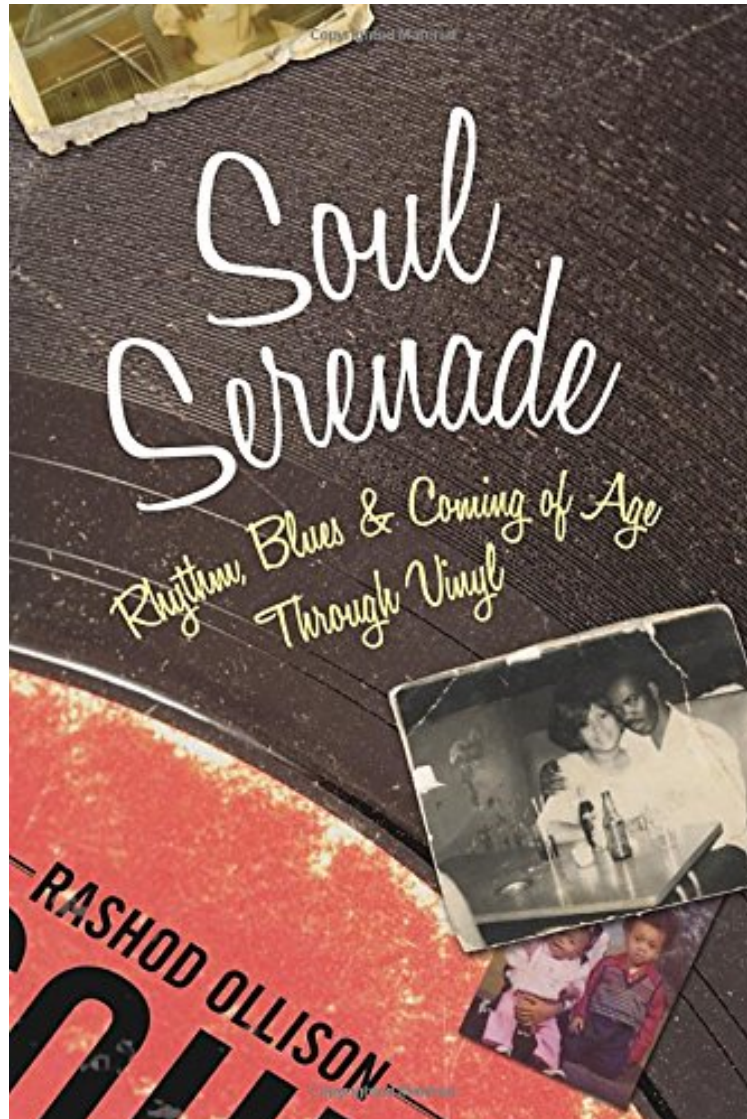


[Mobile book] Soul Serenade: Rhythm, Blues Coming of Age Through Vinyl

Soul Serenade: Rhythm, Blues Coming of Age Through Vinyl

Rashod Ollison

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#1021213 in Books Ollison Rashod 2016-01-26 2016-01-26 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.31 x .86 x 6.28l, 1.25 #File Name: 0807057525240 pages Soul Serenade Rhythm Blues Coming of Age Through Vinyl | File size: 69.Mb

Rashod Ollison : Soul Serenade: Rhythm, Blues Coming of Age Through Vinyl before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Soul Serenade: Rhythm, Blues Coming of Age Through Vinyl:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. YOU MUST READ THIS BOOK! IT'S AMAZING! By Joseph Thomas I just realized I never wrote a review for this incredible book. How much did I love this book? I can't even

begin to tell you. The moment I started reading it, I ordered a copy to have delivered to a friend's house. Rashod is such an honest writer. He just breaks it down for you like you need to hear. I loved it. I read it on vacation and I talked about it for weeks. I had the opportunity of meeting Rashod in Washington D.C. and he's as amazing in person as he is on paper. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A simply beautiful story. By Robert M. Clem This is a rich and heart warming story about childhood survival. You can practically hear the classic RB soundtrack playing in the background as the author shines a light on the many vivid characters who walked him through his challenging childhood. These real life characters are truthfully revealed in all their human complexity. There are no villains to blame and the author shows that people can be broken and beautiful in the same space. Of particular importance is the tender ache that underscores the relationship between the author and his mostly absent father. As I was reading it I found myself laughing and crying at the same time. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Intriguing and well written!!! By Nathaniel Rashod has always been known to be very candid about his life; however, if and when music comes up in the subject the conversation can go on for hours... This memoir is definitely a page turner intriguing to say the least!

