

[00:00:00.00] Faith Hogg: Good Morning Tobi, so tell me a little bit about yourself

[00:00:06.21] Tobi Abolade: I'm a senior here at Loyola. I'm a Psychology major and as of this year I'm also a music industry minor... So I'm actually going to end up graduating a year later because I want to finish my minor before I get up out of here. So like as a recently I've started being a music producer... So that's you know that's one of my passions now so...that's pretty much it

[00:00:38.16] Faith Hogg: Okay so...You worked for UberEats and DoorDash, right?

[00:00:42.22] Tobi Abolade: I worked for Uber UberEats and DoorDash. I um I don't work for Uber anymore... I'm still technically um I'm still technically an employee for DoorDash I just haven't done it in a while but yeah.

[00:01:03.23] Faith Hogg: So just tell why you started for Uber... So wait did you work UberEats, Uber, and DoorDash at the same time or like...

[00:01:19.20] Tobi Abolade: I started with DoorDash. I did Uber Eats for a little while just because like you know... it's different for each area you live in so I wasn't really making much money off off of UberEats. I was mainly

doing DoorDash then I decided to just hop on Uber like actual Uber and I was making ridiculous money so I stayed doing that for a while. Then I quit doing that, and I started doing DoorDash again over the summer.

[00:01:54.10] Faith Hogg: Do you live in New Orleans or...

[00:01:57.03] Tobi Abolade: I mean technically yeah I have an apartment over here. I guess I live both here and Montgomery, Alabama.

[00:02:03.03] Faith Hogg: Did you grow up in New Orleans?

[00:02:05.05] Tobi Abolade: No, I grew up in Montgomery Alabama.

[00:02:07.07] Faith Hogg: Okay, then moved here for school?

[00:02:08.14] Tobi Abolade: Uh huh

[00:02:10.06] Faith Hogg: So you started with UberEats, right?

[00:02:13.16] Tobi Abolade: DoorDash

[00:02:15.02] Faith Hogg: What was that process like applying and starting...

[00:02:19.09] Tobi Abolade: Oh it took like an hour. It's very very simple to just go put in your just give them your driver's license info... give them your insurance, registration all that stuff. They do a quick background check, it takes like 20 seconds, and you're good to go. It's very very simple, straightforward.

[00:02:42.18] Faith Hogg: so when you started DoorDash did you start in New Orleans or Montgomery?

[00:02:46.12] Tobi Abolade: I started in Montgomery.

[00:02:48.12] Faith Hogg: So do you find it easier...What motivated you to go from DoorDash to Uber and UberEats

[00:02:56.10] Tobi Abolade: I wanted more money.

[00:02:58.01] Faith Hogg: What was that experience like in Montgomery? Did you feel like it was very successful in Montgomery?

[00:03:03.09] Tobi Abolade: It was successful enough in Montgomery. I mean people don't really use those kind of services like that, but I was making enough money I guess

that makes sense. Like...I was able to make a pretty decent amount of money for myself.

[00:03:23.05] Faith Hogg: Do you feel like when you do it in New Orleans that you make more money?

[00:03:27.19] Tobi Abolade: um with DoorDash kind of the same. Uber I made...Like I made a lot of money doing Uber over here. Especially because I started at the beginning of the year. I was doing it during Mardi Gras. I was doing it during...you know...during all the parades and all that kind of stuff. So...I was making between 1500 and 2K a week.

[00:03:56.17] Faith Hogg: What...When did you exactly start with like the whole DoorDash and Uber, like give me a timeline.

[00:04:06.03] Tobi Abolade: I started December of last year, like the end of December.

[Wind]

[00:04:20.03] Faith Hogg: So, going back to pay and all that do you feel like it satisfied like your financial needs?

[00:04:25.07] Tobi Abolade: Oh 1000%, yeah.

[00:04:27.21] Faith Hogg: Do you feel like it was something that went up and down as far as financial...

