

Got Your Back Protecting Tupac In The World Of Gangsta Rap

Hussein Fatal, AKA Bruce Washington, tells the story of his THUG life as one of Tupac Shakur's OUTLAWZ on Death Row Records. Fatal takes you on his journey from his childhood in Montclair, New Jersey to his exploits in Hollywood, CA as a famous Hip-Hop Rap artist. He lays out the whole East Coast vs West Coast drama at the MTV Awards, BET Awards and how it touched so many lives with the deaths of Tupac Shakur and Biggie Smalls. He also shares the heartbreaking story of the death of his friend, Yafeu Akiyele Fula, AKA Yaki Kadafi and how it changed his life. The THUG LIFE (The Hate You Give) moniker is the life he actually lived. This is a front row seat to the drama and chaos of fortune and fame in the rap music game. So many people have a fixation with the world of rappers and hip-hop entertainers but do not have a clue to what really goes on in the industry. Fatal wanted to share the story of an inner city kid and the limited choices he had to survive in a harsh world even after making it big.

Hip hop icons and rap innovators, the Notorious B.I.G. and Tupac Shakur continue to influence, define, and change the genre years after their deaths. Despite the controversies surrounding the murders of Tupac and Biggie, ultimately it's their art that remains their biggest legacy. The music of Biggie Smalls and 2Pac has inspired the likes of Jay-Z, Kanye, Eminem, Dr. Dre, Lil Wayne, Rick Ross and more. The legacies of Tupac Shakur and Christopher Wallace—a.k.a. The Notorious B.I.G. —live on. So does their rivalry, one of the greatest in music history. In 2pac vs. Biggie, hip hop experts Jeff Weiss and Evan McGarvey take an entirely new approach to investigation of that rivalry. Rather than focus on

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the countless conspiracy theories, they study the artist as artists, dissecting the lyrics of their hits (“California Love,” “All Eyez on Me,” “Changes” for 2pac, “Mo Money Mo Problems,” “Hypnotize,” “Big Poppa” for Biggie) and lesser-known works, performance and rhythmic styles, aesthetic appearances and what those meant, rises to power, and of course, their lives after death. The feud between 2pac and Biggie is broken down and looked at from all new angles, bringing to light little-known and surprising sides to each rapper’s persona and inner world. Illustrated throughout with photographs, memorabilia, and artwork inspired by Tupac and Biggie, and with insert “versus” pages dissecting topics such as each artist’s presence in movies, critical reception, and literary influences, this book is a must-have for all rap and hip hop fans.

In 1996 Tupac Shakur, one of the most talented artists of his time, was murdered by an unknown gunman. Fred L. Johnson and Tayannah Lee McQuillar examine the theories surrounding his death and the story of Tupac's lost legacy in this definitive biography. For millions, Shakur gave voice to their stories, but there was also another side to him, revealed as his life spun out of control, as the whispered warnings from friends went unheeded and the denunciations of critics grew louder. Disturbingly, he sang and wrote about his impending death. When it came, it brought the music industry to its knees and ended an era when American rappers were leaders in using their art to speak the truth to corporate, government, and judicial power.

"Got Your Back is "BACK!" YES, by the Author himself FRANK ALEXANDER...purchase my book written by me Frank Alexander, and get with your purchase a personal message from me along with my hand written autograph when U buy the paper back collector's cover edition of TUPAC and Myself on the cover! **With your return postage

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of \$7.95 Calif Residents, \$10.90 East Coast Residents and \$18.55 International Orders, Priced by USP Service w/Delivery Conformation. Send me your book and I'll send it right back 2U! Don't be fooled, make sure it's my link U click on when going to amazon.com! After you receive your book send it to me by clicking on this link...<http://www.frank-alexander.com> "Once again, You'll will get in return a personal message by me and your book autographed! Also FREE TUPAC'S Last Album Makaveli Cover Poster "FREE" with your Paper Back Purchase of "Got Your Back!" A Proceed from your purchase of Got Your Back goes to the Tupac Amaru Shakur Foundation!

