

Earl The Autobiography Of Dmx Hyggery

A chronicle of the life and career of the rapper Tupac Shakur, which offers a collection of previously unpublished interviews, writings, and private photographs that provide a portrait of the influential late musician.

Brown's in-depth tell-all details the making and building of Cash Money Records, Southern rap, and the biggest rap superstar in the universe who served a prison term at the height of his career and successfully released a hit album and videos while inside. Hip-hop star DMX relates his life from his past criminal career to his rise to success in the music world.

Rihanna has sold over 15 million albums and 45 million singles world-wide. She has won 4 Grammy Awards and the 2011 Brit Award for Best International Female Artist. Her 2007 album Good Girl Gone Bad was nominated for nine Grammy Awards and featured the world-wide number one single Umbrella. She is currently on her Last Girl on Earth 2011 World Tour. Reveals her unhappy childhood watching severe violence between her mother and her crack cocaine father. Her wild child past that earned her the nickname of Rebel Flower. How she found it therapeutic after her parents' troubled marriage to join the army. Her transformation from schoolgirl Robyn Fenty to one of the most successful R&B artists in the world. Her turbulent relationship with singer Chris Brown which resulted in a photograph of her battered and bruised face making headlines all over the world. Exclusive interviews with Rihanna's old schoolfriends, producers, songwriters, video directors, journalists who witnessed her transformation over the years and many others.

The first in-depth biography of Nipsey Hussle, the hip hop mogul, artist, and activist whose transformative legacy inspired a generation--before he was tragically shot down in the very neighbourhood he was dedicated to building up.

Perhaps best known for his highly acclaimed, short-lived Comedy Central program Chappelle's Show, Dave Chappelle is widely regarded as one of today's most culturally significant comedians. Through the sketch comedy show and his stand-up act, Chappelle has offered truly memorable commentary on racial and ethnic tensions in American society. This book assembles 13 essays that examine motifs common in Chappelle's comedy, including technology and digital culture; race, gender, and ethnicity; economics and politics; music, television, film, and performance; and memory, language, and identity.

Prepare your child for middle school math with our award-winning Math Practice Workbook for Grades 6 to 8. Used by teachers, parents and students nationwide this workbook provides elementary school children with comprehensive practice questions that cover a wide range of topics they will encounter in elementary school. Created by certified elementary school teachers, this workbook is the perfect supplementary workbook for any student in 6th grade, 7th grade or 8th grade. This workbook is also aligned to all Common Core State Standards. Topics Covered: Arithmetic Numbers Order of Operations Percents Prime & Composite Numbers Least Common Multiple and Greatest Common Factor Rounding Fractions Fractions and Decimals Word Problems Scientific Notation Laws of Exponents Square Roots Absolute Value Divisibility Rules Challenge Questions Algebra Simplifying Algebraic Expressions Multiplying Algebraic Expressions Basic Equations with Two Variables Linear Equations with Two Variables Functions Word Problems Average Word Problems Ratios and Properties and Rates Inequalities Strange Symbolism Challenge Questions Geometry Angles Line Segments and Midpoint Triangles Circles Measurements Area and Perimeter Volume Coordinate Geometry Slope of line, equation of a line Challenge Questions Probability and Statistics Probability (Independent and Dependent) Mean, Median and Mode Counting Principle Challenge Questions

