

## Earl The Autobiography Of Dmx

**\*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.**

**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 historicrise 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—scrapping 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, *Of Dirty Bastard, Inspectah Deck, Ghostface Killah, and Masia Killa. Brought up by the streets, and bonding over their love of hip-hop, they sought to pursue the impossible: music as their ticket out of the ghetto. U-God's unforgettable first-person account of his journey,from the streets of Brooklyn to some of the biggest stages around the world, is not only thoroughly affecting, unfiltered, and explosive but also captures, in vivid detail, the making of one of the greatest acts in American music history.*****

**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**

**The star of the popular television show Judge Mathis describes his rise from Detroit housing projects, gang life, and delinquency; his mother's help in turning his life around; his education; his role as the youngest judge in Michigan history; and his new career on TV.**

**The Other Woman**

**One Day It'll All Make Sense**

**Will**

**A Hard to Guide Me**

**The Autobiography of Gucci Mane**

**Tupe**

**The Autobiography of DMX**

*The instant #1 New York Times bestseller! "It's the best memoir I've ever read." —Oprah Winfrey "Will Smith isn't holding back in his bravely inspiring new memoir . . . An ultimately heartwarming read, Will provides a humane glimpse of the man behind the actor, producer and musician, as he bares all his insecurities and trauma." —USA Today Winner of the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Achievement One of the most dynamic and globally recognized entertainment forces of our time opens up fully about his life, in a brave and inspiring book that traces his learning curve to a place where outer success, inner happiness, and human connection are aligned. Along the way, Will tells the story in full of one of the most amazing rides through the worlds of music and film that anyone has ever had. Will Smith's transformation from a West Philadelphia kid to one of the biggest movie stars in Hollywood history, is an epic tale—but it's only half the story. Will Smith thought, with good reason, that he had won at life: not only was his own success unparalleled, his whole family was at the pinnacle of the entertainment world. Only they didn't see it that way: they felt more like star performers in his circus, a seven-days-a-week job they hadn't signed up for. It turned out Will Smith's education wasn't nearly over. This memoir is the product of a profound journey of self-knowledge, a reckoning with all that your will can get you and all that it can leave behind. Written with the help of Mark Manson, author of the multi-million-copy bestseller The Subtle Art of Not Giving a F\*ck, Will is the story of how one person mastered his own emotions, written in a way that can help everyone else do the same. Few of us will know the pressure of performing on the world's biggest stages for the highest of stakes, but we can all understand that the fuel that works for one stage of our journey might have to be changed if we want to make it all the way home. The combination of genuine wisdom of universal value and a life story that is preposterously entertaining, even astonishing, puts Will the book, like its author, in a category by itself.*

*Overcome resistance and fully engage clients by bringing neuroscience into treatment Brain2Brain: Enacting Client Change Through the Persuasive Power of Neuroscience applies the popular topic of neuroscience in mental health to everyday practice, showing therapists how to teach their clients brain-based strategies for making changes and improving their lives. Cutting-edge findings in neuroscience are translated into language that clients will understand, and sidebars provide therapists more detailed information relating to particular disorders. With a holistic approach that incorporates mental, spiritual, and physical skills, knowledge, and exercises, this book provides a clear, complete resource for incorporating neuroscience into therapy. Case examples illustrate how the material can be used with different types of clients and situations, and sample dialogues and client handouts help therapists easily incorporate these techniques into their practice. Many clients forget that there is a biological basis for everything the brain does, and the ways that activity manifests everyday – good or bad, healthy or dysfunctional, the very core of human consciousness boils down to a series of electrical impulses. This book helps therapists bring neuroscience into therapy, to teach clients how to work with their brain's innate processes to reinforce progress and achieve healthier outcomes. Learn techniques for dealing with client resistance factors Discover phrases and memory aides that help clients apply what they've learned in therapy Facilitate higher client motivation to engage in the therapeutic process Teach clients about the brain's relevance to their particular problem Find tools for explaining the role of diet, exercise, and sleep in mental health When a client's treatment revolves around eliminating harmful thought patterns or behaviors, the therapeutic process can feel like a battle against their own brain. By bringing neuroscience into the treatment plan, therapists can shift the client's perspective to a more collaborative mindset, focused on the positive aspects of change. Brain2Brain: Enacting Client Change Through the Persuasive Power of Neuroscience provides the guidance therapists need to chart a clearer path to good mental health.*

