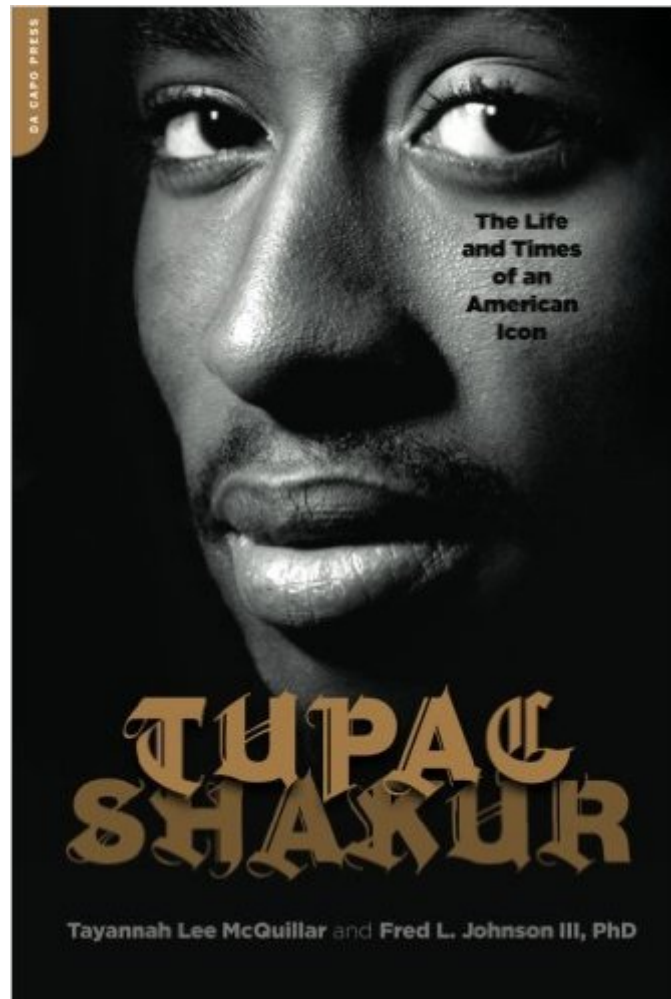


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Tupac Shakur: The Life And Times Of An American Icon



Synopsis

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

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Customer Reviews

I've read a lot of books about Tupac and 1990s rap music. This era is what defined the boundaries of rap music and if you listen to what rappers were rapping back then, you realize what's being said today was already said, and that all the rappers of today are profiting off of what Biggie and Pac made possible. As you can tell I take the life and times of Tupac Shakur very seriously and because of that this book offends my soul. If you are looking for a very general and easy to read adventure through Pac's life then look no further, the authors write very short chapters, the shootings that Pac endures take up no more than ten pages, which is ridiculous to me (Although that could be because I read a book called "LAbyrinth" that is entirely dedicated to researching just those two incidents). The authors have a PHD and will often interject long and unnecessary backgrounds of people

and places to give the impression that they are putting Tupac in context but judging from the way they talk about the music it is clear they have no idea what they are dealing with. For the most part they get a lot of stuff right, but they leave out IMMENSE amounts of information. For example, the movie Gang Related and Bullet were completely ignored (possibly because they were released after his death, i'm not sure). They also referred to Mickey Rourke as being a part of the movie Juice, and that's just wrong and bad research. It implies that they haven't seen Juice, which was Tupac's most famous performance! It's not a bad book, you will enjoy a lot of it if you like Tupac but if you are VERY interested in getting as much new information about Tupac as you can, this book offers nothing new. It takes its best parts from other books already written. The best book it uses is called "Got Your Back" and its written by Pac's close friend and personal bodyguard at Death Row. It is worth a whole lot more than this book because it gives you a clear sense of the man and not just a run-through of all the publicized events that defined him.

Let me start off by saying that I'm a HUGE Tupac fan, throughout the good bad and the ugly. I've studied his work, and other books based on his life. None of them touch this one. Even as a fan that's read up on the man, this book gives you so much more. I read it within 3 days and at it's end i wanted more. There so much background and detail to paint the imperfect image of Tupac Shakur that you feel like you're meeting him for the first time. What I loved most is that the book isn't glorifying Tupac as some kind of saint, but more touching on his successes and failures as a man and an artist. If you're a fan or just interested in why he impacted both Hip-Hop and American as a whole, it's a must read.

I learned more about Tupac and more understanding of his life couldn't put the book down one of my favorite books ever so i think anyone should get this book if your a real fan of Tupac RIP Tupac Thug Life Forever.

This book provoked no emotion from me what so ever. For example I felt nothing when the author wrote on Tupac's death. Also it totally failed to enlighten me on any new facts about Shakur that I wasn't already aware of. It k reminds me of an encyclopedia in a junior high school that blankly spits out the basic facts and not much more. If you want to read about intelligent and interesting facts about Tupac---get "Got Your Back" by Frank Alexander 1998 (Pac's former bodyguard & close personal friend for last year of his life) This book is a waste of time!

Learned a lot. Gained some appreciation for Tupac's oeuvre. Wanted to understand the continuing fascination the world has with Pac. Learned quite a bit. Tupac Shakur: Icon, voice and inspiration to many - provocateur with many flaws. Pretty well written with occasionally distracting mechanical or stylistic issues. Hip hop culture and rap reveals a lot if you're willing to expose and challenge your prejudices and preconceptions.

Great read for 'Pac fans. Goes pretty deep into his affiliations in NY and how they lead to his first shooting and possibly his death

Very wonderful inspiring book for a young man trying to understand there not alone in this struggling world. Gave it to one of my students who was going through tough times. And he appreciated it so much.

First off there was so much smack talk behind Cathy's back I WAS SO BLOWN AWAY AS I KNOW OTHERS WERE! ALL SHE DID WAS GET OUT THERE AND FIND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BLACKS AND WHITES! Also just the facts on both sides and look for the truest facts she could print and gave each side a chance to get it off their chest. I was raised in downtown Chicago, 3 block from Cominsky original park. My dad graduated from Fenger High School. He graduated with some of the best of the best. Grady O'Connor, he founded engine parts for Internatinal Harvester, Dick Butkas football, Walter Peyton's Dad, etc.... They all worked together as great as they could. I left during summer vacation to go to the suburbs and then come back for school time. I was the cream of the Oreo cookie. Came home crying, saying I couldn't get as tanned as they were, but you see what I'm getting at. She heard both sides out and used that to make one heck of a story. She didn't need me, but it was more of a relaxing that we could come together and say both sides of the story. I feel she gave Tupac his chance to get his story told his way, review it, and print and reviewed it. When I started, I never saw and still don't have color problems. But her book wasn't only about it, it was a stroy that had to be told. Not just one side but both sides!! That is what I love about Cathy Scott, she is not afraid to jump in with both feet, sleeves rolled up and like a sponge gather and fight for the truth! I have read all of Ms. Cathy Scott in one way or another. My suggestion is for you to read this story first, then as you read her cover stories, you'll know where you want to go then. Thanks for your time and FACT FINDING MS.CATHY SCOTT

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