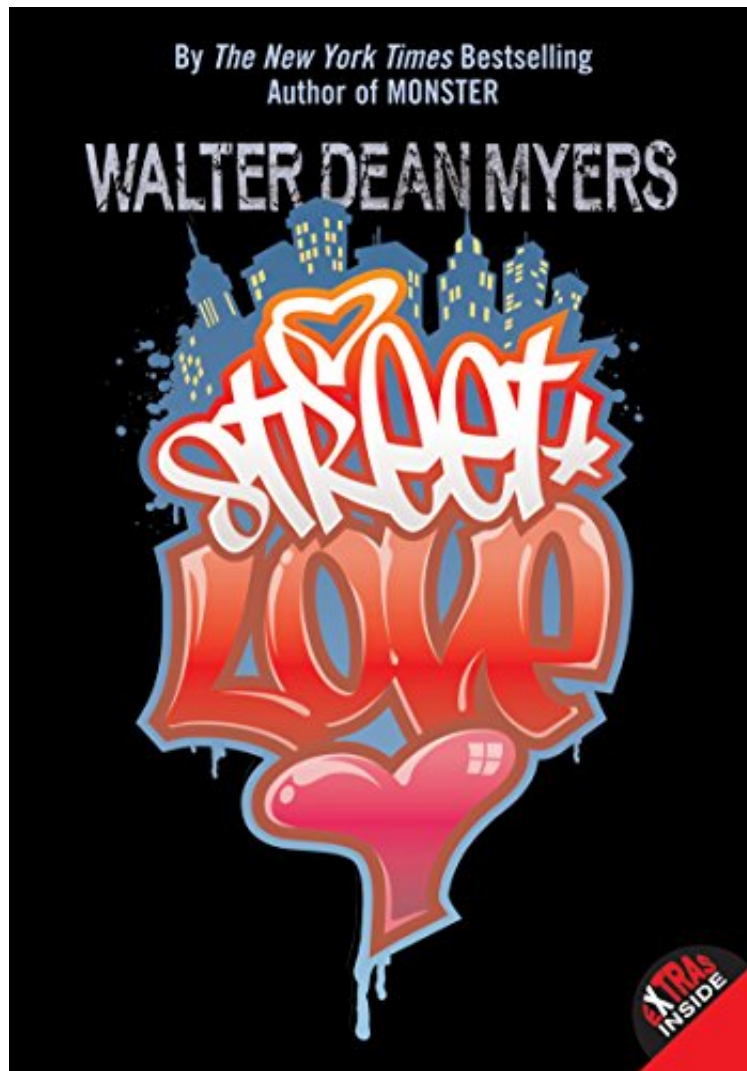


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Street Love

Von *Walter Dean Myers*
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Von Walter Dean Myers : Street Love before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Street Love:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Courtesy of Teens Read TooVon TeensReadTooWalter Dean Myers has created a captivating tale of new love on the tough streets of New York City. Damien is a smart young man who is going places. He has already been accepted into Brown University and looks toward the future. His parents have sacrificed in order to provide him with a stable, loving, and supportive environment. His mother is diligent when it comes to his life. She doesn't want to him to fall prey to manipulating girls looking for a way out of their meaningless and disappointing lives.Junice is a tall, beautiful

girl with a lot on her plate. Her mother has just been sent to prison for twenty-five years for drug possession and now lives with her forgetful grandmother and younger sister. The responsibility of keeping everyone together falls on Junice. The Department of Human Services has reviewed their situation and found that the grandmother isn't well enough to care for the girls and plans to send them into the system--saying they'll try to keep Junice and her sister, Melissa, together, but that they can't promise anything. When Damien sees Junice walking down the street one day he becomes entranced. Feelings swell in his chest and he knows he has changed. He is quickly pulled into the chaos that is Junice's life and wants to do whatever he can to help her. Against the wishes of his parents, he continues a relationship with her that takes him down a road -- quite literally -- that he would never have taken if Junice hadn't come into his life. Walter Dean Myers' use of a hip-hop style combined with the short poems that tie this story together is addictive. The multi-voiced narration gives the reader the perspectives of all of the characters that are involved in this heartbreaking tale. Once you start reading, you'll want to keep going until you find out how Junice and Damien's story ends -- or, we hope, at least the first chapter of a longer story. Reviewed by: Karin Perry

Kurzbeschreibung Your first love is totally wrong for you. Do you follow your heart? Or do you run away? Junice What am I doing? Hell take one quick look And wish he was anywhere else but here I'm already ashamed of what I think He will think of me, of the life I lead Damien Yes, she is the fruit that will sustain me and yes, she brings a rain that I know can chill But it is a rain so sweet and sings a song my soul insists That I follow, if I would exist As more than I have ever, ever been If my mother calls it evil, then I embrace the sin From Booklist *Starred * In short lines of free verse, teens in Harlem tell a story of anger, loss, and love across social-class lines. Damien, 17, is a basketball champion and academic star, accepted into a top college. His parents want him to date middle-class Roxanne, but he falls in love with gorgeous Junice, 16, who is desperate to protect her little sister after their single-parent mom is sentenced to 25 years for dealing drugs. Written with rap beat and rhyme but no invective or obscenity, the switching viewpoints make this great for readers' theater--from Damien's furious "manhood jam" when he confronts his rival, and Junice's anguished visit to her raging mama in prison ("a wolf caught in a trap") to the lyrical simplicity of the teens' love ("Flying through an endlessly / Expanding universe / Away from the me that was / Toward a me that is beyond / understanding"). The young people also invoke their history in the tradition of Langston Hughes and other great writers ("these hands have scrubbed mats on the banks of / the Congo"). The realistic drama on the street and at home tells a gripping story. Readers will want to reread the lines they loved. Hazel Rochman Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved From School Library Journal Grade 8 Up The swift flow of these short poems carries readers along in thoughts, conversations, and scenes as Damien and Junice's romance begins. He is a high achiever who has been accepted to Brown University and is expected to go far. Junice has just lost her mother to prison and is trying to keep her younger sister and her grandmother together as a family. Damien and Junice question who they are and who they will become. Hip-hop-style phrases feel like Shakespeare telling of these African-American teens in Harlem, struggling to keep it together. Intellect meets Street as true love conquers all. This is a quick and satisfying read, simple and timeless. Corinda J. Humphrey, Los Angeles Public Library Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.