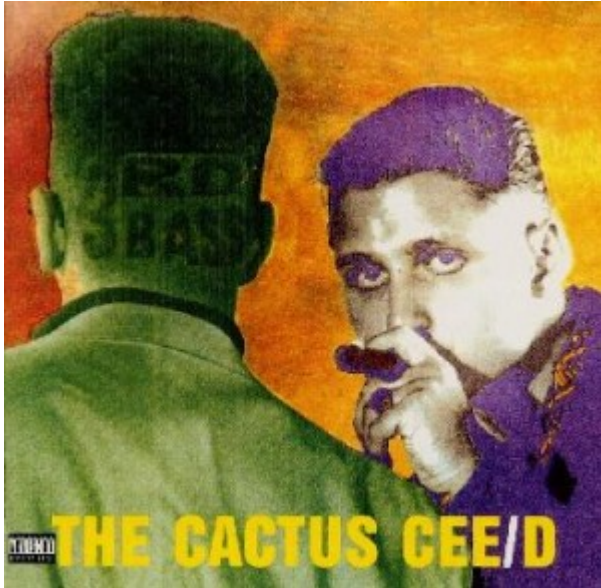


# Throwback: 3rd Bass-Steppin' To The A.M.



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MC Serch and Minister Pete Nice became 3rd Bass in 1987 at the advice of Sam Sever. Initially they were called Three The Hard Way but when they signed to Def Jam they changed their name to 3rd Bass. The native New Yorkers released their *Cactus Album* debut in 1989. "Steppin' To The A.M.," ["Brooklyn-Queens"](#) and ["The Gas Face"](#) established them as genuine rappers instead of white arrogant culture vultures. Sever, Prince Paul and The Bomb Squad produced the album and "The Gas Face" was the first recorded appearance of MF Doom who was rhyming under the name Zev Love X as one-half of KMD. Def Jam released *The Cactus Revisited* in 1990 which contained remixes by Prince Paul, Marley Marl and others. *Derelicts of Dialect* came out in 1991 and it was their 2nd and last studio album. ["Pop Goes The Weasel"](#) became a radio hit and was noted for its dismissal of Vanilla Ice's cheap mimicking of rap music and was probably the first beef between two white rap acts. They recorded the title song for the film "Gladiator" and broke-up in 1992. MC Serch co-wrote and produced songs for female rapper Boss's

*Born Gangstaz* album that year. He also became Nas's manager and got his song ["Halftime"](#) on the "Zebrahead" soundtrack in addition to helping him secure his first solo deal with Columbia records. A solo album, *Return Of the Product* was released in 1992 as well and it featured the singles ["Here It Comes"](#) and ["Back To The Grill."](#) Pete Nice entered the [baseball memorabilia](#) business and published the book *Baseball Legends of Brooklyn's Green-Wood Cemetery*. Ken Casey and Nice opened the Boston, MA sportsbar McGreevy's 3rd Base Saloon, in 2008. Serch has appeared in Spike Lee's "Bamboozled," hosted Ego Trip's white rapper reality show and worked in Detroit radio making 102.7 his most recent home.