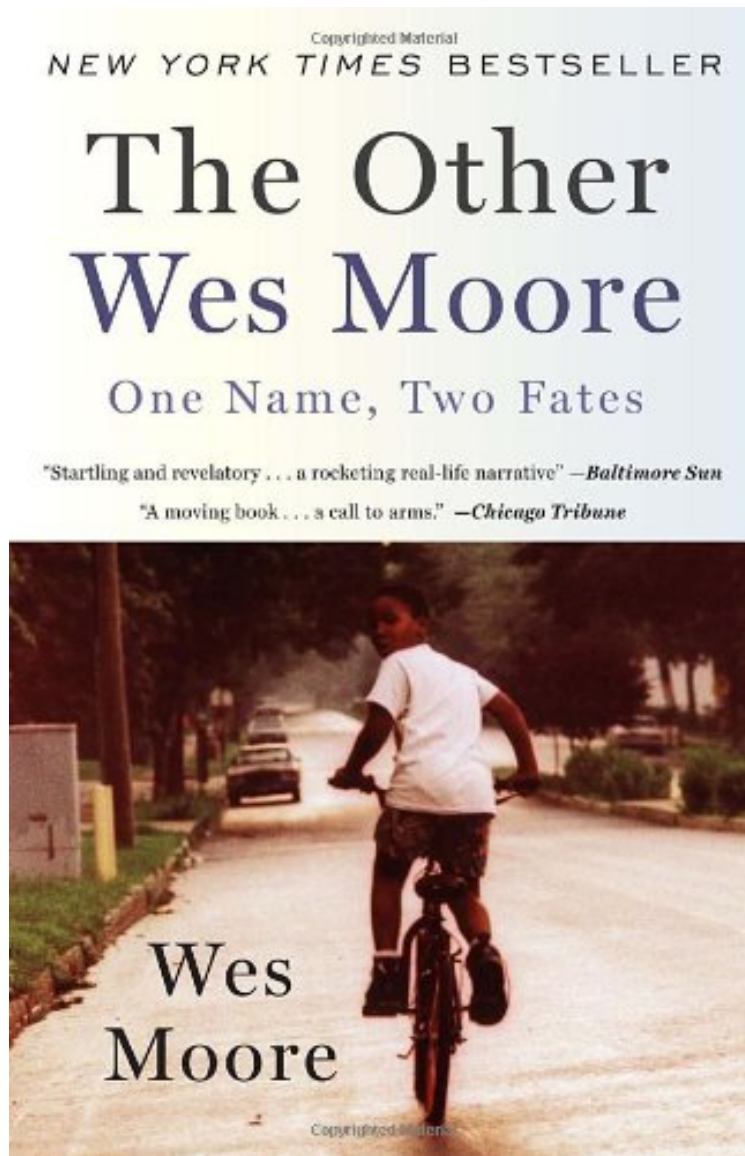


The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates

Wes Moore

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Wes Moore : The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Thought provoking and heartbreaking story of two lives that could not have ended more differently. By Alison Urban The Other Wes Moore is the first book for a school reading project I have read that has moved me so much that even after I was done reading it I didn't want to stop reading. I read past the initial story to the after word and even the entirety of the acknowledgements. I have never done that with a book

before, period. This is a book about two boys with the same name of Wes Moore. The story goes through the very similar lives of both of these men from their childhood to adulthood. You see all of the twists and turns in their lives that lead them to their fates, with one being a Rhodes Scholar and decorated Veteran, and the other in prison with a life sentence. You get to read the lifetimes of these men and try and figure out for yourself the big question of the entire book, "What made the difference?" What made the difference that led to our author being successful and the other Wes Moore serving a life sentence? You read the accounts of both men's lives as they struggle to survive in the Bronx from failing out of school, drug dealing, problems with the law, and young pregnancies. This book brings a complexity to the inner workings of the minds of two boys growing up in environments where everything is against them and they're expected to become delinquents, and then criminals, because it's the norm. You see their rises and falls as they go on paths where they begin to fix their lives but then just wind up falling right back to where they were. You feel the character's struggle as one falls further and further from grace and the other begins to get their life back on track. You know the outcome of the story and yet you keep hoping and praying that things will end differently, that everything will work out for both parties. It makes you forget that you already know the ending to the story. At the end of the book you're left with many questions and thoughts, but overall the message that your situation doesn't define you, that anyone can change their future no matter how hopeless the present seems. This book leaves you with the thought that anyone can turn their life around, while at the same time wondering why the other Wes Moore could not see the same. It's a powerful story of two boys becoming men in different ways and experiencing identical struggles of identity and trying to fight society's expectations of them while at the same time falling into them at one point or another. I would recommend this book to many if you want a powerful and thought provoking read that will captivate you and make you think about your path in life a little deeper like it did for me. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Recommended book By NICOLE The Other Wes Moore, is a riveting and well thought out book that held my attention in entirety. The book explores the struggles of living in a poverty and crime stricken community that influences you in negative ways, especially in teens and young adults. Wes talks about what both his and the other Wes's life was like after not having a father and growing up in society that expects you to become another statistic. The book opens your eyes to the hardships not only boys go through to survive, but the young single mothers who work day and night to provide and care for her children with the absence of their father. It takes you through the path both took, similar in some ways, to get to where they are today which is two different places. The novel brings out emotions that makes you feel like it is you who is going through the adversities that are faced. The Other Wes Moore is a book I would highly recommend to anyone and everyone. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Full of Many Stories By Jared Adams I really liked The Other Wes Moore. It was a really good book about the lives of the two Wes Moores. The author's purpose was to show the similarities and differences of himself and the other Wes Moore. I really like how the stories go back and forth between both Wes Moores. I also love how the book is based on a true story. I do not really like reading; however, this book was very enjoyable. The book goes from story to story. I believe Wes Moore did a very good job of telling the stories. Both of the Wes Moores grew up just blocks from each other. Author Wes Moore talks about how neither of them had a dad in their lives. The book also showed the many struggles of both of the Wes Moores. I feel like the biggest difference between the two Wes Moores is the fact that one was a high school dropout and the author Wes Moore was sent to military school, which really changed him as a man. I believe military school kept him out of trouble. Overall, I really enjoyed the book.