[00:04:33.17] Tobi Abolade: I mean...I mean for Uber a little bit but even on like a bad day I was still making...you know a lot of money. Like a bad day would be like maybe like between a hundred and two...I mean between 100 and 200 a day.

[00:04:50.03] Faith Hogg: And then what was a good day like?

[00:04:52.05] Tobi Abolade: Oh like 400, 500 maybe 600.

[00:04:55.19] Faith Hogg: Did you do that like every single day or...

[00:04:57.07] Tobi Abolade: Yeah I did it every day. If I wasn't in class I was in the car.

[00:05:02.19] Faith Hogg: Do you feel like that worked very well with your schedule of being a college student?

[00:05:06.02] Tobi Abolade: Oh yeah.

[00:05:06.11] Faith Hogg: So just run me through like a typical day of once you open the app and you start taking

orders and stuff like that until when you finish...what does that process look like?

[00:05:20.04] Tobi Abolade: Let's see so when I was doing it let's see...I'm trying to think back...how my schedule was during that time. It's actually pretty pretty chill. What I would do...I would start typically around maybe like 11 in the morning. I would just open the app...usually within maybe two minutes of opening it I would get orders so I would immediately just you know...and once it started it just was continuous. I would usually get a request to while I was in the middle of one. ...It was...very demanding but it was you know like...once you get to work it doesn't stop until you stop. ...I would just...sometimes I took people to Slidell, sometimes I took people to Kenner, I took a lot...I did a lot of airport trips; those ones, they usually paid a lot of money. And then like I said during Mardi Gras...the prices skyrocketed because you know people came in from all over trying to get orders and stuff like that. ... During the school week...like I said if I wasn't in class I would literally just be in the car because my schedule was spread out enough to where I had long breaks between classes. I would just leave class, hop in the car, do some work for maybe like an hour or two, go back to class, ...go back in the car and just drive around.

[00:07:07.04] Faith Hogg: Now that I kind of got a gist of

what that work was like from day to day, what was like the best part of doing that work?

[00:07:20.09] Tobi Abolade: I mean honestly...I like just driving around listening to music so just getting paid to do it really.

[00:07:27.00] Faith Hogg: So what was that experience like, especially as a college student? Having different type of people in your car, having those conversations, what was that experience like?

[00:07:34.23] Tobi Abolade: Um...It was very interesting, I'll say. um I meet a lot of different people over here. It was...usually never a dull moment when I was working... especially during Mardi Gras. It was crazy during that but...it was a lot of fun just talking to people. ...you know I would...I've had immigrants. I've had people from you know. I've had other college students. I've had you know people from all backgrounds.

[00:08:24.05] Faith Hogg: So with that being...one question...I know I usually ask this to like my Lyft and Uber drivers. What was you like your craziest night as far as doing Uber and DoorDash, craziest experience

[00:08:36.02] Tobi Abolade: Craziest experience...this

going on Youtube, right

[00:08:45.04] Faith Hogg: It won't be open to the public so [laughs] ...it's on a private channel.

[00:08:49.10] Tobi Abolade: okay okay uh crazy experience I have I know exactly which was it is...um should I tell this story?

[00:08:59.07] Faith Hogg: Go ahead tell it...nobody else gone see it, but me and my class

[00:09:02.00] Tobi Abolade: All right um so...I was doing orders and what happened was...I went to pick up or...I went to the spot to pick up my customer and there was this lady there. She made eye contact with me since as soon as I got there. She was the only person that was visible, like in the area, and as soon as she saw me she picked up a bag walked towards the car. Now granted, I should have confirmed who it was um...so this is a thousand percent my fault. I should have confirmed who it was. The only reason I didn't is because she was the only one there and as soon as she saw me she came towards me so I just assumed that it was her because why else would she come to the car. So she hops in the car, we're driving about two minutes. I get a call um and I answer the phone the person's like "why does it say I'm in the car with

