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Life after death novel pdf

Nearly two decades after her bestselling *The Coldest Winter Ever*, Souljah returns to continue the tale of Brooklyn drug-world royalty Winter Santiago. With her 15-year jail sentence coming to a close, Winter is ready to reclaim her throne when a friend shoots her and sends her on a torturous journey through Hell. Embed our reviews widget for this book What is this? See All Reviews >> On board the Flying Scotsman, the famous London-to-Edinburgh train, Daisy meets an old schoolfellow, Anne Bretton. Anne, along with all of her relatives, is en route to visit the deathbed of the family scion and notorious miser, Alistair McGowan. As it currently stands, Alistair's will leaves the entire family fortune to his brother Albert, and the rest of the family is rushing to his side, each hoping to convince him to change his will in their favor. 2 out of 5 stars By Mrs. Rm Walters on 06-01-14 Notes From Your BooksellerAfter 20 years, readers finally get a chance to return to the tumultuous life of Winter Santiago. Action-packed and unexpected, and in true Winter style, *Life After Death* will keep you guessing until the very last page. INSTANT #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER INSTANT USA TODAY BESTSELLER The long-anticipated sequel to Sister Souljah's million copy New York Times bestseller *The Coldest Winter Ever* Winter Santiago hit time served. Still stunning, still pretty, still bold, still loves her father more than any man in the world, still got her hustle and high fashion flow. She's eager to pay back her enemies, rebuild her father's empire, reset his crown, and ultimately to snatch Midnight back into her life no matter which bitch had him while she was locked up. But Winter is not the only one with revenge on her mind. Simone, Winter's young business partner and friend, is locked and loaded and Winter is her target. Will she blow Winter's head off? Can Winter dodge the bullets? Or will at least one bullet blast Winter into another world? Either way Winter is fearless. Hell is the same as any hood and certainly the Brooklyn hood she grew up in. That's what Winter thinks. A heartwarming, heart-burning, passionate, sexual, comical, and completely original adventure is about to happen in real time—raw, shocking, soulful, and shameless. True fans won't let Winter travel alone on this amazing journey. Explore Summer Reading for All Ages & Interests ISBN-13: 9781982139131 Publisher: Atria/Emily Bestler Books Publication date: 03/02/2021 Pages: 352 Sales rank: 1,259 Product dimensions: 5.90(w) x 8.50(h) x 1.40(d) 01/18/2021Souljah's mystical, uneven sequel to *The Coldest Winter Ever* picks up with Winter Santiago leaving prison after 15 years, having taken the fall for a hustler boyfriend's drug dealing. Her release is captured on a reality TV show developed for her, as is her murder; she is shot by friend-turned-nemesis Simone, after Simone finds out how much Winter would profit from the show compared to her and other women from the neighborhood. Winter ends up in the underworld, otherwise named the Last Stop Before the Drop, where she lives a twisted version of the life she'd led before ending up in prison. In a series of strange and winding events, Winter becomes romantically involved with a number of biblically and Quran-inspired men—who, just like she'd experienced in her past life, end up mistreating her. She begins to think back on her past with her father, whom she adores, and is able to observe the life of her first love, who is now married with a family. When she meets the souls of unborn children, they tell her she must reflect on her life if she wants to leave the underworld. While Winter's digressive interior monologue can be hard to follow, Souljah's saga is conceptually imaginative. The author's diehard fans will appreciate this. (Mar.) Publishers Weekly "An inventive sequel . . . Souljah's fans will recognize familiar themes from her earlier realistic coming-of-age novel, while this raw and otherworldly tale conveys the terrible consequences of Winter's poor choices, which will haunt her until she begs for redemption." Booklist **Praise for *THE COLDEST WINTER EVER***Sister Souljah has taken her talents from the stage to the page." — Essence"I think she is an important voice in American literature, and I find her work spiritually rewarding and powerful." —Jada Pinkett Smith"The #1 author of the hip-hop generation." — Sean "P. Diddy" Combs"Winter is nasty, spoiled, and almost unbelievably libidinous, and it's ample evidence of the author's talent that she is also deeply sympathetic." — The New Yorker"Winter is precious, babacious, and as tough as a hollow-point bullet." — Salon.com"[Souljah] spread[s] messages that are clear, concise, and true to the game." — The Source" Intriguing...Souljah exhibits a raw