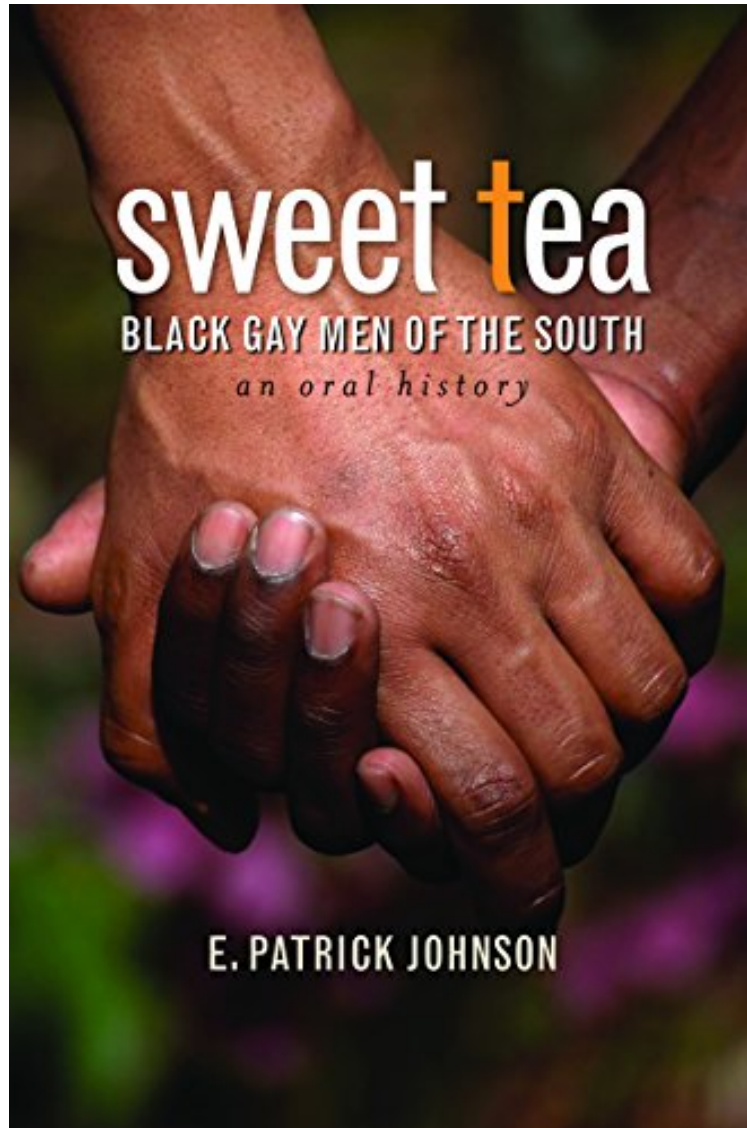


[Free read ebook] Sweet Tea: Black Gay Men of the South (Caravan Book)

Sweet Tea: Black Gay Men of the South (Caravan Book)

E. Patrick Johnson

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E. Patrick Johnson : Sweet Tea: Black Gay Men of the South (Caravan Book) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sweet Tea: Black Gay Men of the South (Caravan Book):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Got to be a little repetitious. Stopped reading halfway ...By George KGot to be a little repetitious. Stopped reading halfway through. Many biographies were similar to each other. But

overall stories were interesting. I know this was a study but if questions to subjects were varied or different set of questions, it would have held my interest. I met the writer in Dallas. He was a charming and enthusiastic young man. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent reading. By M. T. I could relate as this book is very personal for me. Having grown up in that era it brought back so many memories. Excellent reading. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Sweet Tea Comments By No One Sweet tea is a qualitative analysis of several southern gay black males with a mixture of stories about their past histories. It rarely touches on the "gay" aspect of their lives, yet it presents almost every other aspect. The book is mostly ethnographic verbatim interviews (some rather difficult to read, as at times the subjects' English is non-standard and hard to follow). This book is important should the reader wish to understand southern gay male black culture with its many and varied histories and dynamics.

Giving voice to a population too rarely acknowledged, Sweet Tea collects more than sixty life stories from black gay men who were born, raised, and continue to live in the South. E. Patrick Johnson challenges stereotypes of the South as "backward" or "repressive" and offers a window into the ways black gay men negotiate their identities, build community, maintain friendship networks, and find sexual and life partners--often in spaces and activities that appear to be antigay. Ultimately, Sweet Tea validates the lives of these black gay men and reinforces the role of storytelling in both African American and southern cultures.

