

Rollin With Dre

Offers an insider's view of hip hop music, the evolution of Death Row Records, and the turbulent history of the genre, from the sex-and-violence drenched culture of the industry to the feud between East Coast and West Coast music.

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

Shows a new generation of teachers how the systems, structures, routines, and rituals that support successful workshops combine with thinking, planning, and conferring to drive students' growth, inform assessment and instruction, and increase teachers' professional satisfaction. And it shows those already using the workshop how to increase its instructional power by seeing its big ideas and its component parts in fresh, dynamic ways.

DeAndre Harris aka Dre is an 18-year-old black male and the leader of the Tru Aetna Boyz?which includes Raheem, Devonte and Lyrical. Dre and his friends are just ordinary teenagers growing up on the streets of one of the most dangerous neighborhoods in the city of Gary, Indiana: Aetna, a poverty-stricken area where drugs, shootouts, police corruption, gang activity and murder run rampant on a daily basis. The Tru Aetna Boyz are determined to gain money, status, women, and fame in order to achieve the rare lifestyle of ghetto fabulousness. Even if it means selling drugs...or committing murder to do so. Audriana Escobar aka Audi is an 18-year-old Mexican/Armenian female and the leader of the Gucci Girlz?which includes twins Coco and Makita, and Cherish. Audi and her friends also live in the Aetna area, and their only goal is to find a way out of the poor town and to achieve a life of happiness, love, and luxury, and Audi believes that the first step to her fulfilling that dream is by finishing school and working part-time at the local grocery store. Naomi Mills, a police sergeant out of the Gary Police Department, is emotionally conflicted when it comes to protecting and cleaning up the streets of G.I. When she and her team of detectives run across a murderous group of masked assailants known only as the Death Dealers and whose sole purpose is to terrorize the streets of G.I., Naomi is determined to bring the killers to justice, but when the Death Dealers suddenly target her and her loved ones, she suspects police corruption in her own department and realizes that the elusive killers may be much closer to her than she'd like, putting her at a crossroads; arrest the masked assailants...or kill them all? When the Tru Aetna Boyz and the Gucci Girlz cross paths, all of their wants and desires seem to be coming true. But when Sergeant Naomi Mills and team of detectives are thrown into the mix, emotions run high, rivalries explode, loyalties are tested, and distrust is sown. Will the Tru Aetna Boyz achieve their goal of becoming "ballers" or will they fall to the usual woes that accompany street life? Will the Gucci Girlz' search for happiness, love and luxury become attainable, or will their dreams turn out to be nothing more than that of a teenage girl's false hope? And can Sergeant Mills and her team catch the merciless Death Dealers and protect the streets of G.I. from murder and mayhem? Or will all their efforts prove futile and they, too, realize that it's too late to save a dying city from a lifetime of Hustle & Heartache?

It is the best known book about American slavery, and was so incendiary upon its first publication in 1852 that it actually ignited the

social flames that led to Civil War less than a decade later. What began as a series of sketches for the Cincinnati abolitionist newspaper *The National Era* scandalized the North, was banned in the South, and ultimately became the bestselling novel of the 19th century. Today, controversy over this melodramatic tale of the dignified slave Tom, the brutal plantation owner Simon Legree, and Stowe's other vividly drawn characters continues, as modern scholars debate the work's newly appreciated feminist undertones and others decry it as the source of enduring stereotypes about African Americans. As one of the most influential books in U.S. history, it deserves to be read by all students of literature and of the American story. American abolitionist and author HARRIET BEECHER STOWE (1811-1896) was born in Connecticut, daughter of a Congregationalist minister and sister to abolitionist theologian Henry Ward Beecher. She wrote more than two dozen books, both fiction and nonfiction.

PC-based simulations, though touted by many in the aviation community as excellent flight training aids, are not being used to their full potential. This guide and the accompanying CD illustrate how to get the most out of Microsoft® Flight Simulator with general suggestions, specific advice, and practical tools. Student pilots can use the comprehensive information to review specific concepts and prepare themselves for formal flight instruction, while certified pilots can upgrade their navigation skills, learn about advanced aircraft and procedures, and complement their real-world flying with additional hours in the virtual skies. The materials are suitable for flight instructors looking for new tools to use in ground school classes and pre- and post-flight briefings, and virtual aviation hobbyists will welcome the in-depth information on flying in the real world. This new edition has been updated to reflect the latest changes to FAA rules, regulations, and procedures as well as the latest software and technology updates that have occurred since the first edition.

