



## **B-Boy Blues: A Seriously Sexy, Fiercely Funny, Black-on-Black Love Story**

*By James Earl Hardy*

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### **B-Boy Blues: A Seriously Sexy, Fiercely Funny, Black-on-Black Love Story**

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James Earl Hardy's classic novel celebrates its 20th Anniversary — and, for the first time, is available on eBook!

Years before "homo thug" and "down low" became infamous catchphrases, Omar Little put the "G" in Gangsta on HBO's critically acclaimed series *The Wire*, and Frank Ocean claimed a same gender loving space in pop music ... there was **B-BOY BLUES**. Revisit or experience for the first time the story that ushered in the Africentric gay fiction genre, and put Black-on-Black male love on both the map and the bestseller lists!

**SYNOPSIS:** Mitchell Crawford always wished, hoped, and dreamed for a **RUFFNECK** — a hip-hop-lovin', street-struttin', cool posin', crazy crotch-grabbin' brotha. And he finally finds one in Raheim Rivers, who is a vision of lust: six feet tall and 215 pounds of mocha-chocolate muscle. Mitchell knows Raheim will take him for a walk on the wild side, especially between the sheets. But he doesn't count on getting behind Raheim's mask — and finding someone he can love.

Praise for *B-Boy Blues*:

"Hardy has successfully crafted the first gay hip hop love story. It sexily sizzles off the page."

- E. Lynn Harris

"Not since Terry McMillan's *Disappearing Acts* has it felt so good to be loved so bad. Grade: A-."

- Entertainment Weekly

"Hardy proves that Black love is just as dizzying and gratifying when boy meets boy."

- Vibe

"A masterpiece of both Black and gay literature."

- Booklist

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### Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Mitchell Crawford's fantasy has always been to have a B-boy. For him, B-boys stand on street corners daring anyone to invade their territory, dress to thrill, move to a rhythm all their own, and, loud and boisterous, "speak to be heard, not so much to be understood." Now, you don't think of any tough black street boy as being gay, don't often read about very different segments of the black community in contact with one another, and, if you're white, don't often encounter black narrators who honestly tell how they feel about whites. You do here. Mitchell is young, black, educated, and gay. He works on a magazine, lives in a nice Manhattan apartment, and runs around with a group of men like himself. He has flings with two other B-boys, then meets Raheim, the man of his dreams in this first-rate love story. Supporting characters--Raheim's son and Mitchell's family and work friends--add to the plot and the realism as Hardy reveals much about what happens when two cultures meet and more about diversity than you get from most diversity workshops. Highly recommended for both gay- and black-literature collections. *Charles Harmon*

From Kirkus Reviews

A professional man's involvement with rough trade (a socially inferior, potentially dangerous sex partner) underscores the precarious position of gay black men in a hostile world in this, a lusty, freewheeling first novel from a young African-American journalist. Mitchell Crawford meets Raheim Rivers in a gay bar in Greenwich Village in the summer of 1993. Mitchell is a 27-year-old journalist; Raheim is a 21-year-old bicycle messenger and B-boy (banjee boy). The B-boy hangs out on street corners, cool and menacing. "I find them irresistible," confesses Mitchell. Raheim is the third B-boy in his life, and the charm. Their smoking-hot sex (described with the verve of a master pornographer) develops into strong mutual need as Mitchell discovers that underneath his tough exterior, Raheim is smart, talented (he can draw to professional standards), and a loving parent to his five-year-old son. The snag is Raheim's violent streak. When Mitchell nudges him to accept his homosexuality, Raheim almost knocks him out before fleeing. Violence is an inescapable part of their world. Raheim's best friend is gunned down in the street, Mitchell's best friend becomes a victim of gay-bashing. While Mitchell is angered by the homophobia among blacks that encourages such attacks, he reserves his harshest words for white people, gay as well as straight, who continue to exploit black Americans and deny them a level playing field (he quits his magazine when a less qualified white co-worker gets a coveted promotion). Meanwhile Hardy, hell-bent on a happy ending, has Raheim and Mitchell make up and declare their love. We miss the cold artist's eye that had earlier seen the impossibility of such a union. Elsewhere Hardy's eye does not fail him. Though his characters need work (Raheim is the generic B-boy, Mitchell simply the sum of his opinions), his anger is impressive; Hardy has the makings of a formidable talent. -- *Copyright ©1994, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

### Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Mark Fetter:**

Often the book B-Boy Blues: A Seriously Sexy, Fiercely Funny, Black-on-Black Love Story has a lot info on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of profit. The book was authored by the very famous author. Tom makes some research previous to write this book. This specific book very easy to read you can find the point easily after reading this article book.

**Robert Hay:**

Precisely why? Because this B-Boy Blues: A Seriously Sexy, Fiercely Funny, Black-on-Black Love Story is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will jolt you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such awesome way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining means but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book possess such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking method. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I had been you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

**Ollie Brooks:**

Reading a book being new life style in this yr; every people loves to study a book. When you examine a book you can get a lot of benefit. When you read textbooks, you can improve your knowledge, since book has a lot of information on it. The information that you will get depend on what sorts of book that you have read. If you would like get information about your examine, you can read education books, but if you act like you want to entertain yourself you can read a fiction books, these us novel, comics, along with soon. The B-Boy Blues: A Seriously Sexy, Fiercely Funny, Black-on-Black Love Story will give you new experience in reading through a book.

**Ramon Lopez:**

Reading a e-book make you to get more knowledge from that. You can take knowledge and information from a book. Book is published or printed or illustrated from each source in which filled update of news. In this modern era like right now, many ways to get information are available for a person. From media social including newspaper, magazines, science guide, encyclopedia, reference book, new and comic. You can add your understanding by that book. Ready to spend your spare time to open your book? Or just seeking the B-Boy Blues: A Seriously Sexy, Fiercely Funny, Black-on-Black Love Story when you necessary it?

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