It's been over ten years since Big was killed. I grieved for him for a very long time. And then, as time passed, the icy wall of grief surrounding my heart began to thaw and I began to heal. I remarried, had more children, and continued to record and release more music. I continued to live my life. And while I can never discount the time I spent with Big, I've never felt the need to live in the past. But sometimes, I still find myself thinking about Big being rushed the hospital, and I break down in tears. It's not just because we hung up on each other during what would be our last telephone conversation. And it's not because I am raising our son, a young man who has never known his father. It's partly all of those things. But mainly it's because he wasn't ready to go. His debut album was called Ready to Die. But in the end, he wasn't. Big never got a chance to tell his story. It's been left to others to tell it for him. In making the decision to tell my own story, it means that I've become one of those who can give insight to who Big really was. But I can only speak on what he meant to me. Yet I also want people to understand that although he was a large part of my life, my story doesn't actually begin or end with Big's death. My journey has been complicated on many levels. And since I am always linked to Big, there are a lot of misconceptions about who I really am. I hope that in reading my words, there is inspiration to be found. Perhaps you can duplicate my success or achieve where I have failed. Maybe you can skip over the mistakes I've made. Use my life as an example-of what to do and in some cases, what not to do. It's not easy putting your life out there for the masses. But I've decided I'll tell my own story. For Big. For my children. And for myself.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER A captivating and inspiring guide to building an untouchable empire from mud to marble, no matter what obstacles stand in the way Rick Ross is a hip-hop icon and a towering figure in the business world, but his path to success was not always easy. Despite adversity and setbacks, Ross held tight to his vision and never settled for anything less than greatness. Now, for the first time, he shares his secrets to success, offering his own life as a road map to readers looking to build their own empire. Along the way he reveals: How to turn your ambition into action Tips for managing and investing your money Inside stories from his business and music ventures Why failure is central to success Secrets to handling stressful situations How to build the perfect team As Ross explains, "It doesn't matter what's going on. Even the most dire situation is just another opportunity to boss up."Intimate, insightful and brimming with no-nonsense advice, The Perfect Time to Boss Up is the ideal book for hustlers everywhere.

The Grammy Award-winning hip-hop and television star shares the story of his early life, marked by the deaths of his parents, his involvement in gangs and the single-minded work ethic that enabled his rise to international fame. Reprint.

Kevin Liles rose from intern to president of Def Jam Records in only nine years. Today, at age thirty-seven, he is executive vice president of the Warner Music Group and has helped discover and direct the careers of stars such as Jay-Z and Ludacris. Liles' meteoric climb from urban street kid with hip-hop aspirations to one of the most successful and influential executives in the music industry is far more than a rags-to-riches story. It is a tribute to Liles' incredible work ethic, wisdom and confidence in doing his thing his way -- the hip-hop way. "Every real success story in hip hop comes down to the same thing: someone who finds the will, focus and drive to achieve," Liles writes in Make It Happen: The Hip-Hop Generation Guide to Success. "It doesn't matter if you are male or female. It doesn't matter what race or religion you are. It doesn't matter what hustle you choose." What does matter,

Liles says, is that you fight against the odds to realize a dream and be the best that you can be. You empower yourself and make it happen. Kevin Liles presents ten rules of business success, which range from "Find Your Will" and "The Blueprint" to "Don't Let Cash Rule" and "Play Your Position." As he outlines his philosophy, Liles shares how he put his principles to work, chronicling his journey to the top and the stories of others -- executives, artists, mentors and friends -- he has worked with along the way. *Make It Happen* is both an American success story and a guidebook for the road to having a career and a life you love.

A star rap artist offers the story of Jake Billings, a hustler who has no problem doing his time, until he gets a threatening letter while in jail and has to get himself ready for a fight--for his life.

The dark journey of a boy who became a man, the man who became an artist, and the artist who became an icon. A talent for rhyme saved his life, but the demons and sins of his past continue to haunt him. This is the story of Earl Simmons.

One of Rolling Stone's Best Music Books of 2015 From Geto Boys legend and renowned storyteller Scarface, comes a passionate memoir about how hip-hop changed the life of a kid from the south side of Houston, and how he rose to the top--and ushered in a new generation of rap dominance. Scarface is the celebrated rapper whose hits include "On My Block," "Mind Playing Tricks on Me" and "Damn It Feels Good to be a Gangsta" (made famous in the cult film *Office Space*). The former president of Def Jam South, he's collaborated with everyone from Kanye West, Ice Cube and Nas, and had many solo hits such as "Guess Who's Back" feat. Jay-Z and "Smile" feat. Tupac. But before that, he was a kid from Houston in love with rock-and-roll, listening to AC/DC and KISS. In *Diary of a Madman*, Scarface shares how his world changed when he heard Run DMC for the first time; how he dropped out of school in the ninth grade and started selling crack; and how he began rapping as the new form of music made its way out of New York and across the country. It is the account of his rise to the heights of the rap world, as well as his battles with his own demons and depression. Passionately exploring and explaining the roots and influences of rap culture, *Diary of a Madman* is the story of hip-hop--the music, the business, the streets, and life on the south side Houston, Texas.

