



Xscape Origins: The Songs and Stories Michael Jackson Left Behind

By Damien Shields

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These are the stories about the *real* Michael Jackson; the musical genius at work. As told by the songwriters, producers, musicians, and technicians who worked intimately with him in the studio, and featuring a touching foreword written by his longtime engineer, Matt Forger. *Xscape Origins: The Songs and Stories Michael Jackson Left Behind* takes you inside the recording studio, delivering captivating fly-on-the-wall insights into the creative process of the greatest artistic visionary the world has ever known.

"Damien Shields has taken on the task of researching some of these songs and the stories behind their creation, and for that I thank him," says Forger. "There are so many lessons to learn from a creative genius like Michael Jackson. Just as Michael said 'study the greats and become greater,' *we* are now left to study how he, a poor child from a Midwestern American town, rose to be the most popular entertainer on the planet. These stories are a detailed examination of how some of the songs unreleased in his lifetime came into existence.

It is important to document the process and tell the story, not only because it is history, but also to pay tribute to a person who loved storytelling and would want the story to be told."

For the first time--featuring exclusive never-before-told stories--*Xscape Origins* puts all the pieces of the puzzle together to reveal how the King of Pop and his collaborators conceived and developed the original versions of "Love Never Felt So Good," "She Was Loving Me" (a.k.a. "Chicago"), "Loving You," "A Place With no Name," "Slave To The Rhythm," "Do You Know Where Your Children Are," "Blue Gangsta," and "Xscape" (a.k.a. "Escape").

Compiled from exclusive interviews with:

Michael Prince (*Engineer, 1995-2009*)

Matt Forger (*Engineer, 1982-1997*)

John Barnes (*Composer, arranger, musician, 1983-2009*)

Cory Rooney (*Songwriter, producer, A&R, 1999-2001*)

Fred Jerkins III (*Songwriter, producer, 1999-2001*)

Brian Vibberts (*Engineer, 1994-1999*)

CJ deVillar (*Engineer, musician, 1998-1999*).

And exclusive first-hand insights from:

Rodney Jerkins (*Producer, songwriter, 1999-2001*)

Brad Buxer (*Composer, arranger, musical director, 1989-2008*)

Kathy Wakefield (*Songwriter, 1973-1984*)

Dr. Freeze (*Songwriter, producer, 1998-2001*).

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- Sales Rank: #831012 in eBooks
- Published on: 2015-03-24
- Released on: 2015-03-24
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

Review

"Damien Shields delves deep to deliver a collection of untold stories detailing the origins and development of the songs on Xscape. This book is guaranteed to satisfy the intellectual palette of Michael Jackson fans who thirst for more knowledge regarding his genius and creativity." --**Michael Prince**, *Engineer for Michael Jackson, 1995-2009*

"Xscape Origins is jammed with research! But research alone doesn't tell a story. Rather, Damien Shields provides a wealth of background information while taking the reader on a journey." --**Brad Sundberg**, *Technical Director for Michael Jackson, 1985-2002*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Patrina Eaton:

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Charles Malone:

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Elizabeth Villalobos:

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