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HERRERA ENGLISH

Holler If You Hear Me (2006) Harlequin
 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.

Inside a Thug's Heart Blueprint Publications

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.

Dream Cars of the 21st Century Voyageur Press

The infamous Suge Knight, former Death Row Records CEO, and Keffe D are the only living eyewitnesses to the deadly confrontation on the Las Vegas strip between the occupants of our two vehicles. A violent confrontation that led to the deaths of two of Hip-Hop's biggest stars (Tupac Shakur & Christopher 'Notorious B.I.G.' Wallace) and changed Hip-Hop history forever. There's a strict code on the streets. One that real street players live, kill, and die by. *Compton Street Legend* reveals the street-level code violations and the explosive consequences when the powerful worlds of the streets, entertainment, and corrupt law enforcement collide. More than twenty years after the premature deaths of Tupac and Biggie there have been numerous TV specials, documentaries, books, magazine and newspaper, and social media dedicated to the subject. But at the end of the day, none of the private investigators, retired police officers, informants, Hip-Hop heads, actors, or academics that have weighed in on the topic truly know what happened and the reasons behind it, because none of them were there. Duane 'Keffe D' Davis, a native of Compton, California, admittedly lived most of his life as a gangster; a real gangster that did the shit that real gangsters do. He rose up the gang-banging ranks to become a shot-caller for the notorious Southside Compton Crips, while running a multi-million dollar, multi-state drug empire. Keffe D has been a central figure in both the Tupac Shakur and Biggie murders for the past 20 years. *COMPTON STREET LEGEND* will add valuable information about two of the biggest "unsolved" crimes in American history. It will serve as the missing piece of the puzzle that Hip-Hop Fans have been waiting for. On the surface, *COMPTON STREET LEGEND* will look like a story based on violence and hate, it is actually a story about Love, Family, Brotherhood, Loyalty, Trust, and Honor. It's time to set the story straight. Fasten your seatbelts.

N.W.A Atlantic Monthly Press

This intimate exploration of race and inequality in America tells the story of a journalist's long-time relationship with his mentee, Jorell Cleveland, through the Big Brothers Big Sisters program and investigates Jorell's tragic fatal shooting. In 2005, soon after Ben Westhoff moved to St. Louis, he joined the Big Brothers Big Sisters program and was paired with Jorell Cleveland. Ben was twenty-eight, a white college grad from an affluent family. Jorell was eight, one of nine children from a poor, African American family living in nearby Ferguson. But the two instantly connected. Ben and Jorell formed a bond stronger than nearly any other in their lives. When Ben met the woman who'd become his wife, she observed that Ben and Jorell were "a package deal." They were brothers. In the summer of 2016, Jorell was shot at point blank range in broad daylight in the middle of the street, yet no one was charged in his death. Ben grappled with mourning Jorell, but also with a feeling of responsibility. As Jorell's mentor, what could he have done differently? As a journalist, he had reported on gang life, interviewed crime kingpins, and even infiltrated drug labs in China. But now, he was investigating the life and death of someone he knew personally and examining what he did and did not know about his friend. Learning the truth about Jorell and the man who killed him required Ben to uncover a heartbreaking cycle of poverty, poor education, drug trafficking, and violence. *Little Brother* brilliantly combines a deeply personal history with a true-crime narrative that exposes the realities of life in communities like Ferguson all around the country.

The Emperor of Sound Huntington Press Inc

A New York Times–bestselling, in-depth exploration of the most pivotal moments in rap music from 1979 to 2014. Here's what *The Rap Year Book* does: It takes readers from 1979, widely

regarded as the moment rap became recognized as part of the cultural and musical landscape, and comes right up to the present, with Shea Serrano hilariously discussing, debating, and deconstructing the most important rap song year by year. Serrano also examines the most important moments that surround the history and culture of rap music—from artists' backgrounds to issues of race, the rise of hip-hop, and the struggles among its major players—both personal and professional. Covering East Coast and West Coast, famous rapper feuds, chart toppers, and show stoppers, *The Rap Year Book* is an in-depth look at the most influential genre of music to come out of the last generation. Picked by *Billboard* as One of the 100 Greatest Music Books of All-Time Pitchfork Book Club's first selection

A Gangsta's Demise Penguin

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.

Whatever You Say I Am KingDoMedia

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.

