

Throwback: Busy Bee Starski Vs. Lil Rodney Cee-MC Battle



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Busy Bee Starski and Lil Rodney Cee's "M.C. Battle" from *Wild Style* is one of hip-hop's early foundational raps. Busy Bee's reputation for being able to command a party preceded him and his famous 1981 Harlem World battle with Kool Moe Dee was the key moment in battle rap. His 1987 album, *Running Thangs*, touted classic moments like ["Suicide"](#) because of his effortless humor and confidence that is one of the earliest origins of swag. Lil Rodney Cee was a member of The Funky Four Plus 1 and later Double Trouble. Grand Wizard Theodore, who invented scratching and the needle drop, DJ-ed the song and also appeared in the film. "M.C. Battle" is just one of the

songs from the *Wild Style* soundtrack to become an endless source of lyrical and musical sampling. The movie itself, was the first to showcase the new world of graffiti writing, B-Boying, B-Girling and rap.