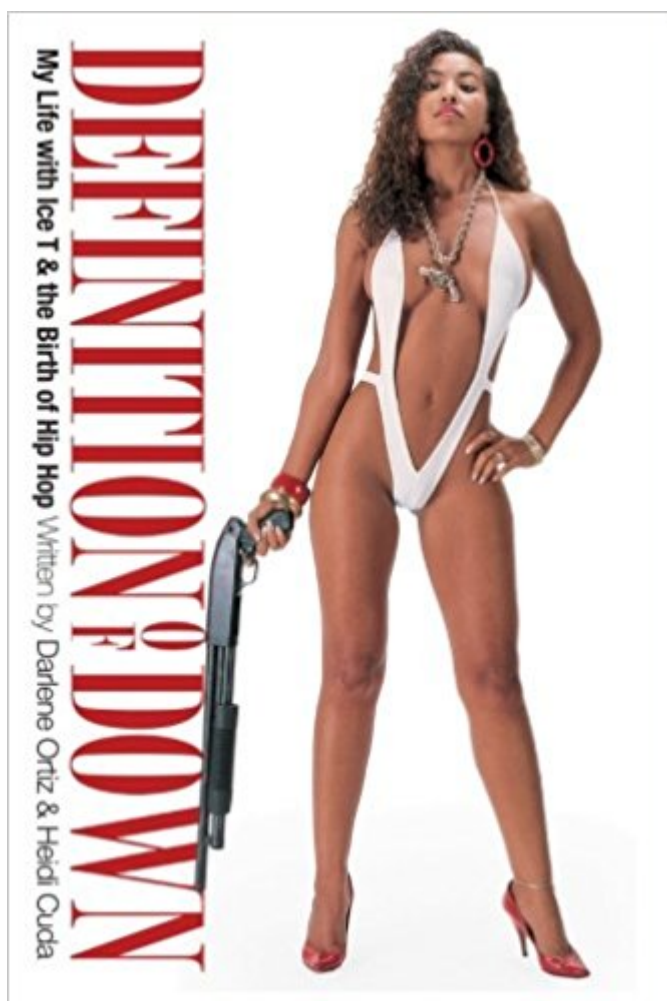


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Definition Of Down: My Life With Ice T & The Birth Of Hip Hop - B/w Version



Synopsis

Darlene Ortiz was with Ice T for 17 years, beginning with his early days hustlin' on the streets and his subsequent rise to fame. In *Definition of Down: My Life with Ice T & the Birth of Hip Hop*, she tells how hip hop started with intimate glimpses into their daily life with stories about their climb to the top and all the rappers that got their start in those times. This black-and-white edition is filled with stories and photos never seen before of many hip hop icons. Shawn Setaro, Forbes contributor and host on *The Cipher*, had this to say about *Definition of Down*: "Darlene Ortiz and Heidi Cuda have given us not only a beautiful and important hip-hop story, but a great California story, family story, and love story to boot. 'Definition of Down' is a must-read for anyone interested in how hip-hop came to be America's popular culture. Darlene was there at the forefront – dancing at Radiotron, hanging with the Furious Five and the Zulu Nation, rooming with Biz Markie, fighting Tipper Gore on 'Oprah,' and documenting the filming of 'New Jack City.' This book gives us her one-of-a-kind perspective on those heady days when rap went from a fad to a cultural force."

Book Information

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Genres > Rap

Customer Reviews

Darlene Ortiz is widely known as the first cover girl of rap. Her poses for such seminal Ice T albums as *Rhyme Pays* and *Power* made her a Hip Hop icon. She also starred in multiple music videos and modeled in dozens of magazines. She co-hosts a radio show with comedian Corey Holcomb that boasts thousand of listeners. Ortiz is a fitness instructor, songwriter and can claim acting on her resume, starring in a scene with Denzel Washington in the film *Ricochet*. Heidi Siegmund Cuda is

an Emmy Award winning producer and the author of *The Ice Opinion* with Ice T, the first book of rap. She also wrote *Got Your Back* with Tupac's bodyguard Frank Alexander; *Sublime* with Brad Nowell: *Crazy Fool* (Portrait of a Punk); and *Warped Book: Tales of Freedom and Psychotic Ambition*, about the Vans Warped Tour. Cuda is a former investigative producer for Fox 11 News and former music critic and columnist for the Los Angeles Times. She now writes screenplays.

I really liked the book because it wasn't about her trying to get revenge. She had Tracy's back even after he left her and his son. She's really the definition of down because any other women would of sued his ass for child support. 5150 NATION holla

I have been a fan of Ms. Ortiz for a long time for more reasons than one. This beautiful woman and mother really broken down the validity of her love for her ex-husband in this book. I truly admire her courage and drive through out her life. Great read for anyone.

Darlene was the first true sex symbol of Hip Hop. Her story is very intriguing before & after she was a hip hop princess. It's mind boggling why Ice never officially married her. Darlene was definitely marriage material. Some people just don't realize how lucky they are to have a woman as beautiful & committed as Darlene. I wish I could meet her one day. She was my first hip hop crush, even before my girl MC Lyte. Darlene's book was far more interesting than Ice's story. I wish u the best Darlene & I will keep your book hoping one day I can meet you and have you autograph it!!!!

Book was ok. It doesn't really tell many compelling stories and Ms. Ortiz does not seem to want to reveal a lot of specific details. Overall, I wouldn't recommend unless you were really a fan of Ms. Ortiz.

Buckle up! Yes, it's a story about the Queen of the West Coast rap scene but it's the early life that leads up to that, that makes the book for me. This is a love story, a rags to riches story and a story of perseverance under the best and worst of times. If you're looking for dirt and gossip, SORRY, this isn't that book. Darlene keeps it classy and honest. This book is loaded with a great mix of stories from the early hip hop era and personal experiences. I'd recommend this book to any young person. Thanks Darlene!

A very informative read for anyone interested in Hip-hop. Having a narrative written by a female that was a quintessential member of that movement was very useful in her discussion of Hip-hop's history.

I watch Darlene Ortiz every week on the Corey Holcomb 5150 show and she's hilarious, but reading this book gave me more insight and depth into know who she is. The book takes us through her abusive childhood to her relationship with rapper Ice-T, and her life after. Great book, Great read!

Very Enlightening! An Easy Read! Highly Recommended!

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