you when I'm not". And I was like uh I don't know why it says that. I was like uh hold on let me let me let me figure this out, I'm gonna call you right back. I hang up the phone. The lady in the car with me goes, "so where we going?" I was like "what the hell you mean where are we going? I thought I thought I was taking some nail salon." And she goes, "nah I thought you was going on a date." I slam on the brakes, this is the first time I've ever cursed out a grown ass adult. I was like yo get the [__] out of my car. Like...I was so angry...I was like yo...what are you doing in my car. She got out the car. I called the woman back and I was like "yo listen, I'm so sorry there was a mix-up...somebody hopped in my car. I'm so sorry about that. I'm still close by where you are so I can come get you...I'll make sure and get a refund for that just so you know..." She thought it was hilarious. ...Yeah no, I picked her up. I explained the situation to her. And here's what she says, like as soon as I explain the whole situation, she goes, "oh yeah you picked up a prostitute there's a whole bunch in this area."

[00:11:32.00] Faith Hogg: [laughs] Was this in New Orleans?

[00:11:35.05] Tobi Abolade: Yeah, crazy part is it's in the area I live in

[00:11:37.07] Faith Hogg: Oh, what part of New Orleans is that...

[00:11:38.22] Tobi Abolade: ...I live on Tulane Avenue

[00:11:41.00] Faith Hogg: [laughs]

[00:11:42.08] Tobi Abolade: That's where that happened on Tulane Avenue. I live like two minutes away from that area.

[00:11:48:02] Faith Hogg: What's crazy about it is, no like initial contact..

[00:11:54.11] Tobi Abolade: On God, yeah on God, nah cause like why else would you come to my car.

[00:12:00.04] Faith Hogg: That's definitely a crazy story. Was not expecting that...so with experiences like that and of course being a college student, being in a city like New Orleans...what were some things you had to do to practice safety and being cautious...

[00:12:16.02] Tobi Abolade: ...I don't know, I guess being a guy is a little bit different. I've talked to a lot of, you know because, I have college students a lot or I would have a lot of college students as passengers. And you know like some of them would be girls and I'd be like "yo this is like,

I make a lot of money doing this, you should hop on this too.” They would be like you know they would you be like “oh yeah but you know I’m a girl and I don’t want to be around strangers and stuff like that.” So you know I guess for me...I didn’t really have to worry that much about safety...but you know...one thing, I didn’t like people sitting next to me. That was...just a personal thing. I don’t like having strangers sit next to me, so I would always have people sit in the back seat. And the good thing about my car is I have seven seats in my car so I have a second row and a third row. So if I had a big group of people, I’ll usually just be like yo just put up the third row...I’ll put up the third row so y’all can sit up there because I want to sit next to me. That’s usually...that’s really the only thing, and also at night I would make sure to, like I double down on making sure...whoever is hopping in my car is who they say they are...during the day, I don’t know, I guess...I wasn’t as worried about it. But especially at night like I made sure...I had to make sure like this is not just some random person, but apart from that I didn’t really worry that much about safety...and thankfully I didn’t have any dangerous situations happen to me so...

[00:13:59.00] Faith Hogg: Besides the prostitute.

[00:13:59.21] Tobi Abolade: besides yeah...yeah...yeah [laughs]

[00:14:05.06] Faith Hogg: That's weird because normally when I get Lyft and Ubers, I go straight to the back seat. So did you have...was it common for you to have a lot of people who wanted to sit in the front seat...

[00:14:13.05] Tobi Abolade: Oh yeah, all the time.

[00:14:14.00] Faith Hogg: What was that conversation like?

[00:14:16.13] Tobi Abolade: I would just be like nah. I would literally just point to the back seat be like nah just shake my head, just point to the back seat. I had a couple people be like oh why can't I sit up front...the good thing about it is that during most of the time that I was doing it Uber, it was...still a whole lot of COVID guidelines. So even the COVID guidelines stated you were not supposed to sit in the front seat, so you know when people would ask me oh why can't I sit up there, I'll just be like that's that's...Uber's policy which it was at the time. And even when they got rid of that policy I still told people I don't want you to sit in the front seat.