Vikotam is a naive narcissist who provokes the established order of things in his personal quest for answers. With each new 'situation' he gets himself into, he emerges smarter and wiser – or so he thinks. Our story chronicles the 'coming of age' of a restless young Vikotam, as he makes his jagged journey through life - from being a naive self-destructive arts student in the U.S.A. to being a vindictive employee and drug mule; to his final transition into being a wannabe 'know-it-all life-guru' in the bustling metropolis of Mumbai.

"Doc Childre's writing is eloquent, his wisdom is profound, and his easy way of communicating makes this book a treasure. His colleagues present the energy of the heart in the safety of a scientific context that invites us again and again to move beyond it." -- Gary Zukav, author *The Seat of the Soul* and *The Dancing Wu Li Masters* Heart Intelligence, *Connecting with the Intuitive Guidance of the Heart* provides readers with a new, high definition picture of the energetic heart as a unifying, creative, intuitive intelligence that we can learn to draw on for moment to moment guidance. Heart Intelligence links the physical heart to the spiritual (energetic) heart. Through its extensive communication with the brain and body, the heart is intimately involved in how we think, feel, and respond to the world. Expanding on their breakthrough book, *The HeartMath Solution*, the authors offer heart-based techniques and guidelines for living from the heart, which connects the puzzle pieces of our purpose and fulfillment. The book provides information and simple practices for accessing our heart's intuitive guidance to connect with our highest choices for

better outcomes. Our choices are especially important through these changing times because they constantly create or disrupt our peace, happiness and self-security. Our thoughts and feelings influence the chemistry that regulates much of our health -- how we feel, for better or worse. Our thoughts, feelings, emotions and attitudes are just frequencies that we can learn to change -- once we put our heart into our intention. Heart Intelligence provides practices to replace fear with the attitude of intelligent concern (managed concern) which leaves us in charge and more attuned to intuitive direction. We learn the benefits of practicing simple coherence techniques a few times a day for boosting resilience and emotional balance; making appropriate choices; and clearing our mind from anxiety or overwhelm when needed. It is through deepening our heart intelligence, coherence and connection that humanity will be able to shift from separation to cooperation resulting in higher solutions to our personal and global problems

Brown details Dr. Dre's life, times, and history, in a way no other work has, brilliantly capturing the history of this music legend. Praised by many reviewers, an illustrated, unflinching expose+a7 reveals the greed, corruption, murder, and exploitation behind the unparalleled success of Death Row Records, responsible for spreading rap to the masses. Reprint.

Audriana Escobar, aka Audi, is the 18-year-old leader of the Gucci Girlz? a crew made up of her closest friends. Growing up in poverty, their only current goal is to find a way out of the poor town of Aetna and achieve a life of happiness, love, and luxury. When they cross paths with another crew named the Tru Aetna Boyz, all of their wants and desires seem to be coming true. DeAndre, aka Dre, leads the team that includes his friends Raheem, Devonte and Lyrical and, together, they make up one of the most dangerous gangs in their hometown. With their intentions set on gaining money, status, women and fame, meeting a group of women with the same goals in mind seems like the best kind of luck. Sparks fly almost immediately and, together, they quickly become a force that totally dominates the street game without competition or resistance... until they catch the eye of police sergeant, Naomi Mills. Pursuing money and love always comes with its own set of troubles, which the Gucci Girlz and Tru Aetna Boyz eventually realize on their own. As they begin to step into the lives that they always envisioned for themselves, everything is turned upside down when they become the trophy for a sergeant with a chip on her shoulder. Will they be able to step into their dream of luxury and true love?

Basher Science: Technology, A byte-sized world! created and illustrated by Simon Basher, written by Dan Green From the bestselling illustrator whose friendly take on science has revolutionized our understanding of everything from the periodic table to the universe, comes a fresh take on technology as only Basher can do it. Discover the secrets behind the devices we take for granted, and learn about the amazing inventions that have transformed our lives. From the Movers and Shakers who power our physical world, to the Gizmos, Home Bodies, and High Rollers who power our vehicles, entertainment, and smartphones—and pretty much everything else around us—Technology is a compelling guide to the big-bytes whiz-kids, powerhouse motors, and other characters who drive our inventive, highly engineered world. Includes, beginning Sept. 15, 1954 (and on the 15th of each month, Sept.-May) a special section: School library journal, ISSN 0000-0035, (called Junior libraries, 1954-May 1961). Also issued separately.

