

Benjamin J. Mall, PE
NCSEA 2023 Summit Scholarship Entry
Youtube: <https://youtu.be/KD9a3HNpPfk>

Make Yourself Known by B. Mall A tribute to Lose Yourself by Eminem

LYRICS:

Look

You might remember me from long ago-
I was complaining about how 'Bosses Just Don't Understand' about young engineers
Well now I am a boss and I gotta say
we all have to make ourselves known...

Yo-

Our work is tidy, calcs neat, prompt and ready.
Whether the structure is permanent or temporary,
Engineer it. Every day from concept to CD to drop drawings
But we keep on forgetting the driving force, behind our love and passion for it
We do our job, but the client just won't pay out
They're saying now, everybody's cheaper how?
The money's run out, funds up, over, blaow
Snap back to reality
Oh, there goes sanity
Oh, there goes budget, it's lost
It's so mad, but we won't give up that easy, no
We won't have it, we met expectations
It don't matter, there's no hope
They know but they're broke
Developers, financing on our backs, askin when is it done
That's when it's
Back to the bank again, yo
This whole rhapsody
We better go capture this money and hope it don't bounce again

Refrain:

You gotta make yourself known
What you do, when you do
Because its you
Who's going make it stand

Whether it's wind or it's ice
Or it's snow or it's rain
Or it's earthquakes
It's never gunna stop (you gotta...)

Structural engineers, "who are they?" public's saying
Locomotion drivers conveying, "What's that thing?"
"people who operate train engines?"
Or "Oh is that stuff boring," but that assumption couldn't be further
From the hard truth of it. Homie grows hotter
He shows, it's moreover
Not trains, it's designing
Coast to coast structures whether small or tall
Credit goes, architect owes
To those calcs makin it stand up- it's now stronger
Even your home, it stands up by the power
Of engineering designs, they're all over
Throughout- that bridge there or that building here
Are standing up thanks to a structural engineer
But the public thanks the politicians' ambitions
So the SE stature is told and unfolds -
I suppose it's all fair but the beat goes on
Da da dum, da dum da da

Refrain:
You gotta make yourself known
What you do, when you do
Because its you
Who's going make it stand

Whether it's wind or it's ice
Or it's snow or it's rain
Or it's earthquakes
It's never gunna stop (you gotta...)

No more games, I'ma change the perception
That we are just a commodity, it's a misconception!
I was quiet in the beginning, not making myself known

I've been chewed out and yelled at and kicked off site
But i kept grinding and pointing out the contractor fails
Best believe somebody's paying for these nails
All the while the drawings showed it clearly defined
That it needs to be spaced as it was designed
And I can't provide the wrong thing for my client
'Cause man, these items must all be code compliant!
And it's no surprise, there's no prize for the one, who points out these misses
And when the building is finished and done
Who's there to be praised? Its just the owner, architect, & number one
The structure taken for granted that its a simple sub-consultant
Not anything special but this is the resultant; Of our lack of self-assertiveness in
the industry
Has gotten me to the point: What can we do? We gotta make it known,
When its time to show the architect cant do it alone
-Architects-, we love em, but we need them to know we are their backbone
We cannot grow old being this distraught
So here I go, it is my shot
Feet fail me not - this is my shot!
This may be the only opportunity that we got
You gotta-

Refrain:

You gotta make yourself known
What you do, when you do
Because its you - OHHH
Who's going make it stand

Whether it's wind or it's ice
Or it's snow or it's rain
Or it's earthquakes
It's never gunna stop (you gotta...)