

The Homeboy Songs

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It is your unquestionably own become old to piece of legislation reviewing habit. in the course of guides you could enjoy now is The Homeboy Songs below.

G-dog and the Homeboys Celeste Fremon 2008 This is an updated edition of the story of the gang scene in East L.A. and Father Gregory Boyle's innovative ministry and economic development efforts in the area.

Totally Awesome 80s Matthew Rettenmund 1996-10-15 The first pop reference book to capture the spirit of the 80s experience, *Totally Awesome 80s* chronicles not only pop music but also the faces, places, fads, fashions, movies, television shows, toys, and videos that defined the "Greed Decade". From skinny ties to Valspeak to the birth of MTV, no 80s cultural trend is overlooked in this comprehensive tribute to all things 80s. 300 photos.

Redemption Song Mike Marqusee 2016-06-01 This updated edition considers Muhammad Ali and his legacy in light of the war on terror. In this timely antidote to the apolitical celebration of Muhammad Ali as 'a great American', Mike Marqusee puts the great boxer back in his true historical context, to explore a crucial moment at the crossroads of popular culture and mass resistance. And, in a new afterword for this second edition, he reflects on Ali's legacy in the era of the 'war on terror'.

My Song (Enhanced Edition) Harry Belafonte 2011-10-11 This deluxe eBook edition of Harry Belafonte's remarkable memoir includes nearly eighteen minutes of original video—Mr. Belafonte talking about his first meeting with Martin Luther King, Jr. . . . his friendship with Sidney Poitier . . . the making of "We Are the World" . . . and much more—the bonus song "Jump in the Line" from the companion album *Harry Belafonte—Sing Your Song: The Music*; and the book's photographs compiled as a slide show. Harry Belafonte is not just one of the greatest entertainers of our time; he has led one of the great American lives of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Now, at last, this extraordinary icon tells us about it all—his poverty-ridden childhood in Harlem and Jamaica; his meteoric rise to become one of the world's most popular singers, breaking down racial barriers that no one had broken before, achieving equal popularity with white and black audiences; his lifelong, passionate involvement at the heart of the civil rights movement and countless other political and social causes. Along the way he's befriended many beloved and important figures in both entertainment and politics—Paul Robeson; Eleanor Roosevelt; Sidney Poitier; John F. Kennedy; Marlon Brando; Martin Luther King, Jr.; Robert Kennedy; Nelson Mandela; Fidel Castro—and writes about them with the same exceptional candor and insight with which he reveals himself on every page. As both an artist and an activist, Belafonte has touched the lives of countless men and women. With *My Song*, he has found yet another way to entertain and inspire us. It is an electrifying memoir from a remarkable man.

Homeboy Muzik Publicationz 2020-05-18 ***** CLICK THE AUTHOR NAME "MUSIK PUBLICATIONZ" FOR MORE NAMES ***** The music lover you know and love will appreciate this awesome gift. This music notebook gives musicians a special place to write and learn new music. This matte finished musical writing pad comes complete with 100 pages (50 sheets). It has a flexible lightweight paperback cover, which makes it lighter and easier to carry around, and comes complete with a cool trendy cover. Dimensions: 8 1/2 x 10 1/2 giving plenty of space for 12 staves per page with staff lines & notation guides. This music manuscript is perfect to help: Musicians write learn new music Composers with their music Keep track of your songs keep them organized Noting down songs you want to learn New musicians learn new notes and practice making music And so much more... Set yourself up for success to help you reach your goals and aspirations with this cute music journal. Order yours now!

La Haine (Mathieu Kassovitz, 1995) Ginette Vincendeau 2005

The Homeboy Songs Robert Lashley 2014 Poetry. THE HOMEBOY SONGS is Robert Lashley's complex homage to the black community of Tacoma, Washington. As part of a Northwest population with people from the deep South and a survivor of the Hilltop gang wars of the early 90's, Lashley's poetry makes sense of the multitude of voices that have surrounded him over the years. His passion joins high lyric poetry burnished by narrative structure, with a language attuned to the ear and the complexities of the human voice.

