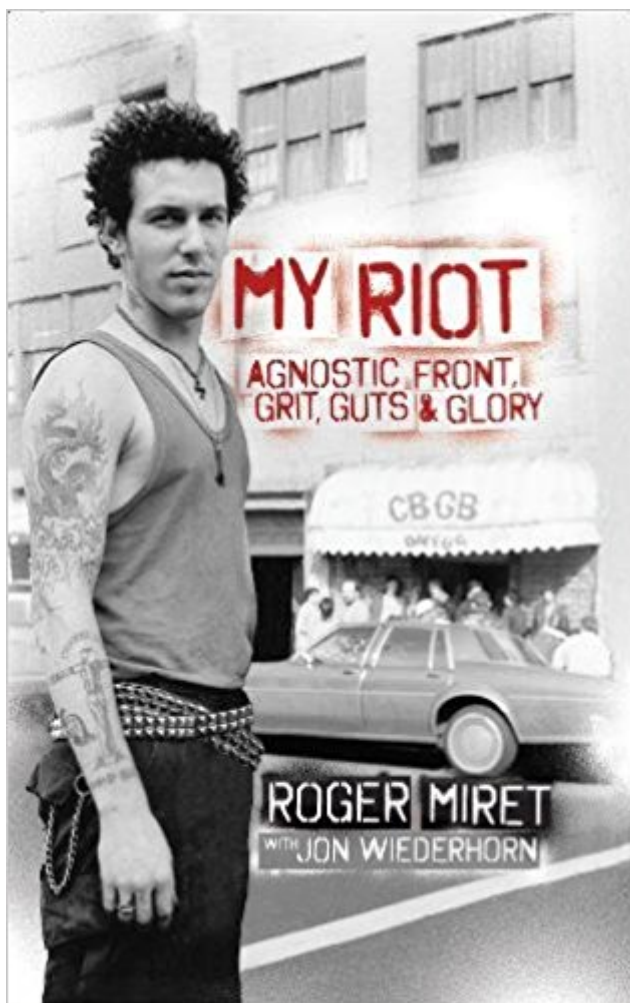


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# My Riot: Agnostic Front, Grit, Guts & Glory



## Synopsis

"Miret's memorable, affecting stories capture an important time in the hardcore music scene. . . . Equal parts music memoir and gritty coming-of-age story, it's an eminently readable and fast-paced look at life during hardcore's heyday. . . . Not just for music fans, My Riot is a valuable snapshot of an important time." *Foreword Reviews* "The most wild, sincere, honest book I've ever read. Roger holds nothing back and delivers jaw-dropping story after story that you would see in a movie. . . . You won't be able to put it down." *Suburban Rebels* "Fan or not, My Riot is a great look back at a singular time in musical history, written from a very singular perspective, and it was almost impossible to put down." *Midnight to Six* "Reading Miret's memories of the scene's early violent years was enthralling. . . . Despite its unflinching style, the memoir also carries a lighter tone in parts, especially any stories revolving around Miret's musical partner in crime, Agnostic Front guitarist Vinnie Stigma." *No Echo* "Roger gave a voice to the voiceless and has lived the life he sung about. This book is incredible! I couldn't put it down." *Lars Frederiksen, Rancid* "My Riot is a powerful and riveting read. A brutal look into the life of a man that did what he had to do to survive." *Scott Ian, Anthrax* "Hardcore has a code of honor that never wavers. Roger's character and loyalty are only outweighed by the fire in his heart and his dedication to the cause." *Jerry Only, Misfits* "This is raw, powerful and intense reading! I can't put it down! Highly recommend grabbing this book when you can, but be prepared it ain't pretty!" *Jesse Leach, Killswitch Engage* "It's a great read, tracing the roots of New York Hardcore via lots of crazy stories about potentially deadly situations. . . . Pick up this book & take a walk back in time through the Lower East Side when it was still a hair-raising adventure." *D. Randall Blythe, Lamb of God* "Gangs of New York meets Mean Streets in this gripping memoir about surviving the treacherous 1980s Lower East Side and finding refuge and a life in music. My Riot is the definitive insider account of the birth of the volatile New York Hardcore scene. With Roger Miret as front man, legendary band Agnostic Front's focused fury and aggression defined the times. Born in Cuba, Miret fled with his family to the US to escape the Castro regime. Through vivid language and graphic details, he recounts growing up in a strange new land with a tyrannical stepfather and the roles that poverty and violence played in shaping the grit that became critical to his survival. In his teen years, he finds himself squatting in abandoned buildings with unforgettably eccentric runaways and victims of similar childhood trauma. With like-minded misfits he helps pioneer a new musical genre, but with money scarce and commercial success impossible, he turns to running drugs to support his family

and winds up in prison. It's the ultimate test of his toughness and perseverance that eventually sets him on a path towards redemption. My Riot is both an unflinching portrait of downtown New York in the 1980s and a testament to the perils of growing up too fast. Forewords by Al Barr of the Dropkick Murphys and Jamey Jasta of Hatebreed. Roger Miret is a pioneer of the New York Hardcore scene. The Cuban-born singer joined Agnostic Front in 1983, and the seminal group released classics like United Blood, Victim In Pain and Cause For Alarm over the next several years. Miret also fronts his own solo group, Roger Miret and The Disasters. He lives in Scottsdale, Arizona. Jon Wiederhorn is the author of Louder Than Hell: The Definitive Oral History of Metal (with Katherine Turman) and the co-author of Ministry: The Lost Gospels According to Al Jourgensen (with Al Jourgensen) and I'm the Man: The Story of That Guy from Anthrax (with Scott Ian). He has written for Rolling Stone, SPIN, MTV, Guitar World and Revolver, among others. He lives in Montclair, New Jersey.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

