



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

*By James Earl Hardy*

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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.*

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From reader reviews:

**Latoya Brown:**

Book is actually written, printed, or highlighted for everything. You can recognize everything you want by a e-book. Book has a different type. To be sure that book is important point to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading expertise was fluently. A publication B-Boy Blues: A Seriously Sexy, Fiercely Funny, Black-on-Black Love Story will make you to possibly be smarter. You can feel considerably

more confidence if you can know about almost everything. But some of you think which open or reading a new book make you bored. It is not necessarily make you fun. Why they are often thought like that? Have you in search of best book or suited book with you?

**Pauline Stern:**

This book untitled B-Boy Blues: A Seriously Sexy, Fiercely Funny, Black-on-Black Love Story to be one of several books that best seller in this year, here is because when you read this reserve you can get a lot of benefit into it. You will easily to buy this specific book in the book retail store or you can order it via online. The publisher on this book sells the e-book too. It makes you more easily to read this book, since you can read this book in your Touch screen phone. So there is no reason for your requirements to past this book from your list.

**Stephen Wilson:**

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because if you are reading a book particularly book entitled B-Boy Blues: A Seriously Sexy, Fiercely Funny, Black-on-Black Love Story your mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every single aspect that maybe not known for but surely can become your mind friends. Imaging every single word written in a book then become one form conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get before. The B-Boy Blues: A Seriously Sexy, Fiercely Funny, Black-on-Black Love Story giving you one more experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful data for your better life within this era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern is your body and mind will be pleased when you are finished looking at it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

**Charles Brewster:**

As we know that book is vital thing to add our information for everything. By a publication we can know everything you want. A book is a set of written, printed, illustrated or blank sheet. Every year seemed to be exactly added. This guide B-Boy Blues: A Seriously Sexy, Fiercely Funny, Black-on-Black Love Story was filled about science. Spend your spare time to add your knowledge about your scientific disciplines competence. Some people has diverse feel when they reading a book. If you know how big benefit of a book, you can really feel enjoy to read a reserve. In the modern era like right now, many ways to get book which you wanted.

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