Postcolonial, Queer John C. Hawley Uses postcolonial theory to critique the globalization of gay culture.

Boomer Linda Grant Niemann 2011-04-07 "A fascinating mix of fact, history, self-confession, self-accusation, and self-forgiveness—a diary of both emotional relationships and travel." —Pasatiempo This classic account of self-discovery and railroad life describes Linda Grant Niemann's travels as an itinerant brakeman on the Southern Pacific. Boomer combines travelogue, Wild West adventure, sexual memoir, and closely observed ethnography. A Berkeley Ph.D., Niemann turned her back on academia and set out to master the craft of railroad brakeman, beginning a journey of sexual and subcultural exploration and traveling down a path toward recovery from alcoholism. In honest, clean prose, Niemann treks off the beaten path and into the forgotten places along the rail lines, finding true American characters with colorful pasts—and her true self as well. "Ma[kes] the railroad experience come alive with all its grit, danger, romance, and general outrageousness . . . Possibly the finest book I've ever read about the actual experience of working on the railroad." —Trains Magazine "Niemann has a taut, lyrically restrained but vividly descriptive style, with an observational vigilance befitting a brakeman's mindset, and her narrative clips along like a boxcar rolling through the yard." —Bloom Magazine "A remarkable adventure tale, the occupational odyssey of the Ph.D. in literature who immerses herself in blue-collar America." —Library Journal

The Common Ghetto Nerd Reader Robert Lashley Essays on Race, sexuality, Literature, and Culture from " One of the most dangerous liberals in America"

The Places of Van Morrison's Songwriting Geoff Munns 2022-12-21 What can we learn about Van Morrison's life and work as a songwriter through his songs? This book looks closely at the lyrics and music from a selection of his songs. Some are very well-known - 'Brown Eyed Girl', 'Cleaning Windows' and 'The Healing Game'. Others are less familiar. Through these songs the book offers insights into some of the most important ideas that the songwriter has explored across his five-decade plus career, starting from the Them period and extending through his solo albums. These readings show how thinking about Morrison's use of place provides a specific lens that contributes to a greater understanding of his art. The songs are organized into chapters that reflect many of the important places in Morrison's work as he ventured professionally and imaginatively away from the places of his upbringing towards a wider musical world. These places are in city streetscapes and country landscapes - in home places of streets and ditches, in the enclosed spaces of rooms, in the expansive reaches of the natural world, in indeterminate and specific foreign lands. A picture emerges of the journey that Van Morrison details through his songs, one that sees him first wandering as a boy through his East Belfast haunts, and then venturing out to a wider world away from this local place.

Josephine Baker in Art and Life Bennetta Jules-Rosette 2007 Beyond biography: a legendary performer's legacy of symbolism

Songs in the Key of Fife Vic Galloway 2013-08-07 A look at the careers of several acclaimed Scottish musicians from Fife, from their early days to the highs and lows of the music industry, to today. The East Neuk of Fife, Scotland, may seem like an unusual place for a musical revolution, but as this firsthand account reveals, there is more to the sleepy fishing villages and rolling fields, and a small community of musicians has crept up on the world. From psychedelic troubadours the Beta Band to the Billboard chart star KT Tunstall, acclaimed singer-songwriter James

Yorkston, and the reigning monarch and lynchpin of the Fence Collective, King Creosote, this book plots the unique, intertwining tales of these Fifers from their schooldays to the present day. This story, full of personal anecdotes and exclusive interviews, provides an in-depth look at a unique collective of musicians who have experienced the extreme highs and the desperate lows of the music business and how a craggy outpost on the east coast of Scotland had a role in crafting talented artists. Praise for Songs in the Key of Fife "DJ turned author Galloway does a superb job of documenting the lives of these artists, misfits and "heads," not least because he is a Fife lad himself." —Mojo (UK) "A remarkable insight into the pitfalls of the music industry . . . essential reading for any young musician in Scotland thinking about trying to make a go of it—not least for the rude awakening it may offer before their dreams are shattered. But it also shows how success can be achieved against seemingly insurmountable odds." —The Scotsman (UK)

