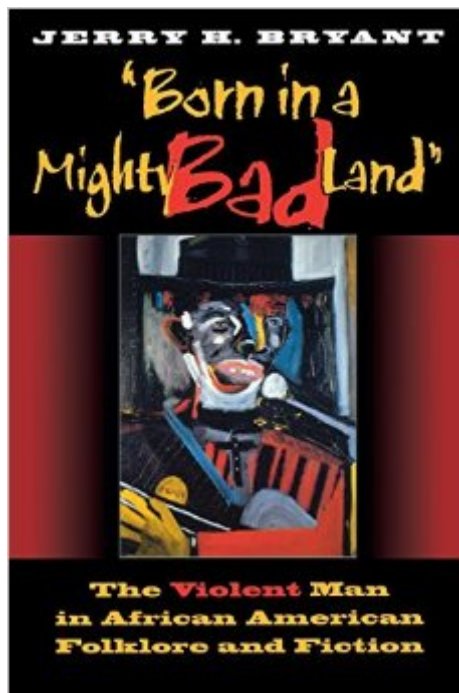


The book was found

"Born In A Mighty Bad Land": The Violent Man In African American Folklore And Fiction (Blacks In The Diaspora)



Synopsis

The figure of the violent man in the African American imagination has a long history. He can be found in 19th-century bad man ballads like "Stagolee" and "John Hardy," as well as in the black convict recitations that influenced "gangsta" rap. "Born in a Mighty Bad Land" connects this figure with similar characters in African American fiction. Many writers—McKay and Hurston in the Harlem Renaissance; Wright, Baldwin, and Ellison in the 1940s and 1950s; Himes in the 1950s and 1960s—saw the "bad nigger" as an archetypal figure in the black imagination and psyche. "Blaxploitation" novels in the 1970s made him a virtually mythical character. More recently, Mosley, Wideman, and Morrison have presented him as ghetto philosopher and cultural adventurer. Behind the folklore and fiction, many theories have been proposed to explain the source of the bad man's intra-racial violence. Jerry H. Bryant explores all of these elements in a wide-ranging and illuminating look at one of the most misunderstood figures in African American culture.

Book Information

Series: Blacks in the Diaspora

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Indiana University Press; 1st Ed. edition (April 3, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0253215781

ISBN-13: 978-0253215789

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.5 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars— See all reviews— (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,134,908 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #500 in— Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > United States > African American #853 in— Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Gender Studies > Men #2818 in— Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Gender Studies > General

Customer Reviews

This is a book about African American "badmen" like Stagolee, John Hardy, Railroad Bill, and Devil Winston and how this archetypal figure gets taken up by black novelists, convict "toastmasters" and gangsta rappers. It tells the story of the defiance of this black folk hero and how middle class novelists and commercial rap artists soften and exploit an originally spontaneous figure of freedom that first emerges at the end of the nineteenth century. Jerry Bryant is professor emeritus of English,

California State University, Hayward. By the way, the 5-star rating isn't vanity, it's just that some rating is required by and I figured it would be counter-productive to give my book anything less. JB

My title comes from the 1/16/2006 newspaper article by Cynthia Tucker in the San Francisco Chronicle. This book by Jerry Bryant gives historical background on the "bad man" image and why it finds support in the Black community. "The popularity of thug culture is among the most serious of modern-day threats to Black America . . ." says Cynthia Tucker. The sad fact is that the victims are likely to be young black men. This is a great book that should be read by all people interested in reducing violence in their communities.

A really interesting overview and analysis of the "baad man" as a central figure in African-American literature, tracing the origins from his earliest appearances in myth and folklore. Lively, literate without being pedantic, and full of interesting and surprising examples. Real insights into such major figures as Richard Wright and Toni Morrison, along with a fascinating section on the sources and achievements of Ice-T and the contemporary rappers that I, never a rap fan, found really eye-opening..

Jerry Bryant has written a most compelling study of the African-American male using history, poetry, song, literature, along with myth and fact. This is a must read for anyone interested in, deeply or just superficially, the ways and the cultural whys and wherefors of the black man in american...yesterday and today. It is done with sensitivity and thoughtfulness and worth anyone's time...and it is damned readable!

Jerry Bryant has written a most compelling study of the African-American male using history, poetry, song, literature, along with myth and fact. This is a must read for anyone interested in, deeply or just superficially, the ways and the cultural whys and wherefors of the black man in american...yesterday and today. It is done with sensitivity and thoughtfulness and worth anyone's time...and it is damned readable!

[Download to continue reading...](#)

"Born in a Mighty Bad Land": The Violent Man in African American Folklore and Fiction (Blacks in the Diaspora) African: African Recipes - The Very Best African Cookbook (African recipes, African cookbook, African cook book, African recipe, African recipe book) African Cooking: for beginners - African Recipes Cookbook (African recipes - African cooking - African Food - African Meals 1) "New

Negroes from Africa": Slave Trade Abolition and Free African Settlement in the Nineteenth-Century Caribbean (Blacks in the Diaspora) Violent Delights, Violent Ends: Sex, Race, and Honor in Colonial Cartagena de Indias The African Presence in Santo Domingo (Ruth Simms Hamilton African Diaspora) A Refuge in Thunder: Candomblé and Alternative Spaces of Blackness (Blacks in the Diaspora) The World of the Haitian Revolution (Blacks in the Diaspora) Haitian Revolutionary Studies (Blacks in the Diaspora) Ashe, Traditional Religion and Healing in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Diaspora:: A Classified International Bibliography (Bibliographies and Indexes in Afro-American and African Studies) The Psychology of Blacks: An African Centered Perspective (3rd Edition) Right to Ride: Streetcar Boycotts and African American Citizenship in the Era of Plessy v. Ferguson (The John Hope Franklin Series in African American History and Culture) Migration, Mining, and the African Diaspora: Guyana in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries Black Genius: African-American Solutions to African-American Problems The Power of the Oath (Rochester Studies in African History and the Diaspora) THE WIDE STREETS OF TOMORROW: Essays & Speeches on Barbados, the Caribbean, and the African Diaspora Ira Aldridge: Performing Shakespeare in Europe, 1852-1855 (Rochester Studies in African History and the Diaspora) The African Diaspora to the Bahamas Working the Spirit: Ceremonies of the African Diaspora Wake Up To Your True Identity: 144 Empowering Proverbs For People of The African Diaspora

[Dmca](#)