*Raised in the ghetto, abandoned as a child, addicted to drugs and women all his life, but still able to produce four consecutive #1 hip-hop albums in a row--this is the life and times of the darkest and most dangerously introspective hip-hop artist ever, written at the height of his career and completely unreserved. Rapper 50 Cent has made it big in a very short space of time. Having been signed by Run Master Jay, and produced by Dr Dre and Eminem, the rapper and poet has already experienced great success and critical acclaim for his anthemic single 'In Da Club' and bestselling debut album. While some rappers just talk the talk, though, 50 has walked the walk, and this brilliant insight into who he is and where he came from is a must for all fans. Growing up in Jamaica, Queens, he was born to a 15-year-old drug-dealing mother -- she was killed in mysterious circumstances -- and took over the family business at the age of twelve. Living hard, he has been stabbed, shot nine times (one bullet in his face) and has survived a number of assassination attempts. He is a survivor, a man from the streets who has made it big-time without forgetting his roots. This is the inside story of a rap icon.*

*Diary of a Madman*

*E.A.R.L.*

*Work Smart, Play Hard, Make Millions*

*The Queen Bee*

*The Autobiography of Gucci Mane*

*Effortless Entrepreneur*

*My Journey into the Wu-Tang*

Comedian and civil rights activist Dick Gregory 's million-copy-plus bestselling memoir--now in trade paperback for the first time. "Powerful and ugly and beautiful...a moving story of a man who deeply wants a world without malice and hate and is doing something about it."--The New York Times Fifty-five years ago, in 1964, an incredibly honest and revealing memoir by one of the America's best-loved comedians and activists, Dick Gregory, was published. With a shocking title and breathtaking writing, Dick Gregory defined a genre and changed the way race was discussed in America. Telling stories that range from his hardscrabble childhood in St. Louis to his pioneering early days as a comedian to his indefatigable activism alongside Medgar Evers and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Gregory's memoir riveted readers in the sixties. In the years and decades to come, the stories and lessons became more relevant than ever, and the book attained the status of a classic. The book has sold over a million copies and become core text about race relations and civil rights, continuing to inspire readers everywhere with Dick Gregory's incredible story about triumphing over racism and poverty to become an American legend.

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

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

Resurrection, 1971-1996

The Autobiography of Dmx

My Infamous Life

Sweet Jones

A Memoir

The Wu-Tang Manual

Baby Gift: Better Known as Aaliyah

A fearless, inspiring, and refreshingly candid memoir by the Grammy-award winning rapper, multi-platinum recording artist, and cultural icon Lil' Kim When teenager Kimberly Denise Jones--better known as Lil' Kim--burst on the hip-hop scene in the mid-nineties, no one was prepared for how she would shake-up the entire music industry. As the sole female member of the Notorious B.I.G.'s rap collective, Junior M.A.F.I.A., and an affiliate of Puff Daddy and the Bad Boy family, Lil' Kim always stood out from the pack. But she was determined to make an even greater name for herself and emerged as a solo superstar. In 1996, she dropped her solo debut album, *Hard Core*, which topped the Billboard charts, went double-platinum, and is now widely considered to be one of the most influential rap albums of all-time. With her dynamic lyricism, her unflappable no-nonsense attitude, her iconic looks both on and off the red carpet, and her unapologetic sexuality, Lil' Kim quickly established herself as a force to be reckoned with--and was crowned the Original Queen Bee. Twenty-five years later, this Grammy award-winning superstar has released five studio albums, sold millions of records, topped the Billboard charts, performed all over the world, and remains at the top of her game. And yet few people ever knew about the hard work, hustle, and heartbreak that went into conquering her place on the throne--until now. In this debut memoir, Lil' Kim reveals everything that really went on behind-the-scenes of her legendary career, much of it for the very first time publicly. From her earliest rap beginnings growing up in Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn, and her teenage years spent with the Notorious B.I.G. to her rise as a solo icon, Lil' Kim not only blazed trails for women in hip-hop, but also inspired the careers of those who followed. However, life at the top hasn't been easy, either. Lil' Kim also talks about the hidden moments of her reign: her complicated high-profile relationships, the misogynistic industry she fought to change through sex positivity, the challenging double standards of self-image and beauty in the spotlight, and the momentous act of loyalty that ultimately landed her in prison. A true page-turner from start to finish, *The Queen Bee* is every bit as fierce, empowering, and badass as the woman at the heart of this story--and firmly cements her legacy as a true feminist icon.

