right move for me looking back at it now because that was the first school I attended that had structure. Students couldn't just cut classes and do whatever they wanted as opposed to JHS 145.

During the first day of school of my eighth-grade year I had mixed emotions. I was happy to see some of my new friends that I made at my new school, but I really missed my friends from my old school. Also, I knew I would be receiving a lot of work being that it was my eighth-grade year, and the teachers were preparing us for high school. With all that being said, I wanted to make a loud statement for my last first day of school in middle school. That morning I laid out my nice baby blue and white button-down shirt with flowers all over them that I got from Ralph Lauren, some black and white pants from Calvin Klein, and some baby blue and black shoes I got from Nike.

That morning I used Mint Sensodyne toothpaste that's good for teeth-whitening, sensitivity, and gums. Next, I used the Listerine to kill the bacteria in my mouth and give me a very fresh breath. After I used black soap so my face would have a nice glow to it. I then used the original dove soap for the refreshing smell it always left on my body to go along with the fact that it helped me clean up very nice. I then used Suave shampoo for my hair so that my hair would smell good and be shiny for the whole day. Next, I used Cetaphil lotion because it was good for dry skin and really brought a good glow out of your skin when used. After I used Degree deodorant for its cool rush and forty-eight-hour antiperspirant which reduces sweat. Last, but not least I used Muslim oil that smell like vanilla so that my clothes and neck would have a nice smell causing me to smell good.

This outfit really meant a lot to me because I personally think it was the best outfit I had worn up until that point of my life. Also, it was my statement outfit in school being that I would be graduating and officially be in high school the following year. This outfit signified my growth, confidence, and maturity level that I was on during that time of my life. They say Fashion can be used to express yourself and I truly believe that this outfit expressed my being to the fullest during the first day of school in 2009. This outfit allowed me to be the most confident then I had ever been at that point of my life.



Nineth Grade

Although I didn't want to attend St. Angela Merici at first, I must admit that it was the right decision at the time for me. I needed some form of structure and a good example of what it was to be a high achieving student. JHS 145 just couldn't provide that for me being that the school was so polluted by gang activity. I was able to see what a big difference a change of an environment could do so after graduating from St. Angela in June of 2010, I decided I would move to Las Vegas with my aunt for my freshman year of high school. I attended Shadow Ridge High School which was located on 5050 Brent Ln. I knew going to school in Vegas would be totally different from what I was used to being in NYC, but I was ready for the challenge.

I remember feeling so anxious on the first day of school to start my ninth grade year. Not only was I in a totally different environment then what I was used to, but I was also starting high school for the first time. I wasn't nervous because I had transferred schools a couple of times by this time of my life, but I didn't know what to expect being that I would have to adapt to the new changes in my life. I was 13 years old getting ready to turn 14 in the next couple of months and I really wanted to make a statement in the way that I dressed on the first day of school.

Upon waking up that morning, I laid out my clothes that I would be wearing to school. I had a burgundy and white t-shirt that I got from True Religion to go along with some black and white True Religion jeans. I then got some purple and black shoes from Nike to match my outfit. That morning the first thing I did was brush my teeth with extra whitening Colgate toothpaste being that the toothpaste would not only help my teeth have a good shine to it, but it was very good with killing germs in the mouth and *made my breath smell fresh*. Next, *I used Colgate Listerine so that I could make sure to kill any germs in my mouth that I might have missed while brushing my teeth*. After *I used Cetaphil Face wash so that my skin could be very smooth and would have a nice glow to it*. I then used *Irish Spring blue for the refreshing feeling it left my body and for the blueberry smell it left behind*. Next, *I used Old Spice shampoo so that my hair would be soft and smell like Vanilla*. After, *I used Vaseline Coco Butter lotion because it was good with dry skin and gave a golden look to my skin*. Next, *I used Old Spice deodorant so that my underarms would smell like strawberries*. To top it all off *I used a cologne by Versace for the nice Italian rich cherry smell it left on my body and clothes*.

