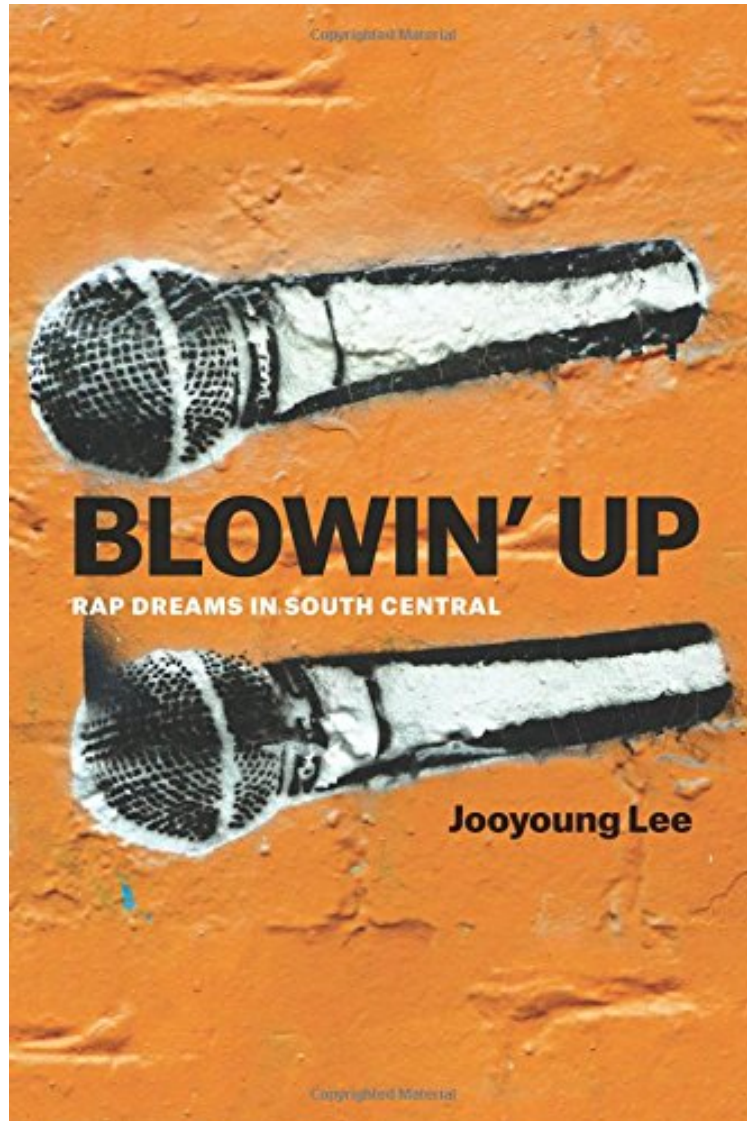


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Blowin' Up: Rap Dreams in South Central

Jooyoung Lee

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#665481 in Books Lee Jooyoung 2016-03-22 2016-03-25 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .80 x 6.00l, .0 #File Name: 022634889X272 pages Blowin Up Rap Dreams in South Central | File size: 56.Mb

Jooyoung Lee : Blowin' Up: Rap Dreams in South Central before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blowin' Up: Rap Dreams in South Central:

Dr. Dre. Snoop Dogg. Ice Cube. Some of the biggest stars in hip hop made their careers in Los Angeles. And today there is a new generation of young, mostly black, men busting out rhymes and hoping to one day find themselves blowin up getting signed to a record label and becoming famous. Many of these aspiring rappers get their start in

Leimart Park, home to the legendary hip hop open-mic workshop Project Blowed. In *Blowin Up*, Jooyoung Lee takes us deep inside Project Blowed and the surrounding music industry, offering an unparalleled look at hip hop in the making. While most books on rap are written from the perspective of listeners and the market, *Blowin Up* looks specifically at the creative side of rappers. As Lee shows, learning how to rap involves a great deal of discipline, and it takes practice to acquire the necessary skills to put on a good show. Along with Leewho is himself a pop-lockerwe watch as the rappers at Project Blowed learn the basics, from how to hold a microphone to how to control their breath amid all those words. And we meet rappers like E. Crimsin, Nocando, VerBS, and Flawliss as they freestyle and battle with each other. For the men at Project Blowed, hip hop offers a creative alternative to the gang lifestyle, substituting verbal competition for physical violence, and provides an outlet for setting goals and working toward them. Engagingly descriptive and chock-full of entertaining personalities and real-life vignettes, *Blowin Up* not only delivers a behind-the-scenes view of the underground world of hip hop, but also makes a strong case for supporting the creative aspirations of young, urban, black men, who are often growing up in the shadow of gang violence and dead-end jobs.

Lee spent five years conducting ethnographic field research at Project Blowed, a world-renowned, underground, hip-hop open mike in South Central Los Angeles. There, Lee observed and interviewed young men interested in blowin up, that is, becoming professional rappers. . . . Lee examines how young men become rappers, how they learn to perform, the arts of freestyling and battling, their dealings with the music industry, broken dreams, and gang violence. . . . Recommended.