From Publishers Weekly This fascinating if excessively detailed oral history subverts countless preconceptions in its illustration of black gay subcultures thriving in just about every imaginable rural and religious milieu in the South. Johnson (Appropriating Blackness) has an obvious fondness for the 63 men he interviews. Unfortunately, these interviews suffer from his failure to ask follow-up questions to revelatory or troubling responses and his adherence to set questions, for example, his insistence on asking his churchgoing subjects why they are attracted to the choir, keeps him from exploring the more interesting intersections (and contradictions) of their faith and sexuality. Responses are arranged by topics (Coming Out; Love and Relationships), an organization that provides thematic coherence, but makes it difficult to follow each recurring narrator. Still, the courage and honesty of Johnson's interviewees humble, and readers will find much to treasure in the stories of Stephen, who adopts the mannerisms of straight classmates because he lacks masculine gay role models; proudly effeminate Lamar, transgendered Chastity and gay men in every state in the South falling in love, growing up and growing old, negotiating and redefining their identities. (Sept.) ""Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved." Profiles more than seventy men, from teenagers to elders, hairdressers to executives, in every southern state. . . . A calm chronology of growing up black and gay. . . . Illuminate[s] readers about their little-known history.--Arkansas Historical Quarterly Contains a wealth of information about Southern black gay men and makes a valuable addition to gay cultural history.--The Gay Lesbian "With poignant stories from a demographically diverse spectrum of gay black men, this book is a fine addition to queer studies literature.--Choice Johnson's interviews often confound stereotypes. . . . Succeeds as a human document, giving voice to people who are seldom heard.--Wilmington Star-News This fascinating . . . oral history subverts countless preconceptions in its illustration of black gay subcultures thriving in just about every imaginable rural and religious milieu in the South. . . . The courage and honesty of Johnson's interviewees humble, and readers will find much to treasure in the stories.--Publishers Weekly Interjecting apt questions only occasionally, the author allows his subjects to speak for themselves, which they do articulately, colloquially (a glossary is included), and graphically. . . . [A] very good book.--Library Journal Offers a treasure trove of primary sources for those interested in the intersection of race, region, and gay experience in the twentieth century. . . . Fascinating. . . . For deep insights into the development of black-gay relationships and community in the South, Sweet Tea is unsurpassed.--Journal of American Ethnic History Easily shatters many narrow perceptions around the intersections of class, sex, love, age, religion, family and gender expression in Southern communities, as well as the simple and complex reasons that the men profiled have chosen to remain in the south.--ColorLines It's pretty rare to pick up a book, turn randomly to any page, and find such a powerful personal story that you have to close the book for a moment to take it in. But the oral histories featured in Sweet Tea . . . cast just that kind of spell.--The Advocate Challenges queer, black, men's, and southern historiographies. . . . Illuminates the fabric of black gay men's history . . . [and] debunks the myth that southern black gay men live only fearful, silenced, and secret lives.--Journal of Southern History Johnson, who has never been one to shy away from the intricacies of race theory or queer theory, has put together a complex oral history of gay black men in the South.--The Independent In reading each colorful story, it seems as if the men are sitting right in front of you. . . . With nearly 46 percent of America's new HIV/AIDS cases occurring in the South, Johnson is serving the tea right on time.--POZ Sweet Tea is an amazing book. Engaging from the very start, it is well written and thought provoking throughout. There were times I simply could not put it down.--E. Lynn Harris, New York Times bestselling novelist A variety of biases, oversights, and material circumstances have conspired to push the narratives of southern black gay lives to the margins. Sweet Tea makes a monumental achievement by getting these stories out into the world. Every subsequent, serious engagement with the topic will have to address Johnson's work. This book is certain to be consulted, referenced, and discussed for many years to come.--

John Howard, author of *Men Like That: A Southern Queer History and Concentration Camps on the Home Front: Japanese Americans in the House of Jim Crow* A compelling archive of stories often left unheard. Stories given magical life in performance by their brilliant archivist. A must read.--Houston A. Baker Jr., Distinguished University Professor, Vanderbilt University