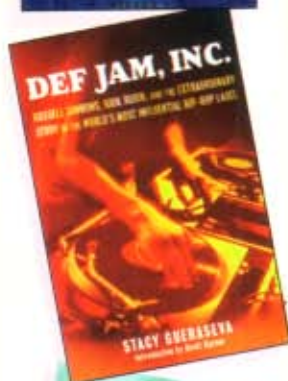


American Idol Season 4: Official Behind-The-Scenes Fan Book

By Jason R. Rich
Prima Games

This is truly a book for the devoted *American Idol* fan. It chronicles Season 4 from beginning to end, starting with some of the most memorable auditions. This fan book is an all access pass to *American Idol*. Included are biographies and interviews with the Top 12 contestants as well as the backstage guide to the creation of *American Idol*, from set design to hair and make up sessions. With all the behind the scenes footage, you get a chance to see what goes on when the cameras are off, like the choreography sessions, wardrobe shopping, and farewell dinners for the recently voted off contestant.

This fan book is jam packed with photographs and even includes a large poster of the Top 12. Along with the interviews, photographs, and recaps of Season 4 there is tons of information on their day-to-day schedules, vocal rehearsals, and what they do during their downtime. There is even a section devoted to the Top 10 Most Frequently Asked questions like, "Do judges Simon Cowell and Paula Abdul argue all the time off the set of *American Idol*?" This fan book definitely shows how the *American Idol* contestants transform themselves into pop stars.



Def Jam, Inc.: Russell Simmons, Rick Rubin and the Extraordinary Story of the World's Most Influential Hip Hop Label

By Stacy Gueraseva
One World/ Ballantine Books

Who could have imagined that hip-hop, which was dubbed as a passing fad in the 80's, would actually become a multi-million dollar business and one of the music world's leading genres? Russell Simmons, a young black kid from Hollis, Queens and Rick Rubin, a Jewish kid from Long Island were among the few who believed that hip-hop was more and started the groundbreaking label, Def Jam Records.

Although they started out in the NYU dorm room of Rubin, which is where LL Cool J was discovered on a demo tape, they soon built one of the most lucrative hip-hop labels. This book follows the financial struggles and scandals surrounding Def Jam Inc. and provides anecdotes about artists like Foxy Brown, Jay-Z, and DMX. Stacy Gueraseva, author of the book and former editor-in-chief of Russell Simmon's magazine, *Oneworld*, has access to the big names and brings real conversations and a behind the scenes look at a company that revolutionized the hip-hop scene. This is not simply a biography of the two founders, but a journey into the world of rap.



Why White Kids Love Hip Hop: Wankstas, Wiggers, Wannabes, and the New Reality of Race in America

By Bakari Kitwana
Basic Civitas Books

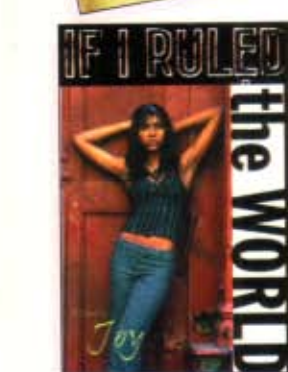
Over the last 30 years, hip-hop has become one of the main cultural movements. Its roots are in the black, urban neighborhoods and it has slowly come to dominate the airwaves and school hallways of



If I Ruled the World

By Joy
St. Martin's Griffin

Harlem is a twenty-six year old who stands out above the rest. She owns her own car, home, and business and has worked hard for all of it. She is the first to say that no drug dealer ever fronted her the money for any of the things she owns. Also she never had to sell herself to earn the money to make her dreams come true. Harlem has had a hard life; her mother became strung out on crack and placed in foster care until she started to live with her grandmother.



white suburban America. Bakari Kitwana sets out to look at the role of hip-hop in racial politics and answers the question on everyone's mind: "Why do white kids love hip-hop?"

This question holds two sides, on one are those who disapprove of the mainstreaming of hip-hop and on the other there are those who feel that the cross-cultural appeal of hip-hop is beneficial because it's ability to break down racial barriers. Kitwana sets out to explore both sides of the spectrum through interviews with young people whose lives have been molded by hip-hop. As he dismantles stereotypes and myths, Kitwana shows how hip-hop's emergence as a political movement that is changing education, employment, and incarceration policies. He seeks to portray that the mainstreaming of hip-hop is not going to be the demise of the Black art form, but ultimately wants to show that music, in the form of hip-hop, is becoming the voice of a generation.

Brickhouse

By Rita Ewing
Avon Trade

Nona Simmons, a Harlem entrepreneur and fitness superstar, has worked hard to develop Brickhouse into one of the hottest gyms in the city. It was her gift to the community where she grew up and a way to make a positive change. Yet the city government gives the Harlem Empowerment Office the authority to tear down Brickhouse and replace it with the Harlem East Mall, even though the community wants both. In the midst of Nona's attempts to fight back, she finds that not only is her business threatened but also her close group of friends. Her close business partner, Allen Wade, is dealing with a secret that could destroy both their futures. Also, her best friend, Leila, is dealing with the collapse of her marriage to a New York Knicks superstar.

As Nona continues to battle over the fate of the Brickhouse, she falls deeper and deeper into a web of deceit and scandal involving the New York powerful. Just when everything is looking down and hopeless there is help from the last person Nona ever thought...and the last man she ever wanted to love.

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After her grandmother passes away, Harlem inherits a large fortune from her and opens her own business with her best friend, Morgan. They own a bookstore in Columbus, Ohio and plan to open more shops across the country. But her life takes an unexpected turn when she falls in love with York, a drug dealer. He genuinely wants to win her and she discovers that she just might be missing something in life: love. But when tragedy strikes, Harlem finds that as a survivor, only she can make her own destiny. BB