Spanning 25 years of serious writing on hip-hop by noted scholars and mainstream journalists, this comprehensive anthology includes observations and critiques on groundbreaking hip-hop recordings.

If asked to list the greatest innovators of modern American poetry, few of us would think to include Jay-Z or Eminem in their number. And yet hip hop is the source of some of the most exciting developments in verse today. The media uproar in response to its controversial lyrical

content has obscured hip hop's revolution of poetic craft and experience: Only in rap music can the beat of a song render poetic meter audible, allowing an MC's wordplay to move a club-full of eager listeners. Examining rap history's most memorable lyricists and their inimitable techniques, literary scholar Adam Bradley argues that we must understand rap as poetry or miss the vanguard of poetry today. *Book of Rhymes* explores America's least understood poets, unpacking their surprisingly complex craft, and according rap poetry the respect it deserves.

From the chief architect of the Pandora Radio's Music Genome Project comes a definitive and groundbreaking examination of how your mind, body, and upbringing influence the music you love. Everyone loves music. But what is it that makes music so universally beloved and have such a powerful effect on us? In this sweeping and authoritative book, Dr. Nolan Gasser—a composer, pianist, and musicologist, and the chief architect of the Music Genome Project, which powers Pandora Radio—breaks down what musical taste is, where it comes from, and what our favorite songs say about us. Dr. Gasser delves into the science, psychology, and sociology that explains why humans love music so much; how our brains process music; and why you may love Queen but your best friend loves Kiss. He sheds light on why babies can clap along to rhythmic patterns and reveals the reason behind why different cultures around the globe identify the same kinds of music as happy, sad, or scary. Using easy-to-follow notated musical scores, Dr. Gasser teaches music fans how to become engaged listeners and provides them with the tools to enhance their musical preferences. He takes readers under the hood of their favorite genres—pop, rock, jazz, hip hop, electronica, world music, and classical—and covers songs from Taylor Swift to Led Zeppelin to Kendrick Lamar to Bill Evans to Beethoven, and through their work, Dr. Gasser introduces the musical concepts behind why you hum along, tap your foot, and feel deeply. *Why You Like It* will teach you how to follow the musical discourse happening within a song and thereby empower your musical taste, so you will never hear music the same way again.

Derided as one-hit wonders, estranged from their original producer and record label, and in self-imposed exile in Los Angeles, the Beastie Boys were written off by most observers before even beginning to record their second album—an embarrassing commercial flop that should have ruined the group's career. But not only did *Paul's Boutique* eventually transform the Beasties from a frat-boy novelty to hip-hop giants, its sample-happy, retro aesthetic changed popular culture forever.

A founder and former CEO of Ruthless Records traces his four-decade career in the music business, describing his role in the careers of such artists as Elton John, Van Morrison, and Marvin Gaye, revealing his efforts to promote the New Wave and rap music genres, and relating his insider witness to and participation in numerous edgy deals. Reprint. 30,000 first printing.

At no time since the rock & roll explosion of the 1960s did music matter more than in the 1990s—the decade of grunge, gangsta rap and Britney Spears. The Nineties might have kicked off with Vanilla Ice, but music changed forever the following year when Nirvana's "Smells Like Teen Spirit" exploded onto the airwaves, giving birth to the alternative nation. The decade spawned dozens of new stars (Pearl Jam, Eminem, Dave Matthews, Christina Aguilera and Jay-Z among

them); top artists from U2 to Madonna made their most adventurous records; and hip-hop icons Tupac Shakur and Biggie Smalls met violent ends. Rolling Stone was there to tell all those stories and more—and The '90s collects the best of them: the last major interview with Kurt Cobain, conducted by David Fricke three months before the Nirvana singer took his life in 1994; Jonathan Gold's 1993 trip to Compton to check in with Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre; Carrie Fisher's intimate one-on-one with Madonna following her 1991 film, Truth or Dare; Kim Neely partying with a riot-starting Guns n' Roses in 1991; Anthony Bozza riding along with an Ecstasy-gobbling Eminem in 1999; and, that same year, Steven Daly's visit to the bedroom of a teenage Britney Spears. Packed with over fifty stories, portraits by the biggest names in photography including Mark Seliger, David LaChapelle and Steven Meisel, and a guide to the decade's hundred greatest albums, The '90s is a definitive look back at the decade that rocked.

