

# Buddy Guy stays real

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that," Guy said, who, ironically, is the only black act on the House of Blues tour. "If I look out in an audience and see 20 black people I shout.

"It didn't use to be like that," he said. "Before the 60s, we were 99 percent black audiences. After the riots and Dr. King, I don't know what happened. If not for the white people, I'd probably be driving the

bus or something."

But he isn't driving a bus. He's driving audiences crazy with his phenomenal playing ability. He's been doing that since the '60s when he first started as a session player for the legendary Chess Records. His fame quickly spread. For two decades his fiery live performances inspired countless rising guitarists such as the late Stevie Ray Vaughn, Robert Cray and yes, Clapton and Raitt.

Ask Guy who his main inspiration was and he becomes reverent when he mentions

the name of Riley "B.B." King.

"Every time I see him he asks me to play. I tell him I can't learn anything if I'm playing," he said. "When he plays, I listen. I think every guitar being made should have a B on it. He put the tone in guitar strings."

So, is life beginning at 60 for Guy? No. It's never stopped.

"There have been more downs than ups, but I was too stupid to give it up," Guy said. "It's like being a prize fighter. You'll never know who you will knock out if you don't step into the ring."

## Cover To Cover Book offers positive view

Continued from 1B

Europeans. No one escapes scrutiny, whether it be the Africans themselves for their role in the slave trade or their invaders.

Not a book for the faint hearted, Segu is complex, relatively long at almost 500 pages, but well written. It provides a great introduction to Eastern African culture, mythology, history and religion.

"Segu" is well worth a trip to the bookstore and a pleasure to read. Parts of it do drag. Occasionally the attention to detail and the number of footnotes do slow down the action, but Bray and Condé anticipate these points and have made an effort to make definitions and footnotes short and to the point. And, for readers new to African literature, the attention to detail is appreciated.

If you are looking for more African authors to peruse, check out "The Beggars Strike," by Aminata Fall from Longman African Classics, "The Collector of Treasures," by South African exile Bessie Head, from Heinemann and "The Dark Child" by Camara Leye.

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