Up South Robert Lashley 2017-03-28 Poetry. African & African American Studies. In UP SOUTH, his second book of poems, Robert Lashley has gone deeper into the rituals, folklore, and ceremonies of Black Tacoma. This is a book about cities within cities, where the present has roots in decades of history, and the evidence of things unseen still guides people's actions. In different forms, voices, and modes of rhetoric, Lashley paints complicated, moving pictures of environments, and people trying to survive in them.

The Beauty I Have Seen Tanure Ojaide 2010 The beauty I have seen -- Doors of the forest & other poems -- Flow & other poems.

Shit Just Got Real Executive Homeboy 2021-03-08 Born into the life of crime, James "Triple J" Johnson Junior, was exposed to the drug game at a young age by his father, becoming the youngest crime boss in the City of Atlanta. At age twenty-six, he took lead over the notorious black crime family, the Apes and Wolves, and within the first year, their business wealth grew so fast that they were forced to start counting money by the pounds. Before turning the first chair over, James Jay told his son, "It's always gone be a curve in the game somewhere, but the main thing I want you to always remember is to roll with the blows life throw at you." Triple J didn't understand what his father was saying until the day sh*t got real for him. Arrested and hauled away with felony murder charges, Triple J was forced into a place he dreaded to be, the Fulton Jail. When his Bond was denied and he was stuck on the inside, Triple J adjusted his seat belt for the roller coaster ride because he knew then that Shit Just Got Real.

24-Carat Black's Ghetto: Misfortune's Wealth Zach Schonfeld 2020-11-12 In 1973, the musical collective 24-Carat Black released an unheralded masterpiece on Stax Records and then disappeared. Ghetto: Misfortune's Wealth, a soul-funk concept album primarily written by the ex-Motown arranger Dale Warren, was too bleak, ambitious, or just outright bizarre to reach mainstream audiences. 24-Carat Black collapsed when Stax went bankrupt, and the group's only completed album sank into cultural obscurity. With deep reporting elucidating an untold story full of cinematic details, this book traces how Ghetto went from commercial flop to enigmatic underground classic embraced by the hip-hop community. It also chronicles, in infuriating detail, how the music industry of the 1970s systematically exploited soul musicians and then left them struggling to get paid—and where 24-Carat Black fits into this broader injustice. This is a fascinating and multilayered story about a remarkable album nearly lost to history. It's also a rare glimpse into what it's like to have your music resurrected by rap samples decades after your career fell apart.

Sound Clash C. Cooper 2004-09-14 Megawattage sound systems have blasted the electronically-enhanced riddims and tongue-twisting lyrics of Jamaica's dancehall DJs across the globe. This high-energy raggamuffin music is often dismissed by old-school roots reggae fans as a raucous degeneration of classic Jamaican popular music. In this provocative study of dancehall culture, Cooper offers a sympathetic account of the philosophy of a wide range of dancehall DJs: Shabba Ranks, Lady Saw, Ninjaman, Capleton, Buju Banton, Anthony B and Apache Indian. Cooper also demonstrates the ways in which the language of dancehall culture, often devalued as mere 'noise,' articulates a complex understanding of the border clashes which characterize Jamaican society, and analyzes the sound clashes that erupt in the movement of Jamaican dancehall culture across national borders.

Billboard 2011-04-02 In its 114th year, Billboard remains the world's premier weekly music publication and a diverse digital, events, brand, content and data licensing platform. Billboard publishes the most trusted charts and offers unrivaled reporting about the latest music, video, gaming, media, digital and mobile entertainment issues and trends.