From his time in the group NWA to his work with Eminem, Dr. Dre has been a major part of hip-hop's history. The rapper/producer has been able to make hit music for years. Today, he's also moving into business with Beats by Dre. It seems there's nothing that Dre can't do! Dr. Dre tells the story of one of hip-hop's most important artists and producers. Read about Dre's role in starting Death Row Records and Aftermath Entertainment. Learn about what Dre has been through to reach his goals, and how he's survived tough times.

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 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.

Mozzy is the most highly anticipated book since Dutch. Its nature in violence is incomparable to any other urban book out. Itsreal. Youve heard the music now witness it up close. Learn what drove Mozzy to become hell gang Mozzy. Witness

the streets of Oak Park that bred a starving pit, who grew up to murder his own kind. This is the westcoast masterpiece. Giving you blow by blow of zilla, fab and the suckaz they go to war with. It's a page turning thriller you will not be able to put down.

Using rap lyrics, comic book graphics, and personal recollections, the author offers an account of his odyssey from small-town obscurity and drug abuse to his rise to underground success in the West Coast alternative press scene.

"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 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.

One of Esquire's Most Anticipated Books of 2019 As seen in the Summer Reading Previews of Esquire • NYLON • BuzzFeed • BookRiot • Southern Living The World Doesn't Require You announces the arrival of a generational talent, as Rion Amilcar Scott shatters rigid genre lines to explore larger themes of religion, violence, and love—all told with sly humor and a dash of magical realism. Established by the leaders of the country's only successful slave revolt in the mid-nineteenth century, Cross River still evokes the fierce rhythms of its founding. In lyrical prose and singular dialect, a saga beats forward that echoes the fables carried down for generations—like the screecher birds who swoop down for their periodic sacrifice, and the water women who lure men to wet deaths. Among its residents—wildly spanning decades, perspectives, and species—are David Sherman, a struggling musician who just happens to be God's last son; Tyrone, a ruthless PhD candidate, whose dissertation about a childhood game ignites mayhem in the neighboring, once-segregated town of Port Yooga; and Jim, an all-too-obedient robot who serves his Master. As

the book builds to its finish with Special Topics in Loneliness Studies, a fully-realized novella, two unhinged professors grapple with hugely different ambitions, and the reader comes to appreciate the intricacy of the world Scott has created—one where fantasy and reality are eternally at war. Contemporary and essential, *The World Doesn't Require You* is a “leap into a blazing new level of brilliance” (Lauren Groff) that affirms Rion Amilcar Scott as a writer whose storytelling gifts the world very much requires.

A biography of the American record producer, hip hop producer, rapper, actor, and record executive reveals the family dynamics that shaped him and his music, the story behind the breakup of N.W.A., and his longstanding friendship with Snoop.

The Mark of Criminality illustrates the ways that the “war on crime” became conjoined—aesthetically, politically, and rhetorically—with the emergence of gangsta rap as a lucrative and deeply controversial subgenre of hip-hop. In *The Mark of Criminality: Rhetoric, Race, and Gangsta Rap in the War-on-Crime Era*, Bryan J. McCann argues that gangsta rap should be viewed as more than a damaging reinforcement of an era’s worst racial stereotypes. Rather, he positions the works of key gangsta rap artists, as well as the controversies their work produced, squarely within the law-and-order politics and popular culture of the 1980s and 1990s to reveal a profoundly complex period in American history when the meanings of crime and criminality were incredibly unstable. At the center of this era—when politicians sought to prove their “tough-on-crime” credentials—was the mark of criminality, a set of discourses that labeled members of predominantly poor, urban, and minority communities as threats to the social order. Through their use of the mark of criminality, public figures implemented extremely harsh penal policies that have helped make the United States the world’s leading jailer of its adult population. At the same time when politicians like Ronald Reagan, George H. W. Bush, and Bill Clinton and television shows such as *COPS* and *America’s Most Wanted* perpetuated images of gang and drug-filled ghettos, gangsta rap burst out of the hip-hop nation, emanating mainly from the predominantly black neighborhoods of South Central Los Angeles. Groups like NWA and solo artists (including Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg, and Tupac Shakur) became millionaires by marketing the very discourses political and cultural leaders used to justify their war on crime. For these artists, the mark of criminality was a source of power, credibility, and revenue. By understanding gangsta rap as a potent, if deeply imperfect, enactment of the mark of criminality, we can better understand how crime is always a site of struggle over meaning. Furthermore, by underscoring the nimble rhetorical character of criminality, we can learn lessons that may inform efforts to challenge our nation’s failed policies of mass incarceration.

