



Black Boy Poems: An Account of Black Survival in America

Tyson Amir

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In the pages of *Black Boy Poems*, you will experience the fight, struggle, love, anger, frustration, critical analysis, and hope for a better future which is all present in the heart, mind, and soul of its author, Tyson Amir. *Black Boy Poems* was birthed in the throes of the violent racism and systemic devaluation of black people which has become a cornerstone of American culture. A pain that ugly and deep is necessary for a work such as this to have been authored. There is never a moment in this text where you are not confronted with the harsh realities that define the black experience. This book is thoroughly black, and Tyson Amir channels the essence of West African griots to tell the stories of his people in the most unapologetic terms. Once you open the pages, you will not be able to look away. Tyson has developed a writing style that allows the reader to fully experience the range of emotions captured on paper. His pain, struggle, and fight will become yours. He pulls you close with his poetry, and then once he has your ears, heart, and soul open, he speaks to your conscience and mind in a clear voice with in-depth analysis of the plight and need for black people to fight for their liberation. This body of work is timely and much needed. Tyson uses the hip hop medium in its most raw and revolutionary form to impart a message of struggle and freedom to all who are willing to listen. We find ourselves in the shadow of the black liberation movements of the 60s and 70s, in what many are now calling the era of Black Lives Matter where black people and other oppressed groups are still fighting for their basic rights to life, liberty, and happiness. The same unresolved issues of the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries have once again taken center stage for the world to see. *Black Boy Poems* reflects that understand that you cannot keep a people oppressed indefinitely; they will eventually stand up and demand what's theirs. As Tyson says in his poem *The Dirge*, "...The government doesn't care about an entire generation. We are the only ones who care about an entire generation. Therefore, we are the only ones who can save an entire generation." *Black Boy Poems* reiterates the demand for black people and all oppressed peoples to manifest their freedom and liberation by any means necessary. You will be challenged by this work. That is what the author intends. The hope is that you will respond to that challenge and begin working to make freedom a reality for all. This is a must read for anyone who has read *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, *Revolutionary Suicide* by Huey P. Newton, *A Taste of Power* by Elaine Brown, *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates, and *Black Boy* by Richard Wright. You'll hear shades of Langston Hughes, Marcus Garvey, James Baldwin, *The Last Poets*, and Gill Scott Heron.

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