Michael Jackson, Detroit, and the Figural Economy of American Deindustrialization

In this groundbreaking work, author Vijay Prashad offers a radical new interpretation of Michael Jackson's music and persona in the context of Detroit's deindustrialization. Prashad argues that Jackson's work can be understood as a powerful critique of the racial and economic inequalities that have plagued the United States since the 1970s.

Prashad begins by tracing the history of Detroit's decline. Once a thriving industrial city, Detroit was hit hard by the loss of manufacturing jobs in the 1970s and 1980s. This led to a sharp increase in poverty and unemployment, and the city's population plummeted. Prashad argues that Jackson's music and persona can be seen as a response to this crisis.



Unfinished Business: Michael Jackson, Detroit, and the Figural Economy of American Deindustrialization

by Shaun Cain

★★★★★ 4.7 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 5109 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 304 pages
Lending : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Paperback : 74 pages
Item Weight : 8.8 ounces

Dimensions : 8.5 x 0.18 x 11 inches

Jackson was born in Gary, Indiana, a city that was also hit hard by deindustrialization. Prashad argues that Jackson's experiences in Gary shaped his understanding of the racial and economic injustices that were faced by African Americans in the United States. Jackson's music often addressed these issues, and his persona was often seen as a symbol of black pride and resistance.

Prashad also explores the relationship between Jackson's music and the rise of neoliberalism. Neoliberalism is a political and economic ideology that emphasizes free markets and deregulation. Prashad argues that neoliberalism has led to a decline in the social safety net and an increase in inequality. Jackson's music can be seen as a critique of neoliberalism, and his persona was often seen as a symbol of resistance to the status quo.

Prashad's book is a major contribution to the study of Michael Jackson and American culture. It is a must-read for anyone interested in understanding the complex relationship between race, class, and the American dream.

Reviews

"A brilliant and original work that offers a new understanding of Michael Jackson's music and persona. Prashad's analysis is insightful and provocative, and his book is a must-read for anyone interested in American culture."—Robin D.G. Kelley, author of *Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination*

"Prashad's book is a groundbreaking work that will change the way we think about Michael Jackson and American culture. This is a must-read for anyone interested in understanding the complex relationship between race, class, and the American dream."—Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor, author of From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation

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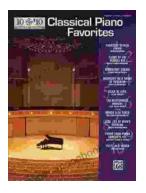
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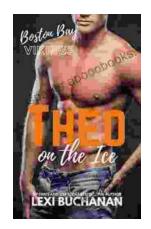
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