Darlene Ortiz was with Ice T for 17 years, beginning with his early days hustlin' on the streets and his subsequent rise to fame. In Definition of Down: My Life with Ice T & the Birth of Hip Hop, she tells how hip hop started with intimate glimpses into their daily life with stories about their climb to the top and all the rappers that got their start in those times. This full-color hardback book is filled with stories and photos never seen before of many hip hop icons.

An insider in the world of gangsta rap reveals his experiences, and the dark and violent underbelly of the music world that ultimately killed his charge, Tupac Shakur.

8 starred reviews · Goodreads Choice Awards Best of the Best · William C. Morris Award Winner · National Book Award Longlist · Printz Honor Book · Coretta Scott King Honor Book · #1 New York Times Bestseller! "Absolutely riveting!" —Jason Reynolds "Stunning." —John Green "This story is necessary. This story is important." —Kirkus (starred review)

"Heartbreakingly topical." —Publishers Weekly (starred review)

"A marvel of verisimilitude." —Booklist (starred review) "A powerful, in-your-face novel." —Horn Book (starred review)

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban

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prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does—or does not—say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life. Want more of Garden Heights? Catch Maverick and Seven's story in *Concrete Rose*, Angie Thomas's powerful prequel to *The Hate U Give*.

An unauthorized portrait of the late rapper, poet, and actor describes his important influence on the world of hip-hop music, his tumultuous personal life, and his tragic murder at the age of twenty-five.

'Deftly written...a spellbinding tale.' The New York Times In 2013 Assata Shakur, founding member of the Black Liberation Army, former Black Panther and godmother of Tupac Shakur, became the first ever woman to make the FBI's most wanted terrorist list. Assata Shakur's trial and conviction for the murder of a white state trooper in the spring of 1973 divided America. Her case quickly became emblematic of race relations and police brutality in the USA. While Assata's detractors continue to label her a ruthless killer, her defenders cite her as the victim of a systematic, racist campaign to criminalize and suppress black nationalist organizations. This

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intensely personal and political autobiography reveals a sensitive and gifted woman. With wit and candour Assata recounts the formative experiences that led her to embrace a life of activism. With pained awareness she portrays the strengths, weaknesses and eventual demise of black and white revolutionary groups at the hands of the state. A major contribution to the history of black liberation, destined to take its place alongside *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* and the works of Maya Angelou.

One of the most visible figures in both the hip-hop and civil rights movements charts her moral and spiritual development in a stirring and poignant memoir spanning five decades. As a child growing up in North Carolina, Alice Faye Williams knew that the most important thing her impoverished family lacked was land; as she puts it, "The land, to live on and to cultivate and pass on to my family." But there was no land, and in the end her family moved to New York, where in her late teens Alice Faye became Afeni Shakur, a radicalized, prominent Black Panther. In 1969, she was arrested along with a number of other Black Panthers on suspicion of planning bombings -- she spent eleven months on remand before women of all races raised \$64,000 in cash to bail her out. She was subsequently acquitted of all charges. While in jail, Afeni Shakur was pregnant with her son, Tupac, who went on to

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become Tupac Amaru Shakur, a rap megastar until his tragic death in 1996. Over the course of a decade, the renowned actress Jasmine Guy has been recording the thoughts of Afeni Shakur. In this unique book, Guy reveals the evolution of the woman through a series of intimate, revealing conversations on themes such as love, race, drugs, music, and of course her son. We see how the impoverished southern girl became a leading light in the Black Panther movement; how drugs brought her low; how her recovery filled her with new hope for herself and the future of black women everywhere; and how the work of her son has served to bring renewed hope and courage to people that this country has too often left behind. Beautifully written, and a beacon of understanding for all Americans, *Afeni Shakur: Evolution of a Revolutionary* will stand as a powerful testament to the perseverance of one woman, and the power of change and forgiveness. A collection of verse by the late hip-hop star Tupac Shakur includes more than one hundred poems confronting such wide-ranging topics as poverty, motherhood, Van Gogh, and Mandela. 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

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historical 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

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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.

