FEATURED AUTHOR

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FEATURING

Angie Thomas

ANGIE THOMAS WAS BORN AND RAISED IN MISSISSIPPI, BUT NOW CALLS ATLANTA HER HOME. HER AWARD-WINNING, ACCLAIMED DEBUT NOVEL, THE HATE U GIVE, IS A #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER AND MAJOR MOTION PICTURE. HER SECOND NOVEL, ON THE COME UP, IS A FILM ON PARAMOUNT PLUS. IN 2021, ANGIE RETURNED TO THE WORLD OF GARDEN HEIGHTS WITH CONCRETE ROSE, A PREQUEL TO THE HATE U GIVE. HER LATEST WORK, NIC BLAKE AND THE REMARKABLES: THE MANIFESTOR PROPHECY, IS ANGIE'S FIRST FORAY INTO THE FANTASY GENRE.

"I look at books as being a form of activism.

Sometimes they'll show us a side of the
world that we might not have known
about"

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Content from angiethomas.com YouTube and goodreads.com

ALL ABOUT ANGIE

INTERVIEW ON BBC HARDTALK, 2017

STEPHEN SACKUR SPEAKS TO ANGIE THOMAS, A WRITER WHOSE FIRST NOVEL **ELECTRIFIED AMERICA WITH ITS** UNFLINCHING PORTRAYAL OF A TEENAGE BLACK GIRL CONFRONTING POLICE VIOLENCE, INNER CITY GANG CULTURE AND A SOCIETY ROOTED IN DISCRIMINATION. WHEN IT COMES TO ISSUES OF RACE AND RACISM, THE GAP BETWEEN AMERICA'S PROMISE OF EQUALITY AND THE REALITY OF ENTRENCHED INEQUALITY SEEMS DEPRESSINGLY WIDE. GENERATIONS OF BLACK AMERICANS HAVE MADE EFFORTS TO CHANGE THAT: HOW FAR HAVE THEY GOT? CAN HOPE WIN OUT OVER FEAR AND HATE?

GR: I'VE READ THAT YOU FEEL STRONGLY
THAT YA AUTHORS SHOULD SHOW LIFE AS
IT IS, SHOW THE REAL WORLD.
AT: ABSOLUTELY. I THINK ONE OF THE
BIGGEST THINGS THAT TEENAGERS WANT
FROM US IS THE TRUTH. THEY DON'T WANT
US TO HOLD BACK. THE ONE WAY TO HAVE
A TEENAGER NO LONGER TRUST YOU IS TO
LIE TO THEM OR TRY TO MISLEAD THEM OR
EVEN TRY TO PROTECT THEM. AND WE DO
IT A LOT.WE HOLD BACK, AND WE TRY NOT
TO EXPOSE THEM TO THINGS BECAUSE WE
DON'T WANT THEM TO GROW UP TOO
SOON. BUT THE UNFORTUNATE TRUTH OF



OUR SOCIETY NOW IS THEY'RE BEING FORCED TO GROW UP SOON. SO I WANTED TO SHOW THEM THE WORLD THAT MAY BE AROUND THEM, OR THE WORLD THAT THEY MIGHT NOT KNOW, AND SHOW ALL OF THE BEAUTY OF IT AND ALL OF THE FLAWS THAT EXIST. I DIDN'T WANT TO HOLD BACK BECAUSE THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT LIFE ISN'T GOING TO HOLD BACK WHEN IT FINALLY REVEALS ITSELF. SO I FELT IT WAS MY JOB TO BE RAW AND TO BE HONEST.

I'M FROM THE HIP-HOP GENERATION. I GREW UP ON HIP-HOP, THAT'S MY CULTURE, THAT'S MY MUSIC, AND ONE THING IT HAS NEVER DONE: IT HAS NEVER HELD BACK. IT'S ALWAYS RAW. AND IT'S ALWAYS UNFILTERED, AND THAT'S WHY SO MANY OF US LOVE IT. I REMEMBER BEING 13 YEARS OLD AND I THOUGHT I HAD DISCOVERED THE MEANING OF LIFE WHEN I FIRST LISTENED TO A TUPAC [SHAKUR] ALBUM THAT WASN'T CENSORED. I HEARD ALL THE CURSE WORDS, BUT IT WAS TRUTH, AND IT WAS HARSH, AND IT OPENED MY EYES. I OFTEN SAY THAT THAT'S HOW I WANT TO WRITE: I WANT TO BE AS UNFILTERED AND AS RAW AS A RAPPER WHEN I GIVE THESE BOOKS TO THESE KIDS.

-BOOKS BY ANGIE THOMAS-

WINNER OF THE WATERSTONES CHILDREN'S BOOK PRIZE,
GOODREADS CHOICE AWARDS BEST OF THE BEST,
THE BRITISH BOOK AWARD FOR CHILDREN'S FICTION BOOK OF
THE YEAR. TEEN VOGUE BEST YA BOOK OF THE YEAR

SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD STARR LIVES IN TWO WORLDS: THE POOR NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE SHE WAS BORN AND RAISED AND HER POSH HIGH SCHOOL IN THE SUBURBS. THE UNEASY BALANCE BETWEEN THEM IS SHATTERED WHEN STARR IS THE ONLY WITNESS TO THE FATAL SHOOTING OF HER UNARMED BEST FRIEND, KHALIL, BY A POLICE OFFICER. NOW WHAT STARR SAYS COULD DESTROY HER COMMUNITY. IT COULD ALSO GET HER KILLED.INSPIRED BY THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT, THIS IS A POWERFUL AND GRIPPING YA NOVEL ABOUT ONE GIRL'S STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE.

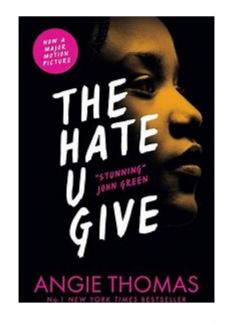


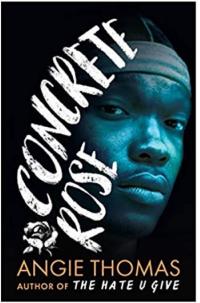
WITH HIS KING LORD DAD IN PRISON AND HIS MOM WORKING TWO JOBS, SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD MAVERICK CARTER HELPS THE ONLY WAY HE KNOWS HOW: SLINGING DRUGS. LIFE'S NOT PERFECT, BUT HE'S GOT EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL. UNTIL HE FINDS OUT HE'S A FATHER...SUDDENLY IT'S NOT SO EASY TO DEAL DRUGS AND FINISH SCHOOL WITH A BABY DEPENDENT ON HIM FOR EVERYTHING. SO WHEN HE'S OFFERED THE CHANCE TO GO STRAIGHT, HE TAKES IT. BUT WHEN KING LORD BLOOD RUNS THROUGH YOUR VEINS, YOU DON'T GET TO JUST WALK AWAY.



IT'S NOT EASY BEING REMARKABLE IN A WORLD WHERE STANDING OUT IS DANGEROUS. NIC BLAKE IS A MANIFESTOR. ALL SHE WANTS IS TO LEARN THE GIFT, SO SHE CAN BE AS POWERFUL AS HER DAD - UNTIL SHE DISCOVERS A SHOCKING SECRET. NOW SHE MUST FIND A POWERFUL MAGICAL WEAPON, OR RISK LOSING HIM FOR EVER.

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