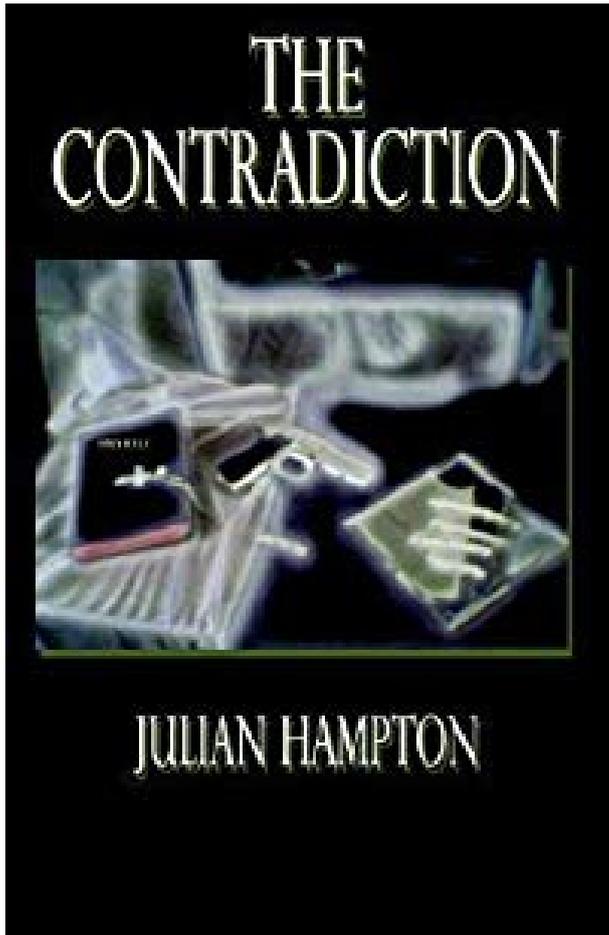


The Contradiction



Pages:	116
Language	English
Author:	Julian Vaughan Hampton
ISBN10:	1589394321
Genre:	Uncategorized
ISBN13:	9781589394322
Goodreads Rating:	4.50
Published:	by Virtualbookworm.com Publishing

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A criminal underworld plagues a Midwestern city and two young boys are caught in the crossfire. In "The Contradiction," Chris Parker and James Johnson each chronicle their life growing up in the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The two best friends form a bond, despite the differences between their white and black races. When a horribly painful event ruptures the stability of their lives, the two young men must leave the security of their youth and face the harsh reality of the world in which they live. The city's criminal element provides temptations that weigh their own self gratification against the opportunity to make a difference in their community. Physical, spiritual and emotional battles ensue, as Chris and James determine whether their fame and fortune is worth the price of their souls. Every decision they make is riddled with questions and contradictions. Will they live for today, or prepare for tomorrow? Will they leave the past behind, learn from it, or will it come back to haunt them? Through every decision, one question remains: Will either learn in time? ABOUT THE AUTHOR Julian Vaughan Hampton is a freelancer, a poet and a well-respected songwriter. He was educated at the University of Wisconsin Whitewater, Milwaukee Area Technical College, and Ashworth College. Julian lovingly embraces the beauty of the writing craft. His literary works transcend the confinements of a particular genre, allowing his work to affect people through their own self-analysis, by their own cultural experience and for their general entertainment. His faith and affinity for a change in his community led to the creation of "The Contradiction." He is a member of the Wisconsin Regional Writer's

Association. Julian was born, raised and presently resides in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He is currently at work on his next book, "The Low and Outsiders."