The History of Gangster Rap Simon and Schuster

There never passes a year, nor even a month, without new award-winning super car coming out. It could be the interpretation of concepts destined to exalt its performance. The images and texts in this volume recount the stories of the most important super cars of the last decade.

Hurricanes Citadel

Exclusive interviews and photos with Dr. Dre, Ice Cube, Yella, Jerry Heller, and Westside Connection.

My Infamous Life Omnibus Press

An account of how a police detective lead the task force that exposed the facts behind the deaths of rappers Biggie Smalls and Tupac Shakur.

Original Gangstas Da Capo Press

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.

Ready to Die Xenon Pictures, Incorporated

"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,"--Amazon.com.

Welcome to Death Row Clarkson Potter

"There has never been a better book about hip-hop...a record-biz portrait that jumps off the page."—A.V. Club THE INSPIRATION FOR THE VH1 SERIES THE BREAKS The Big Payback takes readers from the first \$15 made by a "rapping DJ" in 1970s New York to the multi-million-dollar sales of the Phat Farm and Roc-a-Wear clothing companies in 2004 and 2007. On this four-decade-long journey from the studios where the first rap records were made to the boardrooms where the big deals were inked, The Big Payback tallies the list of who lost and who won. Read the secret histories of the early long-shot successes of Sugar Hill Records and Grandmaster Flash, Run DMC's crossover breakthrough on MTV, the marketing of gangsta rap, and the rise of artist/entrepreneurs like Jay-Z and Sean "Diddy" Combs. 300 industry giants like Def Jam founders Rick Rubin and Russell Simmons gave their stories to renowned hip-hop journalist Dan Charnas, who provides a compelling, never-before-seen, myth-debunking view into the victories, defeats, corporate clashes, and street battles along the 40-year road to hip-hop's dominance. INCLUDES PHOTOGRAPHS

Fentanyl, Inc. Abrams

A journalist's story of corruption in the LAPD and hip-hop's most infamous murders—"the most thorough examination of these much-publicized events" (Renée Graham, *The Boston Globe*). Acclaimed journalist Randall Sullivan follows Russell Poole, a highly decorated LAPD detective who, in 1997, was called to investigate a controversial cop-on-cop shooting, eventually to discover that the officer killed was tied to Marion "Suge" Knight's notorious gangsta rap label, Death Row Records. During his investigation, Poole came to realize that a growing cadre of outlaw officers were allied not only with Death Row, but with the murderous Bloods street gang. And incredibly, Poole began to uncover evidence that at least some of these "gangsta cops" may have been involved in the murders of rap superstars Notorious B.I.G. and Tupac Shakur. Igniting a firestorm of controversy in the music industry and the Los Angeles media, the release of *LABYRINTH* helped to prompt two lawsuits against the LAPD (one brought by the widow and mother of Notorious B.I.G., the other brought by Poole himself) that may finally bring this story completely out of the shadows.

Compton Street Legend Simon and Schuster

Experience the stunning rise, fall, and legacy of N.W.A. and how they put their stamp on pop culture, black culture, and hip-hop music forever in this "incredibly vivid look at one of music's most iconic groups" (Associated Press). In 1986, a group was formed that would establish the foundation of gangsta rap and push the genre forward, electrifying fans with their visceral and profane lyrics that glorified the dark ways of street life and brazenly challenged the police system. Eazy-E, Dr. Dre, Ice Cube, MC Ren, and DJ Yella caused a seismic shift in hip-hop when they decided to form N.W.A in 1986. With their hard-core image, bombastic sound, and lyrics that were equal parts poetic, lascivious, conscious, and downright in-your-face, N.W.A spoke the truth about life on the streets of Compton, California—then a hotbed of poverty, drugs, gangs, and unemployment. Going beyond the story portrayed in the 2015 blockbuster movie *Straight Outta*

Compton, through firsthand interviews, extensive research, and top-notch storytelling, Los Angeles Times music reporter Gerrick Kennedy transports you back in time and offers a front-row seat to N.W.A's early days and the drama and controversy that followed the incendiary group as they rose to become multiplatinum artists. Kennedy leaves nothing off the table in his pursuit of the full story behind the group's most pivotal moments, such as Ice Cube's decision to go solo after their debut studio album became a smash hit; their battle with the FBI over inflammatory lyrics; incidents of physical assault; Dr. Dre's departure from the group to form Death Row Records with Suge Knight; their impact on the 1992 L.A. riots; Eazy-E's battle with AIDS; and much more. A bold, riveting, "non-stop, can't-put-it-down ride" (*Library Journal*), *Parental Discretion Is Advised* unveils the true and astonishing history of one of the most transcendent and controversial musical groups of the 1980s and 1990s.

STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON: My Untold Story Simon and Schuster

A four-year investigation into the world of synthetic drugs—from black market factories to users & dealers to harm reduction activists—and what it revealed. A deeply human story, *Fentanyl, Inc.* is the first deep-dive investigation of a hazardous and illicit industry that has created a worldwide epidemic, ravaging communities and overwhelming and confounding government agencies that are challenged to combat it. "A whole new crop of chemicals is radically changing the recreational drug landscape," writes Ben Westhoff. "These are known as Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS) and they include replacements for known drugs like heroin, cocaine, ecstasy, and marijuana. They are synthetic, made in a laboratory, and are much more potent than traditional drugs" —and all-too-often tragically lethal. Drugs like fentanyl, K2, and Spice—and those with arcane acronyms like 25i-NBOME—were all originally conceived in legitimate laboratories for proper scientific and medicinal purposes. Their formulas were then hijacked and manufactured by rogue chemists, largely in China, who change their molecular structures to stay ahead of the law, making the drugs' effects impossible to predict. Westhoff has infiltrated this shadowy world. He tracks down the little-known scientists who invented these drugs and inadvertently killed thousands, as well as a mysterious drug baron who turned the law upside down in his home country of New Zealand. Westhoff visits the shady factories in China from which these drugs emanate, providing startling and original reporting on how China's vast chemical industry operates, and how the Chinese government subsidizes it. Poignantly, he chronicles the lives of addicted users and dealers, families of victims, law enforcement officers, and underground drug awareness organizers in the United States and Europe. Together they represent the shocking and riveting full anatomy of a calamity we are just beginning to understand. From its depths, as Westhoff relates, are emerging new strategies that may provide essential long-term solutions to the drug crisis that has affected so many. "Timely and agonizing. . . . An impressive work of investigative journalism." —USA Today "Westhoff explores the many-tentacled world of illicit opioids, from the streets of East St. Louis to Chinese pharmaceutical companies, from music festivals deep in the Michigan woods to sanctioned 'shooting up rooms' in Barcelona, in this frank, insightful, and occasionally searing exposé. . . . Westhoff's well-reported and researched work will likely open eyes, slow knee-jerk responses, and start much needed conversations." —Publishers Weekly "Our 25 Favorite Books of 2019" —St. Louis Post-Dispatch "Best Books of 2019" —Buzzfeed "Best Nonfiction of 2019" —Kirkus Reviews "50 Best Books of 2019" —Daily Telegraph "Best Nonfiction Books of 2019" —Tyler Cowen "Best

Books of 2019" —Yahoo Finance

Little Brother Grove/Atlantic, Inc.

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 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.

How Music Got Free Penguin

The gripping untold story of the music piracy revolution and the man who almost singlehandedly brought down the industry *How Music Got Free* is the incredible true story of Dell Glover, a factory worker at a compact-disc manufacturing plant who brought the music industry to its knees. Working from a small town in North Carolina, Glover was the Patient Zero of music piracy, leaking thousands of albums from the plant over nearly a decade. If you've ever pirated music?or even borrowed it?Glover's handiwork is on your hard drive. But Glover couldn't do it alone. He needed the help of his smuggling confederates, who conducted a years-long campaign of infiltration into the music industry's global supply chain. He needed the help of the men who invented the mp3, a group of academics working in a forgotten audio laboratory in Germany. He needed the help of the

torrenters, who, from dormitories and bedrooms across the planet, built distribution networks for his leaks. Most of all, he needed the unwitting assistance of the music industry itself, and the powerful music executive whose strategy of consolidation brought the biggest musical acts of the decade into Glover's reach. An irresistible story of greed, cunning, brilliance, and deceit, *How Music Got Free* isn't just a story of the music industry?it's a must-read history of the Internet itself.

Unbelievable Little, Brown

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.

Napoleon Life of an Outlaw Abrams

Examines the theories surrounding the murder of Tupac Shakur, one of the most talented artists of his time, and the story of Tupac's lost legacy.