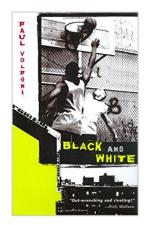
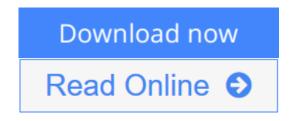
# **Black and White**



By Paul Volponi



Black and White By Paul Volponi

Marcus and Eddie are best friends. They're also stars on the basketball court, where they're known as Black and White. Race has never been an issue: Marcus is black, Eddie is white, but it doesn't matter. Until they start to pull stickups for extra pocket cash and the gun they're using goes off. Now Marcus is going to jail and Eddie is going to college, even though Eddie is the one who fired the gun.

Told in their two voices, *Black and White* is the gripping story of two good boys who make a bad mistake. It's also a heart-breaking look at the realities of the urban criminal justice system. Written with passion and uncanny authenticity, this is Paul Volponi's debut young adult novel.

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## Black and White By Paul Volponi Bibliography

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### **Editorial Review**

#### From **Booklist**

\*Starred Review\* Gr. 9-12. "Kids who are different colors don't get to be all that tight in my neighborhood. But we get past all that racial crap," says Marcus, an African American senior whose best friend, Eddie, is white. Together, the boys are known at school as Black and White. Both are basketball stars entertaining scholarship offers from local New York City colleges, but they risk everything for more spending money. Considering fast-food jobs too demeaning, they turn to armed stickups, and during their third robbery, they shoot and wound their victim. In alternating chapters, Marcus and Eddie recount the terrifying days after the event as they wait for the police to find and arrest them. The disparate treatment each receives highlights their racial divide, which is occasionally echoed on the streets in harsh language full of hate: a man on the subway tells a white girl that "niggers are going to fuck you, too." Using authentic voices that will draw in both strong and reluctant readers, Volponi writes a taut novel that avoids didacticism and deftly balances drama and passion on the basketball court with each boy's private terror and anguish. Teens will want to discuss the story's layered moral ambiguities, heartbreaking choices, and, as Marcus says, "the line that separates black and white." *Gillian Engberg Copyright* © *American Library Association. All rights reserved* 

Review

"The plotting is tight, the action is swift, and the troubling outcome that finds Marcus headed to Prison and Eddie off to college is, sadly all too believable." **-Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, starred review** 

"Using authentic voices that will draw in both strong and reluctant readers, Volponi writes a taut novel, avoiding didactism and deftly balancing the drama and passion on the basketball court with each boy's private terror and anguish. Teens will want to discuss the story's layered moral ambiguities, heartbreaking choices, and as Marcus says, "the line that separates black and white." **-Booklist, starred review** 

#### About the Author

Paul Volponi is the author of the critically acclaimed young adult novel *Black & White*. From 1992 to 1998, he taught adolescents on Rikers Island in New York City to read and write. Mr. Volponi worked at a day treatment center like Daytop teaching students and helping them prepare for the GED. Mr. Volponi lives in New York City.

### **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

#### Patsy Cassella:

In this 21st hundred years, people become competitive in each way. By being competitive at this point, people have do something to make these people survives, being in the middle of the crowded place and notice by means of surrounding. One thing that occasionally many people have underestimated this for a while is reading. That's why, by reading a reserve your ability to survive increase then having chance to stand up than other is high. For you who want to start reading a book, we give you this particular Black and White book as basic and daily reading book. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

#### Simona Vela:

Reading a book tends to be new life style with this era globalization. With examining you can get a lot of information that will give you benefit in your life. With book everyone in this world can easily share their idea. Textbooks can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire their very own reader with their story or even their experience. Not only the story that share in the ebooks. But also they write about the knowledge about something that you need example of this. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach children, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors these days always try to improve their skill in writing, they also doing some analysis before they write for their book. One of them is this Black and White.

#### Myra McKenzie:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make you to definitely understand the condition of the world. The healthiness of the world makes the information quicker to share. You can find a lot of recommendations to get information example: internet, newspapers, book, and soon. You can see that now, a lot of publisher that will print many kinds of book. Often the book that recommended to your account is Black and White this e-book consist a lot of the information in the condition of this world now. That book was represented how does the world has grown up. The words styles that writer require to explain it is easy to understand. The writer made some research when he makes this book. Here is why this book suitable all of you.

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