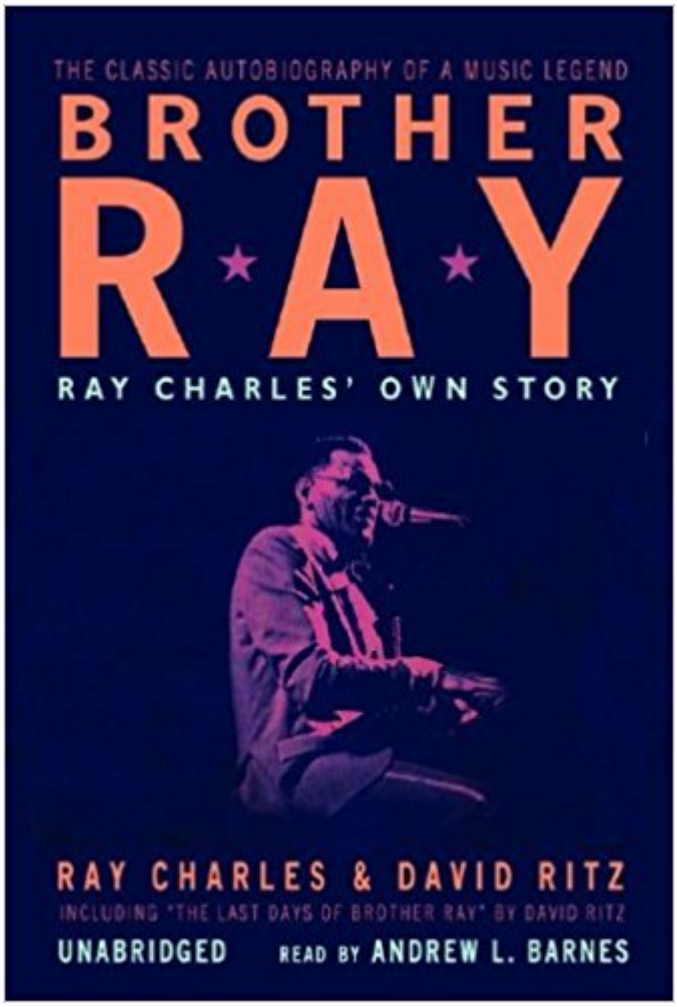
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Brother Ray: Ray Charles' Own Story



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Synopsis

Ray Charles (1930-2004) led one of the most extraordinary lives of any popular musician. In Brother Ray, he reveals his story unsparingly, from the chronicle of his musical development to his heroin addiction to his tangled romantic life. Overcoming poverty, blindness, the loss of his parents, and the pervasive racism of the era, Ray Charles was acclaimed worldwide as a genius by the age of thirty-two. By combining the influences of gospel, jazz, blues, and country music, he invented, almost single-handedly, what became known as Ã¢â ¬Å“soul.Ã¢â ¬Â• And throughout a career spanning more than a half century, Ray Charles remained in complete control of his life and his music, allowing nobody to tell him what he could or couldnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t do.

Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Blackstone Audiobooks; Unabridged edition (January 1, 2005)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0786180951
ISBN-13: 978-0786180950

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 1.4 x 5.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 66 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Now a Major Motion Picture Starring Academy Award Winner Jamie Foxx --Publisher"An emotional blast as vivid and real, sweaty and straight talking as the man himself." --San Francisco Chronicle"The most clear-eyed and honest celebrity autobiography IÃ¢â ¬â„¢ve read." --Nelson George, author of Hip Hop America

David Ritz is the author of Faith in Time: The Life of Jimmy Scott, Divided Soul: The Life of Marvin Gaye , and many other books with or about Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin, and B.B. King. He is a three-time winner of the Ralph J. Gleason Music Book Award. He lives in Los Angeles.

I wanted something to listen to while riding in my car. The radio stations here are less to be desired,

and it does get a bit boring. I found this book on CD to be interesting, however there are parts of this that I did not like. He spoke excessively about sex, which I needed to pause when riding with my child. I also thought that often he would go on endlessly on one thought, which really was not as interesting as others. It reminds me of someone who is overly interesting in something and speaking about that same detail for about 10 minutes, and you have lost interest, because it is not equally interesting to you.I am grateful for his sharing of life experiences. I saw the movie, and knew there was much more than what the movie told us. I am also the grandchild of one of his biggest fans. It is nice to be given a window into that time.

VERY INTERESTING BUT HE WAS A DIFFERENT MAN THAN I THOUGHT AND THERE WERE A NOT OF NASTY WORDS IN THE BOOK.

Brother Ray is one of the best books I ever read. It is full of wisdom and humanity. It is a great introduction to the life of Afroamerican people in the 20th century in many aspects. It tells us how a blind boy has to make a living on his own, how he builds a career, a family. The book is a series of memoirs edited by David Ritz with Ray Charles' own wording (definitely his own).There is some vulgarity, open reflections on sex, women which might not appeal to everyone, however, I agree with all he says. There are some funny stories and several sad ones.I wish I could meet this legend.

If there is one thing I love, it's an autobiography where the author is not afraid to voice his or her beliefs, actions, opinions, etc in fear of alienating or upsetting people. Brother Ray definitely delivers in that regard. He states his opinions, why he did the things he did and defends them. That I can respect even if I don't agree with the action or opinion. The book doesn't jump around and doesn't get it's dates screwed up like some. That seems to be an issue for some of these bio's. I'm a big fan of Ray Charles and the book told the story from as early as he could remember, all the way up to the time it was written. From life at the school of the blind, to life on the road, just a great read about an extraordinary musician. Ray had his faults, but considering how and the under the conditions he was raised, it's not hard to understand why.

I always loved Ray Charles and I enjoy biographies. Though he had help getting this down, all the input was his and he made certain it was stated in his words, using his tonality in the end product. A fast read, because of the way he expresses himself. I only wish he had written another when he was older and experienced even more. It still is well worth the read. He just tells it like it is, in his own

humble words. I loved it and passed it on to my husband who is now enjoying it very much. Pick up a copy if you have a chance. It is a real good read.

Ray Charles is one of my favorite performers. This book was interesting although it was different than the movie Ray starring Jamie Foxx. Some parts of the book and movie are not the same. I finished the book in 2 days because it held my attention.

when i started reading, "BROTHER RAY" i knew i was in for a treat. This man has lived a life that was worthy of a movie. this autobigraphy had me jaw dropped and blushing. one thing, Ray Charles was definitely something else. His music was his lifeblood and the women was his pulse. the heroin abuse was something he wanted to do and eventually stopped doing. the book was raw, honest, and to the point. you felt his passions, his hurt, his triumphs and his downfall. i loved every juicy tidbit of this book. it’s the kind of book that had you thinking about it days after you have read it and you talk about it with your friends and family (my cousin told me i have become obsessed with Ray Charles!) all i know is that i want to read it again. i’m gonna give my self a few weeks and i’m going to give it a second read. MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!!

I didn’t expect to read ahout Ray Charles regaling himself. Thought I’d get a clear ckean biography of the man, not if his ego.

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