"Transfixing...[Wayne's] prison diary is, above all, a testament to the irrepressibility of his charisma--his is a force that can never go dormant, even when it's not plainly on display." --*The New Yorker*
From rap superstar Lil Wayne comes *Gone 'Til November*, a deeply personal and revealing account of his time spent incarcerated on Rikers Island for eight months in 2010. In 2010, recording artist Lil Wayne was at the height of his career. A fixture in the rap game for more than a decade, Lil Wayne (aka Weezy) had established himself as both a prolific musician and a savvy businessman, smashing long-held industry records, winning multiple Grammy Awards, and signing up and-coming talent like Drake and Nicki Minaj to his Young Money label. All of this momentum came to a halt when he was convicted of possession of a firearm and sentenced to a yearlong stay at Rikers Island. Suddenly, the artist at the top of his game was now an inmate at the mercy of the American penal system. At long last, *Gone 'Til November* reveals the true story of what really happened while Wayne was behind bars, exploring everything from his daily rituals to his interactions with other inmates to how he was able to keep himself motivated and grateful. Taken directly from Wayne's own journal, this intimate, personal account of his incarceration is an utterly human look at the man behind the artist.

Nick Friedman and Omar Soliman started the multimillion-dollar franchise College Hunks Hauling Junk when they were just twenty two, and they've been having the time of their lives ever since. What's their secret? That's just it--there isn't one. There's no fancy software or complicated business schemes. No outside investors or quirky market niche. They just followed 10 common-sense commandments to building a straightforward, fun, and successful business that does a simple job well. Anyone can understand it, and anyone can do it.

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

Born to Use Mics

The Highs and Lows of Becoming a Man

Suge Knight

The Rise, Fall, and Rise of Death Row Records : The Story of Marion "Suge" Knight, a Hard Hitting Study of One Man, One Company that Changed the Course of American Music Forever

Brain2Brain

Make It Happen

Keep the Faith: A Memoir

As the hip-hop icon credited with single-handedly creating gangsta rap. Television viewers know him as Detective Odafe " Fin " Tutuola on the top-rated drama *Law & Order: SVU*. But where the hype and the headlines end, the real story of Ice--the one few of his millions of fans have ever heard--truly begins. Ice is Ice-T in his own words--raw, uncensored, and unafraid to speak his mind. About his orphan upbringing on the gang-infested streets of South Central, his four-year stint in the U.S. Army, his successful career as a hustler and thief, and his fateful decision to turn away from a life of crime and forge his own path to international stardom. Along the way, Ice shares never-before-told stories about friends such as Tupac, Dick Wolf, Chris Rock, and Flavor Flav, among others. And he offers up candid observations on marriage and monogamy, the current state of hip-hop, and his latest passion: mentoring at-risk youths around the country. With insights into the cutthroat world of the street--and the cutthroat world of Hollywood--Ice is the unforgettable story of a true American original.

Kevin Liles rose from intern to president of Def Jam Records in only nine years. Today, at age thirty-seven, he is executive vice president of the Warner Music Group and has helped discover and direct the careers of stars such as Jay-Z and Ludacris. Liles' meteoric climb from urban street kid with hip-hop aspirations to one of the most successful and influential executives in the music industry is far more than a rags-to-riches story. It is a tribute to Liles' incredible work ethic, wisdom and confidence in doing his thing his way -- the hip-hop way. "Every real success story in hip hop comes down to the same thing: someone who finds the will, focus and drive to achieve," Liles writes in *Make It Happen: The Hip-Hop Generation Guide to Success*. "It doesn't matter if you are male or female. It doesn't matter what race or religion you are. It doesn't matter what hustle you choose." What does matter, Liles says, is that you fight against the odds to realize a dream and be the best that you can be. You empower yourself and make it happen. Kevin Liles presents ten rules of business success, which range from "Find Your Will" and "The Blueprint" to "Don't Let Cash Rule" and "Play Your Position." As he outlines his philosophy, Liles shares how he put his principles to work, chronicling his journey to the top and the stories of others -- executives, artists, mentors and friends -- he has worked with along the way. *Make It Happen* is both an American success story and a guidebook for the road to having a career and a life you love.