Two kids named Wes Moore were born blocks apart within a year of each other. Both grew up fatherless in similar Baltimore neighborhoods and had difficult childhoods; both hung out on street corners with their crews; both ran into trouble with the police. How, then, did one grow up to be a Rhodes Scholar, decorated veteran, White House Fellow, and business leader, while the other ended up a convicted murderer serving a life sentence? Wes Moore, the author of this fascinating book, sets out to answer this profound question. In alternating narratives that take readers from heart-wrenching losses to moments of surprising redemption, *The Other Wes Moore* tells the story of a generation of boys trying to find their way in a hostile world. "The chilling truth is that his story could have been mine. The tragedy is that my story could have been his."

From Publishers Weekly Starred . Two hauntingly similar boys take starkly different paths in this searing tale of the ghetto. Moore, an investment banker, Rhodes scholar, and former aide to Condoleezza Rice, was intrigued when he learned that another Wes Moore, his age and from the same area of Greater Baltimore, was wanted for killing a cop. Meeting his double and delving into his life reveals deeper likenesses: raised in fatherless families and poor black neighborhoods, both felt the lure of the money and status to be gained from dealing drugs. That the author resisted the criminal underworld while the other Wes drifted into it is chalked up less to character than to the influence of relatives, mentors, and expectations that pushed against his own delinquent impulses, to the point of exiling him to military school. Moore writes with subtlety and insight about the plight of ghetto youth, viewing it from inside and out; he probes beneath the pathologies to reveal the pressures—poverty, a lack of prospects, the need to respond to violence with greater violence—that propelled the other Wes to his doom. The result is a moving exploration of roads not

taken. (May 4) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist*Starred * In 2000, Wes Moore had recently been named a Rhodes Scholar in his final year of college at Johns Hopkins University when he read a newspaper article about another Wes Moore who was on his way to prison. It turned out that the two of them had much in common, both young black men raised in inner-city neighborhoods by single mothers. Stunned by the similarities in their names and backgrounds and the differences in their ultimate fates, the author eventually contacted the other Wes Moore and began a long relationship. Moore visited his namesake in prison; he was serving a life sentence, convicted for his role in an armed robbery that resulted in the killing of an off-duty policeman. Growing up, both men were subject to the pitfalls of urban youth: racism, rebellion, violence, drug use, and dealing. The author examines eight years in the lives of both Wes Moores to explore the factors and choices that led one to a Rhodes scholarship, military service, and a White House fellowship, and the other to drug dealing, prison, and eventual conversion to the Muslim faith, with both sharing a gritty sense of realism about their pasts. Moore ends this haunting look at two lives with a call to action and a detailed resource guide. --Vanessa Bush
“Startling and revelatory . . . a rocketing real-life narrative.”—Baltimore Sun “A moving book . . . a call to arms.”—Chicago Tribune “This intriguing narrative is enlightening, encouraging, and empowering. Read these words, absorb their meanings, and create your own plan to act and leave a legacy.”—Tavis Smiley, from the Afterword “[A] compassionate memoir—a story that explores how some survive and others sink in urban battlegrounds.”—People “Moore vividly and powerfully describes not just the culture of the streets but how it feels to be a boy growing up in a world where violence makes you a man.”—O: The Oprah Magazine “Inspiring . . . a story for our times.”—Alex Kotlowitz, author of *There Are No Children Here*