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Funk Rickey Vincent 2014-11-04 Funk: It's the only musical genre ever to have transformed the nation into a throbbing army of bell-bottomed, hoop-eared, rainbow-Afro'd warriors on the dance floor. Its rhythms and lyrics turned bleak urban realities inside out with distinctive, danceable, downright irresistible music. Funk hasn't received the critical attention that rock, jazz, and the blues have—until now. Colorful, intelligent, and in-you-face, Rickey Vincent's Funk celebrates the songs, the musicians, the philosophy, and the meaning of funk. The book spans from the early work of James Brown (the Godfather of Funk) through today, covering funky soul (Stevie Wonder, the Temptations), so-called "black rock" (Jimi Hendrix, Sly and the Family Stone, the Isley Brothers), jazz-funk (Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock), monster funk (Parliament, Funkadelic, Bootsy's Rubber Band), naked funk (Rick James, Gap Band), disco-funk (Chic, K.C. and the Sunshine Band), funky pop (Kool & the Gang, Chaka Khan), P-Funk Hip Hop (Digital Underground, De La Soul), funk-sampling rap (Ice Cube, Dr. Dre), funk rock (Red Hot Chili Peppers, Primus), and more. Funk tells a vital, vibrant history—the history of a uniquely American music born out of tradition and community, filled with energy, attitude, anger, hope, and an irrepressible spirit.

Father Greg and the Homeboys Celeste Fremon 1995-07-14 Recounts the efforts and achievements of a crusading priest who was assigned to a volatile East Los Angeles neighborhood, detailing his efforts to revitalize this urban war zone and how he became a pivotal role model to many young men in the area.

Popular Music and Film Ian Inglis 2003 The growing presence of popular music in film is one of the most exciting areas of contemporary Film Studies. Written by a range of international specialists, this collection includes case studies on Sliding Doors, Topless Women Talk About Their Lives, The Big Chill and Moulin Rouge, considering the work of populist musicians such as the Beatles, Jimi Hendrix and Sting. Contributors to the volume include Robb Wright, Lesley Vize, Phil Powrie, Anno Mungen, Anaheid Kassabian, Lauren Anderson, Antti-Ville Karja, K. J. Donnelly, Lee Barron, Melissa Carey Michael Hannan and Jaap Kooijman.

Home Boy: #6 Gary Fabbri 2022-12-15 As team captain, Kai is always in control on the field. He's like the glue that keeps the team together, and the team relies on him to be a solid, talented player. But at home, as hard as he tries, Kai can't keep his parents together. Their fighting intensifies so much that Kai's frustrations spill over into school and soccer. Will he be able to provide what the team needs without the home support that he used to take for granted? Aligned to Common Core Standards and correlated to state standards. Claw is an imprint of Magic Wagon, a division of ABDO.

The Oxford Handbook of Mobile Music Studies, Volume 2 Sumanth Gopinath 2014-03 The two volumes of The Oxford Handbook of Mobile Music Studies consolidate an area of scholarly inquiry that addresses how mechanical, electrical, and digital technologies and their corresponding economies of scale have rendered music and sound increasingly mobile-portable, fungible, and ubiquitous. At once a marketing term, a common mode of everyday-life performance, and an instigator of experimental aesthetics, "mobile music" opens up a space for studying the momentous transformations in the production, distribution, consumption, and experience of music and sound that took place between the late nineteenth and the early twenty-first centuries. Taken together, the two volumes cover a large swath of the world—the US, the UK, Japan, Brazil, Germany, Turkey, Mexico, France, China, Jamaica, Iraq, the Philippines, India, Sweden—and a similarly broad array of the musical and nonmusical sounds suffusing the soundscapes of mobility. Volume 2 investigates the ramifications of mobile music technologies on musical/sonic performance and aesthetics. Two core arguments are that "mobility" is not the same thing as actual "movement" and that artistic production cannot be absolutely sundered from the performances of quotidian life. The volume's chapters investigate the mobilization of frequency range by sirens and miniature speakers; sound vehicles such as boom cars, ice cream trucks, and trains; the gestural choreographies of soundwalk pieces and mundane interactions with digital media; dance music practices in laptop and iPod DJing; the imagery of iPod commercials; production practices in Turkish political music and black popular music; the aesthetics of handheld video games and

chiptune music; and the mobile device as a new musical instrument and resource for musical ensembles.