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

The Wu-Tang Manual is the RZA 's first written introduction to the philosophy and history of Hip-Hop 's original Dynasty, the Wu-Tang Clan. Written in a style that is at once personal and philosophical, The Wu-Tang Manual unravels the intricate web of personalities (and alter egos), warrior codes, numerological systems, and Eastern spiritual ethics that define the Wu-Tang dynasty. Packed with information that reflects the breadth and depth of the RZA 's -- and rest of the Clan 's -- intellectual interests and passions, The Wu-Tang Manual is divided into four books of nine chapters each, for a total of 36 chapters. All together, the book provides the breakdown of essential Wu-Tang components, from basic information about each of the nine core members of Wu-Tang Clan to deeper explorations of the key themes of the Wu-Tang universe, a dictionary-like Wu-Slang lexicon, and an entire section of Wu-Tang lyrics with densely annotated explanations of what they mean. For the hardcore Wu-Tang disciple and the recently initiate alike, The Wu-Tang Manual is the definitive guide to the essence of Wu, one of the most innovative hip-hop groups of all time. The RZA's most recent book, *The Tao of Wu*, is also available from Riverhead Books.

Unbelievable

Revelations on Creativity from the Lyrical Genius

The Man Who Walked the Dog: The D.J. Superior/DMX-Story

The Rose that Grew from Concrete

The Life and Legacy of Donald Goines

Tupac Amaru Shakur, 1971-1996

A Journal of Rikers Island

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

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. The Grammy Award-winning recording artist and actor shares the story of his life, from his youth on Chicago's Southside and rise in the hip-hop industry to his movie appearances and the lessons he has learned as a son and a father.

Author Jake Brown has woven a tale of intense drama that paved the way for some of the world's biggest stars, including: Tupac Shakur, Dr. Dre and Snoop Dog. The Suge Knight and Death Row Story details the visionary entrepreneur's life story, encompassing his meteoric rise to the top of the charts after partnering with Dre to found Death Row Records. It tells you where Suge intends to take Hip Hop in the new millennium and features insightful interviews with business associates, family members and artists who speak candidly about his life.

Unruly

Gone 'Til November

Raw

Sweat the Technique

From Pieces to Weight

Low Road

Nigger

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

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

Ja Rule, actor, singer, songwriter, and one of the most multi-dimensional rap artists of his time, tells his compelling story—from his youth to his rise to international fame to his transformative two years in Federal prison—and reveals the man beneath the legend. Unruly is two stories that offer one complete picture of a man and his world: the angry, fatherless rapper, Ja Rule who was “raised by the streets”; and Jeffrey Atkins, the insightful, reflective father and loyal husband who learned the hard way how to be a good man. Filled with never-before-revealed anecdotes and sixteen pages of black-and-white photos, Unruly shows the determination that it takes to become a man in today’s society. Ja Rule considers the lack of role models for many young black men today—a void that leads to bad choices and the wrong paths. Recalling his youth, he illuminates the seductive pull of the streets and the drug dealers who were his earliest role models. Jeffrey Atkins offers practical wisdom—reflection, growth and hope learned first-hand as an inmate, father, husband, and community role model. He speaks fondly of men who inspired Unruly—the inmates he met in prison whose misguided ideas of masculinity landed them behind bars—and Louis Farrakhan who mediated the televised encounter with Ja Rule’s adversary, 50 Cent. Unruly is a compelling, personal look at the duality and conflicts that arise in the African-American male psyche from a man who has enjoyed breathtaking fame and suffered heartbreaking misfortune.

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

From Staircase to Stage

I Make My Own Rules

The Story of Raekwon and the Wu-Tang Clan

The Autobiography of Mobb Deep's Prodigy

The Geto Boys, Life, Death, and the Roots of Southern Rap

Hurricanes

The Hip-Hop Generation Guide to Success

*Highlighting the importance of everyday mentorship, a Hollywood star shares his personal story of mentoring and mentors who shaped his life, and introduces the life-changing stories of more than seventy of America's leading personalities, including Bill Clinton, Alex Rodriguez, Whoopie Goldberg, Bonnie Raitt, and many others. 100,000 first printing.*

*\*\*\* With a foreword by James Naughtie this book ise musical prescriptions that offer comfort, solace and strength in the face of dark times. Whether you suffer from loneliness or laziness, from bereavement or betrayal, a heartbreak or a mere hangover, here you'll find the perfect piece of classical music to heal the heart, soothe the soul and cure the maladies of the modern world. Musician and writer Oliver Condy takes the role of musical physician, using his years of experience to prescribe remedies for all manner of ailments in the form of classical music. A beautifully-packaged gift book with more than 100 recommendations, Symphonies for the Soul is filled with fascinating stories behind the pieces and composers selected, and how in their own unique ways they can nourish the spirit in times of need.*