The definitive biography of Aaliyah—the talented R&B singer and artist whose tragic death at only twenty-two years old shocked the entertainment world and solidified her as an unforgettable music legend, featuring new in-depth research and exclusive interviews. By twenty-two years old, Aaliyah had already accomplished a staggering amount: hit records, acclaimed acting roles, and fame that was just about to cross over into superstardom. Like her song, she was already “more than a woman” but her shocking death in a plane crash prevented her from fully growing into one. Now, two decades later, the full story of Aaliyah's life and cultural impact is finally and lovingly explored. *Baby Girl* features never-before-told stories, including studio anecdotes, personal tales, and eyewitness accounts on the events leading up to her untimely passing. Her enduring influence on today's artists—such as Rihanna, Drake, Lana del Rey, and many more—is also revealed, providing Aaliyah's discography a cultural critique that is long overdue. Eye-opening, moving, and as unforgettable as its subject, *Baby Girl* is a necessary read for anyone who has been touched by Aaliyah's music and story. This book was written without the participation of Aaliyah's family/estate.

Darryl McDaniels, better known as DMC, is only one-third of the groundbreaking rap group Run-DMC, but his trendsetting style and street-smart wisdom have made him a star in his own right. Darryl formed Run-DMC fifteen years ago with two friends, and since then the group has been transforming rap and hip-hop into the most popular music in the world, while building a fan base that quietly rivals the biggest acts in rock and roll. From the streets of Hollis, Queens, to the world's largest arenas, Darryl and Run-DMC blazed the trail that would take rap and hip-hop to the top of the charts, but as pioneers the group would also face a number of trials and tribulations. In *King of Rock: Respect, Responsibility, and My Life with Run-DMC*, Darryl candidly talks for the first time about his career as a rap artist and the people he has met throughout the years. Through hilarious anecdotes and thoughtful reflection, Darryl shares the wisdom he has accumulated in his thirty-five years, detailing his battles with fame, money, drugs, and alcohol. Darryl's sharp, flavorful tales of the rise of the group and the fascinating behind-the-scenes glimpses he offers of the rap and hip-hop world capture the excitement and the hardship of being in the spotlight, while also revealing the knowledge he has gained along the way. Written from the distinct perspective of an artist who has been an integral part of the rap and hip-hop scene since day one, *King of Rock* is at once the story of Run-DMC and the memoir of Darryl McDaniels—a boy from Queens trying to make it in the big time. With confidence, compassion, and an acute awareness of life's troubles and rewards, Darryl traces his experiences growing up and into the rap mogul DMC, and finally settling into marriage, fatherhood, and a shift of focus to respect, responsibility, and peace. *King of Rock* is a sharply observed, unpretentious, and often very funny account of being a part of one of the most important acts in the history of popular music.

"A memoir about a life almost lost and a revealing look at the dark side of hip hop's golden era ... a story of struggle, survival, and hope down the mean streets of New York City"--Dust flap jacket.

Selected as a Best Book of the Year by *Esquire* "Couldn't put it down." – *Charlamagne Tha God* "Mesmerizing." – *Raekwon da Chef* "Insightful, moving, necessary." – *Shea Serrano* "Cathartic." –*The New Yorker* "A classic." –*The Washington Post* The explosive, never-before-told story behind the historic rise of the Wu-Tang Clan, as told by one of its founding members, Lamont "U-God" Hawkins. "It's time to write down not only my legacy, but the story of nine dirt-bomb street thugs who took our everyday life—scrappin' and hustlin'and tryin' to survive in the urban jungle of New York City—and turned that into something bigger than we could possibly imagine, something that took us out of the projects for good, which was the only thing we all wanted in the first place." —Lamont "U-God" Hawkins The Wu-Tang Clan are considered hip-hop royalty. Remarkably, none of the founding members have told their story—until now. Here, for the first time, the quiet one speaks. Lamont "U-God" Hawkins was born in Brownsville, New York, in 1970. Raised by a single mother and forced to reckon with the hostile conditions of project life, U-God learned from an early age how to survive. And surviving in New York City in the 1970s and 1980s was no easy task—especially as a young black boy living in some of the city's most ignored and destitute districts. But, along the way, he met and befriended those who would eventually form the Clan's core: RZA, GZA, Method Man, Raekwon, Ol' Dirty Bastard, Inspectah Deck, Ghostface Killah, and Masta Killa. Brought up by the streets, and bonding over their love of hip-hop, they sought to pursue the impossible: music as their ticket out of the ghetto. U-God's unforgettable first-person account of his journey, from the streets of Brooklyn to some of the biggest stages around the world, is not only thoroughly affecting, unfiltered, and explosive but also captures, in vivid detail, the making of one of the greatest acts in American music history.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER "A gripping journey."—*People* The highly anticipated memoir from hip-hop icon Rick Ross chronicles his coming of age amid Miami's crack epidemic, his star-studded controversies and his unstoppable rise to fame. Rick Ross is an indomitable presence in the music industry, but few people know his full story. Now, for the first time, Ross offers a vivid, dramatic and unexpectedly candid account of his early childhood, his tumultuous adolescence and his dramatic ascendancy in the world of hip-hop. Born William Leonard Roberts II, Ross grew up "across the bridge," in a Miami at odds with the glitzy beaches, nightclubs and yachts of South Beach. In the aftermath of the 1980 race riots and the Mariel boatlift, Ross came of age at the height of the city's crack epidemic, when home invasions