Homeboy Musik Publications 2019-10-26 ***** CLICK THE AUTHOR NAME "MUSIK PUBLICATIONS" FOR MORE NAMES ***** The music lover you know and love will appreciate this awesome gift. This music notebook gives musicians a special place to write and learn new music. This matte finished musical writing pad comes complete with 100 pages (50 sheets). It has a flexible lightweight paperback cover, which makes it lighter and easier to carry around, and comes complete with a cool trendy cover. Dimensions: 8 1/2" x 10 1/2" giving plenty of space for 12 staves per page with staff lines & notation guides. This music manuscript is perfect to help: Musicians write learn new music Composers with their music Keep track of your songs keep them organized Noting down songs you want to learn New musicians learn new notes and practice making music And so much more... Set yourself up for success to help you reach your goals and aspirations with this cute music journal. Order yours now

Home Boy George Pete Nelson 2020-11-08 Homeboy epitomizes the struggle of the author, George Pete Nelson, with that of Atlantic City (Queen of Resorts). The power resurgence of both entities is evident. Atlantic City is showing resiliency in its combat, and so is the author. African Performance Arts and Political Acts Naomi Andre 2021-10-28 African Performance Arts and Political Acts presents innovative formulations for how African performance and the arts shape the narratives of cultural history and politics. This collection, edited by Naomi André, Yolanda Covington-Ward, and Jendele Hungbo, engages with a breadth of African countries and art forms, bringing together speech, hip hop, religious healing and gesture, theater and social justice, opera, radio announcements, protest songs, and migrant workers' dances. The spaces include village communities, city landscapes, prisons, urban hostels, Township theaters, opera houses, and broadcasts through the airwaves on television and radio as well as in cyberspace. Essays focus on case studies from Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, and Tanzania.

Listening to Poetry Jeremy Trabue 2019-09-01 A sad thing happens to most people somewhere between preschool and college: we unlearn our natural love of poetry, a love rooted in sound and surprise, pattern and play, discovery and delight. That loss is a tragedy that this book aims to reverse. Based on fifteen years of teaching, and dedicated to the belief that rigor and accessibility are compatible, Listening to Poetry takes nothing for granted, and builds students' confidence and skills from the ground up. It uses innovative, student-centered, and process-based approaches, including practical how-tos and skill-focused exercises for every subject covered. Poems don't have to be approached like riddles to be solved, codes to be cracked, or prisoners to be interrogated. There is a better way, and it starts right here. Don't take our word for it, though. Listen to students who've read this book: "I need to give full appreciation to this book for my new-found love of poetry... I have found myself a new hobby." "Before this book I was overwhelmed by poetry and felt I would never be artistic enough to create or analyze it. Now I feel very comfortable... and am excited to continue my appreciation for the art." "I have found my love for poetry from reading this book. I have learned how to read poetry and how to understand it."

House Music the Real Story Jesse Saunders 2007-11 Jesse Saunders story is one of the most important in the history of popular culture. From his hometown of Chicago, Jesse created the first original House music record and launched the House music movement across the land. Eventually, his style of music would come to sell millions of records and CDs, take over the popular consciousness of millions of kids across the earth and cement the electronic revolution in music. Written with author James Cummins, this autobiography tells the story of how it all happened. From the streets of Chicago to the biggest music labels in Los Angeles, California, it follows Jesse Saunders as he recreates the musical landscape of America. Touching on the celebrity culture of the 1980s and a90s and into the twenty-first century, you will read many shocking things about some of your favorite artists. Jesse Saunders is an artist whose influence on modern music will never be forgotten.

