

## Course: HN330

### Transcript - Tammy's Story II – 2013 Update (People Like Us #12)

[https://youtu.be/cqs4\\_Zs2Gvl](https://youtu.be/cqs4_Zs2Gvl)

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*Matt*

I am embarrassed a bit about living here the trailer in the yard and stuff that's all messed up. Mom likes the place I like the place a little bit too but I don't. I don't like want all my friends and stuff to know where I live at cause their like class up from us and stuff.

*Tammy*

This is my living room. He does clean house when I'm at work. He try to help out and everything. But things I don't like him to move things where I can't find them.

I was on welfare eighteen years and now I work at Burger King and it aint my fault because I'm poor. I growed up poor. My dad worked hard. He worked years as a county engineer trying to make a living for 22 kids and uh, it aint easy. I was proud of my dad. He'd be proud me now, yah know, for just trying.

I walk to work 10 1/2 half miles cause I don't have a car, don't have a license. Even when I'm walking the work or something, someone will holla out "Hey trashy bitch. What are you doing?" I'm just walking to work.

My friends think I should stay at home, take care of my kids and draw welfare. I don't know. That aint me. I'm hoping to go to college and be a school teacher. That was my goal from the time I was 5 years old up till now.

Well uh, way uh I look at it, that I should have something better. A better house, you know. I don't wanna look like I'm put back. I wanna look like I am getting ahead you know, trying to get ahead. I may not have much money but I keep a roof over my head keep my bills paid. I don't ask for help you know. I don't go around saying, "Hey man you got five dollars I can get?" I don't do that cause I know how hard it is to have a little bit of money you know.

But I think I am doing pretty good. I'm still working at Burger King. Only 20 miles walk from here. Everybody looking, well she's still walking some, not as much. There is time I just like to walk just to get things out my head. I feel like I'm free when I'm walking yah know. I feel like a bird that just been turn loose out a cage. That's what I feel sometimes yah know, other times...

*Matt*

I'm embarrassed by my mom because she wears that Burger King outfit every day.

*Tammy*

No, I don't.

*Matt*

I have never seen her go to a really nice restaurant and not wear that Burger King outfit. It's either the shirt or the pants or it's both. She wears it constantly. It's different outfits but the same damn outfits. Sorry, I know I shouldn't have used that word.

*Tammy*

Matt thinks he's different class. He's in the same class I'm in but he's just trying to prove to his friends that he's in their class. But, I know different.

*Matt*

I'm going to go to college for like lawyer you've got to go for four to six years. But, I'm going to go for the four basic things. Architectural design only takes two years of college so I might go down here to Shawnee or Hocking College. Somewhere around the area to get school. I know I aint no Harvard material or anything like that but.

When you're young, you're immature. As you get older you realize what you can do and can't do. I did not finish college or high school. I only had 6 months of high school left. I had my daughter and mom said that I had to figure out a way to take care of her, buy diapers and stuff. My only option was I could keep going to school and do what I was supposed to or I could step up and be a real man and take care of my kid. I probably could have did both but back then I wanted one or the other. And I wanted my family so I did that. If I look back on it now, would I change it yes but you can't change the past, all you can do is hope for a better future.

*Matt*

This is my brother Bo. He dresses like this compared to this and I don't like how he dresses. Cause that's why I don't hang out with him; I don't talk about him or anything. People will say he's my brother and I'm like, "No, no." But, when he dresses better and stuff, I'll walk around with him. Me and my friend over here, me and Josh, the only way we walk around with him is if he starts looking good and we help him dress good and comb his hair and like make him look better.

*Narrator*

Working now?

*Bo*

Naw, I'm outta working right now. I was self-employed doing roofs, subcontracting on roofs but I've been laid off for whatever 2 years now, going on 2 years so but I'll get back in there eventually.

*Narrator*

So why were you laid off? You worked really hard (mumbled).

*Bo*

No uh actually, to be honest with you I got into drugs real bad and I put the drugs before the work. Didn't show up for work, I was doing the drugs.

*Narrator*

Were you able to stop that little problem?

*Bo*

Yes, I stopped that problem.

*Narrator*

How did you do that?

*Bo*

With my mom's help and all the support around me. I mean, I got my family, I got to think about them first. That's my number one priority.

*Tammy*

Aye, bring him here. You wanna pray with Grandma? Let's pray with Grandma. That is grandma's boy. So what are they doing grandma? You're getting on camera. Oh, aint that so pretty? Give him a big smile. Give him a big, there we go. That grandma's boy.

I am proud of me cause I'm gonna achieve my goal before I drop dead, whatever, you know. That's what I want to do. I make \$7.85 an hour.

*Narrator*

That's minimum wage.

*Tammy*

Yeah, but I should be making almost nine dollars but they wouldn't give me the raise like they did a lot of them.

*Matt*

May I ask like do you think that you gonna fulfill your dream? I said you're getting up in age, you're getting brittle, you had heart attacks. Um do I believe she will? I said no. I think that she will retire from Burger King. Honest to God, uh but uh I do believe that you do got hopes and dreams and you hang on to them

as hard as you can and you do want that but do. I believe that you are going to do it, no.

*Tammy*

Well we'll have a big surprise. Mom gonna do it. I want to make a better life for me (mumbling). I want to be that teacher I want to be and this job is like tying me all up and I can't get there. I get so frustrated and sometimes I say I hate my life. I don't know if anybody else felt like that before the way I have felt. But I just want to be on top of the world, sometimes not down here. I want to be so high up.