and execution-style killings were commonplace. Still, in the midst of the chaos and danger that surrounded him, Ross flourished, first as a standout high school football player and then as a dope boy in Carol City's notorious Matchbox housing projects. All the while he honed his musical talent, overcoming setback after setback until a song called "Hustlin'" changed his life forever. From the making of "Hustlin'" to his first major label deal with Def Jam, to the controversy surrounding his past as a correctional officer and the numerous health scares, arrests and feuds he had to transcend along the way, *Hurricanes* is a revealing portrait of one of the biggest stars in the rap game, and an intimate look at the birth of an artist.

Offers an introduction to the Wu-Tang Clan, revealing the web of personalities and alter egos, warrior codes, numerological systems, and Eastern spiritual and philosophical concepts that define their world.

Legendary wordsmith Raekwon the Chef opens up about his journey from the staircases of Park Hill in Staten Island to sold-out stadiums around the world with Wu-Tang Clan in this revealing memoir—perfect for fans of *The Autobiography of Gucci Mane* and *Hustle Harder, Hustle Smarter*. There are rappers who everyone loves and there are rappers who every rapper loves, and Corey Woods, a.k.a. Raekwon the Chef, is one of the few who is both. His versatile flow, natural storytelling, and evocative imagery have inspired legions of fans and a new generation of rappers. Raekwon is one of the founding members of Wu-Tang Clan, and his voice and cadence are synonymous with the sound that has made the group iconic since 1991. Now, for the first time, Raekwon tells his whole story, from struggling through poverty in order to make ends meet to turning a hobby into a legacy. The Wu-Tang tale is dense, complex, and full of drama, and here nothing is off-limits: the group's origins, secrets behind songs like "C.R.E.A.M." and "Protect Ya Neck," and what it took to be one of the first hip-hop groups to go from the underground to the mainstream. Raekwon also delves deep into the making of his meticulous solo albums—particularly the classic *Only Built 4 Cuban Linx*—and talks about how spirituality and fatherhood continue to inspire his unstoppable creative process. A celebration of perseverance and the power of music, *From Staircase to Stage* is about a master storyteller's lifelong journey to stay true to himself and his roots.

Raised in the ghetto, abandoned as a child, addicted to drugs and women all his life but still able to produce four consecutive #1 hip-hop albums in a row--this is the life and times of the darkest and most dangerously introspective hip-hop artist ever, written at the height of his career and completely uncensored.

does eminem matter? On assignment for his first cover story for *Rolling Stone*, the very first national cover story on Eminem, Anthony Bozza met a young blond kid, a rapper who would soon take the country by storm. But back in 1999, Eminem was just beginning to make waves among suburban white teenagers as his first single, "My Name Is," went into heavy rotation on MTV. Who could have predicted that in a mere two years, Eminem would become the most reviled and controversial hip-hop figure ever? Or that twelve months after that, Eminem would sit firmly at the pinnacle of American celebrity, a Grammy winner many times over and the recipient of an Oscar. did eminem change or did america finally figure him out? *Whatever You Say I Am* attempts to answer this question and many more. Since their first meeting, Bozza has been given a level of access to Eminem that no other journalist has enjoyed. In *Whatever You Say I Am*, original, never-before-published text from Bozza's interviews with Eminem are combined with the insight of numerous hip-hop figures, music critics, journalists, and members of the Eminem camp to look behind the mask of this enigmatic celebrity. With an eye toward Eminem's place in American popular culture, Bozza creates a thoughtful portrait of one of the most successful artists of our time. This is so much more than a biography of a thoroughly well-documented life. It is a close-up look at a conflicted figure who has somehow spoken to the heart of America.

