

Remember the Time: Protecting Michael Jackson in His Final Days

By Bill Whitfield, Javon Beard, Tanner Colby

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Hounded by the tabloid media, driven from his self-made sanctuary at Neverland, Michael Jackson spent his final years moving from city to city, living with his three children in virtual seclusion—a futile attempt to escape a world that wouldn't leave him alone. During that time, two men served as the singer's personal security team: Bill Whitfield, a former cop and veteran of the security profession, and Javon Beard, a brash, untested rookie, both single fathers themselves.

Stationed at his side nearly 24/7, their job was to see and hear everything that transpired, and to keep everyone else out, making them the only two men who know what 60 million fans around the world still want to know: What really happened to the King of Pop?

Driven by a desire to show the world who Michael Jackson truly was, Whitfield and Beard have produced the only definitive, first-person account of Michael Jackson's last years: the extreme measures necessary to protect Jackson and his family, the simple moments of happiness they managed to share in a time of great stress, the special relationship Jackson shared with his fans, and the tragic events that culminated in the singer's ill-fated comeback, *This Is It*. The truth is far more compelling than anything you've yet heard.

An indispensable piece of pop-culture history, *Remember the Time* is the story of a man struggling to live a normal life under extraordinary circumstances, the story of a father fighting to protect and provide for his children. Remember the Time is the book that dismantles the tabloid myths once and for all to give Michael Jackson back his humanity.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Illuminating and thoughtful, especially for those who can't help but hear Jackson's hit song when they read the book's title." --Kirkus

"*Remember the Time* foregoes sensationalism in favor of a sympathetic but unsentimental examination of life behind the gates in Michael Jackson's final years... A single father facing enormous financial pressures and a vagabond existence while trying to find some peace and joy with his three young children, Jackson is revealed, not as the 'freak show' the media so often presented, but as human. These recollections not only help fill in some of the biographical gaps in Jackson's life but demonstrate with unflinching detail the real-life price of fame." --Joseph Vogel, author of *Man in the Music*

"Whitfield and Beard have so many good stories that you can't put the book down. Even if half of them are true, the book is a page turning 'Thriller.'" --Showbiz 411

"a candid, intimate and remarkably sage appreciation of a tortured soul with everything and nothing." --Macleans

"a book that's hard to put down and one you won't soon forget. If you're a Michael Jackson fan, you'll love the personal touch. And even if you're not a fan, this book will answer questions for you and show you a very different side of a man everyone thought they knew but, in reality, few did." --Examiner

About the Author

Experts in the field of private protection, Bill Whitfield and Javon Beard served for two and a half years as the personal security team for Michael Jackson and have worked with numerous other high-profile clients, including Sean "P. Diddy" Combs, Alicia Keys, and Shaquille O'Neal.

Coauthor Tanner Colby is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *The Chris Farley Show: A Biography in The Acts, Belushi: A Biography*, and *Some of My Best Friends Are Black: The Strange Story of Integration in America*, which was nominated for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction by the American Library Association. He is also a frequent contributor to *Slate* magazine.

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