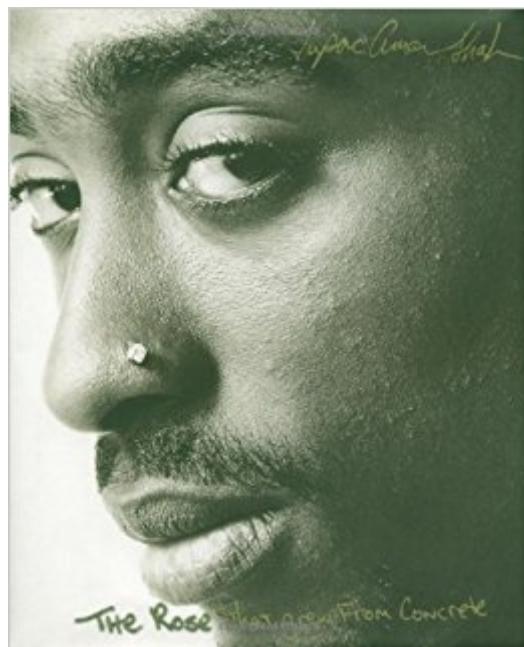


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# The Rose That Grew From Concrete



## **Synopsis**

Tupac Shakur's most intimate and honest thoughts were uncovered only after his death with the instant classic *The Rose That Grew from Concrete*. His talent was unbounded, a raw force that commanded attention and respect. His death was tragic -- a violent homage to the power of his voice. His legacy is indomitable -- remaining vibrant and alive. Here now, newly discovered, are Tupac's most honest and intimate thoughts conveyed through the pure art of poetry -- a mirror into his enigmatic life and its many contradictions. Written in his own hand at the age of nineteen, they embrace his spirit, his energy...and his ultimate message of hope.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

YA-A collection of poetry written by the rapper between 1989 and 1991, before he became famous. The poems are passionate, sometimes angry, and often compelling. Selections are reproduced from the originals in Shakur's handwriting, personalized by distinctive spelling and the use of ideographs (a drawing of an eye for I, etc.), and complete with scratch outs and corrections. With the exception of "In the Event of My Demise," all of the pieces are accompanied by typed text, which leaves his spelling intact. Some poems are also accompanied by his drawings. A few black-and-white photographs appear throughout. A preface by Shakur's mother, a foreword by Nikki Giovanni, and an introduction by his manager, Leila Steinburg, in whose writing group the poems were written, complete this unique volume. Susan Salpini, Purcellville Library, VA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Tupac Shakur recorded twelve landmark albums -- nine of which went either platinum or gold. A consummate actor, he also appeared in six major motion pictures, including Poetic Justice, Juice, GridLock'd, and Gang Related. He was murdered at the age of twenty-five.

The physical book is pretty small but wide, looks like a coffee table book which is fitting because it's full of shorts poems. I like holding it, it's really easy to flip through and read. Content-wise I like it because I'm a fan, and this is a book for fans. I'm also a fan of poetry in itself from legends to great stand-up including youth, and a lot of this content in similar to what you'll hear on Brave New Voices and Button Poetry, and that's fine with me because I definitely appreciate passion youth and young adult poets that reflect on their personal lives and communities. I can't really understand people who like poetry disliking this, because nothing indicates this is professional or spectacular poetry, it just has a lot of heart and soul to it like Tupac itself. It's like his journal, and I love that. Some poems are definitely better than others and there's plenty to chose from at this very cheap price. If you're a fan, I don't see why even profession/amateur critics wouldn't buy this. It's very interesting to hear how he speaks to himself. These poems came from his personal poetry notebooks, so his writing are his thoughts-- which I totally love.

As an aspiring poet I must say I never knew how deep this man was. It's like I fell in love with him all over again reading this book. The man is was a true artist, he was an intellect and a passionate soul. He motivates me to keep writing. Rest In Peace!!

It's an amazing book and I'm so happy this was published to the public. My favorite poems from this were What Can I Offer Her, Forever And Today, Dearest One!!, God, and the widely popular The Rose That Grew From Concrete, just to name a few. This book was raw and showed the more intimate and beautiful side of Tupac the media didn't want to acknowledge. I am 16 turning 17 (not that it's important) born at the end of May so I can relate to Tupac, even more, since we're both Gemini's. He is truly an inspiration and I am saddened by the fact he died before I was born but at least his historic legacy has been left behind for me to cherish and appreciate. Rest in Power to the greatest rapper that ever lived and that is dead, who also wrote heartfelt poetry.

This is an excellent look into the life of a young man we lost too soon. The book is well-designed and I enjoy that the original, handwritten poems are included alongside typed copies of them. The

poems reveal a stunning ability for self-reflection and show that the man was not always "hard core". He allowed his true tender feelings to shine through in the poems. I plan to share them with young adults in a program I am involved in without telling who wrote them first! If you want to understand how alienated our youth feel and why they outwardly behave so brazen, you need to read this book about the then 19 year old Tupac's life. A true genius.

I'm such a huge tupac fan (even before All eyes on me the movie) but didn't have this book in my collection. I'm very happy I decided to add this book to my collection. Pac was a true artist and had so much potential.

Better than expected. On one page they have his hand written poem and the opposite page they have it typed out. It is really nice. Great buy.

I Was amazed with every page and i am still reading it! Many poems you can relate to, lets remember this is when Tupac was just like all of us. Not famous. This is more like a sensitive side not the THUG everyone portrayed him as. Some poems brought tears to my eyes. Of course it's not going to be perfect as his music that was released because these were made in his privacy where he can do drawing where he can cross out where he can just pour it all out into the paper as it was in his head. Sometime i look at the words he crossed out and think what made him change it? Maybe it was a new idea that seemed better way to explain his thoughts. Which is something we all do, that's why we have erasers but sometimes i think he did it in pen or marker for a reason because it's always good to look back on what you almost put and remember WHY you changed it. In this book so far i've read about how much you can love someone after everything such as the poem "And still i love you" It brought tears to my eyes because sometimes u can get in arguments with someone you love and you think..u done so much bad to me but the good always out weighs it so "Still i love you" Also the poem about "Sometimes i cry" it made me really think that even him, a man so full of lyrics and lines, has his bad moments. It can also reflect to a song he made in the future called "when thugs cry" proving he was still that sensitive man who did not only write gangsta rap but inspirational amazing stories in his music as well and this book is a great reflection on how far he has come and how well he used his potential.! Overall in this book he writes about what we all face in life, whether it rhymes or not or it has a rhythm or not or sometimes he even leaves u thinking. Such as when he said in one of his poems "Selfish people just like you" makes you think. He writes about love, first date jitters, first kisses, heartbreaks, loneliness, joy, pride, unconditional love

(his mother) striving and looking for a better day. This book has made me a bigger fan then i was before. I Let someone who was not familiar with his work read a few poems and they thought this man has been thru alot and his sence of thinking made him want to read more. Which in my case i think is great because this person didnt even know much of his work not even his popular music and now they are a fan because this is most of his background before all that . In the end I RECOMMEND this book very much . I LOVE IT ! Rest In Peace Tupac Amaru Shakur, Great poet and music maker, you are Never forgotten, always will u live thru your writting as well as your music!

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