We asked Jeffery...

Tell us about growing up in Louisiana.

My family were sharecroppers, so at an early age I was taught to work and provide for family. I did a lot of horseback riding and fishing in canals as a kid—when I wasn't working in the fields or playing music with my dad.

What instruments do you play?

I play every instrument there is. The only instrument I haven't played is the harp. Given the chance, I'm sure I would master it as well, because music makes me happy!

How did you start playing and singing music?

I started playing drums professionally at the age of 8. I was playing outside one day when my father found out his drummer couldn't make it to a show. My dad called me indoors and said "Come on in, son, and take your bath. You are playing drums tonight!"

