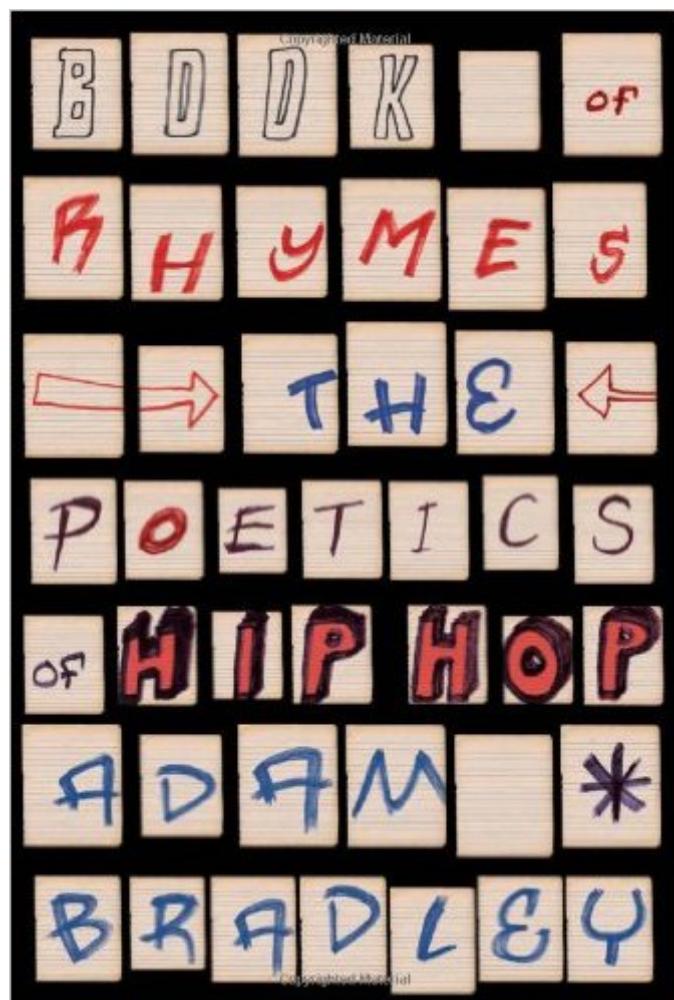


The book was found

Book Of Rhymes: The Poetics Of Hip Hop



Synopsis

If asked to list the greatest innovators of modern American poetry, few of us would think to include Jay-Z or Eminem in their number. And yet hip hop is the source of some of the most exciting developments in verse today. The media uproar in response to its controversial lyrical content has obscured hip hop's revolution of poetic craft and experience: Only in rap music can the beat of a song render poetic meter audible, allowing an MC's wordplay to move a club-full of eager listeners. Examining rap history's most memorable lyricists and their inimitable techniques, literary scholar Adam Bradley argues that we must understand rap as poetry or miss the vanguard of poetry today. Book of Rhymes explores America's least understood poets, unpacking their surprisingly complex craft, and according rap poetry the respect it deserves.

Book Information

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: Basic Civitas Books (February 24, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0465003478

ISBN-13: 978-0465003471

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (31 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #78,412 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #38 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Rap #143 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Forms & Genres > Popular #143 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > History & Criticism

Customer Reviews

In the preface to *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, the author Oscar Wilde defended his and all literary works by stating that "there is no such thing as a moral or an immoral book. Books are well written, or badly written. That is all." Condemned for his writings' homoerotic overtones, Wilde was publicly vilified and even imprisoned for his sexual orientation. Outspoken individuals like Allen Ginsberg and George Carlin famously received similar albeit less severe treatment for their expletive antics. A century after Wilde, rap music faces comparably harsh criticism for its explicit, aggressive, violent, misogynistic and, ironically to this analogy (both to Wilde and Ginsberg), homophobic rhymes. But like the diamond in the rough, below the surface of many of these lyrics lies profundity and value.

After all, the culture that points the finger at rap is the very culture through which rap emerges - to describe, confront and reshape how we think, feel and live in this world. In 2004, comedian Chris Rock performed an HBO special called *Never Scared* which was subsequently released on DVD and as a Grammy-winning CD. One of the highlights of this standup set was a segment called "Rap Stand Up", in which Rock professed his love for hip hop. Rock went on to lament the fact that while old school artists like Grandmaster Flash, Run-D.M.C. and Whodini could be "broken down intellectually", it was becoming increasingly difficult to "defend" new school emcees; he went on to mock rhymes like "I got hoes in different area codes" and "move, bitch, get out the way" by Ludacris. The questions then arise: What exactly constitutes the intellectuality that Rock was referring to? Can hip hop be valued as poetry and not just "beats and rhymes"?

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Love & Hip Hop: Unsung All Exclusive Access: New York Atlanta Hollywood Unauthorized Version (Love & Hip Hop, Vh1 Love & Hip Hop WEDDING, Love & Hip Hop ... Season 1 2 3 4 5 6 DVD Prime Instant Video) Hip Hop Rhyming Dictionary: The Extensive Hip Hop & Rap Rhyming Dictionary for Rappers, Mcs, Poets, Slam Artist and lyricists: Hip Hop & Rap Rhyming Dictionary And General Rhyming Dictionary Book of Rhymes: The Poetics of Hip Hop Hip Hop Illuminati Book 2: Hip Hop's Role in the New World Order DJs: A Children's Guide to the Origins of Hip Hop (The Five Elements of Hip Hop Book 1) Graffiti: A Children's Guide to the Origins of Hip Hop (The Five Elements of Hip Hop Book 4) MCs: A Children's Guide to the Origins of Hip Hop (The Five Elements of Hip Hop Book 3) Hip Hop Family Tree Book 4: 1984-1985 (Vol. 4) (Hip Hop Family Tree) Hip Hop Family Tree Book 1: 1970s-1981 (Hip Hop Family Tree) The Hip Hop Wars: What We Talk About When We Talk About Hip Hop--and Why It Matters It's Bigger Than Hip Hop: The Rise of the Post-Hip-Hop Generation Eminem (Hip Hop) (Hip Hop (Mason Crest Paperback)) Dr. Dre (Hip Hop) (Hip Hop (Mason Crest Paperback)) Eminem (Hip-Hop Stars) (Hip-Hop Stars (Hardcover)) MCs: A Children's Guide to the Origins of Hip Hop (The Five Elements of Hip Hop) (Volume 4) Hip-Hop History (Hip-hop USA) Hip-Hop: A Short History (Superstars of Hip-Hop) Prophets of the Hood: Politics and Poetics in Hip Hop Korean Nursery Rhymes: Wild Geese, Land of Goblins and other Favorite Songs and Rhymes [Korean-English] [Downloadable MP3 Audio Included] Korean Nursery Rhymes: Wild Geese, Land of Goblins and other Favorite Songs and Rhymes [Korean-English] [MP3 Audio CD Included]

[Dmca](#)