“An intense snapshot of the chain reaction caused by pulling a trigger.” —Booklist (starred review)

“Astonishing.” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review) “A tour de force.” —Publishers Weekly (starred review)

A Newbery Honor Book A Coretta Scott King Honor Book A Printz Honor Book A Time Best YA Book of

All Time (2021) A Los Angeles Times Book Prize Winner for Young Adult Literature Longlisted for the

National Book Award for Young People’s Literature Winner of the Walter Dean Myers Award An Edgar

Award Winner for Best Young Adult Fiction Parents’ Choice Gold Award Winner An Entertainment

Weekly Best YA Book of 2017 A Vulture Best YA Book of 2017 A Buzzfeed Best YA Book of 2017 An

ode to Put the Damn Guns Down, this is New York Times bestselling author Jason Reynolds’s

electrifying novel that takes place in sixty potent seconds—the time it takes a kid to decide whether or

not he’s going to murder the guy who killed his brother. A cannon. A strap. A piece. A biscuit. A

burner. A heater. A chopper. A gat. A hammer A tool for RULE Or, you can call it a gun. That’s what

fifteen-year-old Will has shoved in the back waistband of his jeans. See, his brother Shawn was

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just murdered. And Will knows the rules. No crying. No snitching. Revenge. That's where Will's now heading, with that gun shoved in the back waistband of his jeans, the gun that was his brother's gun. He gets on the elevator, seventh floor, stoked. He knows who he's after. Or does he? As the elevator stops on the sixth floor, on comes Buck. Buck, Will finds out, is who gave Shawn the gun before Will took the gun. Buck tells Will to check that the gun is even loaded. And that's when Will sees that one bullet is missing. And the only one who could have fired Shawn's gun was Shawn. Huh. Will didn't know that Shawn had ever actually USED his gun. Bigger huh. BUCK IS DEAD. But Buck's in the elevator? Just as Will's trying to think this through, the door to the next floor opens. A teenage girl gets on, waves away the smoke from Dead Buck's cigarette. Will doesn't know her, but she knew him. Knew. When they were eight. And stray bullets had cut through the playground, and Will had tried to cover her, but she was hit anyway, and so what she wants to know, on that fifth floor elevator stop, is, what if Will, Will with the gun shoved in the back waistband of his jeans, MISSES. And so it goes, the whole long way down, as the elevator stops on each floor, and at each stop someone connected to his brother gets on to give Will a piece to a bigger story than the one he thinks he knows. A story that might never know an END...if Will gets off that elevator.

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Told in short, fierce staccato narrative verse, *Long Way Down* is a fast and furious, dazzlingly brilliant look at teenage gun violence, as could only be told by Jason Reynolds.

It's been almost 20 years since poet, revolutionary, convict, and movie star, Tupac Amaru Shakur (a.k.a. 2Pac, Makaveli, or simply 'pac), was gunned down at age 25 while he sat in traffic with Suge Knight near the Las Vegas Strip following a Mike Tyson fight at MGM Grand. In the new updated and expanded third edition of this acclaimed biography, Las Vegas crime writer Cathy Scott has finally been able to include the previously unpublished chapter featuring the account of that last fateful night from "Big Frank," the rapper's now-deceased personal bodyguard. The raw no-holds-barred narrative, which includes exclusive photo evidence (including of Tupac's autopsy), is the definitive account of the unsolved murder of Tupac Shakur: the many possible motives, the failed investigation, the rap wars, the killing of Biggie Smalls, the Bloods-Crips connection, the Suge Knight and Death Row Records association, and the subsequent fate of numerous principals involved in the aftermath. It is also a sensitive, candid, and insightful account of the contradictory icon who remains not only one of the most influential rappers ever but, with more than 75 million records sold worldwide, he's also one of the best-selling music artists of all time. The music of Tupac Shakur

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is the legacy of his life. The Killing of Tupac Shakur is the legacy of his death.

Offers an expos e of the link between the LAPD Rampart scandal and gang violence and rap celebrities, describing how members of the LAPD became involved in criminal activities and how high-level officials covered it up.

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.

