

Read I Would Die 4 U: Why Prince Became an Icon Full eBook

Book info:

Author: *Toure*

Format: *163 pages*

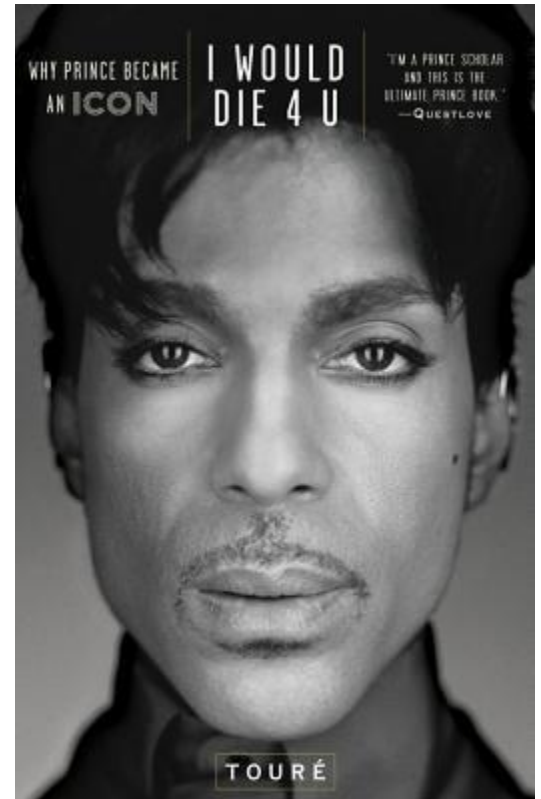
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Overview:

Celebrated journalist, TV personality, and award-winning author Toure investigates one of the most enigmatic and fascinating figures in contemporary American culture: Prince. Celebrated journalist, TV personality, and award-winning author Toure investigates one of the most enigmatic and fascinating figures in contemporary American culture: PRINCE Drawing on new research and enlivened by Toure's unique pop-cultural fluency, *I Would Die 4 U* relies on surprising and in-depth interviews with Prince's band members, former girlfriends, musicologists, and even Bible scholars to deconstruct the artist's life and work. Prince's baby boomer status allowed him to play a wise older brother to the latchkey kids of generation X. Defying traditional categories of race, gender, and sexuality, he nonetheless presents a very traditional conception of religion and God in his music. He was an MTV megastar and a religious evangelist, using images of sex and profanity to invite us into a musical conversation about the healing power of God. By demystifying the man and his music, *I Would Die 4 U* shows us how Prince defined a generation.

Recommendations:

Review quote

Praise for Who's Afraid of Post-Blackness? "Toure demolishes the notion that there is only one way to be racially authentic . . . funny, hip and current."

-Gwen Ifill, The Washington Post "One of the most acutely observed accounts of what it is like to be young, black, and middle-class in America. Toure inventively draws on a range of evidence . . . for a performance carried through with unsparing honesty." --Orlando Patterson, The New York Times Book Review

"[T]he ever provocative Toure boldly articulates the complicated issues of self and racial identity in the age of Obama." --Vanity Fair

"A personal and scholarly dissection of race issues in modern America. . . . With the help of an array of writers, performers, comedians, artists and intellectuals, among others, the author attempts to reach a consensus on what is typical or otherwise for African-Americans, as well as what Black identity means in the modern era. Yet despite the chorus of voices, the most powerful voice belongs to Toure. While his collected anecdotal evidence provides a necessary framework, his personal experiences with race ring loudest of all. A likely bellwether for America's future struggles with race."

--Kirkus Reviews "A welcome response to the 'self-appointed identity cops' who would arrest and banish those they consider insufficiently black.

Perceptively analyze[s] a new sensibility in black art and culture to illustrate the complex and fluid racial identification Toure dubs 'post-blackness.'" --San Francisco Chronicle

"Toure candidly tackles a burning issue confronting us today. Black America is undeniably a community 'free, but not equal,' and people from all walks of life are compelled to devise new approaches to confronting today's structural inequalities. Here Toure explores insights from many perspectives to help guide the way." --Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.

"This book is quintessential Toure smart, funny, irreverent, and provocative as hell. Rejecting old school racial dogma and new school myths about post-raciality, he offers a powerful and original thesis on the status of Blackness in the 21st century. Through his sharp analysis and honest reflections, Toure challenges us to embrace a more mature, sophisticated, and ultimately liberating notion of racial identity. Any serious conversation on race and culture must begin with this book."

--Dr. Marc Lamont Hill, Columbia University Professor and host of "Our World With Black Enterprise" "Who's Afraid of Post-Blackness is a necessary book. To fulfill your potential as an individual or as a people, you need a clear sense of self. Toure has done the difficult but liberating work of moving the discussion

of race beyond the Black Power-era thinking of the 1970's into the 21st Century."

-- Reggie Hudlin, filmmaker "A fascinating conversation among some of America's most brilliant and insightful Black thinkers candidly exploring Black identity in America today. Toure powerfully captures the pain and dissonance of Black Americans' far too often unrequited love for our great nation."

--Benjamin Todd Jealous, President and CEO of the NAACP "Who's Afraid of Post-Blackness is a tour de force! I applaud Toure's courage in standing up and telling it like it is. This special book will make you think, laugh, cry--and it will make you look at race and at yourself differently."

--Amy DuBois Barnett, Editor-in-Chief, Ebony "Toure has taken a question I have asked myself uncountable times over the course of my life and asked it of everyone: 'What does it mean to be Black?' The answers in this book are thought-provoking, uplifting, hilarious and sometimes sad. His sharp writing and self-effacing stories help digest some hard facts about how identity can be used for and against each of us - and why it matters so much to all of us."

--Soledad O'Brien, CNN anchor and special correspondent