It is one thing to write a book about a superstar; it's another to write a book that speaks to us about the psychological dynamic that gets sketched into the heart and mind of the very few who have the opportunity to have such an experience, while at the same time exposing the bloodsuckers and other willing participants that are willing to sacrifice the naive in the name of fame and fortune. Many call it "the blessing and the curse." *The Man Who Walked the Dog* is a literary timepiece that allows the inquisitive reader, connoisseur of hip hop culture, or social historian, the opportunity to read the memoir of a man that was very instrumental in developing and giving the world one of its greatest hip hop stars. And in return, was exploited, blackballed, robbed, and a was survivor of many death threats, Truly his life is a testimony to the fact that every dog has his day.

Danny Boy grew up on one of the most influential record labels in the history of rap music. As the adopted son of Suge Knight, Danny rubbed elbows with the best of the best in the music industry. He sang for Teena Marie, collaborated with Lisa Left Eye Lopes, and formed a friendship with Jodeci members, K-Ci and JoJo. He witnessed both the rise and fall of Death Row Records, traveled with Suge and Tupac, and performed with some of the greatest musicians of all times. Danny is probably most widely known for "I Ain't Mad at Cha," the iconic song he recorded with the late Tupac Shakur. But there's more to his story. In this autobiography, he shares his secrets, his heartaches, and loves; he takes the reader on a journey that is unforgettable.

Get fit like 50 Cent: The phenomenally fit superstar rapper reveals his strategic six-week workout plan for achieving a ripped body—and developing the mental toughness to stay in shape for a lifetime. Survival is a recurring theme of 50 Cent's lyrics, and his life. That's why, with obesity rates soaring and fitness levels declining, he wants to give everyone an all-access pass to his premium plan for lifelong fitness. In *Formula 50*, the mega-successful entertainer and entrepreneur unleashes the power of metabolic resistance training (MRT), the key ingredient that has helped him achieve the famously buff physique that makes his music videos sizzle. Through MRT, 50 Cent's fitness plan breaks down the barriers between traditional weight training and cardio workouts, accelerating fat loss while building muscle and improving overall fitness. Designed for a six-week rollout for total mind-body transformation, the *Formula 50* regimen builds willpower while it builds physical power. In addition to motivation, nutrition is another key element; readers will discover the unique dietary combinations that fuel 50 Cent's workouts. Coauthored with Jeff O'Connell, health journalist and editor-in-chief at *Bodybuilding.com* (the world's largest fitness website), the book delivers a payoff that goes beyond six-pack abs and flab-free pecs: This is a fitness plan that boosts energy, endurance, flexibility, and mobility. The result is a body you've always dreamed of—and the mindset to attain the rest of your dreams.

E.A.R.L.The Autobiography of DMXHarper Collins

A *New Yorker* writer's intimate, revealing account of Tupac Shakur's life and legacy, timed to the fiftieth anniversary of his birth and twenty-fifth anniversary of his death. In the summer of 2020, Tupac Shakur's single "Changes" became an anthem for the worldwide protests against the murder of George Floyd. The song became so popular, in fact, it was vaulted back onto the iTunes charts more than twenty years after its release—making it clear that Tupac's music and the way it addresses systemic racism, police brutality, mass incarceration, income inequality, and a failing education system is just as important now as it was back then. In *Changes*, published to coincide with the fiftieth anniversary of Tupac's birth and twenty-fifth anniversary of his death, Sheldon Pearce offers one of the most thoughtful and comprehensive

accounts yet of the artist's life and legacy. Pearce, an editor and writer at The New Yorker, interviews dozens who knew Tupac throughout various phases of his life. While there are plenty of bold-faced names, the book focuses on the individuals who are lesser known and offer fresh stories and rare insight. Among these are the actor who costarred with him in a Harlem production of *A Raisin in the Sun* when he was twelve years old, the high school drama teacher who recognized and nurtured his talent, the music industry veteran who helped him develop a nonprofit devoted to helping young artists, the Death Row Records executive who has never before spoken on the record, and dozens of others. Meticulously woven together by Pearce, their voices combine to portray Tupac in all his complexity and contradiction. This remarkable book illustrates not only how he changed during his brief twenty-five years on this planet, but how he forever changed the world.