This outfit meant a lot to me because I felt like I had to represent my hometown of New York City properly being that I wasn't from Las Vegas. Especially being that New York is so known for fashion. I wanted to show my peers the creativity, style, and swagger that comes out of New York City's fashion to go along with the confidence in which we wear our clothes. I felt the pressure of looking nice even more then making friends because I knew if my first impression was good, the rest would play itself out and I would attract people to me like I do in every new situation that I'm brought in.



Tenth Grade

My ninth grade year in Las Vegas was pretty dope. I made a lot of friends and had a lot of great experiences. I learned a lot of new things, but unfortunately, I decided to come back to the mecca, New York City. Although I had a good time in Vegas, I didn't like the fact that I had to depend so much on my aunt to be able to get around the city. I would have to ask her for a ride to go anywhere because the public transportation services weren't like New York's. Being a city kid, I was so used to quick public transportation as opposed to the slow services that were in Las Vegas. I literally needed a car ride to just go to the store. After going through the whole year struggling to be able to go to the places I wanted. I decided to come back to the city for my tenth-grade year. I attended Bronx Leadership Academy II in Mott Haven Campus located on 730 Concourse Village, Bronx, NY. It was the Year 2011, and I was more than happy to be returning home.

I must admit, while Las Vegas was a good experience and all, I had really missed New York City and the whole vibe that the city brings. I remember waking up for my first day of school and just feeling happy. That morning I laid out my yellow and grey long sleeve t-shirt that I got from Zara to go along with some grey checkered pants that I got from G.A.P. I then got my yellow sandals that got from adidas to match. After laying out my outfit for the day, I then went to the bathroom to get freshened up. The first thing *I did was brush my teeth with Crest Toothpaste which was good for cavities and helped your breath smell like winter fresh gum.* Next, *I washed my face with Cetaphil face wash so that the melanin on my skin would be smooth and shining.* I then *wash my body with Men's Dove body wash so that my body would smell like the peachy smell the soap left.* After washing my body, *I used Cerave moisturizing lotion so that my skin wouldn't be dry and would be glowing throughout the day.* Next, *I used Dove Men's Care deodorant so that my underarms would smell like fresh Vanilla.* I then *rubbed Muslim oil around my neck and my clothes so that I would smell like the strawberry scent that the oil left.*

This outfit was so important to me because it literally represented my mood for being back in New York city. I was wearing a bright color in yellow which represented the bright mood I was in and made a fashion statement at the same time. I remember making a couple of friends that day just because of the energy I gave off when I walked into the school. This outfit made me realize how important energy is to attracting people to you and how your energy can literally rub off on others weather good or bad.



Eleventh Grade

Once I was done with my tenth-grade year, I knew I was coming into my adult years. In two years, I would be graduating and going off to college, so I had to really buckle down with my grades and my character. Due to this realization, I decided to transfer from Bronx Leadership Academy II, which is a public school to KIPP NYC: College Prep, which is a charter school. The school was known for its success in pushing students to their full potential as well as helping their students through college whether it be through tutoring or actual financial help. The year was 2012 and the school was located on 127th street and Broadway in New York City.

I came into my eleventh-grade year with high expectations for myself. I really wanted to go to a good college, and I knew my future was in my hands. If I worked hard, I would get what I wanted, but if I didn't, I would be selling myself short, which would be very disappointing to me. I was entering yet again a brand-new school and would be forced to make new friends. When I was younger the thought of that scared me, but by the time I had gotten to eleventh grade I was so sure of myself that I really didn't care. I was in familiar territory and would initiate myself within KIPP culture by making a fashion statement on the first day of school. Here's how I did it.

On the morning of the first day of school I laid out my outfit for the day. I had gotten a very stylish zig-zag button down vest shirt from Polo to go along with some grey and white checkered jeans from Balenciaga and grey and white sandals from Nike. After laying my clothes out, I quickly rushed to the bathroom to *brush my teeth with Colgate white toothpaste so that my breath would be refreshed and my teeth would be sparkling white*. Next, *I used Crest Listerine so that I can kill off any bad germs that I couldn't catch while brushing my teeth*. I then went on to *washing my face with black soap so that my face would be smooth and glowing for the first day of school*. Next, *I used the Old Spice body wash for the great smell it left of roses on my body*, I then proceeded to *use dove shampoo to wash my hair so that my hair would be soft and smell like strawberries*. After, *I used Coco Butter lotion so that it can help my skin glow and be soft throughout the day*. Next, *I used Cartier deodorant for the rich peach smell it left my underarms*. I then *used a cologne by Prada for the Vanilla smell it left on my clothes and body*. I wanted people to be able to smell me once I walked past them.

