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# Big Freedia: God Save The Queen Diva!



## Synopsis

From the eponymous star of the most popular reality show in Fuse TV's history, this no-holds-barred memoir tells the story of a gay, self-proclaimed mama's boy who exploded onto the formerly underground Bounce music scene—a hip-hop subgenre—and found acceptance, healing, self-expression, and stardom! As the “undisputed ambassador” of the energetic, New Orleans-based Bounce movement, Big Freedia isn't afraid to twerk, wiggle, and shake her way to self-confidence, and is encouraging her fans to do the same. In her engrossing memoir, Big Freedia tells the inside story of her path to fame, the peaks and valleys of her personal life, and the liberation that Bounce music brings to herself and every one of her fans who is searching for freedom. Big Freedia immediately pulls us into the relationship between her personal life and her career as an artist; being a “twinking sissy” is not just a job, she says, but a salvation. A place to find solace. To escape from the battles she faced growing up in the worst neighborhood in New Orleans. To deal with losing loved ones to the violence on the streets, drug overdoses, and jail. To survive hurricane Katrina by living on her roof for two days with three adults and a child. To grapple with the difficulties and celebrate the joys of living. In this eye-opening memoir that bursts with energy, you'll learn the history of the Bounce movement and meet all of the colorful characters that pepper its music scene. With her own unique voice and unabashed enthusiasm, Big Freedia tells how she arrived at this defining moment in music, and how Bounce ultimately has allowed her to become her own version of diva, one booty-pop at a time.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“On her show, Freedia comes off as affable and grateful – belying her diva persona – and these traits are only solidified and expanded in the book.” (Rolling Stone Online) “Whether detailing the highs or the lows, Freedia’s tales pop as much as the booty that made her famous.” (Out Magazine) “God Save the Queen Diva is a snappily dictated story of inverted cultural norms in the wards of New Orleans.” (Eastbay Express) “In Big Freedia: God Save the Queen Diva (Gallery Books) the rapper goes deeper, with a tale that is as much a capsule history of the bounce-music world as it is his own story.” (Times Picayune)

Big Freedia, born Freddie Ross, is a New Orleans hip-hop musician known for bringing “bounce” from the underground music scene to the forefront of the industry. Known for her supreme star power and charismatic charm, Big Freedia has performed alongside such artists as pop duo Matt and Kim, Wiz Khalifa, and Snoop Dogg. Big Freedia’s music success is complemented by her television stardom in the reality show Big Freedia: Queen of Bounce, airing on the Fuse network. Big Freedia: God Save the Queen Diva! is her first book. Nicole Balin was an editor at Parenting magazine and The Source, as well as a freelance writer for the Los Angeles Times, The Source Sports, Rap Pages, Huffington Post, and Blaze. Subsequently, she founded Ballin PR, which has represented artists including Linkin Park, Kool Keith, and Big Freedia.

I loved this book. Even tho I know Freedia didn’t write it herself, the way it was transcribed made me feel as if I was sitting across the table from Freedia. Before this book, I was a fan of the show and even went to a Freedia concert but I wasn’t a huge fan of bounce music and had no idea what bounce was truly all about. This book chronicles Freedia’s life and struggles as a poor, overweight, gay black male growing up in the 80s when it wasn’t so acceptable...finding his salvation in the Church..and later finding his freedom to be himself. I can feel Freedia’s struggle with his Church upbringing and the lifestyle he feels today. Freddy Ross to Big Freedia the Queen Diva ya heard me?!!!!!! Like all things New Orleans this book was different with a little spice. Freedia shares her love life, her recap of Katrina, the love she had for her Mother and the loss of her Mom, as well as some tea on other local bounce queens. This book surpassed my expectations even tho I feel that it could be been a little more in depth. I loved the photos shared at the end.

After reading this wonderful written book , I have gained an enormous amount of respect for New Orleans Bounce Music. Big Freedia gave me a glimpse of her life and the importance of being self-assured. I truly felt like I was in NOLA , even though I have never been there before. The culture seems so liberating and care-free. The history that was referred in the book grabbed my attention, I loved how Freedia paid homage to many other NOLA artists who have paved the way for others in the Bounce music genre. Prior to reading this book I only knew little of Big Freedia . I only recall her from being connected to RuPaul's " Peanut Butter" song. After reading her memoir , I Have caught up on all her episodes on Fuse Network and have followed her on social media. Her Music is truly needed in this world. Thank God for her energy and talent and for being hailed the Queen Diva Of Bounce Music.

I couldn't put the book down read it within 24 hours. then on January 1st I saw him perform front center stage I wish I could have brought my book for him to sign but I felt weird anyway if you show receipt he will give you a personal thank you and I sent the receipt to the email and I never got his thank you I know he's busy because it's Mardi Gras but I'm still waiting for his personal thank you because I pre-ordered this book and I've never pre-ordered any book . It's a great great story he's a great person, I love his show on the fuse channel season 5 is coming up you guys should watch

I love the casual way this autobiography was written. Freedia uses expressions and references from her world, yet brings the audience along with explanations and an insider's look at a gender-alternate, gay underground Bounce musician from New Orleans who made it big just by being herself. It's easy to read, non judgmental, not so air-brushed as is typical in autobiographies. As a girly, overweight fat boy, Big Freedia was at first persecuted, but in high school he used his quick wits, humor, musical ability, and outrageous behavior to turn things around and become the school mascot. The darling of the school and local church, he secretly joined the underground Bounce rap scene and soon was making more money than his teachers. He allowed his gender identity to shift in the direction comfortable for him and didn't allow anyone else to define him..a successful strategy in this case.

This memoir is well written. Because I'm a native New Orleanian, I was enthralled by the details and I understood the culture (learned some new things too:). I am very proud of Big Freedia and I truly fell in love with her mother. I highly recommend reading this fantastic, exciting and sometimes tragic

life story of our own, Queen Diva.

I'm a #NOLAGirl and though I'm familiar with Bounce culture and Big Freedia, the persona, I didn't know the story behind the actual person. I actually purchased the book looking forward to the entertainment that would come from it being written in her voice (such great nostalgia and hilarity), but it gave me a very microscopic look at the life and development of the person behind the persona. Folks might see SOME of who Big Freedia is on TV or even in her performances, but the BIGGEST part of who she is is her heart and her love for people. As such, I'm a HUGE fan now and I'm glad somebody created the opportunity for us to hear her story. God Bless the QUEEN!!!

Big Freedia is such a big, unique personality I feared maybe the co-writer would dilute her down but instead the book seems to really capture the Queen Diva. I loved reading about her hustle and how she always keeps a positive outlook even in bad circumstances. The chapter on Katrina made me sob! But even some of the less dramatic moments about her mom or her rocky relationships struck chords. It was also just interesting to read the music business process that got her out of just playing the clubs in New Orleans to getting a bigger "hipster"y white following. I tore through this book, it was an easy read that made me laugh and cry, what more could you want? GIRL DOWN!

Girl Down I loved this book I'm a huge fan of big freedia and have been wanting to read this book for awhile now so glad I did if you are a fan its a must read even if you aren't a fan check it out anyway its a great read

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