Home for Christmas Youth Study Book Justin Coleman 2018-09-18 Home for Christmas brings inspiring stories of hope and second chances into the Advent season. Author and pastor Justin Coleman matches real life stories of struggle and triumph to the Advent themes of hope, love, joy, and peace to show how the light of Christmas shines brightly even in hard times. Each chapter lifts up a scripture reflection alongside tales of men and women who reflect on the Advent themes with love and longing. Throughout each of the four chapters and the accompanying DVD for a small-group experience, Coleman captures the stories of formerly incarcerated men and women as they find work and opportunity through Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, California. These men and women share their holiday memories and experiences in light of the hope and new life they've experienced at Homeboy. This Youth Study Book takes the ideas presented in the book and interprets them for young people grades 6-12.

Race and Cultural Practice in Popular Culture Domino Renee Perez 2019 This book is an innovative work that takes a fresh approach to the concept of race as a social factor made concrete in popular forms, such as film, television, and music. The essays push past the reaffirmation of static conceptions of identity, authenticity, or conventional interpretations of stereotypes and bridge the intertextual gap between theories of community enactment and cultural representation.

A Change Is Gonna Come Craig Werner 2021-07-20 ". . . extraordinarily far-reaching. . . highly accessible." —Notes "No one has written this way about music in a long, long time. Lucid, insightful, with real spiritual, political, intellectual, and emotional grasp of the whole picture. A book about why music matters, and how, and to whom." —Dave Marsh, author of Louie, Louie and Born to Run: The Bruce Springsteen Story "This book is urgently needed: a comprehensive look at the various forms of black popular music, both as music and as seen in a larger social context. No one can do this better than Craig Werner." —Henry Louis Gates, Jr., W. E. B. Du Bois Professor of the Humanities, Harvard University "[Werner has] mastered the extremely difficult art of writing about music as both an aesthetic and social force that conveys, implies, symbolizes, and represents ideas as well as emotion, but without reducing its complexities and ambiguities to merely didactic categories." —African American Review A Change Is Gonna Come is the story of more than four decades of enormously influential black music, from the hopeful, angry refrains of the Freedom movement, to the slick pop of Motown; from the disco inferno to the Million Man March; from Woodstock's "Summer of Love" to the war in Vietnam and the race riots that inspired Marvin Gaye to write "What's Going On." Originally published in 1998, A Change Is Gonna Come drew the attention of scholars and general readers alike. This new edition, featuring four new and updated chapters, will reintroduce Werner's seminal study of black music to a new generation of readers. Craig Werner is Professor of Afro-American Studies at the University of Wisconsin, and author of many books, including Playing the Changes: From Afro-Modernism to the Jazz Impulse and Up Around the Bend: An Oral History of Creedence Clearwater Revival. His most recent book is Higher Ground: Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin, Curtis Mayfield, and the Rise and Fall of American Soul.

Green River Valley Robert Lashley 2021-06-17 Green River Valley, Robert Lashley's third poetry collection, is an unapologetic and harrowing look at gentrification, racism, and personal and collective loss in his hometown of Tacoma, Washington. With each poem, Lashley asks readers to bear witness to his lived experiences there and to honor the people, places and memories that shaped him alongside the city we know today. Lashley pulls no punches in this collection, which showcases his signature, rhythmic eloquence and acuity more than ever. His narrative threads expose hidden intimacies amid trauma and ambivalence in the face of institutionalized racism. Readers will leave this book asking, how do we build and honor a city's legacy, and what part did we take in that journey?

Ebony 1992-01 EBONY is the flagship magazine of Johnson Publishing. Founded in 1945 by John H. Johnson, it still maintains the highest global circulation of any African American-focused magazine.

Rice, Fish, Squid and Lamb Miriam Isa 2011-02-01 A novel on deception. The book chronicles the first love encountered by the main character, Liz. It follows her observations from a tender age of 5 to present day, 2009.

