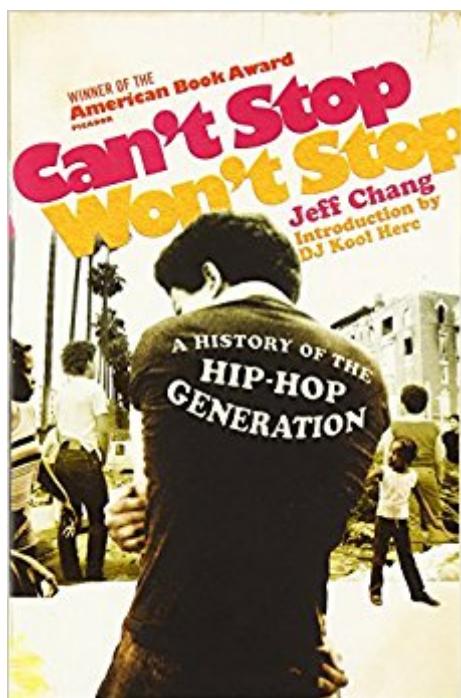


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# Can't Stop Won't Stop: A History Of The Hip-Hop Generation



## Synopsis

Can't Stop Won't Stop is a powerful cultural and social history of the end of the American century, and a provocative look into the new world that the hip-hop generation created. Forged in the fires of the Bronx and Kingston, Jamaica, hip-hop became the Esperanto of youth rebellion and a generation-defining movement. In a post-civil rights era defined by deindustrialization and globalization, hip-hop crystallized a multiracial, polycultural generation's worldview, and transformed American politics and culture. But that epic story has never been told with this kind of breadth, insight, and style. Based on original interviews with DJs, b-boys, rappers, graffiti writers, activists, and gang members, with unforgettable portraits of many of hip-hop's forebears, founders, and mavericks, including DJ Kool Herc, Afrika Bambaataa, Chuck D, and Ice Cube, Can't Stop Won't Stop chronicles the events, the ideas, the music, and the art that marked the hip-hop generation's rise from the ashes of the 60's into the new millennium.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Ã¢ "The birth of hip-hop out of the ruin of the South Bronx is a story that has been told many times, but never with the cinematic scope and the analytic force that Jeff Chang brings to it. . . . This is one of the most urgent and passionate histories of popular music ever written.Ã¢ "•

Ã¢ "The New YorkerÃ¢ " "This is a book that should be on the shelves of every high school and college library, an engaging and entertaining full-blown excursion into American inner-city culture's rapid proliferation into every nook and cranny of culture at large.Ã¢ " "•Ã¢ " "Los

Angeles Weeklyâ€”“Chang tells these stories beautifully . . . provocative.” The New York Times Book Reviewâ€”“When Hip-Hop 101 becomes a requirement, Jeff Chang’s history of the turmoil that begat this beloved culture will be the go-to textbook.”

Vibe magazineâ€”“The most important new genre of the last quarter century finally has a sweeping historical overview as powerful as the music with Can’t Stop Won’t Stop . . . the best-argued, most thoroughly researched case for hip-hop as a complete and truly American culture.”

Chicago Sun-Timesâ€”“Jeff Chang’s new and necessary book . . . delivers a vivid account of the last third of the American twentieth century. . . . The book is as much a cultural history as a music history.”

The Atlanta Journal-Constitutionâ€”“His scope is operatic, sprawling, and concerns itself with the people, places, and politics that drove hip-hop from its infancy. . . . It is essentially a people’s history . . . perhaps Jeff Chang is hip-hop America’s Howard Zinn.”

Salon.comâ€”“Flow without the ego, intellectualism without Ivory Tower disdain, and, finally, history with heart and passion and fire: Jeff Chang’s Can’t Stop Won’t Stop manages to go from wide-lens overview to pinpoint accuracy in covering the biggest cultural-political movement of our time. A true accomplishment.”

Farai Chideya, author of Trust and The Color of Our Future â€”“Jeff Chang is a master alchemist, spinning narrative gold from a weave of sociology, history, political theory, and old fashioned boom-bap. . . .Can’t Stop Won’t Stop is one of the best books yet written on the shifting, tumultuous history of hip-hop culture and the generation of adherents it spat onto the American and global landscape. It is a tour-de-force.”

