

The Dream

Character Bible & Synopsis

Shajor Publications

Synopsis

In Milwaukee, two dreams collide — and only one of them can survive.

Allante “Dro” Gardner has one gift and one way out: the microphone. Raised between an alcoholic father and a drug-addicted mother, he builds Pound 4 Pound Records out of trunk sales, street promo and pure hunger. When Cozac Gibson, the CEO who bankrolled his album, is murdered by his own wife, Dro's dream dies with him — unless he takes the money he needs off a stash house that belongs to the coldest man in the city.

Lorenzo Ross runs the kilos, the corners and the safe houses, and fronts it all behind Rock The Mic Records. He didn't get there by forgiving. When one of his stash spots turns up empty and bodies turn up in it, blood becomes the only currency that matters — and the trail runs straight to his own cousin.

Around them, Soul rises from the block to the top of the label, Tywan holds the business together, Alexis falls for the wrong man, and a federal task force slides an undercover agent into the circle. From Milwaukee to the strip clubs of Miami, from Colombian freighters to surveillance vans, THE DREAM is a merciless story of ambition, betrayal, and the price of the come-up.

Two labels. One city. Every debt collected.

Character List

Alexus Gardner: Dro's seventeen-year-old sister who begins seeing Soul.

Asia: An exotic dancer who entertains Soul and Lorenzo in Miami.

Aunt Annie Mae: Lorenzo and Corey's aunt who raised Lorenzo after his mother was murdered.

Banks: An associate of Soul who accompanies him backstage at a concert.

Beats: Dro's high school friend and studio engineer.

Becky: A woman who intimately visits V-Kill in prison.

Benny: An associate mentioned watching Soul perform backstage.

Bianca: A prostitute working for the pimp Worldwide.

Block: A drug dealer who is robbed by Corey and Tywan, and subsequently murdered.

Bob Billings (also Paul Billings): A Federal Agent investigating Lorenzo Ross and Rock The Mic Records.

Bounce: Cozac's in-house producer who works on Dro's music.

Brad McMillian (Federal Agent Anthony West): An undercover federal agent posing as a publicist, who is later tortured and murdered by Lorenzo.

Carlos: A major cocaine distributor and exotic car lot owner based in Miami.

Cass: One of Lorenzo's tamed killers who disposes of Brad's body and car.

Charles "Pops" Gardner: Dro's alcoholic father who passes away from cirrhosis of the liver.

Claude: An ex-police officer turned private investigator whom Lorenzo contacts.

Corey: Lorenzo's cousin who robs Block's stash house and is later murdered by Lorenzo for the betrayal.

Cozac Gibson: The CEO of Big Mouth Records who is murdered by his wife, Misha.

D.J. Reggie Mill: A DJ who agrees to play Dro's music in the clubs.

Dana: One of Alexis's friends.

Darrick Hines: A young man left in a coma after the stash house robbery who eventually dies in the hospital.

Doctor Miller: A doctor paged over the intercom at Beechwood Hospital.

Don Lucci: An artist signed to Lorenzo's Rock The Mic Records.

Donny: Mrs. Gardner's abusive, drug-addicted lover.

Dro (Allante Gardner): A rap artist and former juvenile delinquent who starts Pound 4 Pound Records.

Emmanuel: The captain of the Tiger Rose freighter smuggling cocaine from Colombia.

Erotic: An exotic dancer and twin sister of Exotic.

Eula: Dro's great-grandmother who quilted a blanket for him.

Exotic: An exotic dancer and twin sister of Erotic.

Fif: A mainstream rap artist who performs at a major concert.

Gomez: A Coast Guard agent involved in intercepting a drug freighter.

Harmony: A female rapper who performs at a showcase and is approached by Dro.

Hennesy: An exotic dancer who entertains the men in Miami.

James Baldwins: An A&R representative from Sony Records who meets with Dro and Tywan.

Jessica: A woman who visits V-Kill in prison.

Juicy: An exotic dancer who aggressively entertains Soul and Lorenzo in Miami.

Juv: A mainstream rap artist performing at the Civic Center.

Kato: An eighteen-year-old millionaire drug dealer and major customer of Lorenzo.

L.C.: One of Lorenzo's hired gun slangers who is murdered by Savannah.

Lil Dro (Andre Gardner): Dro and Tonya's seven-year-old son.

Lorenzo Ross (Zo): The CEO of Rock The Mic Records and a powerful, ruthless drug kingpin.

Magic Hands: Lorenzo's barber.

Maino: A young neighborhood thug who helps promote Dro's music.

Meechie: Block's acquaintance who gets castrated during the stash house robbery.

Misha: Cozac's pregnant wife who murders him and his mistress, and is later placed in a mental institution.

Mrs. Gardner: Dro and Alexis's drug-addicted mother.

Ms. Jung (Dr. Jung): Misha's psychiatrist at the Better Health mental institution.

Myhria: A woman involved with Soul.

Netta: Corey's girlfriend who goes on a lavish shopping spree with him.

Pastor Lewis: A pastor whom Soul points out as actually being a pimp in Milwaukee.

Paul Rice: A Federal Agent investigating Lorenzo and Rock The Mic Records.

Picasso (Casso): An artist signed to Rock The Mic Records.

Rhonda: Cozac's mistress who is shot by Misha.

Ricardo: A bartender at the strip club in Miami.

Rochelle: Tony's cousin who is assaulted in a parking lot.

Santana: A manager or owner of the VIP section at the Miami strip club.

Savannah: Lorenzo's loyal hitwoman and former girlfriend who murders West and L.C.

Soul (Torrey): A rap artist signed to Rock The Mic Records and Lorenzo's close friend.

Stacks: A companion of Lorenzo who informs him about Darrick Hines at the hospital.

Tony: A man who gets attacked in his Cadillac by a woman with a tire iron.

Tonya (Tee-Tee Sanders): Dro's girlfriend and the mother of his son.

Tracy: A woman who attacks Tony and Rochelle with a tire iron.

Trip: The manager of a mainstream music store who agrees to stock Dro's CDs.

Troy: An associate Lorenzo greets in the park.

Tuck: Lorenzo's associate who tips him off about Corey's new wealth.

Tywan (Ty): Dro's close friend and business partner who helps run Pound 4 Pound Records.

Valinda: Worldwide's primary prostitute.

Vanity: One of Alexis's friends.

V-Kill (Victor Thomas): An incarcerated associate of Dro who is released from prison and signs with Pound 4 Pound.

Wallstreet: Dro's uncle who recently returned from a military deployment in Iraq.

West: One of Lorenzo's hired gun slangers who is executed by Savannah.

Worldwide: A pimp and associate of Lorenzo and Soul.

Zariah: A college student and Wendy's employee who begins dating Lorenzo.