



I am Raymond Washington

By Zach Fortier

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I am Raymond Washington By Zach Fortier

I Am Raymond Washington is the only authorized biography of the undisputed founder of the Crips and provides an unprecedented look into Raymond Washington's life. If you're looking for stories of gang violence and crimes committed by gang members, that's been done before, and this book isn't for you. But if you're looking for a factual and intuitive look into what made Raymond Washington unique in the mean streets of Los Angeles, this is the book you want to read. Filled with stories, many never-before-seen photographs, as well as interviews and eyewitness accounts of those who knew Raymond, what he represented, and how and why the Crips were formed--and why his name is still spoken on the streets of Los Angeles today with hatred, fear, awe, and reverence. Entering the world of Raymond Washington with an open mind was difficult for me; however, the story of who Raymond Washington was as a leader, warrior, tactician, and mentor became clear. Learn why the gang was so successful and how an unremarkable fifteen-year-old kid in the fall of 1969 sat down with his best friend and formed what later became one of the most successful, and yet feared and hated gangs in the world--the Crips.

I am Raymond Washington won a Bronze medal in true crime in the 2015 IPPY awards.

I am Raymond Washington was a Finalist in the 2015 IAN Book awards contest in both General Non Fiction and the Bio/memoir categories.

I am Raymond Washington won a Bronze Medal in Non Fiction/Bio in the 2015 Readers Favorite International book awards.

I am Raymond Washington was a Finalist in Non Fiction in the 2015 Kindle book awards

I am Raymond Washington was a Finalist in Biography in the 2015 USA Today book awards contest

I am Raymond Washington was the winner of the 2015 Book Pipeline competition

I am Raymond Washington was the winner of the 2016 NIEA book awards contest for African American Non fiction.

I am Raymond Washington was a Finalist in Non Fiction in the 2016 Kindle book awards

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I am Raymond Washington By Zach Fortier Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #584767 in Books
- Published on: 2014-12-29
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .47" w x 6.00" l, .62 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 188 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

Written in a conversational, no-nonsense manner, Zach Fortier's latest work, *I Am Raymond Washington*, reads like the best of modern detective fiction. However, this is no novel. It's an extensively researched work of journalism on par with Truman Capote's *In Cold Blood*. The book begins with the author explaining his motivation, and his intentions, namely, to uncover his subject's true identity in a fair, impartial manner. The book is equal parts biography, character study, historical background, oral history and sociology.

Apex Reviews. 5 Stars

About the Author

Zach Fortier was a police officer for over 30 years, specializing in K-9, SWAT, gang, domestic violence and sex crimes as an investigator. He has written five books about Police work. "**Curbchek**" the first book is a case by case account of the streets as he worked them from the start of his 30 career. "**Streetcreds**" the second book details time Zach Spent in a Gang task force and the cases that occurred. The third book is by far the most gritty: "**Curbchek-Reload**". In "**Curbchek-Reload**" Zach is damaged and dangerously so, suffering from PTSD and the day to day violence of working the street. "**Hero To Zero**" is Zach's fourth book and recalls cops he worked with that were incredibly talented but ended up going down in flames, some ended up in jail, prison and one on the FBI's ten most wanted list. Zach's fifth book is just out and is titled "**Landed On Black**" and covers the constant state of hyper-vigilance required to survive the double crosses and betrayals that occurred on the streets and in the police department. Zach's latest book "**I am Raymond Washington**", provides the reader with an unprecedented look into the life of the original founder of the Crips gang. Filled with eyewitness accounts and recollections from friends and family give the reader a look into the life of the Original Crip. If you like True Crime, take a look at Zach Fortier. You wont be disappointed.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Alexander Taylor:

This *I am Raymond Washington* are reliable for you who want to be a successful person, why. The key reason why of this *I am Raymond Washington* can be among the great books you must have is actually giving you more than just simple examining food but feed anyone with information that probably will shock your prior knowledge. This book will be handy, you can bring it all over the place and whenever your conditions throughout the e-book and printed ones. Beside that this *I am Raymond Washington* forcing you to have an enormous of experience like rich vocabulary, giving you trial run of critical thinking that we all know it useful in your day exercise. So , let's have it appreciate reading.

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