*On the heels of Kendrick Lamar's Pulitzer Prize, as the world begins to recognize the creative side of Hip-Hop, comes a writing guide from a musician and "the greatest MC of all time," Rakim. The musician and Hip Hop legend—hailed as “the greatest MC of all time” and compared to Thelonious Monk—reimagines the writing handbook in this memoir and guide that incorporates the soulful genius, confidence, and creativity of a master artist. When he exploded on the music scene, musical genius Rakim was hailed for his brilliant artistic style, adding layers, complexity, depth, musicality, and soul to rap. More than anyone, Rakim has changed the way MCs rhyme. Calm on the mic, his words combine in a frenzy of sound, using complicated patterns based on multisyllabic rhymes and internal rhythms. Rakim can tell a story about a down-on-his-luck man looking for a job and turn it into an epic tale and an unforgettable rhyme. He is not just a great songwriter—he’s a great modern writer. Part memoir, part writing guide, Sweat the Technique offers insight into how Rakim thinks about words, music, writing, and rhyming as it teaches writers of all levels how to hone their craft. It is also a rare glimpse into Rakim's private life, full of entertaining personal stories from his youth on Long Island to a visit to a home and community filled with musicians in the clubs of New York and the studios of Los Angeles during his rise to the top of popular music. Rakim celebrates the influences that shaped his development, including the jazz music of John Coltrane and the spirituality of the streets, and shares anecdotes spotlighting personalities such as L. L. Cool J. and Dr. Dre, among others. Filled with valuable lessons for every writer, Sweat the Technique reveals the heart and mind of an artist and his love for great storytelling, and always, the words.*

*In this riveting account of Biggie's remarkable life, hip-hop journalist Cheo Hodari Coker tells his story you've never heard about the dramatic, tension-filled world of Biggie, Tupac, Puff Daddy, and Suge Knight, tracing their friendships and feuds from the beginning to the bitter end. Despite the clash of personalities and styles, all four were key players in a volatile and creative era of hip-hop, a time when gangsta rap became popular music. Before he rocketed to fame as Biggie, Christopher Wallace was a young black man growing up in Brooklyn with a loving single mother. An honors student who dropped out of school to sell drugs, Biggie soon discovered that he had a gift for rocking the mike. Coker's narrative is based on exclusive interviews with Biggie's family and friends, some of whom have never spoken publicly about Biggie before. Compellingly written and brilliantly illustrated, with rare color and black-and-white photographs from VIBE's archives and Biggie's family, this is an in-depth look at the life and afterlife of an icon whose music is as powerful and prevalent as ever. A virtuoso of flow as well as a master storyteller, Biggie was arguably the greatest rapper of all time. We've heard a lot of speculation about Biggie's death. Now it's time to remember his life and celebrate his work.*

*Reading Nas's Illmatic*

*E.a.r.l.*

*A Guide to Spiritual and Financial Prosperity*

*Ice*

*An Autobiography*

*Once Upon a Time in Southside, Queens*

*The Ultimate Book of Wisdom*

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

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.

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

New York Times bestselling author Eric Jerome Dickey presents one of his most intimate and emotionally resonant novels—a story about marriage, infidelity, and sweet and savage revenge. She works nights. He works days. Their sex is routine. Their conversations are empty. Something's got to give. It does, when she discovers her husband's affair. The delicate fabric of their increasingly tenuous marriage is torn asunder—but neither is prepared for what happens next. An unforgivable betrayal is about to yield the most unexpected surprises, as a husband and wife face a challenge of trust, faith, and the staying power of love... "Dickey has developed a knack for creating characters who elicit both rage and sympathy...The nameless narrator, a routine-bound suburban Californian, learns of her husband's philandering ways. But this dame is no hapless victim of infidelity: She takes charge...Dickey taps the intimate emotions of a woman whose hurt we feel viscerally."—Entertainment Weekly

A Memoir of Gangster Life and Redemption-from South Central to Hollywood

Inner City Miracle

Pimp C's Trill Life Story

The Life, Death, and Afterlife of the Notorious B.I.G.

Symphonies for the Soul

Classical music to cure any ailment

*Academic essays reflect on the 1994 album Illmatic by Nasir "Nas" Jones, covering topics ranging from jazz history to gender.*

*A portrait of the popular African-American novelist discusses his life as a street hustler, heroin addict, and factory worker before he transitioned into writing, citing how his earlier years were marked by violence, prostitution, and prison and revealing how his experiences were used in the creation of his successful literary works. Reprint. 15,000 first printing.*