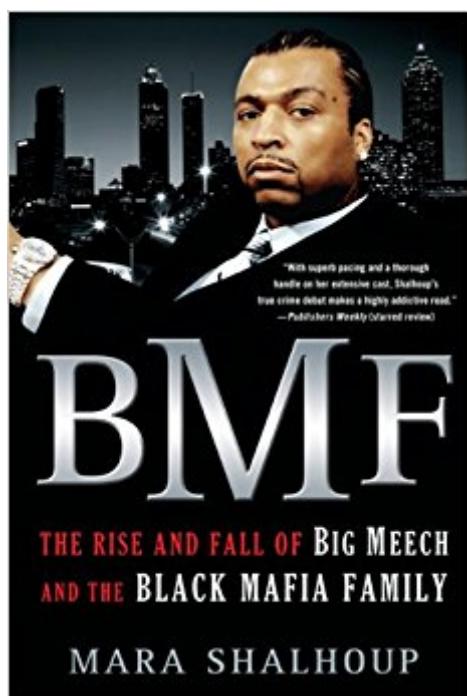


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BMF: The Rise And Fall Of Big Meech And The Black Mafia Family



Synopsis

In the early 1990s, Demetrius "Big Meech" Flenory and his brother, Terry "Southwest T," rose up from the slums of Detroit to build one of the largest cocaine empires in American history: the Black Mafia Family. They socialized with music mogul Sean "Diddy" Combs, did business with New York's king of bling Jacob "The Jeweler" Arabo, and built allegiances with rap superstars Young Jeezy and Fabolous. Yet even as BMF was attracting celebrity attention, its crew members struck fear in a city. When the brothers began clashing in 2003, the flashy and beloved Big Meech risked it all on a shot at legitimacy in the music industry. At the same time, utilizing a high-stakes wiretap operation, the feds inched toward their goal of destroying the Flenory's empire and ending the reign of a crew suspected in the sale of thousands of kilos of cocaine — and a half-dozen unsolved murders.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Black Mafia Family, ostensibly a hip-hop record label, was actually an urban midlevel drug-distribution network. Originally based in Detroit, the operation expanded through the genius of the Flenory brothers. Demetrius "Big Meech" was the flamboyant personality behind the Atlanta operation, and Terry was the low-profile and conservative operator of the L.A. operation. With major direct cocaine sources out of Mexico, these brothers escalated their distribution to more than \$250 million wholesale value before their downfall. They operated for a period apparently with immunity in Atlanta but were eventually caught through the persistence of a couple of local police

and two nationwide federal drug-enforcement networks. Before their fall, the Flenory brothers managed to spread their taint of violence and drugs to reach several prominent people, including Atlanta mayor Shirley Franklin and singer Bobby Brown. The rapper known as "Baby Blue" fell as part of the BMF crew, and rapper Young Jeezy escaped by the skin of his teeth. Shalhoup, an award-winning journalist, offers an insightful look at the street-drug industry, which casts a wide net of beneficiaries as well as victims. --Vernon Ford --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

"With superb pacing and a thorough handle on her extensive cast, Shalhoup's true crime debut makes a highly addictive read." *Publisher's Weekly* (Starred Review!) "A first rate read." *On Wax Magazine* "An instant classic." *AllHipHop.com* "Deftly tracks the fortunes of multiple BMF associates and their pursuers in law enforcement." *her* journalistic chops convey two inescapable messages: The cocaine industry is bigger and more entrenched than most people suspect; and sooner or later, no matter how glamorous, everybody goes down. *Kirkus Reviews* "A wild ride rivaling anything you've seen in a Hollywood crime movie." *MOG.com*

This was an excellent read. The work by the various law enforcement agencies was thorough and complete. It's amazing to me how these guys think that their over-the-top ostentaciousness, the expensive jewelry, large houses, excess partying, and top of the line cars etc., all purchased with unverifiable incomes would remain under the law enforcement radar forever. The wiretappings of the kingpins voices as well as the number of bodies attached to members of this crew were sure signs of pending disaster. This saga reminds me of HBO's "The Wire" except on a larger scale. Because of the number of characters and the depths of the events, this work must be made into a TV series or a 3-part movie at least to capture the totality of BMF. Overall, I give this an A+.

The plot was fascinating but in my opinion the writing was not that great. The author switched topics and jumped from character to character so quickly throughout the book I had a hard time knowing who was who. She did not do a great job of dovetailing everything. I often found myself going back to previous chapters to find references to correlate everything. This is a gritty story and written in its rawest form would have been fine...but it seemed like the author was using big words just to use them. It was almost as she put more into the writing than the actual story- if that makes sense. I love

a good book and this was such a great story to tell but the way it was told kept it from being the page turner it could have been if someone else had written it.

My jaw dropped throughout this book. I couldn't believe what I learned about Big Meech and his brother, Terry, and the BMF family. I was so engulfed in this story, it read like a good episode of Law & Order, which I'm a huge fan, and I could NOT put this book down. This book was appropriately named, The Rise and Fall, and I tell ya, when they fell, it was pretty damn hard. I hear now that Big Meech, from inside his prison walls, is planning to do a reality show. That's pretty damn good to do, if the rumors are true. There are several entertainers tied to this mafia family, one being Young Jeezy. Learned a great many things about the cocaine world and trafficking. It's a shame these brothers didn't put that business savvy to proper legal use, but this was the life they chose, and so they have to live it. A great read! Caution: If you have a hard time following detailed drama shows, then you will be lost reading this book. It does tend to move all over the place, and you have to stay right there until the bitter end! [...]

Love this book!!! this brother and his crew were deadly for real. I lived in Atlanta when they were running buck wild here. Nobobdy in their right mind would mess with these guys.

This is an interesting book about the Black Mafia Family led by the Flenory brothers Big Meech & Southwest "T". BMF were large and in charge of the streets & the drug game. The BMF crew was feared and respected in the streets every where they went. Spread out over many states the brothers each developed their own crime crews. Crews that ended up having two different views on how to live life while pushing drugs accross the country. Big Meech rolled with a crew deep in numbers that was admired for spending money like it grew on trees and partied like there would be no tomorrow. Big Meech had a crew that was ruthless, arrogant and powerful. The arrogance and attention seeking crew eventual would attract unwanted law enforcement attention. Southwest "T" attempted to keep his crew low key but that is tough when your playing in the drug game. Law enforcement eventual wins out taking down the many members of the BMF to end an unbelievable run for the Flenory brothers as big time drug king pins.

IT'S OK

It was a quite he engaging narrative of something that I only heard of as rumors or conjecture! This

story is for anyone who seeks to understand more about the War on Drugs, the players, the government and untimely those who suffer. Well worth the read!

This was interesting reading although at times the author comes across as being in awe of these young men. However, the story was lent veracity as it provides supporting documentation that is easily verifiable as opposed to a embellished accounting of events written to glorify this criminal behavior.

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