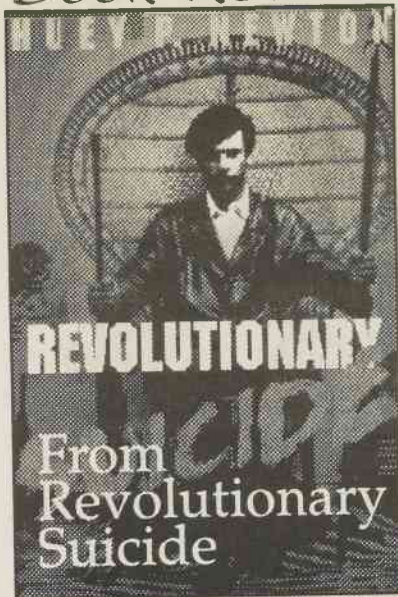


Book Review



Initially published in 1973, *Revolutionary Suicide* is the autobiography of Huey Pierce Newton, Black revolutionary and co-founder of the Black Panther Party. *Revolutionary Suicide* tells the story of a young man from Louisiana who eventually becomes one of the most influential African-American leaders of the late 1960's and early 1970's. The autobiography chronicles the development of Newton's revolu-

tionary thought, from his first literary encounters with Plato's *The Republic* to the implementation of a designed program of community upliftment.

The birth of the Black Panther Party arrived when Bobby Seal and Huey Newton became disenchanted with the format and progress of other African-American organizations. They later sat in an Oakland youth recreation center to devise a community-based program to fight the oppression and exploitation of African-American people. The Black Panther Party's ten-point program and platform was divided into two parts, "What We Want" and "What We Believe."

The party began its movement with the implementation of point #7, "We want an immediate end to police brutality and murder of Black people." The program was called "patrolling;" it consisted of following the police officers in the Black community and observing their actions. Party members

were armed with shotguns and a precise knowledge of the law. Soon after the first encounter with the police, the Black Panther Party's membership began to increase in the Oakland area. Before its decline, the Black Panther Party had grown into a nation-wide, multi-faceted organization. Two of the most notable "survival" programs were nation-wide sickle cell anemia screening and free breakfast for children.

"Revolutionary suicide does not mean that I and my comrades have a death wish; it means just the opposite. We have such a strong desire to live with hope and human dignity that existence without them is impossible."

-Huey P. Newton

Revolutionary Suicide tells the story of Huey Newton's impoverished childhood and strong family connections. Huey grew up hustling and learned everything he knew from "the brothers on the block." He graduated high school functionally illiterate. Upon encouragement

from his older brother, Huey taught himself how to read and eventually attended college.

In college, Huey learned about and experimented with different philosophies. From Frantz Fanon to Plato, Huey read all that he could with the intention of benefiting the Black community. With the formation of the black Panther Party, Huey Newton and Bobby Seale brilliantly combined these philosophies and tailored them into a program for the Black community. Huey testifies to the horrific conditions and psychological torture of the penal system after being imprisoned on several occasions because of the Party's success. The book concludes with

an explication on communism.

"There is an old African saying, 'I am we.'" If you met an African in ancient times and asked him who he was, he would reply, 'I am we.' This is revolutionary suicide: I, we, all of us are the one and the multitude."

- Huey Newton

I'm fulfilling my purpose in life/ I was put here so wack n*gg** would know how wack they are/ You know who you are — Your sh**'s saggin/ Word is Bond/ My s***'s TIGHTER THAN FIVE VIRGINS IN A VOLKSWAGEN

Realness! Realness! Not Real mess! Skee-lo gets nominated for a Grammy because he wishes he was a little bit taller while Raekwon sits at home in Shaolin with his Butter Pecan Ricans? Well, it's time for the True-Heads Awards presentations given by me, aNaItiKO, on behalf of the Hip Hop Nation:

Album of the Year: *Tie* Mobb Deep, Raekwon
Best New Artist: *Tie* Dogg Pound, Goodie Mob
Best Soundtrack: *Tie* The Show, Don't Be A Menace...
Best Comeback: *Tie* Kool G. Rap, Fugees
The Nas Escobar Award for Best Overall Lyrics: Genius
Best Mix Tape: Funkmaster Flex's 60 Minutes of Funk
Producer of the Year: RZA

I can keep ***** rappin' till Biz Markie gets cute. _____ (That's a long, long, long time!!)

Well, I guess that RAPS up this week's installment as well as the inaugural Analtiko True-Heads awards. Peace — I've got a date with Lauryn Hill of the Fugees. Oh, my bad! I meant Lahrona Hell, a Haitian Refugee. Jeepers, Mr. Cleaver, I almost forgot to tell you what those mad lyrics were that dotted the article.

There is a new MC in town. Actually he has roots here in Fayetteville, North Kakalak. He hails from Richmond, Virginia and

brings us all back to the roots of hip-hop. Mad Skillz produces music, and I stress music, and lyrics unheard of since the days of Eric B. and Rakim. I figured perhaps the greatest service I could do for this lyrical extraordinaire was to give you a sample of his flow.

When listening to his cuts, one reminisces about the days when hip hop free-style battles raged out on every street corner and arcade. All sixteen cuts are devoted to calling out whack MC's and money grubbers. Being the rap guru, I highly recommend this C.D. (or tape for the cavemen audiophile).

Mad Skillz' production crew includes an all-star team of talent as Jaydee, the Beatnuts, Buckwild, Clark Kent, and the Large Professor whip out something tighter than "FIVE VIRGINS IN A VOLSWAGEN." If you just want to seek me out on the yard or sample it for yourself on Franklin Street, make sure you check out "The Nod Factor" and the sexy, mellow R&B-inspired cuts featuring the voice of Khim Davis — "Get Your Groove On" and "Move Your Body."

Music Review



MAD SKILLZ?

By aNaItiKO
STAFF WRITER

Being politically incorrect, just do as the Korean-national shop-keeper told the young urban chemical-salesman O-Dogg on Menace II Society, "JUST HURRY UP AND BUY." That is realness. There's just one thing left to say: Mad production, mad Lyrics, MAD SKILLZ.