[00:14:51.00] Faith Hogg: So did you have any... tough clients...

[00:14:54.04] Tobi Abolade: oh yeah

[00:14:55.19] Faith Hogg: Tell me a story about some tough clients you had..

[00:14:58.08] Tobi Abolade: I mean I had somebody try to tell me to go a different route to go somewhere. I have people trying to...I would have people criticize me for the music I was listening to...stuff like that. I try to always be respectful, so I didn't really, I would never really argue with the with the passenger. But I did have...I've definitely had some...difficult people come in the car with me...try to ask me to do all kind of extra stuff...

[00:15:44.14] Faith Hogg: On the flip side of that, did you have...nice customers? Did you have customers that were talkative...

[00:15:52.04] Tobi Abolade: um oh yeah yeah yeah

[00:15:51.21] Faith Hogg: ...That probably offered you other opportunities...what was that experience like?

[00:15:56.12] Tobi Abolade: Oh I mean..those are my favorite type of customers...people that...are talkative love to have conversations and stuff like that. Now me personally once it gets to night time...I'm not really trying

to talk that much, you know I'm tired, I'm just trying to you know work and just go to the next person. So at night I tend to... not want to...be as conversational but...during the daytime...when I would have...talkative customers... those were always enjoyable experiences. Shoot, I had somebody send me a hundred dollar bill one time, I have people do all kinds of stuff like that so...

[00:16:44.14] Faith Hogg: ...What made you...what made you stop doing Uber?

[00:16:52.17] Tobi Abolade: I just did not have...time.

[00:16:56.03] Faith Hogg: Do you feel like uh it's something that you would go back to if you had the time?

[00:16:59.00] Tobi Abolade: Oh yeah, 100%

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[00:17:10.09] Faith Hogg: I know whenever I go into a job, I usually have like some type of expectation of...what I expect to get out of the job as far as like experiences, financial needs, all of those things. Do you feel like working for Uber, UberEats, and DoorDash fulfilled...your expectations as an employee?

[00:17:29.20] Tobi Abolade: yeah...100%

[00:17:31.08] Faith Hogg: What were some of your... expectations and motivations for working for those companies?

[00:17:37.18] Tobi Abolade: I mean honestly I didn't really have that many expectations. Really, I was just in it to just make easy quick money and that's exactly what that was. So it was...I mean I got everything I expected out of...it was...it's those type of jobs are very straightforward. It's not you know...I knew I would have tough customers...I knew I would...have some crazy experiences every now and then, you know those happened of course. So...it's pretty straightforward like there's nothing too out of the ordinary.

[00:18:19.08] Faith Hogg: ...Which app do you feel like was easier to use as far being an employee...

[00:18:26.02] Tobi Abolade: Uber

[00:18:28.09] Faith Hogg: What made Uber the easiest app to use?

[00:18:31.06] Tobi Abolade: I mean...I don't know how to describe it...you didn't really have to like search to find

stuff like everything you needed was right there in front of you...it wasn't really like any like hidden stuff...they would always update you on...features or...if they added like a new feature...they would let you know what it was, how to use it, all that type of stuff you know. So...that's why I definitely enjoyed it.

[00:19:27.13] Faith Hogg: So what was that experience like with DoorDash?

[00:19:32.01] Tobi Abolade: DoorDash...it's also pretty easy...it becomes a problem when...the app crashes because sometimes it does do that. And then you...don't have a way to contact your customer...and then...you're stuck trying to get in touch with...DoorDash support...you know you're on the phone with other people, you're just trying to you know...so sometimes that was really annoying. But as far as DoorDash it was also pretty straightforward...you would go online. Now over here...since a lot of people do DoorDash...you can't always just go online when you want to. You've got to schedule a time...now where I live you don't really have to do that as much. But over here since everybody does DoorDash you have to do that. A lot of times it will not just let you hop online whenever because they want to give everybody a chance to make a decent amount of money. So...you go on there and you schedule a time, say like you want to

work from like 5 P.M to 8pm, it'll let you know if that time's available and if it is then you know you can set that schedule. And then...it'll give you a notification about a half hour before your shift starts saying hey just we're... here to remind you that your shift starts in a half hour that type of stuff. So...that's the difference between DoorDash and Uber.