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Roger Miret is a pioneer of the New York Hardcore scene. The Cuban-born singer joined Agnostic Front in 1983, and the seminal group released classics like *United Blood*, *Victim In Pain* and *Cause For Alarm* over the next several years. Miret also fronts his own solo group, Roger Miret and The Disasters. He lives in Scottsdale, Arizona. Jon Wiederhorn is the author of *Louder Than Hell: The Definitive Oral History of Metal* (with Katherine Turman) and the co-author of *Ministry: The Lost Gospels According to Al Jourgensen* (with Al Jourgensen) and *I'm the Man: The Story of That Guy from Anthrax* (with Scott Ian). He has written for *Rolling Stone*, *SPIN*, *MTV*, *Guitar World* and *Revolver*, among others. He lives in Montclair, New Jersey.

NOW THIS was a pretty good read. As a book, it's all over the place but the good stories and content override a fair amount of erratic storytelling. Like his childhood friend from Cro-Mags, Harley Flanagan, Roger Miret had a very (to put it mildly) difficult and traumatic upbringing....abuse being the cherry on top of being a poor refugee from Cuba. He didn't make a whole lot of good choices, dropping out of school, living in squalor until he was a young adult and running drugs from Florida up to NY. All this while, he is making music, and creating history with his band Agnostic Front. Wild Stories for sure! The book finishes with Roger working as an electrician, living with his wife and two young children in Arizona and occasionally touring with AF (if I read the calendar right, they are currently on tour). While Roger definitely comes off as a drug addled anti-hero in his youth, his later life shows some redemption, some consideration of his actions and a wish to make the world a better place. Not sure about the rest of the readers out there, but I was cheering Roger Miret on by the end of the book and hope to get it autographed some day.

It is so cliché to say I could not put the book down, but that is exactly how I felt about Roger Miret's book, "My Riot". This is a must read for any AF fan and/or NYHC, or music fan in general. Roger

does not hold back about his ups, downs, and everything in between about his life and career. Roger and Agnostic Front are NYHC pioneers, and his story is captivating. I read cover to cover in 2 sittings, and I could read another 300 pages! I have seen AF many times over the years, and they never disappoint, neither does this book! Thank you Roger for telling your story! Do yourself a favor and read it NOW!

Por jesse - 31 de agosto de 2017 One of best singer in NYHC the history and details are great  
Roger The Godfather of hardcore

Being involved in the New York Hardcore scene as a fan and concert-goer since 1985, I was familiar with some of Roger Miret's history with Agnostic Front. I have followed the band religiously since '85 and heard many stories about the infamous AF back then and stories about the NYHC scene before my time. Some proved to be the truth, some half-truths, and others were out-and-out bull, but that's expected with tales revolving around one of the most popular and respected hardcore bands on the planet. None of what I knew or what I heard could have prepared me for *My Riot*. Roger Miret delves in deep and in great detail about all aspects of his life - his tumultuous and often violent family situation during his childhood and early teens, his discovery of punk and his eventual involvement in the defining the fledgling NYHC scene when he joined Agnostic Front and they recorded the *United Blood* EP, his struggle to provide for his wife and daughter while living in dangerous squats and streets of New York City, his time in jail, the ups and downs with Agnostic Front, and many more facets of his life. Miret unveils his most personal accounts in a way that is brutally honest, yet not over embellished. There are plenty of holy-s\*\*\* stories in his book, but they don't read like a bloated, over-the-top script about New York fictional characters. To me, some parts of the book are written with a hint of detachment, but I don't believe Roger is unapologetic or making light of his tumultuous early-life choices and the ensued consequences. It's his way of speaking and if anyone has ever met him, they will understand what I'm talking about. It's honest story-telling without the bells and whistles. It suits his character. Roger's life story is so captivating, there is no need to scream it. He had my attention from page one to the epilogue. I devoured this book into settings of about 4 hours each. I am sure many fans will have the same experience of reading it quickly and then going back and reading it again. It is that good!

If there is any justice in this world this book will receive high praise and wide recognition. So well written and insightful and some of the greatest "street" stories I've ever read, (fiction and non

fiction). I want to re read it and highlight the brilliant sentences he uses to summarize what he has learned from the brutality of his existence. Truly triumphant. I hope Roger makes a ton of money from this book.

A must have book if you grew up listening to hardcore music, the trials and tribulations and sacrifices that it took to become one of the iconic bands of NYHC or Hardcore punk period. If you've ever wondered about the back story of one of the toughest bands to come off the streets of the Lower East side and their singer this is it.

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