Felicia Pearson, who starred of the acclaimed television series 'The Wire', reveals her incredible, hard-knock life story, one that dramatically parallels her television character. While Felicia is a brilliant actor who played a truly chilling role, what's most remarkable about "Snoop" is what she has overcome in her life. Snoop was born a three-pound cross-eyed crack baby in East Baltimore. Those streets are among the toughest in the world, but Snoop was tougher. The runt of the ghetto showed an early aptitude for drug slinging and violence and thrived as a baby gangsta until she landed in Jessup state penitentiary after killing a woman in self-defense. There she rebelled violently against the system, and it was only through the cosmic intervention of her mentor, Uncle Loney, that she turned her life around. Eventually, Snoop was discovered in a nightclub by one of The Wire's cast members and quickly recruited to be one of television's most frightening and intriguing villains. While the story of coming up from the hood has been told by Antwone Fisher and Chris Gardner, among others, Snoop's tale goes far deeper into The Life than any previous books. And like Mary Karr's story, Snoop's is a woman's story from a fresh point of view. She defied traditional conventions of gender and sexual preference on the hardest streets in America and in front of millions of viewers on TV.

David Bowie. Culture Club. Wham!. Soft Cell. Duran Duran. Sade. Adam Ant. Spandau Ballet. The Eurythmics. 'Excellent' Guardian 'Hugely enjoyable' Irish Times 'Dazzling' LRB 'Fascinating' New Statesman 'An absolute must-read' GQ One of the most creative entrepreneurial periods since the Sixties, the era of the New Romantics grew out of the remnants of post-punk and developed quickly alongside club culture, ska, electronica, and goth. The scene had a huge influence on the growth of print and broadcast media, and was arguably one of the most bohemian environments of the late twentieth century. Not only did it visually define the decade, it was the catalyst for the Second British Invasion, when the US charts would be colonised by British pop music - making it one of the most powerful cultural exports since the Beatles. In *Sweet Dreams*, Dylan Jones charts the rise of the New Romantics through testimony from the people who lived it. For a while, *Sweet Dreams* were made of this.

The autobiography of the hip-hop and rap star, television actor, and positive role model details his career, childhood, private life, public service, and views on the music business

From the founder of the Wu-Tang Clan—celebrating their 25th anniversary this year—an inspirational book for the hip hop fan. The RZA, founder of the Wu-Tang Clan, imparts the lessons he's learned on his journey from the Staten Island projects to international superstardom. A devout student of knowledge in every form in which he's found it, he distills here the wisdom he's acquired into seven "pillars," each based on a formative event in his life—from the moment he first heard the call of hip-hop to the death of his cousin and Clan-mate, Russell Jones, aka ODB. Delivered in RZA's unmistakable style, at once surprising, profound, and provocative, *The Tao of Wu* is a spiritual memoir the world has never seen before, and will never see again. A nonfiction Siddhartha for the hip-hop generation from the author of *The Wu-Tang Manual*, it will enlighten, entertain, and inspire.

Rapper Gucci Mane takes us to his roots in Alabama, the streets of East Atlanta, the trap house, and the studio where he found his voice as a peerless rapper. He reflects on his inimitable career and in the process confronts his dark past -- the murder charge, years behind bars, addiction, career highs and lows -- the making of the *Trap God*. It is one of the greatest comeback stories in the history of music. -- Adapted from book jacket.

Divinely guided, inspirational, and groundbreaking, *The Ultimate Book of Wisdom* is an immediate must read for those seeking personal salvation and the power to control one's own harmony. Full of universal laws and practical steps to create the life desired, *The Ultimate Book of Wisdom* will take you on a life-changing journey, which the author describes as the road to consciousness and the spirit within. As a bonus, the book also provides critical information to start or accelerate your path to financial independence and generational wealth.

CXC Prescribed Text for English BIn Kumaca, a remote Trinidadian village, life follows the same pattern from one generation to the next.