[00:21:33.22] Faith Hogg: Do you feel like that contributed to why you couldn't make as much money when on DoorDash?

[00:21:38.05] Tobi Abolade: that and also...doordash itself just doesn't pay you as much.

[00:21:45.19] Faith Hogg: ...What's the breakdown of pay like the difference of the breakdown of pay with Uber and DoorDash?

[00:21:51.13] Tobi Abolade: ...A good day for DoorDash for me would be like a hundred dollars. A good day for Uber would be like 500...

[00:22:08.23] Faith Hogg: ...I know there's like delivery fees...

[00:22:13.09] Tobi Abolade: Yeah the the delivery fees

really ain't that much...it really ain't...they'll send you all the way across town and they'll pay you three dollars

[00:22:29.08] Faith Hogg: Does UberEats do that too?

[00:22:31.20] Tobi Abolade: UberEats does pay better. It's just...once I started doing Uber itself, I really didn't feel the need to do delivery services, but Uber Eats does pay better than DoorDash.

[00:22:48.10] Faith Hogg: How does UberEats pay better because I know from...my experience...

[00:22:51.20] Tobi Abolade: It just...it just gives you more money.

[00:22:57.00] Faith Hogg: I know from experience being a customer of UberEats, using it from time to time...the delivery fee will be like 99 Cents. So...with Uber... whenever somebody catches a ride with Uber and you take it, do you get like all of that money for the ride do you get a percentage of it...how does that work?

[00:23:19.05] Tobi Abolade: Okay so Uber tells you right off the Jump how much we're going to make off that ride. I don't see what they pay and they don't see what I make. So those are two different things, what they pay and what I get are two completely different things.

[00:23:40.07] Faith Hogg: so on average if you had to drive somebody like let's say...10 miles away, it was like... 15 20 minute ride...how much would you make?

[00:23:54.06] Tobi Abolade: It could be like \$15 \$20. Airport instant twenty dollars at least sometimes more... but usually those types of trips between \$15 \$20.

[00:24:09.17] Faith Hogg: ...Are you still heavily relying on Uber and DoorDash as your main source of income?

[00:24:21.10] Tobi Abolade: ...not really...I mean...I made a lot of money off of it so I'm chillin' as far as money right now so I don't...like if I need to go back to it I can but as of now I'm not...it's way more than enough.

[00:24:42.03] Faith Hogg: So do you have another job or you just like...

[00:24:43.17] Tobi Abolade: No...as of right now I'm way too busy

[00:24:49.23] Faith Hogg: That's good, that's cool, it set you up. Do you feel like it set you up in good spot financially to where you could be able...

[00:24:55.08] Tobi Abolade: As of...yeah...but honestly I don't think there's a better college job.

[00:25:02.04] Faith Hogg: What would you recommend... to other college students looking to go into this type of work?

[00:25:06.20] Tobi Abolade: Just do it

[00:25:09.00] Faith Hogg: What do you have for like tips and tricks for...the best ways to make money...especially being in New Orleans, like the best times, the best areas to go to...

[00:25:16.09] Tobi Abolade: Oh...well...I don't...I guess it...I mean it depends on the day...weekends you make a lot of money. Weekends are definitely the most lucrative as far as money...then during the week...I would say the nighttime. The night time during during the week is when you make money. I made a lot of money at night... sometimes I wouldn't get home until three in the morning. And then uh especially during the early months of the year...you'll be extremely busy like in a 12 hour span one night during Mardi Gras I made \$600.

[00:26:21.15] Faith Hogg: Wow...with being a college student...how did you find it best to balance...in terms of

having class and...