and true voice." — Publishers Weekly From the Publisher "The second novel follows Winter to a temptation-packed purgatory . . . LIFE AFTER DEATH . . . joins its predecessor—and the rest of Sister Souljah's work—in illuminating both the glamour and the danger of urban life." The Atlantic "The 10 Most Anticipated Books Of 2021" Forbes "21 Books We Can't Wait to Read in 2021" Essence 02/05/2021The long-awaited sequel to Souljah's *The Coldest Winter Ever* begins with Winter Santiago approaching the end of the 15-year prison sentence she was dealt at the end of the first book. Her brother-in-law, Elisha, proposes that she star in her own reality show starting as soon as she walks out of prison. Winter sees the show as an opportunity to reenter society at the top of her game. But fate has other plans: Winter is shot dead as soon as she walks out. The rest of the book takes place in a purgatory-like place called the Last Stop Before the Drop. Winter is "rescued" by a man with whom she becomes sexually involved; he has everything she wants, and despite having other women in his bed, he treats her like she is special. Winter also meets Bomber Girl, who bears a resemblance to a young version of herself. Bomber Girl, along with her army of UB5 (Unborn Souls), attempts to save Winter and other women stuck in the Last Stop before they are turned over to the Eternal Fire by informing them of Allah's teachings and urging them to leave behind their sinful ways to pass on to a Heaven-like place. VERDICT Souljah takes a bold but ultimately disappointing step with this next installment in Winter's story, which is definitely not what readers may expect. Some may say it goes too far in places, such as descriptions of bestiality, while Winter is in purgatory. Only purchase where avid fans await this sequel.—Brooke Bolton, *Boonville-Warrick Cty. P.L.*, IN Library Journal Sister Souljah's "Life After Death," a follow-up to her 1999 bestseller "The Coldest Winter Ever," is a sequel 22 years in the making. In 1999, Sister Souljah published her first novel, "The Coldest Winter Ever," considered by some to be the mother of what's been called urban or street fiction and its first classic. Its heroine, Winter Santiago, the pampered daughter of a Brooklyn drug kingpin, uses her feminine wiles and hustler mentality to survive after her father's empire suddenly comes crashing down. "The Coldest Winter Ever" was one of the best-selling novels of 1999 and has since sold more than a million copies. Needless to say, the publisher wanted more."Quite naturally, the book company and everyone [else] expected me to write the sequel," said Souljah by phone from the United Arab Emirates, where she had gone to find "peace of mind" and to finish a draft of the book's long-awaited screen adaptation. But because Winter Santiago's story had ended with a mandatory 15-year prison sentence, Souljah felt she had to wait until Winter's time was served. "I didn't want to feed the hood a fantasy that going to prison is a joke or a cakewalk," she said. "Like 'Ta-da! Here she is,' and it's all good. There are real consequences to the things that happen in real life." So instead she wrote spinoffs: three books about Midnight, the handsome and capable lieutenant of Winter's father, Ricky Santiago, and one about Winter's younger sister Porsche, who ends up in juvenile detention. She even planned to write a Ricky story (and still hopes to). "But the character was always alive in my imagination," Souljah said. Finally, 22 years later, Winter is back in "Life After Death," out this week.True to Souljah's insistence on consequences, the sequel begins with a hard shock: Winter is dead, stuck in a purgatory known as the Last Stop Before the Drop, and given one last chance to avoid eternal damnation. "People have said, 'It's so unexpected,'" said Souljah. "And I say, as an author, if I write what any reader expects me to write then I've failed because that means the readers could have written the book. I want to write something that you never would have imagined." Though Winter's journey in "Life After Death" may take place largely in the metaphysical realm, there's still plenty of sex, danger and debauchery. "I didn't want to write a book where everything looks the same as how people expect or imagine," said Souljah. "Growing up Christian, there's the devil and he has horns and a tail . . . It doesn't resonate with what you can see with your eyes in the real world."Preparing to invent her own underworld, Souljah researched religious texts for seven months. "[mainly] nonfiction works that refer back to the major three books: The Torah, The New Testament and the Qu'ran."She also read Dante's "Inferno," which she didn't like. "I thought it alienated the reader, the way that it was written," she said. "I never want to write books like that. I want you to read [my] books and be blown away