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Confessions Of A Video Vixen



Synopsis

Part tell-all, part cautionary tale, this emotionally charged memoir from a former video vixen nicknamed 'Superhead' goes beyond the glamour of celebrity to reveal the inner workings of the hip-hop dancer industryâfrom the physical and emotional abuse that's rampant in the industry, and which marked her own lifeâto the excessive use of drugs, sex and bling. Once the sought-after video girl, this sexy siren has helped multi-platinum artists, such as Jay-Z, R. Kelly and LL Cool J, sell millions of albums with her sensual dancing. In a word, Karrine was H-O-T. So hot that she made as much as \$2500 a day in videos and was selected by well-known film director F. Gary Gray to co-star in his film, *A Man Apart*, starring Vin Diesel. But the film and music video sets, swanky Hollywood and New York restaurants and trysts with the celebrities featured in the pages of *People* and *In Touch* magazines only touches the surface of Karrine Steffans' life. Her journey is filled with physical abuse, rape, drug and alcohol abuse, homelessness and single motherhoodâall by the age of 26. By sharing her story, Steffans hopes to shed light on an otherwise romanticised industry and help young women avoid the same pitfalls she encountered. If they're already in danger, she hopes to inspire them to find a way to dig themselves out of what she knows first-hand to be a cycle of hopelessness and despair. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was very straightforward and well-written. Karrine's story is very true-to-life and frightening, but not for the reasons that you might think...After I read the book, I realized that I've

read about "Karrine" before. Her face and individual details of her life may vary from others, but her background is the same as many top porn stars. It's all there: the extreme neglect of her parents, violent beatings, rape, abuse and mental cruelty. All done to her before the age of 16. Jenna Jameson (#1 porn star) has a similar background and biography. Look a bit deeper at this book (forget about all the glamour and the videos and hip-hop stars for a second). What do we learn here? We learn that if families and friends devalue and abuse young girls and cause them to hate themselves and their own bodies, you can virtually guarantee a future stripper, hooker, or porn star. Why? Because she's been taught all her life that she's stupid, she's unlovable, and she's a waste, except for her mouth and the private part between her legs. It shouldn't surprise anyone that she uses it to get things in life. Karrine didn't create herself - the people and systems that allow girls to get abused and abandoned (her mother beat her - her Dad wasn't there for her) created her and the other women like her. She doesn't deserve our scorn, she needs counseling, support, and love. There but by the grace of God...who's to say that any of us women wouldn't have been in her shoes given the same circumstances. This is not to say that Karrine always made the right decisions. She abandoned her son with her abusive husband, and she got hooked on alcohol and designer drugs. She used people, and she allowed herself to be used repeatedly.

I read this book at a bookstore in about 2 hours two months ago & it was an engaging page turner. Like most, I was just a bit curious after getting just tidbits of her personal story during various media promotions. Readers will interpret this book one of two ways ... A) Take all of her sordid tales for what they're worth with moments of awe, compassion and skepticism while ultimately gaining a broader appreciation for the "real world" out there OR B) Angrily criticize her every move and judgment as she discloses chilling, deeply personal acts that don't always paint her in any better light than the beaus she bedded. I fell in category A. I don't by any means approve of much of the lifestyle she lived as an adult, but it's really not for me to judge. I will admit just reading through names of her patnaz and lots of unflattering intimate details of cats like Usher, Diddy, Ice T, Shaq, Brandy's brother (yes, Brandy's lil bro), Dr. Dre, Xzibit, DMX, Ja Rule, Merlin Santana and Kool G. Rap ... (the list goes on) makes for that "driving by an accident and trying not to look, but ultimately giving in" effect. Juicy, juicy details are what I've been discussing with family and friends ever since. But don't get it twisted and miss the big picture. This really is a cautionary tale more than trashy (bad) romance novel in scope. Ms. Steffans was raped as a teen, physically abused by her mother and had an absent father for most of her young life. That background couldn't be different from my cushy, sweet as pie childhood by comparison AND BECAUSE of this I think it's important

to try to relate to her experiences humbly without casting judgment over the decisions she made in adulthood.

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