The mother of Grammy Award-winning rap producer Dr. Dre describes the losses of three of her five children under tragic circumstances, her own turbulent childhood, and her efforts to protect her offspring from violent factions in their Los Angeles neighborhood.

“If you’re a fan of the hit show *Empire* and its characters Cookie, Lucious, Hakeem, Jamal, and Andre, then you have to check out Terrance Dean’s provocative memoir *Hiding in Hip Hop*. Dean writes a compelling story about black gay men in Hip Hop and Hollywood, and what it takes for them to make it the entertainment industry.” – JL King, *New York Times* bestselling author of *On The Down Low* Celebrated blogger and former MTV insider Terrance Dean reveals a hidden side of Hollywood and hip hop in this

explosive and illuminating memoir. Terrance Dean worked his way up for more than ten years in the entertainment industry from intern to executive and has lived the life of glitz and bling along with Hollywood and Hip Hop's most glamorous heavy hitters. As a gay man immersed within the world of the famous and the fabulous, Dean knows well the industry's secrets and the façade that is kept, that for men, promotes machismo and heteronormative behavior. Most of what Dean unveils in this book is fascinating and salacious, but all of it is true. He also shares his own secrets, and an account of the pain of his mother's addiction, and the poverty and molestation he experienced as a child. Hiding in Hip Hop is not a traditional tell-all. It's personal. It's poignant. It's a provocative and honest look at stardom and sexuality.

Over the last quarter-century hip-hop has grown from an esoteric form of African-American expression to become the dominant form of American popular culture. Today, Snoop Dogg shells for Chrysler and white kids wear Fubu, the black-owned label whose name stands for "For Us, By Us." This is not the first time that black music has been appreciated, adopted, and adapted by white audiences—think jazz, blues, and rock—but Jason Tanz, a white boy who grew up in the suburban Northwest, says that hip-hop's journey through white America provides a unique window to examine the racial dissonance that has become a fact of our national life. In such culture-sharing Tanz sees white Americans struggling with their identity, and wrestling (often unsuccessfully) with the legacy of race. To support his anecdotally driven history of hip-hop's cross-over to white America, Tanz conducts dozens of interviews with fans, artists, producers, and promoters, including some of hip-hop's most legendary figures—such as Public Enemy's Chuck D; white rapper MC Serch; and former Yo! MTV Raps host Fab 5 Freddy. He travels across the country, visiting "nerdcore" rappers in Seattle, who rhyme about Star Wars conventions; a group of would-be gangstas in a suburb so insulated it's called "the bubble"; a break-dancing class at the upper-crusty New Canaan Tap Academy; and many more. Drawing on the author's personal experience as a white fan as well as his in-depth knowledge of hip-hop's history, *Other People's Property* provides a hard-edged, thought-provoking, and humorous snapshot of the particularly American intersection of race, commerce, culture, and identity.

Vibe is the lifestyle guide to urban music and culture including celebrities, fashion, beauty, consumer electronics, automotive, personal care/grooming, and, always, music. Edited for a multicultural audience Vibe creates trends as much as records them. Over the past eleven years, Greif has been publishing superb, and in some cases already famous, essays in *n+1*, the high-profile little magazine that he co-founded. These essays address such key topics in the cultural, political, and intellectual life of our time as the tyranny of exercise, the tyranny of nutrition and food snobbery, the sexualization of childhood (and everything else), the philosophical meaning of Radiohead, the rise and fall of the hipster, the impact of the Occupy Wall Street movement, and the crisis of policing. Four of the selections address, directly and unironically, the meaning of life—what might be the right philosophical stance to adopt toward one's self and the world. Each essay in *Against Everything* is learned, original, highly entertaining, and, from start to finish, dead serious. They are the work of a young intellectual who, with his peers, is reinventing and reinvigorating what intellectuals can be and say and do. Mark Greif manages to reincarnate and revivify the thought and spirit of the greatest of

American dissenters, Henry David Thoreau, for our time and historical situation.--Publisher website.

In our noisy world, music is the key to inner silence Richard Wolf first tried Zen meditation in his teens, but no matter in what posture or for how long he sat, transcendence proved stubbornly out of reach. It was only years later that he found the bridge that could take him there: music. In Tune charts twelve “bridges”—skills and sensibilities refined in musical practice that carry over to mindfulness and meditation, among them: Concentration Posture Harmony Silence The Art of Deep Listening Transcending the Self This inspirational guide offers a wealth of music-based exercises to enhance daily meditation and creativity. Plus, Wolf shares personal anecdotes of eminent musicians—from Miles Davis to Dr. Dre—to illuminate points along the intersection of music and mindful living. As you begin to move fluidly between these two transformative disciplines, you’ll notice the focus, composure, and peacefulness that comes from practice—as well as the joys of tuning in to the music all around you, and to the symphony that plays silently from within.

