Sister Souljah Challenges American Culture With 'Midnight'

Contributed by Chuckeia Folley -- Black College Wire Tuesday, 06 October 2009

Book is abrasive, creative look at cultural differences

Sister Souljah did it again and this time took no prisoners with "Midnight" -- her follow up to bestseller "The Coldest Winter Ever"-- a long but good read.

This time the story of Midnight, a faithful partner to Winter's father Ricky Santiaga, is unfolded.

Raised in a wealthy, influential Islamic African family, Midnight enjoys a life of comfort and protection provided by his father who never hides the truth about the strong challenges of the outside world.

When Santiaga's empire is attacked, he sends Midnight with his mother and younger sister to America. During this time, Midnight encounters many trials as he works on finding a new life for him and his family.

Souljah is very descriptive with the comparison between American culture and how it differs from others concerning issues like infidelity and worship.

Midnight showcases Souljah's strength telling creative and realistic stories that are written authentically as only she can.

Although it was well written and researched, it could be taken offensively.

Throughout the book Souljah made references to American women and how they carry themselves in a disrespectful and sometimes whorish manner. The book did become slightly difficult to enjoy because of the abrasive portrayal of American culture.

Overall, Souljah did a good job with displaying some of the things we as a culture need to work on. Next time she might try it in a less demeaning way.

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Chuckeia Folley writes for The Meter, the Tennessee State University student newspaper, which originally published this article.

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