[00:26:30.21] Tobi Abolade: My schedule was really nice...I think my earliest class was like 12 in the morning or I mean...12 noon. So it was...I didn't really have to worry that much about...getting home late because I knew I'd have time to sleep.

[00:26:46.08] Faith Hogg: Do you feel like it worked like you were able to balance it with...homework and stuff like that...

[00:26:52.02] Tobi Abolade: Yeah

[00:26:53.11] Faith Hogg: Do you feel like time management was really important for that aspect of it?

[00:26:56.20] Tobi Abolade: Yeah and you make...so much money that...during a short amount of time that, even if you don't work for like a while you know when you go back to...you know you'll basically go back to making like a whole bunch of stuff. The money's always going to be there, so you know...there's not much need to stress about oh...I wasn't able to work today, I wasn't able to work this day, you'll make money...it'll always be there.

[00:27:32.10] Faith Hogg: ...so earlier we talked a little

about...you being a psych major and music industries minor...so just tell me a little bit more about that like why a psych minor...psych major and musical industries minor.

[00:27:55.22] Tobi Abolade: The truth honestly I only went into psych because I was scared to go into music. ...I tried to convince myself for the longest time that I actually wanted to go into psychology, I really don't you know music is what I want to do. So I figured you know I might as well just jump into it now...I mean it's not to say that...I hate psychology. I definitely learned a lot from it and I definitely...got some good experiences out of being a psych major but my true passion is music...I'm just glad that I finally just decided just to jump into it now. ...This year and next year is that's gonna be my main focus forreal.

[00:28:39.08] Faith Hogg: ...What made you passionate about music to begin with?

[00:28:43.00] Tobi Abolade: It's just always been a part of my life since I was a child...it's just one of the few things in my life that you know just always made sense to me.

[00:28:55.20] Faith Hogg: ...When did you discover that you were passionate about music? When did you find your love for music?

[00:29:00.22] Tobi Abolade: oh it's kind of early age... probably...I found the love for making music for myself when I was in Middle School I'll say...then once I got to high school I started experimenting with different things...I started experiencing with like making beats and stuff like that. But I didn't really start taking any of it...like seriously until about a year ago...like when I say I'm a producer...I say I've only been doing it for about eight to nine months for real but...I've always had music in my life in one form or another so.

[00:29:55.05] Faith Hogg: What's been...your biggest musical influences?

[00:30:00.10] Tobi Abolade: Oh um I get influences from all over the place for real...I listen to jazz music, I listen to Hip-Hop, Trap, R&B, I listen to...those are really the main genres I listen to. I know it's kind of...it's very night and day but you know...those are the main type of stuff that I pull from so...

[00:30:40.05] Faith Hogg: So what are your three favorite...top three favorite artist?

[00:30:44.08] Tobi Abolade: Uh...favorite artists...right now I'd say Baby Keem, I would say Pi'erre Bourne, and I

would... probably say Playboi Carti.

[00:31:11.00] Faith Hogg: I know the first and third one, but who's the second one?

[00:31:13.16] Tobi Abolade: Pi'erre Bourne's a producer... mainly, he's a rapper too but he's way better known as a producer. He's produced...for everybody, Playboi Carti, Trippie Redd, and Lil Uzi...Young Thug...all those people...yeah I mean I just like his style of beats a whole lot...I've definitely..I get a lot of influence from him as far as making beats.

[00:31:39.20] Faith Hogg: So when you were doing like Uber, UberEats, and stuff, what music would you typically play?

[00:31:45.05] Tobi Abolade: Those, type of music, yeah.

[00:31:48.13] Faith Hogg: ...I know you mentioned earlier about...people who would tell you to...change the music, would complain about it? What was that experience like as far as...you know it being your car, you pretty much have your rules...

[00:32:00.11] Tobi Abolade: Um yeah you know...that was annoying...I would say. ...You know because a lot of

times...people would...in fact sometimes people would come in the car...bring their AirPods, listen to their own music, I'd be listening to my own music...people be having their AirPods doing their own thing. So it's like if you don't really like...just bring headphones... like I don't know why you're asking me to do all that stuff...like I said it's my car, you know I gotta make this enjoyable for myself as well.

