

A Tale of a Ghetto Grocery Bag

An interview with fast food critic Daym Drops

By Robert Delwood



Daymon Scott Patterson is not your typical food critic. He reviews fast food, does so in his car, and works without a script. He's better known as Daym Drops, and is an Internet sensation appearing with Rachel Ray, Dr. Oz, a show on the Travel Channel, as well as his own YouTube channel.

You instantly notice he's a big person. Literally, standing at 6'5" and 325+ pounds, he towers over everyone in the room, and barely fits into his car; his head keep hitting the roof. His deep booming voice demands attention And figuratively, too. If those don't get your attention, he'll be the one holding a phone and streaming live. I met him while he was a guest at GameCon, a Mind Craft centered

convention in Galveston, Texas. As part of the show he had been asked to review a meal from WhatABurger, a popular southern hamburger fast food chain. He doesn't have an off button and during the interview, I appeared on *his* show, hold up his live streaming camera in an unexpected role reversal.

It's his opinions that make him famous. He reviews fast food, anything from a corner drive through to chain stores, and local eateries. Burgers are his specialty. In his now famous Five Guys Burgers review (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGkHRa64sDY>), he begins with reviewing the bag itself, a big brown sack he calls a "ghetto grocery bag." "There's nothing on the bag whatsoever, it's a very plain bag, filled with a couple grease stains letting you know how official and fattening the food is for you." From there he comments on everything for the fries, and yes, they have to be in the bag and not separate to get the full taste, bacon, lettuce, buns, meat, and the complete burger. He doesn't like tomatoes or lettuce, referring to it as "crunchy water." But you forget about the food because he's so damn amusing and funny. His style is blunt, colorful, and street. His Super Official Food Reviews series is brought to us by GNN, the Ghetto News Network. What little we don't get from his talk he completes with his rich set of expressions, his *mmmm*'s of goodness, and wide eyes that you think will roll out. Watching his videos without sound is fun. He also looks a lot like Shaquille O'Neal.

His rise, meteoric even in the Internet age, was not by chance. He had been a car salesman in Hartford, Connecticut, when he started his video reviews. The informal style, just him holding a camera at arm's reach, is unscripted and unsponsored. His channel was getting followers, about 5000, when he was mentioned on Reddit for that Five Guys Burgers review. Within weeks he hit 100,000 and got noticed by Rachel Ray. She invited him to review one of her own burgers (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7UqSELnppsY>). The two barely fit in his car. After the show broadcast in 2011, he quit his salesman job. "That was the last time I had a real job," Daym Drops told me. From there, his popularity and scope just increased. Since 2013, he's had his own show on the Travel Channel called Best Daym Takeout, reviewing American food, still while in his car. All through this, he maintains his YouTube channel. He is objective and doesn't change reviews even through sponsorship. When asked by a company to review their product, he now charges half up front. The company may review the episode beforehand and choose to allow it, paying the remaining half, or decline it but without a refund.



His popularity comes with some controversy, too. His style was considered indulgent, excessive, and a bad role model for his target audience. He once wanted to review Wendy's T-Rex burger, a nine patty behemoth, and shocked it wasn't sold any more. He solved that problem by building his own T-Rex Death Burger with 15 patties. We found out that he could only bite seven at one time. He admitted becoming overweight, topping out at 400lbs, with the imminent birth of his first grandchild. This made him face not only his own mortality but also that he wanted to run and play with them as he had with his own children. He dialed back on the excess and trimmed down, even appearing on Dr. Oz Show to discuss his concerns

and to demonstrate healthier fast good.

His advice to other YouTubers is to produce episodes on a regular basis. His own were on Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and he kept to that at best he could. "Stay loyal to YouTube no matter. They're going to remember what you do," he explains.