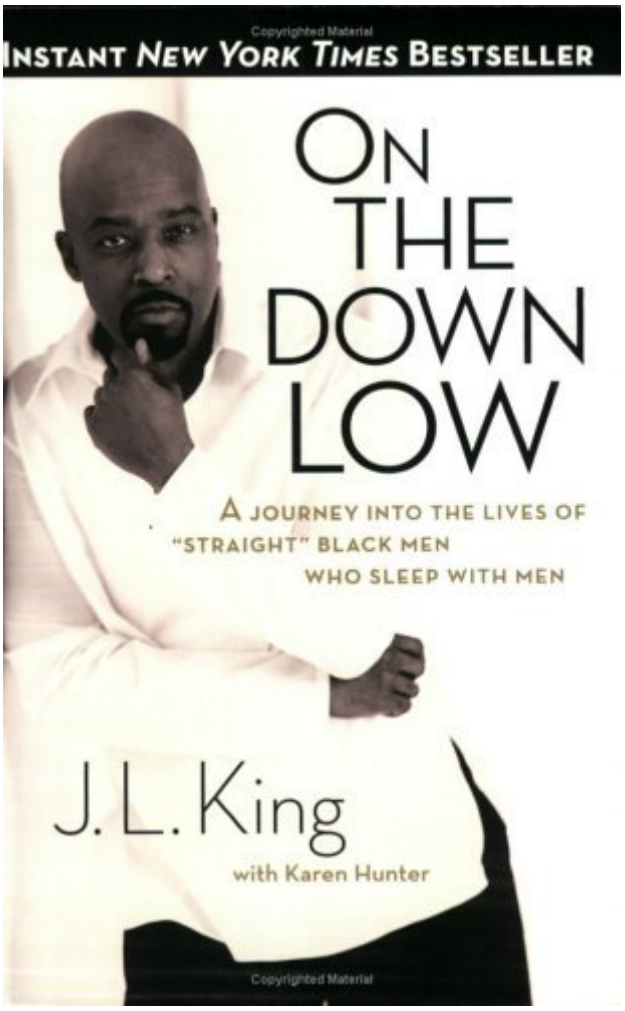
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On The Down Low: A Journey Into The Lives Of Straight Black Men Who Sleep With Men



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Synopsis

A bold exposÃƒÂ© of the controversial secret that has potentially dire consequences in many African American communitiesDelivering the first frank and thorough investigation of life Ã¢â ¬Å“on the down lowÃ¢â ¬Â• (the DL), J. L. King exposes a closeted culture of sex between black men who lead Ã¢â ¬Å“straightÃ¢â ¬Â• lives. King explores his own past as a DL man, and the path that led him to let go of the lies and bring forth a message that can promote emotional healing and open discussions about relationships, sex, sexuality, and health in the black community.Providing a long-overdue wake-up call, J. L. King bravely puts the spotlight on a topic that has until now remained dangerously taboo. Drawn from hundreds of interviews, statistics, and the authorÃ¢â ¬â„¢s firsthand knowledge of DL behavior, On the Down Low reveals the warning signs African American women need to know. King also discusses the potential health consequences of having unprotected sex, as African American women represent an alarming 64 percent of new HIV infections. Volatile yet vital, On the Down Low is sure to be one of the most talked-about books of the year.Ã¢â ¬Å“A survey by the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta found that nearly a quarter of black HIV-positive men who had sex with men consider themselves heterosexual.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Essence

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I thought that this book was going to be a book of sexual escapades had by the writer. It's the reason that I did not read it when it first came out. I decided to read it have reading the reviews for the authors newest book. I felt I should read this one first to ensure I did not miss anything. I must say I was deaf wrong. The book was for women and how to deal with, identify and protect themselves from risk associated with down low men. It was very well written. I read in a day.

I'll start by saying that I bought this book to learn...not everything, but to learn something. I believe the author does a good job explaining the DL behavior, so that the reader can get the gist of what it is, and why men choose to live that lifestyle. I am not reviewing (like some people have been), to give my opinion of the DL lifestyle, or give my take on the issue. I do not want to interpret the book for you, but just let you know that the book is an easy read, it seems sincere, and you will definitely learn something from it. I think the author provides some good clues to women, about how you can identify a man on the DL. He does just enough to open up about his personal situation and what he was thinking when he was living a double life. I believe the author is fair to straight men, by letting women know that most men are not engaging in the behavior. I believe a lot of men on the DL have given this book poor reviews because it exposes their actions and gives women the heads-up. A lot of women are giving the book bad reviews because they are angry at the author for being who he is, his past behavior, and the fact that he has been lucrative selling books on the subject of his dirty deeds. In sum, I suggest that you do not listen to the negative reviews, because you will learn something, and you will be entertained. Give this one a read, I recommend it!!

Excellent book! Well written and very informative. I was researching the DL population and the author covered important details which gave me a deeper understanding of the subject matter. I am very thankful and grateful to the author for having the courage to write this book, because he helped me view into a world that I thought did not exist in my life. The knowledge I learned from this book and guidance from God saved my life from deceit of a DL man.

I thank God for "forcing" Mr. King to reveal this dirty little secret that exists in the African-American

society, as well as in other minority communities in this country. I understand the need to project a pristine, macho image, particularly given the hideous history of discrimination that has happened in our country for such groups. Still, we must admit that same sex attraction and coitus do not solely exist in the white community. All women must be made cognizant of the fact that this 'problem" is a reality if for no other reasons than to protect their physical and emotional health.

Learn alot about the community and the struggles that are involved. A must read for every dl man out there.

I liked the book. I'm a guy and I was interested in knowing more about being on the DL. But I don't know exactly what the message J.L. King was trying to give. He didn't tell men NOT to be on the DL, he did warn females about them. I guess he just was the messenger. I don't think it will change any black male from having sex with another man if he wants to. It's not going to bring honesty. I can't imagine any male confessing prior to or before doing this. All women cannot insist that their men put on a condom before sex. So-things will probably remain the same. Bottom line???.... Know your partner and be prepared to accept the consequence if you come up HIV+. When I was young they called VD "the gift that keeps on giving", but AIDS is not a gift. We need better morals but people don't seem to want that either.

On the Down Low is an important book, because many in the black community could not fathom that married black men would have sex with other men. Men that appear to be dedicated to their wives, children, churches and communities. The book serves an important purpose, in that it started dialogues in the black communities of America. It got neighbors, friends, families, men, women, talking about a subject that is tabooed.I do take some exception however to the book. While I was reading the book I did not feel that the author was forthcoming with his feelings, knowing what he did, and who he is. I did not get the sense of honesty, and the coming of terms with what he did for 20 long years. J.L King seems to be in denial, and in order to write a convincing book it has to be honest, and forthright, no matter the subject, the author's feelings, turmoil. In the end, this book was informative, yet something was missing, honesty did not come through in J.K King's writing. King removed his emotions from this book, and with this, left me feeling quasi emotional, not stirred.

This book is an excellent description of how brothers on the DL operate. The church, woman, and men need to be educated and in return, educate people about HIV, AIDS, and everything this book

has to offer! I wish more DL brothers would walk in the same integrity of Dr. King!!

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