[00:32:34.13] Faith Hogg: So...I used to work at Chick-fil-A for two years and you know our thing is...customer service so I feel like...

[00:32:41.16] Tobi Abolade: Yeah and...as far as that...I'll never turn down the requests so like you asked me to do something I'll do it...because I do want to make sure that you have an enjoyable experience, also but you know sometimes it's like a little bit annoying when people ask me to do stuff like that because it's like...

[00:33:04.16] Faith Hogg: It's all about how you ask.

[00:33:06.04] Tobi Abolade: On God, yeah.

[00:33:08.07] Faith Hogg: Do you feel like with those companies that you had a lot of that you had...you know there are people like in retail and customer based industries are always like the customer is always right. Do

you feel like you had that experience?

[00:33:21.15] Tobi Abolade: A thousand percent yes. That is it's definitely like that with Uber. Uber one thousand percent take the customers over the driver, that's... definitely how that works. They'll...they will always take the customer side...over the driver.

[00:33:44.23] Faith Hogg: Did you have any experiences where you had to defend yourself to be like this is not what happened, like a customer probably lied on you...

[00:33:51.05] Tobi Abolade: Oh yeah, I've had that happen before...and they won't listen to...because I mean it's such a big corporation they're not gonna listen to one person...I mean like if you really wanted to...get to a point across like you got to...you'd have to build a case. They're not gonna listen to just to, well you know because it's way too big of a corporation to care about this one little incident you know whatever happens, they'll always take the customer side and just move on.

[00:34:22.10] Faith Hogg: So can you tell me something about that experience you had...

[00:34:26.19] Tobi Abolade: Oh yeah, you know I've had people complain about you know one thing or another...

say...I took too long or say...something...they didn't like the route I took or they didn't um..trying to think of specifics. I remember...I had my mask under my nose one time, someone complained about that... things like that, it was always like the little things. But Uber will always let you know when someone does that so and they'll be like yeah...just don't do it again type stuff.

[00:35:27.09] Faith Hogg: Do you feel like...Uber gave, Uber and DoorDash really, gave you respect as it being your car and you being your own person?

[00:35:40.23] Tobi Abolade: DoorDash more than Uber.

[00:35:44.12] Faith Hogg: Why is that? Why do you think so?

[00:35:47.21] Tobi Abolade: Um I don't know...I've definitely...honestly...just from talking to...both DoorDash support and Uber support. I feel like DoorDash definitely cares a little bit more about the drivers just as far as what they'll try to...as far as what they're willing to do to help you as a driver. I thought it was...I definitely felt it was a little bit more personal even though they didn't pay me as well I definitely felt more respected by DoorDash then by Uber. But on the plus side it's a lot of money in Uber, but I definitely felt better I...felt more heard from DoorDash, just

based off of what they're willing to do for...you try to talk to...customer support you know they'll do whatever they need to do to sort of you know help you out of whatever situation you're in. And that's not to say that Uber won't do that either you know they will, but it's like I don't know um I guess just based off of my own experience... I have to say that DoorDash is a little bit nicer to you

[00:37:19.17] Faith Hogg: Interesting, especially because they pay you less.

[00:37:21.18] Tobi Abolade: yeah...it's weird but yeah.

[00:37:26.00] Faith Hogg: Do you feel like those experiences helped you grow in any way?

[00:37:31.08] Tobi Abolade: definitely taught me how to deal with people.

[00:37:34.09] Faith Hogg: Are you a big people person?

[00:37:36.05] Tobi Abolade: I can be...you know...I can be when I need to be if that makes sense.

[00:37:45.18] Faith Hogg: Yeah. Do you have... a lot of patience? Because I know...

[00:37:48.20] Tobi Abolade: I do. I have a lot yeah...it's probably not a good thing but I do. I do have more patience than a lot of people so...I'm willing to put up with a lot more than most people.

