

# A.O.K. (Assault Of Knowledge)

## IF YOU DON'T BUY THIS CD THE TERRORISTS WIN

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

While some rappers finance their music by slangin' dope, Omar "A.O.K." Mouallem funded his album by slangin' books. In December 2007 the rapper/writer was commissioned to write a feel-good book about true and inspirational felines (*Amazing Cats*; Folklore Publishing, August 15, 2008). The "Wal-Mart book," as A.O.K. would call it, made it possible to finish and print *If You Don't Buy this CD the Terrorists Win*, his debut album three years in the making.

But unlike the book, *...the Terrorists Win* is not fuzzy material. The son of Lebanese immigrants, A.O.K.'s exposure to war and religious fundamentalism laid the ground work for much of his music.

"You are a God" tells of his personal journey from Islam to free thinking nontheism. "Freedom is a State of Mind" is an objective meditation on the perceptions of freedom, in both the West and East. In 2006, during the war between Hezbollah militants and Israel, A.O.K. and family recorded a reaction to the carnage. Heard throughout Lebanon during the conflict, "The Cedar Seeds" is also included as a bonus track.

There are, of course, lighter songs on *...the Terrorists Win*. "Coffee Shop Girl", the album's first single, is already familiar to Edmonton college radio listeners. "Tales from Planet Grolic" is a favourite among frequenters of Edmonton's burgeoning rap scene. A.O.K. also takes a moment to thank the faceless friends online on "Thank You Dot Com" (featuring friend and common collaborator Neato! The Filthy Varmint).

**BIO:** For over a decade, 23-year-old A.O.K. has been rapping. Switching monikers over the years (Poppa Smurf, circa 1999; Justice?, circa 2002), he has landed on A.O.K. (Assault of Knowledge) because, like his music, it is a double entendre. His music is both light and heavy, satirical and serious, honed and raw. A.O.K. got his start in the rural town of High Prairie, AB, and sharpened his skills in the Vancouver hip-hop scene. But it was in Edmonton where he found an untapped scene with room for innovative artists. Aside from music, he works as a writer and journalist. He has worked for Exclaim, Vue Weekly, 24 Hours, Canadian Arab News, and Avenue Magazine to name a few. He has also worked as a filmmaker and film editor.

**Suggested songs:** 2, 5, 10, 11

#### For fans of:

- Brother Ali
- KRS-One
- dead prez
- Aesop Rock
- Little Brother
- 9th Wonder

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### RELEASE DATE

Tuesday, June 10, 2008

### TRACKLISTING

1. Walk Like a Man
2. Tales From Planet Grolic
3. Miss Greenlay
4. Hip-Hop à la mode
5. Coffee Shop Girl
6. The Hood Samaritans
7. Fake I.D.
8. Unintelligent Redesign
9. You are a God
10. Freedom is a State of Mind
11. (BONUS) Thank You Dot Com (feat. Neato! The Filthy Varmint)
12. (BONUS) The Cedar Seeds (feat. Cousin Moe, Spinning Truth)

**Artist:** A.O.K.

**Title:** If You Don't Buy This CD the Terrorists Win

**File Under:** Hip-Hop

**Street Date:** June 10, 2008

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