

Keke Palmer is a multi-talented actress, singer, songwriter and talk show host who made her screen debut at the age of 10 in

Barbershop 2 before landing a breakout role a couple of years later as the title character in

Akeelah and the Bee

. The emerging ingenue has since embarked on an enviable showbiz career in film, on TV and in music while also finding time to give back to the community.

By contrast Oscar-nominee Queen Latifah (for *Chicago*) started out as a hip-hop artist before adding acting to her repertoire. She's also proved to be a popular spokesperson for everything from Jenny Craig to Pizza hut to CoverGirl cosmetics.

Here, the two talk about *Brotherly Love*, a hip-hop driven drama starring Keke which was produced by Latifah.

Kam Williams: Hi Queen [Latifah] and Keke [Palmer], I'm so honored to have this

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opportunity to speak with both of you.

Keke Palmer: So are we.

Queen Latifah: Thanks, Kam [Williams].

KW: Queen [Latifah], Professor/Filmmaker/Author Hisani DuBose has a question for you: With all that you've accomplished, was it still difficult for you to get this project greenlit?

**QL:** Well, it wasn't hard to get it greenlit, because we greenlit it. [Laughs] It's easy when you're the greenlighter. Really, it was more about lining up the financing. It always comes back to the dollars and cents, and finding the money to be able to fund the project and make it happen. That's what we went on immediately, and I'm fortunate to work with a tiger who doesn't rest until it all happens. He and I really jumped in on it until and worked with some other partners to help create the finances, and they came through for us. So, we all put it together, collectively, and made it happen.

KW: Hisani [Dubose] has one for Keke [Palmer], too: Did you feel a lot of pressure having to grow from a child star into a woman under the bright lights of Hollywood?

**KP:** I definitely, at times, felt the pressures of life similar to the pressures anyone would feel growing up. The only difference was that maybe more people were aware of mine. But, if anything, I changed the pressure from negative to positive. So, instead of thinking everybody wanted to see me fail, I decided everybody wanted to see me win, since I wanted to see myself win. I'm glad and appreciate having people on my team who are watching and looking out for me. Let me continue to make them proud and continue to give away the gift that was given to me.

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