

the me nobody knows

children's voices from the ghetto

edited by stephen m. joseph

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JAI BABA!



Jack W.

Age 15

GOD

I see the Hippies wearing buttons saying "God is Dead."

And I disagree with them. For only mortals are born and Die, but God isn't a mortal.

I have seen the other side, the evil. Believe it or not, I had meeting with a African Warlock. He shown me ther was evil. So I said thier must be good. So I set off looking for god.

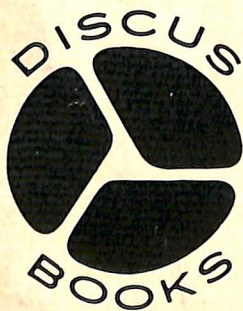
I went to a book store and I read a Book on Mehar Baba. For he was god, god had entered his body, just as god had entered the bodies of Budha, Jeasus, Mosus, and now Mehar Baba.

And after reading his teaching I found god a Universal. A thing in my heart. The feeling I can't rite about.

"A round my block There is a lat of glass and food and paper and people fight all the time. I like to people love each other."

The ghetto child speaks, and the world emerges as he sees it and as he wishes it to be. This remarkable collection reveals the expanding awareness of nearly two hundred primary and secondary school children as they think about themselves, their painfully limiting surroundings, and the broader world which they often know of only by hearsay. Here, too, are their brightest dreams and their darkest nightmares, the things they can neither see nor touch. Though often displaying fierce emotions, these writings also express the flights of imagination which all children share. The ghetto child speaks for all of America. It is for us to listen.

Within a few weeks following its publication, **THE ME NOBODY KNOWS** was termed an important book for our times by critics and educators. *Saturday Review* described it as "variously appealing, poignant, and revealing." Richard Lewis, author of **MIRACLES**, said, "There's much within its covers that is powerful and important. Reading it makes me feel once again, the absolute necessity for us to reach children by having them speak of the world as they see it." And *Publishers' Weekly* said, "Some of the pieces are heartbreaking, some smart-alecky, some affected, but they all give a clear picture of how the slums and their inhabitants register on the minds of the young."



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