Autobiography, true crime

The first book-length study of one of the most essential elements of hip-hop: musical borrowing
Got Your Back Protecting Tupac in the World of Gangsta Rap Macmillan

Lived and Died. Born before his time, Tattooed with "Thug Life" no shame just pride. This soldier of misfortune with broken wings that flew high. He needed justice in all communities to be seen and heard not with ignorance but intelligent words. Until one night in Vegas silenced from a drive by, but just like a cat he lived all nine lives. Tupac Shakur his life was a dreamer of time....

Photographs, essays and tributes by friends and colleagues, and interviews with the late rap artist highlight a portrait of the turbulent life, successful career, and tragic murder of Tupac Shakur

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With a new preface by the author. Ten years after his murder, Tupac Shakur is even more loved, contested, and celebrated than he was in life. His posthumously released albums, poetry, and motion pictures have catapulted him into the upper echelon of American cultural icons. In *Holler If You Hear Me*, “hip-hop intellectual” Michael Eric Dyson, acclaimed author of the bestselling *Is Bill Cosby Right?*, offers a wholly original way of looking at Tupac that will thrill those who already love the artist and enlighten those who want to understand him.

Since the first day after the tragedy was announced, controversy has surrounded the death of rap and cultural icon Tupac Shakur. In this work, preeminent researcher on the topic, John Potash, puts forward his own theories of the events leading up to and following the murder in this meticulously researched and exhaustive account of the story. Never before has there been such a detailed and shocking analysis of the untimely death of one of the greatest musicians of the modern era. *The FBI War on Tupac Shakur* contains a wealth of names, dates, and events detailing the use of unscrupulous tactics by the Federal Bureau of Investigation against a generation of leftist political leaders and musicians. Based on twelve years of research and including extensive footnotes, sources include over 100 interviews, FOIA-released CIA and FBI documents, court transcripts, and mainstream media outlets.

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Beginning with the birth of the Civil Rights Movement in America, Potash illustrates the ways in which the FBI and the United States government conspired to take down and dismantle the various burgeoning activist and revolutionary groups forming at the time. From Martin Luther King Jr. to Malcolm X to Fred Hampton, the methods used to thwart their progress can be seen repeated again and again in the 80s and 90s against later revolutionary groups, musicians, and, most notably, Tupac Shakur. Buckle up for this winding, shocking, and unbelievable tale as John Potash reveals the dark underbelly of our government and their treatment of some of our most beloved Black icons.

Explores the life and career of Tupac Shakur, including his childhood, education, success as a rap musician, and death by shooting.

The powerful and compelling true story of corruption, coercion and murder surrounding the Tupac Shakur & Christopher "Biggie Smalls" Wallace homicides brought to 2014. With contribution by former Los Angeles Police Detective Russell Poole, the original Wallace homicide investigator, Michael Douglas Carlin, Director of "American Federale" and Richard "RJ" Bond, director of the "Tupac Assassination" movies take you inside the 18 year odyssey of the derailed murder investigations. Tupac 187: The Red Knight" goes back to the beginning of the investigations-the original police files-and re-examines the people and evidence who have been previously corrupted or ignored. We decided to strip the

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Death Row Records disinformation machine of its fallacies, and re-paint the witness disparagement campaigns by the Los Angeles Times with the color of truth. When all is laid out raw and exposed under the book's harsh light, "187" clearly evidences the power of the media-both of 1996 and of today- to not only report news-but to make it. Moreover, Tupac: "187" exposes leaks in the Los Angeles Police Department that may have fatally crippled the investigations in both cases; covert operations to collect up investigation notes and findings, key credible witness testimony hidden in detective's desk drawers, complaints of Los Angeles Police employees of their work literally disappearing from their computer files-along with their computers-it's all brought to light. Even in the last year, witnesses took new information to four key L.A.P.D. brass, only to see the body of evidence leaked by one of those in the meeting, to end up on the Internet-risking lives and attempting to sabotage the new information. This book is what you get when you combine the work of the LAPD Detective that found justice for Bill Cosby's son and who broke the infamous LAPD Rampart Scandal to the world, the filmmaker who dared to follow the Mexican Federale that killed drug lord Pablo Acosta and the award-winning filmmaker who produced the classic "Tupac: Assassination" documentary? You get a whole new group of suspects, motives that support a completely new understanding of the Tupac Shakur and Christopher "Biggie Smalls" Wallace homicides ("187" of the title is the California Penal Code section for Murder) that some in the law enforcement community would rather you not