How to Rap Paul Edwards 2009-12 "A complete guide to the art and craft of the MC, anyone who's serious about becoming a rapper should read this first." -Hip Hop Connection magazine "A clever breakdown of the art form of hip-hop rhymes... It's about time someone actually recognized this powerful music for its artistic integrity." -Speech, Arrested Development Examining the dynamics of hip-hop from every region and in every form-mainstream and underground, current and classic-this compelling how-to discusses everything from content and flow to rhythm and delivery. Compiled from the most extensive research on rapping to date, this first-of-its-kind guide delivers countless candid and exclusive insights from more than 100 of the most critically acclaimed artists in hip-hop-including Clipse, Cypress Hill, Nelly, Public Enemy, Remy Ma, Schoolly D, A Tribe Called Quest, and will.i.am-revealing the stories behind their art and preserving the genre's history through the

words of the legends themselves. Beginners and pros alike will benefit from the wealth of rapping lore and insight in this remarkable collection."--

The Encyclopedia of Popular Music Colin Larkin 2011-05-27 This text presents a comprehensive and up-to-date reference work on popular music, from the early 20th century to the present day.

Beyond Suppression: Global Perspectives on Youth Violence Joan Serra Hoffman 2010-11-18 This examination of youth violence provides readers with insights from international experts and real-life examples of how nations and communities around the world have successfully dealt with the issue. □ Contains contributions from over 20 international experts describing measures to address youth violence within the political, social, cultural, and economic contexts of their environments □ 12 case studies illustrate the various conceptual and programmatic approaches for understanding, preventing, and reducing youth violence in various countries □ Over 50 citations of seminal research and programmatic works in the areas of public health, restorative justice, and resilience-based approaches to youth violence

My Song Harry Belafonte 2011-10-11 Harry Belafonte is not just one of the greatest entertainers of our time; he has led one of the great American lives of the last century. Now, this extraordinary icon tells us the story of that life, giving us its full breadth, letting us share in the struggles, the tragedies, and, most of all, the inspiring triumphs. Belafonte grew up, poverty-ridden, in Harlem and Jamaica. His mother was a complex woman—caring but withdrawn, eternally angry and rarely satisfied. His father was distant and physically abusive. It was not an easy life, but it instilled in young Harry the hard-nosed toughness of the city and the resilient spirit of the Caribbean lifestyle. It also gave him the drive to make good and channel his anger into actions that were positive and life-affirming. His journey led to the U.S. Navy during World War II, where he encountered an onslaught of racism but also fell in love with the woman he eventually married. After the war he moved back to Harlem, where he drifted between odd jobs until he saw his first stage play—and found the life he wanted to lead. Theater opened up a whole new world, one that was artistic and political and made him realize that not only did he have a need to express himself, he had a lot to express. He began as an actor—and has always thought of himself as such—but was quickly spotted in a musical, began a tentative nightclub career, and soon was on a meteoric rise to become one of the world's most popular singers. Belafonte was never content to simply be an entertainer, however. Even at enormous personal cost, he could not shy away from activism. At first it was a question of personal dignity: breaking down racial barriers that had never been broken before, achieving an enduring popularity with both white and black audiences. Then his activism broadened to a lifelong, passionate involvement at the heart of the civil rights movement and countless other political and social causes. The sections on the rise of the civil rights movement are perhaps the most moving in the book: his close friendship with Martin Luther King, Jr.; his role as a conduit between Dr. King and the Kennedys; his up-close involvement with the demonstrations and awareness of the hatred and potential violence around him; his devastation at Dr. King's death and his continuing fight for what he believes is right. But My Song is far more than the history of a movement. It is a very personal look at the people in that movement and the world in which Belafonte has long moved. He has befriended many beloved and important figures in both entertainment and politics—Paul Robeson, Eleanor Roosevelt, Sidney Poitier, John F. Kennedy, Marlon Brando, Robert Kennedy, Nelson Mandela, Fidel Castro, Tony Bennett, Bill Clinton—and writes about them with the same exceptional candor with which he reveals himself on every page. This is a book that pulls no punches, and turns both a loving and critical eye on our country's cultural past. As both an artist and an activist, Belafonte has touched countless lives. With My Song, he has found yet another way to entertain and inspire us. It is an electrifying memoir from a remarkable man.

the-homeboy-songs

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