Selwyn Seyfu Hinds, author of Gunshots In My Cook-Up: Bits of Hip-Hop Caribbean Life â€”“An exuberant and revelatory history of the inner-city cultural revolution that still rocks the world. Jeff Chang is hip-hop’s John Reed.”

Mike Davis, author of City of Quartz and Planet of Slums â€”“One of our most insightful commentators on urban music takes a panoramic survey of hip-hop’s entirety. . . .Authoritative, incisive, and entertaining, Can’t Stop Won’t Stop is a massive achievement.”

Simon Reynolds, author of Rip It Up And Start Again: Postpunk 1978-84 and Generation Ecstasy â€”“Don’t be misled; this is not just another rap book. . . .inflammatory, illuminating, and anything but myopic, the scope of Chang’s work is awe-inspiring.”

DJ Shadow, hip-hop artist, Endroducing and The Private Press â€”“This book belongs on your shelf next to Criminal Minded, Illmatic and All Eyez On Me.”

William Jelani Cobb, PhD, author of To The Break of Dawn: A Freestyle on the Hip Hop Aesthetic â€”“Orale pues-Can’t Stop Won’t Stop draws from the fire, verve, rage, injustices, pains, victories, and creativity of a whole generation of marginalized, forgotten, pissed-on and pissed-off youth.”

Luis J.

Rodriguez, author of *Always Running: La Vida Loca, Gang Days in LA and Hearts and Hands: Creating Community in Violent Times* —Jeff Chang backspins the un-interrogated truisms that plague so much hip hop scholarship. . .Can't Stop Won't Stop is a fluid, incisive analysis built from the ground up, with plenty of funky breakdowns.—Adam Mansbach, author of *Angry White Boy* and *Shackling Water* —“Has any scholar ever loved hip hop so well--and taken it as seriously--as Jeff Chang does in *Can't Stop Won't Stop*?—Bill Adler, author of *Tougher Than Leather* —“From the intellectual roots of Black cultural and political movements to the emergence of hip-hop activism, *Can't Stop Won't Stop* is the most comprehensive book out on hip-hop.—Henry Chalfant, co-producer *Style Wars*, co-author of *Subway Art* and *Spraycan Art* —“Can't Stop Won't Stop brings us so much closer to fully understanding the complexities that inspired the Hip-Hop Generation.—Mark Anthony Neal, author of *Songs in the Key of Black Life: A Rhythm and Blues Nation* —Jeff Chang has created a new rhythm in hip-hop writing. A must-read and an instant classic.—B+ (Brian Cross), photographer, producer/director of *Keepintime*, and author of *It's Not About A Salary*

Jeff Chang has been a hip-hop journalist for more than a decade and has written for The San Francisco Chronicle, The Village Voice, Vibe, The Nation, URB, Rap Pages, Spin, and Mother Jones. He was a founding editor of Colorlines Magazine, senior editor at Russell Simmons's 360hiphop.com, and cofounder of the influential hip-hip label SoleSides, now Quannum Projects. He lives in California.

thanks

This book seems to be aimed more towards the already versed hip-hop historian. For a beginner in the subject, I found the book hard to follow. Too many names too, not enough big picture.

While I don't know much about Chang's authority, he must have some sort of rep or he wouldn't have access to so many of the most important people in hip-hop to give their verbatim accounts of & reactions to the events in hip-hop and potential changes it will undergo. His language is lively and he is on point with all of his propositions and observations. I also included this material in my work for *Icons of Hip-Hop* (Greenwood Press). Great style, and just like Nelson George, he is unafraid, eager even, to explore the ramifications of hip-hop in both its original and commercial forms. A great

book, pretty comprehensive, with many useful and interesting details.

I love this book. As a person who was involved in my local hip hop community, this book helped me go deeper into the roots of hip hop and where it began. I love that it covers all aspects of hip hop culture. Before they had this book translated in Korean, I used to translate the text to help share knowledge with my fellow Korean hip hop heads so that they could better understand the culture. A must read for anyone who loves hip hop culture.

Received a good quality book! I needed to read this for my class so it really came in handy.

The best guide to the history of hip-hop music and dance. I love it!

This is another book I bought for a class that I was taking but I ended up enjoying reading this book a lot. It was insightful and enjoyable. I remember some of the artists and music they talk about because as a kid, I was into break dancing and hip hop culture. It had just started to become a national music style when I was growing up and this book gave me insight on hip hop's origins. Everyone should read this book.

Y son was thrilled to receive this

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