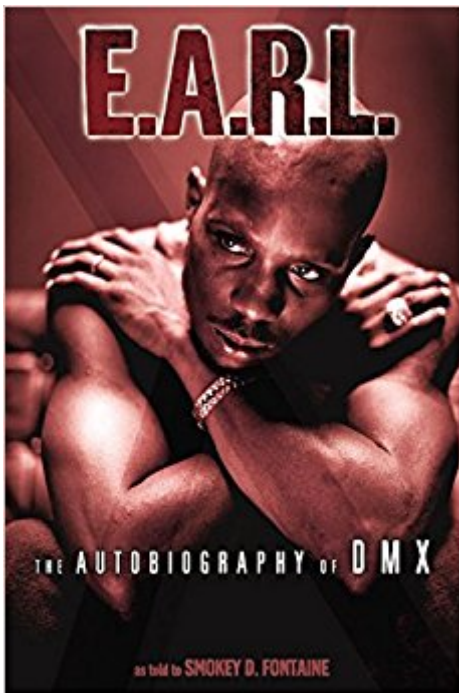


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# E.A.R.L.: The Autobiography Of DMX



## Synopsis

The dark journey of a boy who became a man, the man who became an artist, and the artist who became an icon. A talent for rhyme saved his life, but the demons and sins of his past continue to haunt him. This is the story of Earl Simmons.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

With lyrics that balance an extremely bleak view of urban ghetto "thug life" with a deep spiritual yearning for communion with God, DMX (Earl Simmons) has produced four consecutive No. 1 releases over the past six years, making him one of the undisputed superstars in the hypercompetitive world of hip-hop. On the eve of his fifth release, DMX (with Fontaine, the former music editor of the leading hip-hop magazine, *The Source*) has chosen to tell his own version of his already well-publicized life story. Born to a single mother in the projects of Yonkers, N.Y., DMX led a life of "running, robbing, rapping" for his first 25 years, serving numerous jail terms until being discovered by the legendary rap record company Def Jam. But this is no quickie celebrity biography: the obvious model is Claude Brown's *Manchild in the Promised Land*, the classic tale of the rise and fall and redemption of a tough inner-city youth. Like Brown, DMX is unsparing in describing the details of his hard life, including the brutal beatings he experienced at the hands of his mother and her boyfriends and the ease with which he adapted to his incarcerations ("I was used to sleeping on hard surfaces, used to eating rotten food"). As successful as his best recordings ("It's Dark & Hell Is Hot") in describing the tension between the author's street and spiritual sides, this is a painfully honest account of how one individual overcame "a lifetime of suffering" by

discovering and believing in his lyric talent. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Simmons's rise from impoverished child in Yonkers, NY, to successful hip-hop artist DMX known the world over is indeed an inspiring tale. But here the performer, aided by Fontaine (former music editor of *The Source* magazine), puts a bit too much emphasis on his violent formative years. Readers must wade through endless accounts of fights, beatings, and compromising positions involving the subject before reaching DMX's later critical and commercial success. Curiously, his artistic accomplishments are given only cursory treatment when they deserve much more; only serious fans will be interested in all the minutiae of his life revealed here. Although this is the first book devoted to DMX, libraries would do better to wait for a more balanced treatment. Not recommended. [DMX will release a new album in December, which may generate some demand for this book; because it will attract many YAs, librarians should take into account its graphic content.] -Ed.] -Caroline Dadas, Hickory Hills, IL --Caroline Dadas, Hickory Hills, IL Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I love DMX's music and he as a person seems to be so vivacious! This book was captivating, alluring and held my interest from start to finish! I even learned a bit about Hip Hop and music. Not a dull moment in this read! Many prayers to he and his family. He seems like such a lively person, despite his troubles..

THIS BOOK PUT DMX FROM NUMBER 3 OR 4 ON MY ALL TIME RAP LIST UP TO NUMBER 2. I STILL GOT PAC AHEAD OF HIM BUT THIS BOOK IS THE TRUTH! THIS IS A GREAT READ FOR ANY HIP HOP FAN

Dmx provides detailed memories about his childhood, school life, early troubles with the law, his revolving door life in and out of different group homes, his troubles with his mom, strained relationship with his father who left home at a very early age, he explains in detail what he remembers thinking and going through certain times in his life, his book is very impressive with his memory, he explains meeting his ex wife....opening acts for big names in the early 90's all his battles in Yonkers and in other clubs through out NYC..he explains the birth of his first son, his struggles with his first manager and failed attempts to successfully achieve a record deal. He also vividly tells stories about his love for stray dogs, and his reputation earned by selling his mixtapes in Yonkers to

finally getting a deal with Ruff Ryders Def Jam in 97...

DMX-my favorite rapper ever so I already loved the book even before purchase. Fantastic book. I read it in a night. I couldn't stop and just kept turning the pages. Shed a few tears; I felt his anguish and pain. Now when I really listen to his lyrics and watch his musc videos, I have a better understanding and appreciation of his life experiences. Hope one day to meet the artist. DMX-I'm prayin' for you dawg...much love from NYC.

It explains so much.

DMX is my favorite rapper of all time. This book gave a great insight into his early life and his trials and tribulations.

Whether your a fanatic of DMX or not you would enjoy reading this Book despite of his Dark Life! As a Huge fan of DMX I had to buy this book and I am very pleased with it! I already knew his struggles in general based on his Music & behind the music documentary; but this book gives you enough details about his life and he's very entertaining when it comes to his stories! He's Truly an Icon, a true Hero, a Survival Child!!! Trust & Believe you will love this Book!

After being a fan of DMX, I wanted to learn more about him. I had seen that he released a book, so I figured that I should start there. I loved it. It's a book that you could possibly read in one sitting; his life is just that interesting, coupled with the fact that it's written in a kind-of conversational manner. It's very detailed and comprehensive in that he takes you from the day he was born to the release of his first album and rise to stardom. I would recommend this book for any DMX fan or just anyone who is curious to know the man behind the music.

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