This outfit was important to me because it really represented my growth into adult hood. Up until this point of my life I had never wore a vest t-shirt. At the time, that style wasn't really popular, and I cared about what people would say about my outfit, but this specific one I remember telling myself to just wear what I liked and that I couldn't allow people to sway my opinion on what I wanted to wear. The fact that it ended up being one of my best first day of school outfits really makes me proud because I almost didn't end up buying it because I had cared what others would say about me. This outfit allowed me to learn the importance of self-confidence and to trust myself more than I trusted others.



Twelfth Grade

The beginning of my twelfth-grade year sort of came with mixed emotions. I was excited that I was getting ready to finally move on with my life and set out on my journey for success. Although I didn't really know what I wanted to do, I did know that I wanted to become a millionaire and I was ready to go through what ever obstacle that came. Yet, in the same breath not knowing what I wanted to do and that the road to prosperity would be very hard really made me nervous. I honestly didn't really know how to feel. I just knew that I would have to take my work ethic to another level. It was 2013 and I was still attending KIPP NYC: College prep, making it the first high school that I had actually attended for at least 2 years. Only thing is that the school moved from Manhattan to the Bronx to begin my senior year. The exact location of the school was 201 E 144th street.

On the morning for the first day of school to start my freshman year I woke up really calm and I really felt a chapter of my life closing and a new one ready to begin. Being that I knew this would be my last first day of school in which I would be considered a minor and of high school, I really wanted to make a serious fashion statement to represent my maturity and growth. Once I woke up, I laid out my clothes for the day. I had a long sleeve baby blue shirt with black signs that I thought represented royalty and status from Moncler, baby blue pants with diamond shaped objects on them from G-Star and baby blue sandals that I got from new balance.

The first thing I did that morning was brush my teeth with Crest Whitening toothpaste that was very good for whitening teeth and helping cavities. The toothpaste had this pleasant blueberry smell that made my breath smell good. Next, I rinsed my mouth with Crest Listerine so that it would kill all the germs in my mouth and also give my breath a refreshing smell. After I washed my face with dove face wash so that my face can be smooth and have the special glow that has my melanin skin shining. I then used Irish Spring soap due to the special clean feeling it left my body and the fresh scent Irish Spring leaves behind. Next, I used Coco Butter so that my skin would be nice and smooth for the day. Also, Coco Butter leaves your skin well moisturized for the entire day and really helps with dry skin. Once I was done with that, I used Degree deodorant due to the fact that it has a strong pleasant smell that stays on you the whole day and is very good for sweat. Finally, I used a cologne by Polo Ralph Lauren that smelled like cherries so that I would smell good for entire day.

This outfit was important to me because it was my last first day of school outfit of my high school career. I am very big on fashion statements, so I wanted an outfit that would represent my growth, maturity, and style for my last first day of school outfit in high school. Another reason this outfit was so important to me was because it was the first time I would be returning to the same school for the school year and I wanted to really out due myself from the previous year.



Freshman Year of College

Entering college for the first time brought me a great sense of joy especially knowing that I was the first person in my household to achieve that goal. Not to mention I went away to college so really being in a position where I was on my own for the very first time added some more to the excitement. I attended The College at Brockport for my freshman year, which was located on 350 New Campus Drive, Brockport, NY. It was 2014 and I had just graduated from high school a couple of months earlier. I was super excited for the first day of college.

