**Using Hip Hop to Conquer Tragedy**

Life is unpredictable and adversity is an unfortunate part of it. This is one thing that unites us all and all of us try to make sense of difficulty in various ways. Many of us pursue various vices, others holdfast to their faith, but all of us can say that music has a way of touching our soul in ways that words cannot. Thus is the purpose of Bobby Blaze's new album "The Prodigal Son".

Bobby has been a hip hop artist and lyricist for well over a decade with mixtapes and solo albums but none have been quite as unique as this latest project. "Each track has its own story" Bobby explained, "This album is the culmination of hardships and about the journey to overcome." With ten years in the making, mostly through firsthand experience, Bobby shares his personal struggles and foundations of his faith like few artists have before.

After losing a few childhood friends from the opioid crisis that continues to plague our nation, Bobby put his pain on the song "Wear Me Down" in the hopes that others who struggle with addiction, or have loved ones that do, can find the strength to overcome before it is too late. It is also no secret that our world is constantly plagued by pandemics, protests and persecution as society seeks to find a reason for it all. With the state of the world this day in age, Bobby addresses that very issue with the song "Answer 2 The Pain" with hopes to bring clarity to the calamity we all experience each day.

Through divorce, addiction and loss of loved ones that we have all endured (some more than others) we can all find common ground through tragedy. The key is to persevere through the mishaps of life just as it is elaborated through the collaboration on this album with the same title and featuring the producers/songwriters Tone Jonez & Aaron S. So as you listen to Bobby's testimony, always remember you are not alone. The intent of this whole album is to give comfort and strength to those of us who need it most. There will always be a brighter day and it's always okay to pray.

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