### Straight Edge: The Definitive History of Hardcore Punk's Drug-Free Culture



#### Straight Edge: A Clear-Headed Hardcore Punk History

by Tony Rettman

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#### About the Book

Straight Edge: Clear Headed Hardcore Punk History is the definitive history of the straight edge movement, a subculture of hardcore punk that emerged in the early 1980s and advocates for a drug-free lifestyle. The book features interviews with key figures in the movement, including Ian MacKaye, Henry Rollins, and Ray Cappo, as well as a detailed look at the music, fashion, and politics of straight edge.

Straight edge is a subculture that originated in the hardcore punk scene of Washington, D.C. in the early 1980s. The term "straight edge" was coined by Ian MacKaye, the vocalist of the band Minor Threat. MacKaye adopted the term from a song by the band Void, which included the lyric "I'm straight edge." MacKaye and other early straight edge adherents believed that drug and alcohol use was incompatible with the values of hardcore punk, which they saw as a positive and life-affirming force.

The straight edge movement quickly spread to other cities and countries, and by the mid-1980s, there were straight edge scenes in most major cities. Straight edge bands such as Minor Threat, SSD, and 7 Seconds became popular, and the movement's message of drug-free living resonated with many young people.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, the straight edge movement began to decline. However, it has experienced a resurgence in recent years, and there are now a number of new straight edge bands and organizations.

#### The Book's Contents

Straight Edge: Clear Headed Hardcore Punk History is divided into three parts. The first part provides a history of the straight edge movement, from its origins in the early 1980s to its resurgence in recent years. The second part features interviews with key figures in the movement, including Ian MacKaye, Henry Rollins, and Ray Cappo. The third part provides a detailed look at the music, fashion, and politics of straight edge.

The book is illustrated with a number of photographs and illustrations, and it includes a comprehensive discography and bibliography.

#### Why Read This Book?

Straight Edge: Clear Headed Hardcore Punk History is an essential read for anyone interested in the history of hardcore punk or the straight edge movement. The book provides a comprehensive overview of the movement, and it features interviews with some of the most important figures in its history.

Whether you're a long-time straight edge veteran or a newcomer to the movement, this book is a valuable resource. It's a well-written and informative book that will give you a deeper understanding of the straight edge lifestyle.

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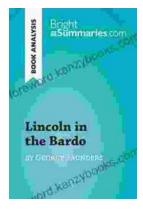


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