[00:38:06.05] Faith Hogg: ...when you said you started working for DoorDash, UberEats, and Uber you started like December of 2021 right..still having some COVID restrictions, how do you feel...or how did you go about protecting yourself and staying clean and like doing stuff like that...

[00:38:24.00] Tobi Abolade: Oh I always kept masks in the car, I kept wifes in the car, I kept hand sanitizer in the car that's about it. And like I said if I had a customer for Uber I would just make them go to the back. I'd have people trying to come up front, I'd always be like no. Now... there's only a...few situations in which I really didn't have a choice but to let them sit up front, when there was like eight people trying to...six seven people jump in the car which was weird you know and that's a whole 'nother conversation...because with Uber...you have UberX, Uber XL all that kind of stuff. It's weird because my car has seven seats but it's not classified as a UberXL vehicle so it's weird like technically I can't let people...I technically can let more than four people in the car, but my car is not

classified as an Uber XL vehicle. So when I have people like groups of seven eight people...I'm always like why did you order UberX you could have just ordered UberXL type of thing. And in that situations usually, I kind of have to let somebody sit up front...you know if it's a big group of people I don't want to be just like no I'm not going to take y'all you know, I'll take y'all but sometimes it is annoying because it's like y'all could have called a UberXL vehicle. My car just happens to have seven seats only because I requested it for my car...it's still classified as a UberX vehicle which means really not supposed to have more than four passengers.

[00:40:02.17] Faith Hogg: ...That's interesting being classified as UberX and XL. What's the difference in those classifications?

[00:40:10.21] Tobi Abolade: Okay so...as of right now I'm driving my dad's car which is a full-sized Mercedes SUV so this is a full-size family SUV. That car would be considered an Uber XL vehicle if I were to drive that car for Uber that would be an XL vehicle because it's a family car...it comes standard with seven seats...it's a family car. I drive a Toyota 4Runner which is a pretty big car it's only slightly smaller than the car I'm driving right now but it comes standard five seats, you can get seven seats, you can ask them to put seven seats, I asked them to put

seven seats in my car. But the 4runner is classified as a mid-sized vehicle, it's just on the larger side of the mid-size vehicle range. So...like a Tahoe would be a UberXL vehicle but...say like a Honda CRV would be like a UberX that type of thing.

[00:41:27.02] Faith Hogg: Could you make more money if you did Uber XL versus Uber X or is it about the same?

[00:41:30.21] Tobi Abolade: Potentially, yes you could because...that opens you up to more people. I remember my family came to visit me early in the year, that's when I was still doing it. And they came in the car I'm driving right now and my car was in the shop getting fixed so for for a couple weeks I didn't have a car. So they came to visit me...for a few days and they let me use that car to work for a couple days just so I could make some money and I was able to make a lot of money because I got UberX orders and UberXL orders because it's a full-size vehicle.

[00:42:19.13] Faith Hogg: [Wind] Just to wrap this interview up, I have one more question for you. So we talked a lot about like your experiences with Uber, your experiences with DoorDash, your experiences being a college student, and some of your passion with music...so what are some goals and passions as you grow older and do you see yourself continuing to do Uber and DoorDash

as like a side job.

[00:42:52.00] Tobi Abolade: Potentially, yeah. I mean... like I said my goal is just to make it as a producer. So... that's as far as...my goals for the future...that's my main... that's my number one priority. I do see myself probably going back at some point when I have a little bit more time on my hands, but as of right now...just right now I'm just focusing on my music.

[00:43:19.18] Faith Hogg: What are your goals music-wise?

[00:43:22.21] Tobi Abolade: Oh, I just want to be you know well known in the industry for real...I want you know people to like be able to put out a song and be like oh yeah nah he made that beat for sure that type of thing.

[00:43:39.06] Faith Hogg: Well that's all the questions that I have for you. Thank you so much. It's been a pleasure.

[00:43:43.21] Tobi Abolade: For sure, appreciate you, appreciate you.