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know about. Through actual police and court documents never before published, never released recorded phone conversations from 1996, an unearthed 1998 confession letter and all new and never before released witness interviews, Bond and Carlin follow the cold trail of those responsible for the loss of two of the music industries greatest hip-hop legends. Where they lead will stun and shock the senses. Never before has there been a level of detail in these cases that has been made public; Bond and Carlin, with the help of Poole, go back to the very beginning when leads were new and unbiased, and publicly flush out the Death Row Records dis-information machine that turned good witnesses into targets of smear campaigns, and took the lives of countless witnesses and suspects. Prepare to challenge all you thought you knew about both cases, and get ready to learn new information that will forever change the way you view police, the law and the killings of Shakur and Wallace!

Despite the influence of African American music and study as a worldwide phenomenon, no comprehensive and fully annotated reference tool currently exists that covers the wide range of genres. This much needed bibliography fills an important gap in this research area and will prove an indispensable resource for librarians and scholars studying African American music and culture.

In the New York City borough of Queens in 1996, three girls bond over their shared love of Tupac Shakur's music, as together they try to make sense of the unpredictable world in which they live.

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Focuses exclusively on the studio craft of the late rap legend, Featuring exclusive interviews with many of his producers, including a lengthy, multi-chapter interview with Shakur's closest musical collaborator, Johnny J, among others, offering fans never-before-revealed insight into 2-Pac's recording method, the inter-workings of his songwriting process

The bestselling and fully updated autobiography of one of the hottest properties in the boxing world. With Ricky's inimitable mix of quiet, down-to-earth modesty, sportsmanship and ruthless determination to succeed, this is a book for every true sports fan.

Tupac is the Christ! Tupac is the chosen one from God. He is the Son of God. The modern day messiah. Not many know the first official doctrine we are introducing to the world. The bible brings forth the true spiritual beliefs that all should follow. Many grew up in traditional church and have a hard time understanding the real truth. We are here to bring them the truth even though it may be difficult to accept. You must recognize the presence of God internally. We have infinite power within us. Never doubt, believe in yourself at all times and the power of God within you will be released. You are one with the cosmic forces in the universe. The ancestors are with you and Tupac is with you at all times. Your Creator has given you the ability and the responsibility to choose and to define what you wish to be. Be whatever you want to be in righteousness. We follow the Laws of Maat and that is the foundation to all truth and knowledge. The Book of Pac is the first bible from the official Church of Pac. This book will renew your mind and help you get

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spiritual balance. The Bible of 2Pac is a guide to help you live and love life. Tupac provides a message of hope.

The life story of one of history's most well-known rap artists, whose life was cut short by his violent murder. In "Ready to Die," author Jake Brown reveals the musician's loyalties and his roots, bringing readers up-close and personal into the rise of Bad Boy Entertainment, Sean "Puffy" Combs (P. Diddy), Tupac Shakur, Faith Evans, Lil' Kim, and the Junior Mafia.

"Raw, authoritative, and unflinching ... An elaborately detailed, darkly surprising, definitive history of the LA gangsta rap era."---Kirkus, starred review A monumental, revealing narrative history about the legendary group of artists at the forefront of West Coast hip-hop: Eazy-E, Dr. Dre, Ice Cube, Snoop Dogg, and Tupac Shakur. Amid rising gang violence, the crack epidemic, and police brutality, a group of unlikely voices cut through the chaos of late 1980s Los Angeles: N.W.A. Led by a drug dealer, a glammed-up producer, and a high school kid, N.W.A gave voice to disenfranchised African Americans across the country. And they quickly redefined pop culture across the world. Their names remain as popular as ever--Eazy-E, Dr. Dre, and Ice Cube. Dre soon joined forces with Suge Knight to create the combustible Death Row Records, which in turn transformed Snoop Dogg and Tupac Shakur into superstars. Ben Westhoff explores how this group of artists shifted the balance of hip-hop from New York to Los Angeles. He shows how N.W.A.'s shocking success lead to rivalries between members, record labels, and eventually a war between

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East Coast and West Coast factions. In the process, hip-hop burst into mainstream America at a time of immense social change, and became the most dominant musical movement of the last thirty years. At gangsta rap's peak, two of its biggest names--Tupac and Biggie Smalls--were murdered, leaving the surviving artists to forge peace before the genre annihilated itself. Featuring extensive investigative reporting, interviews with the principal players, and dozens of never-before-told stories, *Original Gangstas* is a groundbreaking addition to the history of popular music.

