

My chat with Brandon Block

**Pablo:** Went on a bit but really knew his stuff and had this rather disturbing collection of crack pipes... Oh I'm sorry was I boring you? Well goodbye then... Bitch.

**Pablo:** Brandon Block; disc jockey, producer...

(scary noises)

**Pablo:** AH!

**Pablo:** Di-did you hear that? (Pause) Wh-wh-where was I? Er, right, er, Brandon Block; disc jockey, producer, disk jockey, I understand you know something about cocaine?

**Brandon:** I do, I know very much. I had quite a lot of years experience with cocaine and I shall tell you a bit about it.

**Pablo:** I'd like that very much Brandon. So what was your experience of cocaine like?

**Brandon:** It just takes over everything, you know. Especially with – for me for this stuff, it took my life over so I had no other avenues to explore no hobbies, I ended up having no girlfriend, no family not anything, nothing. Just that, and that was it.

**Pablo:** So how did the addiction begin?

**Brandon:** I don't think when I first took it in those days I even thought about drug addiction, I had no idea what drug addiction was, I don't think, at 16. You don't think you, you're just like, starting your partying life and everything else so you don't really think about the fact that you could become addicted.

**Pablo:** Did you realise you were becoming addicted?

**Brandon:** I did realise that I was addicted, yes. But by then it was, um, it was quite late on and I'd also gone and done damage to myself, inside and mentally.

**Pablo:** Cripes, what sort of damage?

**Brandon:** I ended up getting various illnesses including tb, yellow jaundice which is hepatitis, I had kidney problems, I had lung problems.

**Pablo:** Bloody hell.

**Brandon:** I just used to try and take more cocaine to mask the pain which I was feeling. Which in the end unfortunately doesn't work.

**Pablo:** No kidding.

**Brandon:** I was told that I had two weeks to live if I carried on the way I was which was quite a shock and I was also told that if I stopped immediately i.e. in the next day, like that, then there was a chance for my survival which I, you know, I jumped at the chance.

**Pablo:** You must be glad you stopped?

**Brandon:** Course I am, I'm still here aint I, smiling at you!

**Pablo:** Does that mean I can have a go on the decks then?

**Brandon:** Have you cut your nails? No, you'll scratch everything, I'm sorry!

(house music starts)

**Pablo:** It's a bit loud.