In A Short History of the United States, National Book Award winner Robert V. Remini offers a much-needed, concise history of our country. This accessible and lively volume contains the essential facts about the discovery, settlement, growth, and development of the American nation and its institutions, including the arrival and migration of Native Americans, the founding of a republic under the Constitution, the emergence of the United States as a world power, the outbreak of terrorism here and abroad, the Obama presidency, and everything in between.

A Tribe Called Quest • Beastie Boys • De La Soul • Eric B. & Rakim • The Fugees • KRS-One • Pete Rock & CL Smooth • Public Enemy • The Roots • Run-DMC • Wu-Tang Clan • and twenty-five more hip-hop immortals It’s a sad fact: hip-hop album liners have always been reduced to a list of producer and sample credits, a publicity photo or two, and some hastily composed shout-outs. That’s a damn shame, because few outside the game know about the true creative forces behind influential masterpieces like PE’s It Takes a Nation of Millions. . . , De La’s 3 Feet High and Rising, and Wu-Tang’s Enter the Wu-Tang (36 Chambers). A longtime scribe for the hip-hop nation, Brian Coleman fills this void, and delivers a thrilling, knockout oral history of the albums that define this dynamic and iconoclastic art form. The format: One chapter, one artist, one album, blow-by-blow and track-by-track, delivered straight from the original sources. Performers, producers, DJs, and b-boys—including Big Daddy Kane, Muggs and B-Real, Biz Markie, RZA, Ice-T, and Wyclef—step to the mic to talk about the influences, environment, equipment, samples, beats, beefs, and surprises that went into making each classic record. Studio craft and street smarts, sonic inspiration and skate ramps, triumph, tragedy, and take-out food—all played their part in creating these essential albums of the hip-hop canon. Insightful, raucous, and addictive, Check the Technique transports you back to hip-hop’s golden age with the greatest artists of the ’80s and ’90s. This is the book that belongs on the stacks next to your wax. “Brian Coleman’s writing is a lot like the albums he covers: direct, uproarious, and more than six-fifths genius.” —Jeff Chang, author of Can’t Stop Won’t Stop “All producers and hip-hop fans must read this book. It really shows how these albums were made and touches the music fiend in everyone.” —DJ Evil Dee of Black Moon and Da Beatminerz “A rarity in mainstream publishing: a truly essential rap history.” —Ronin Ro, author of Have Gun Will Travel

Tracing the careers of hip-hop's three most dynamic stars, this deeply reported history brilliantly examines the entrepreneurial genius of the first musician tycoons: Diddy, Dr. Dre, and Jay-Z Being successful musicians was simply never enough for the three kings of hip-hop. Diddy, Dr. Dre, and Jay-Z lifted themselves from childhood adversity into tycoon territory, amassing levels of fame and wealth that not only outshone all other contemporary hip-hop artists, but with a combined net worth of well over \$2 billion made them the three richest American musicians,

period. Yet their fortunes have little to do with selling their own albums: between Diddy's Ciroc vodka, Dre's \$3 billion sale of his Beats headphones to Apple, and Jay-Z's Tidal streaming service and other assets, these artists have transcended pop music fame to become lifestyle icons and moguls. Hip-hop is no longer just a musical genre; it's become a way of life that encompasses fashion, film, food, drink, sports, electronics and more - one that has opened new paths to profit and to critical and commercial acclaim. Thanks in large part to the Three Kings-who all started their own record labels and released classic albums before moving on to become multifaceted businessmen-hip-hop has been transformed from a genre spawned in poverty into a truly global multibillion-dollar industry. These men are the modern embodiment of the American Dream, but their stories as great thinkers and entrepreneurs have yet to be told in full. Based on a decade of reporting, and interviews with more than 100 sources including hip-hop pioneers Russell Simmons and Fab 5 Freddy; new-breed executives like former Def Jam chief Kevin Liles and venture capitalist Troy Carter; and stars from Swizz Beatz to Shaquille O'Neal, 3 Kings tells the fascinating story of the rise and rise of the three most influential musicians in America.

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