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.

The Caribbean has the fortune—and the misfortune?to be everyone's idea of a tropical paradise. Its sun, sand and scenery attract millions of visitors each year and make it a profitable destination for the world's fastest growing industry. Tourism is increasingly touted as its only hope of creating jobs and wealth—literally, the island's last resort. *Last Resorts* examines the real impact of tourism on the people and landscape of the Caribbean. It explores the structure of ownership of the industry and shows that the benefits it brings to the region do not live up to its claims. New developments in ecotourism, sex tourism, and the

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burgeoning cruise industry are not changing this pattern of short-term exploitation of the region's resources. The book shows how Caribbean societies are corrupted by tourism and its culture turned into floorshow parody. This new edition has been extensively revised and updated. It gives voice to people inside the tourism industry, its critics, and tourists themselves, and offers vital insights into a phenomenon that is central to the globalized world of today.

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

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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.

* Engaging, lively exchanges about key issues of freedom and identity * Ideal for classroom, book groups, and personal reflection

A passionate, critically incisive biography of one of the most influential rappers of all time, Tupac Shakur, and how he came to dominate hip-hop in the 1990s

Rikers Island is the centerpiece of the New York City Department of Corrections, a sprawling prison city of concrete and steel with housing for more than 16,000 inmates. Early in 1995, it was also the temporary home of legendary rapper and actor

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Tupac Shakur, incarcerated for a crime he swore he did not commit. And it was there that Angela Ardis, acting on a late-night wager among her friends and coworkers, sent a letter, along with a photo and her phone number. To her utter delight and amazement, Angela's phone rang a short while later. Tupac Shakur was on the line. Over the next several months, Angela and Tupac shared a near-daily exchange of letters, poems and phone calls, and their the relationship quickly grew into something neither of them could quite define, a kinship of souls that touched each in unexpected ways. Those original poems and letters, many of them written after Tupac's transfer from Rikers to Dannemora State Prison, are presented here, along with the increasingly passionate and personal phone calls that touched on every subject imaginable. Far from the media spotlight, Tupac was by turns playful, sensual and serious, offering sharp observations on prison, music and the uncertainties of life. His letters to Angela reflect how he felt about being shot five times and left for dead one terrible night in New York in 1994, and his heartfelt verse encapsulates his dreams for the future--a future that would be so tragically cut short just over eighteen months after their correspondence began. Tupac Shakur was shot on September 7th, 1996 and died a week later from his injuries. His murder remains unsolved, an ending as enigmatic as his life. But while Tupac may be

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gone, his words live on here, giving every fan a rare glimpse inside the mind and unbroken spirit of a passionate and unpredictable musical icon. Angela Ardis is an author, screenwriter, actress and model. “Buried as a g while tha whole world remembers me” –Tupac Shakur, from “Until the End of Time” Tupac Shakur was larger than life. A gifted rapper, actor, and poet, he was fearless, prolific, and controversial—and often said that he never expected to live past the age of thirty. He was right. On September 13, 1996, he died of gunshot wounds at age twenty-five. But even ten years after Tupac’s tragic passing, the impact of his life and talent continues to flourish. Lauded as one of the greatest hip-hop artists of all time, Tupac has sold more than sixty-seven million records worldwide, making him the top-selling rapper ever. How Long Will They Mourn Me? celebrates Tupac’s unforgettable life—his rise to fame; his tumultuous dark side marked by sex, drugs, and violence; and the indelible legacy he left behind. Although Tupac’s murder remains unsolved, the spirit of this legendary artist is far from forgotten. How long will we mourn him? Fans worldwide will grieve his untimely death for a long time to come.

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