because it was so close to your own soul and experience and you can take things from it and use it in your own real life." Sister Souljah's fiction debut "The Coldest Winter Ever" became an instant bestseller upon its release in 1999 and has sold more than a million copies. Souljah's outspokenness made her a flashpoint of national politics long before she wrote her bestselling novel. For a time, she was a member of the anti-racist rap group Public Enemy, and in the wake of the 1992 L.A. riots she said publicly, "If Black people kill Black people every day, why not have a week and kill white people?" Then-Presidential candidate Bill Clinton denounced her. (She responded that her quote had been taken out of context.)Ever since, any political denunciation of radical ideas (like Barack Obama's over Jeremiah Wright) has been glossed as "a Sister Souljah moment." Asked how she feels about the term today, she said, "A Sister Souljah moment is simply 'a moment of truth.' And the truth should never ever be considered radical or un-American." Souljah's books counter the caricature of her as an advocate of violence. Having grown up (as Lisa Williamson) in the South Bronx during the drug-ravaged '70s and '80s, she says she wrote "The Coldest Winter Ever" as a cautionary tale. "It was my desire to show our people that this lifestyle that we glorify is actually a death-style," she said. "And it doesn't end nicely, almost ever." As a child, she lived in fear of the heroin epidemic. "It was explained to me and my brothers and sisters as a life-or-death situation," she said. "People carried around needles in their pockets. I was horrified about people drugging me or anyone in my family. I would say my prayers before bed and ask for protection."Soon she began to notice the glamour of the drug dealer lifestyle. "When you hit the teen years, I think that's when you notice the flash. So I wanted to write a story about drugs without writing something that preaches to people because I didn't think that preaching was something that people would accept, listen to or learn from," she said.She'd thought about writing from the perspective of a dealer before trying something closer to her experience: "I do know about girls and women and love." Sister Souljah in Harlem, New York, 1993. Though Souljah is often credited with igniting the urban/street genre, she considers the category inherently racist. "When a Black author writes, it's not literature," she said. "I mean, who are these 'street' people anyway? What are people who are not street authors writing about? The topics are the same. 'Romeo and Juliet' is a battle between families that are basically in gangs, so why don't they call Shakespeare street literature?"She finds the idea of a lower class of writing insulting. "If you look at my characters and my storytelling, it spans from the inner city to the suburbs to several countries outside of America. You'll see Japan, Korea, China, the UAE and Oman mentioned. And before writing about these places, I normally travel there and stay long enough to get a sense of the people, the culture, the language. So why belittle all of that effort by then saying 'No, this is only urban literature. Only a certain set of people will buy it and understand it and that's why we put it in the back.'" I don't write with any lack of understanding of the English language. And I think by creating a subcategory you're saying 'This is less literary. This is under the standard.' Sister Souljah on her books being classified as urban/street literature Rumors of a film adaptation of "The Coldest Winter Ever" have been circulating since the early aughts. In 2008, Jada Pinkett Smith told Vibe magazine she was set to executive produce the film. But nothing ever materialized. "The Coldest Winter Ever" is a classic," said Smith by email. "Timeless. When [it's] ready to be made into a movie, it will be. Sometimes you have to wait for the right timing for certain creations." Souljah considers it worth the wait. "My thing is, I want to have the movie but I want the business of it to be correct," she said. "I try to do business [in a way] that matches the art that I create. I don't want to do business in a way where somebody just processes me . . . I read the contracts and I'm told that no one does that in Hollywood."Today she's attached to a deal with a major studio; she delivered the script in July 2019 and expected it to go into pre-production that September. Then there was a contract delay. Then there was COVID-19. "So I'm not quite sure what will happen next," she said. "But I'm grateful that books stand the test of time and keep coming out no matter what. The pandemic is still a good time for [authors]."Which means it's a good time for her. "Because you're basically just writing," she says. "There's nothing else to do."

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