



Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White

Gene Lees

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White

Gene Lees

Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White Gene Lees

It was none other than Louis Armstrong who said, "These people who make the restrictions, they don't know nothing about music. It's no crime for cats of any color to get together and blow." "You can't know what it means to be black in the United States--in any field," Dizzy Gillespie once said, but Gillespie vigorously objected to the proposition that only black people could play jazz. "If you accept that premise, well then what you're saying is that maybe black people can *only* play jazz. And black people, like anyone else, can be anything they want to be."

In *Cats of Any Color*, Gene Lees, the acclaimed author of three previous collections of essays on jazz and popular music, takes a long overdue look at the shocking pervasiveness of racism in jazz's past and present--both the white racism that long ghettoized the music and generations of talented black musicians, and what Lees maintains is an increasingly virulent reverse racism aimed at white jazz musicians. In candid interviews, living jazz legends, critics, and composers step forward and share their thoughts on how racism has affected their lives. Dave Brubeck, part Modoc Indian, discusses native Americans' contribution to jazz and the deeply ingrained racism that for a time made it all but impossible for jazz groups with black and white players to book tours and television appearances. Horace Silver looks back on his long career, including the first time he ever heard jazz played live. Blacks were not not allowed into the pavilion in Connecticut where Jimmie Lunceford's band was performing, so the ten-year-old Silver listened and watched through the wooden slats surrounding the pavilion. "And oh man! That was it!" Silver recalls. Red Rodney recalls his early days with Charlie "Bird" Parker, and pianist and composer Cedar Walton tells of the time Duke Ellington played at the army base at Ford Dix and allowed the young enlisted Walton to sit in. Tracing the jazz world's shifting attitude towards race, many of the stories Lees tells are inspiring--Brubeck cancelling 23 out of 25 concert dates in the South rather than replace black bass player Eugene Wright, or Silver insisting that while he strives to provide his fellow black musicians opportunities, "I just want the best musicians I can get. I don't give a damn if they're pink or polka dot." Others are profoundly disturbing--Lees' first encounter with Oscar Peterson, after a Canadian barber flatly refused to cut Peterson's hair, or Wynton Marsalis on television claiming that blacks have been held back for so many years because the music business is controlled by "people who read the Torah and stuff."

From the old shantytowns of Louisville, to the streets of South Central L.A., to the up-to-the-minute controversies surrounding Marsalis's jazz program at Lincoln Center, and the Jazz Masters awards given by the NEA, *Cats of Any Color* confronts racism head-on. At its heart is a passionate plea to recognize jazz not as the sole property of any one group, but as an art form celebrating the human spirit--not just for the protection of individual musicians, but for the preservation of the music itself.

 [Download Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White Gene Lees

From reader reviews:

Kirk Fonseca:

Hey guys, do you wish to find a new book to see? Maybe the book with the title Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White suitable to you? The actual book was written by famous writer in this era. Often the book titled Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White is the main of several books which everyone reads now. This book was inspired many men and women in the world. When you read this e-book you will enter the new dimensions that you ever know prior to. The author explained their thought in the simple way, and so all of people can easily know the core of this guide. This book will give you a wide range of information about this world now. In order to see the represented of the world with this book.

Dorothy Whisler:

Reading an e-book can be one of a lot of tasks that everyone in the world likes. Do you like reading books and so. There are a lot of reasons why people are fantastic. First, reading a guide will give you a lot of new information. When you read a publication you will get new information mainly because books are one of various ways to share the information or even their ideas. Second, examining a book will make anyone more imaginative. When you look at a book especially a hype book the author will bring that you imagine the story how the character types do it anything. Third, you are able to share your knowledge to other people. When you read this Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White, you can tell your family, friends in addition to soon about your book. Your knowledge can inspire the others, make them reading a guide.

Demarcus Bechtel:

Do you have something that you enjoy such as books? Book lovers usually prefer to pick books like comic, short story and the biggest first is novel. Now, why not attempt Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White that give your entertainment preference will be satisfied by reading this book. Reading routine all over the world can be said as the means for people to know the world far better than how they react towards the world. It can't be claimed constantly that reading practice only for the geeky man or woman but for all of you who want to possibly be a success person. So, for all you who want to start studying as your good habit, you can pick Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White become your current starter.

Jerome Chisolm:

Many people spend their time frame by playing outside with friends, fun activity using family or just watching TV 24 hours a day. You can have new activity to pass your whole day by studying a book. Ugh, you think reading a book really can be hard because you have to take the book everywhere? It's fine you can have the e-book, delivered everywhere you want in your mobile phone. Like Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White which is having the e-book version. So, why not try out this book? Let's find.

Download and Read Online Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White Gene Lees #WQKXONDFAZT

Read Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White by Gene Lees for online ebook

Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White by Gene Lees Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White by Gene Lees books to read online.

Online Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White by Gene Lees ebook PDF download

Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White by Gene Lees Doc

Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White by Gene Lees Mobipocket

Cats of Any Color: Jazz Black and White by Gene Lees EPub