A coming-of-age memoir about a young boy in rural Arkansas who searches for himself and his distant father through soul music. Growing up in rural Arkansas, young Rashod Ollison turned to music to make sense of his life. The dysfunction, sadness, and steely resilience of his family and neighbors was reflected in the RB songs that played on 45s in smoky rooms. Steeped in the sounds, the smells, the salty language of rural Arkansas in the 1980s, *Soul Serenade* is the memoir of a pop music critic whose love for soul music was fostered by his father, Raymond. Drafted into the Vietnam War as a teenager, Raymond returned a changed man, dead on the inside. After his parents' volatile marriage ended in divorce, Rashod was haunted by the memory of his itinerant father and his mother's long forgotten sunshine smile. For six-year-old Rashod, his father's record collection—the music of Aretha Franklin, Bobby Womack, Al Green, and others—provided solace, coherence, and escape. Moving nine times during his childhood, Rashod constantly adjusted to new schools and homes with his two sisters, Dusa and Reagan, and his mother, Dianne. Resilient and tough, while also being distant and punitive, she worked multiple jobs, striving to make ends wave at each other if they couldn't meet. He spent time with his acerbic mother's mother, Mama Teacake, and her family's living-out-loud ways, which clashed with his father's family—religious, discreet, and appropriate—where Rashod gravitated to Big Mama and Paw Paw, his father's parents. Becoming aware of his same-sex attraction, Rashod felt further isolated and alone but was encouraged by mentors in the community who fostered his intelligence and talent. He became transformed through discovering the writing of Toni Morrison, Alice Walker, Nikki Giovanni, and other literary greats, and these books, along with the soulful sounds of the 1970s and 80s, enabled him to thrive in spite of the instability and harshness of his childhood. In textured and evocative language, and peppered with unexpected humor, *Soul Serenade* is an original and captivating coming-of-age story set to an original beat.

An elegiac look at a childhood marked by violence, dysfunction, poverty, sorrow and plenty of good music. Kirkus s Testifies to the powerful ways that music provides the soundtrack underneath the harmony and discord of his life... Ollison's moving memoir captures and colorfully reveals the ways that music can soothe the pain. Publishers Weekly Gifted memoirist Ollison uses the authentic language of home, profane and poetic, to vividly describe a childhood lived in a state of impermanence. The Minneapolis Star Tribune Ollison is to be highly commended for writing this, tough, disturbing, heartfelt, and music-filled book and for making his easily stereotyped family life and background movingly real... Readers will be turning to downloads, podcasts, CDs and records to play along to get full effect of this riveting and engaging book. They will also be anxious for Rashod Ollison's next set to drop. Lambda Literary In *Soul Serenade* Ollison lifts the curtain so readers can better understand poverty, constant attacks on the most personal aspects of the self, and the enormous effort it takes to rise above and be free. The Virginian-Pilot A beautiful memoir rendered with deep feeling and a finely tuned musicality. David Ritz, author of *Respect: The Life of Aretha Franklin* *Soul Serenade* is a moving and beautifully written memoir. Music is ubiquitous throughout: a constant companion as a gifted young boy comes of age and finds his own creative and critical voice. Rashod Ollison has given us a compelling narrative that is sure to become a classic. Farah Jasmine Griffin, author of *If You Can't Be Free, Be a Mystery: In Search of Billie Holiday* About the Author Rashod Ollison is an award-winning pop music critic and culture journalist. He has been a staff critic and feature writer for the Dallas Morning News, Philadelphia Inquirer, Journal News (Westchester, New York), Baltimore Sun, and Virginian-Pilot. He also wrote a music column for Jet magazine. A native of Little Rock, Arkansas, Ollison lives in Virginia Beach.