Paulaine Dandrade wants to see progress, and helps to persuade the other villagers to build a school. But he never i

Based on police wiretaps and exclusive interviews with drug kingpins and hip-hop insiders, this is the untold story of how the streets and housing projects of southeast Queens took over the rap industry. For years, rappers from Nas to Ja Rule have hero-worshipped the legendary drug dealers who dominated Queens in the 1980s with their violent crimes and flashy lifestyles. Now, for the first time ever, this gripping narrative digs beneath the hip-hop fables to re-create the rise and fall of hustlers like Lorenzo "Fat Cat" Nichols, Gerald "Prince" Miller, Kenneth "Supreme" McGriff, and Thomas "Tony Montana" Mickens. Spanning twenty-five years, from the violence of the crack era to Run DMC to the infamous murder of NYPD rookie Edward Byrne to Tupac Shakur to 50 Cent's battles against Ja Rule and Murder Inc., to the killing of Jam Master Jay, *Queens Reigns Supreme* is the first inside look at the infamous southeast Queens crews and their connections to gangster culture in hip hop today.

Donald Goines was a pimp, a truck driver, a heroin addict, a factory worker, and a career criminal. He was also one of world's most popular Black contemporary writers. Having published 16 novels, including *Whoreson*, *Dopefiend*, and *Daddy Cool*, Goines's unique brand of "street narrative" and "ghetto realism" mark him as the original street writer. Now, in the first in-depth biography of Goines's life, author Eddie B. Allen explores exactly how one man could make the transition from street hustler to bestselling author. With exclusive access to personal letters, treatments from unwritten books, photographs, and family members, Allen uncovers Goines's personal experiences with drugs, prostitutes, prison, and urban violence. Fans of Goines's novels will note a dramatic parallelism between his life and his fictional tales.

Ja Rule, actor, singer, songwriter, and one of the most multi-dimensional rap artists of his time, tells his compelling story—from his youth to his rise to international fame to his transformative two years in Federal prison—and reveals the man beneath the legend. *Unruly* is two stories that offer one complete picture of a man and his world: the angry, fatherless rapper, Ja Rule who was "raised by the streets"; and Jeffrey Atkins,

the insightful, reflective father and loyal husband who learned the hard way how to be a good man. Filled with never-before-revealed anecdotes and sixteen pages of black-and-white photos, *Unruly* shows the determination that it takes to become a man in today's society. Ja Rule considers the lack of role models for many young black men today—a void that leads to bad choices and the wrong paths. Recalling his youth, he illuminates the seductive pull of the streets and the drug dealers who were his earliest role models. Jeffrey Atkins offers practical wisdom—reflection, growth and hope learned first-hand as an inmate, father, husband, and community role model. He speaks fondly of men who inspired *Unruly*—the inmates he met in prison whose misguided ideas of masculinity landed them behind bars—and Louis Farrakhan who mediated the televised encounter with Ja Rule's adversary, 50 Cent. *Unruly* is a compelling, personal look at the duality and conflicts that arise in the African-American male psyche from a man who has enjoyed breathtaking fame and suffered heartbreaking misfortune. Rapper 50 Cent has made it big in a very short space of time. Having been supported by Jam Master Jay, and produced by Dr Dre and Eminem, the rapper and poet has already experienced great success and critical acclaim for his anthemic single 'In Da Club' and bestselling debut album. While some rappers just talk the talk, though, 50 has walked the walk, and this brilliant insight into who he is and where he came from is a must for all fans. Growing up in Jamaica, Queens, he was born to a 15-year-old drug-dealing mother -- she was killed in mysterious circumstances -- and took over the family business at the age of twelve. Living hard, he has been stabbed, shot nine times (one bullet in his face) and has survived a number of assassination attempts. He is a survivor, a man from the streets who has made it big-time without forgetting his roots. This is the inside story of a rap icon.

"An engaging account about the way unhealthy entanglements can affect an actor's life.." - Kirkus Reviews The life of actor/choreographer/musician Columbus Short has been punctuated with trauma that extends well beyond the plot lines of his previous role on the hit series *Scandal*. Short has lived many lives packed into one—from a family filled with turmoil to tumultuous love affairs and enough scandals of his own. But somewhere in the middle, Short's realization that there has to be a better way comes into full view. "Short Stories" not only details Columbus Short's journey from childhood to Hollywood, it shows how even the most checkered of pasts can create a different person with the right amount of will and drive, especially when it comes to fulfilling your true destiny.

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