I remember waking up in my dorm room for the first day of college and just being happy to start my new journey. I woke up nice and early and laid my outfit for my day on my bed. I had a burgundy and white crew neck sweater that I got from Prada, to go along with some grey Balenciaga jeans and some pink Balenciaga shoes to match my sweater. I then headed to the bathroom freshen up. The first thing I did was *brush my teeth with some extra whitening Colgate toothpaste that would shine my teeth and was good with cavities*. I then *rinsed my mouth with some Listerine cool mint so that it would kill of the bad germs in my mouth and leave the cool mint smell on my breath*. I then *used black soap to wash my face so that it would take of any dirt that was there and leave my face as smooth as a newborn babies' feet*. I then *used Dove body soap so that my body would be clean and have the fresh vanilla smell that dove soap leaves behind*. Next, *I used Old Spice Shampoo so that my hair would be fresh and smell like rose pedals*. After, *I put on Cetaphil lotion so that my skin wouldn't be dry and have my melanin skin glowing and looking nice under my clothes*. I then *put on Degree deodorant for the long-lasting smell and the good fight it puts up against sweat*. Finally, *I used Chanel Cologne for the rich smell it left on clothes even days after using the cologne*.

This outfit was important to me because it was my first outfit that I had worn in college, and I actually met my first girlfriend in college due to the outfit and my cologne. I remember she told me I smelled good when I walked past her and even asked for the name of my cologne. One thing led to the next and we ended up going on a date. I was so surprised she spoke to me first being that a lot of pretty girls tend to wait for guys to speak to them first. Thanks to my outfit and cologne I was able to get her to speak to me first and ended up with her being my girlfriend. So yea, this outfit holds sentimental value to me because it was my first outfit and it led me to my first girlfriend in college.



Sophomore Year of College

I had so much fun during my freshman year of college that I honestly couldn't wait to come back for my sophomore year. I really enjoyed my new found freedom that I had being away at school and I made a lot of friends that were both upper classman and underclassman and was actually pretty popular among my peers. The best part about my freshman year was that although I was having a lot of fun, I was still able to maintain a passing GPA, which was kind of hard at The College at Brockport. It was 2015 and the school was still located on 350 New Campus Drive. Coming back the following year, I had to make a statement showing growth not only in my character, but in the way that I dressed. Realizing how important first impressions were throughout my time in school, I wanted to make a good one to my new classmates and teachers.

On the morning of my first day of school I woke up early to make sure my clothes were properly organized. I carefully laid out my white and green crew neck sweater from Moncler to go along with my black and white G-Star jeans and some fresh green and black exclusive Jordan's that I got from Footlocker. I then headed to the bathroom to refresh myself. The first thing I did was *brush my teeth with Crest blueberry toothpaste so that my teeth would be properly cleaned and smell like fresh blueberries. I then rinsed my mouth with Crest Listerine so that my mouth would be refreshed and all the germs in my mouth would be killed. I then washed my face with Cetaphil face wash so that my face would be soft, smooth and would have that glow when I walked into the classroom. I then jumped in the shower and used Dove soap for the fresh feeling it left your body when you were done showering and would leave your body smelling like fresh flowers. After, I shampooed my hair with Old Spice so that my hair would smell fresh peaches and be clean for the first day of school. Next, I used Degree deodorant so that the fresh smell of Vanilla would stay on me for the whole day. Lastly, I used the Sauvage cologne by Dior so that I would smell rich for the entire day.*

This outfit was important to me because it was my last first day of school outfit that I would wear while attending The College at Brockport. I'm so happy that my last impression was my best impression being that I felt like that was the best outfit I had worn while going to school there. Another reason this outfit was so important to me was because it was my most expensive, I had ever worn up until that point. I was just so happy that it came together the way that it did. I got a lot of compliments.



Author Biography



The author Omar Touray is from the South Bronx of New York City and is the oldest of 5 children. He grew up in a very ruthless environment and had to learn to fend for himself. Since a child he's had to earn everything he has worked for so that he can provide for him and his family. This book illustrates that hard work as he has spent countless hours working on this book trying to perfect it for his audience. Through all of his life struggles he still managed to graduate from New York City College of Technology with his bachelor's in Business and Technology of Fashion with a 3.1 GPA and is now a very successful businessman as well as investor. He owns a couple apartment complexes, houses and is very successful in investing in cryptocurrency.