



if

Obama  
had a  
**son**

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THE TRUTH YOU'VE  
NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT

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Brandon B. Porter II

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*If Obama Had a Son* is an inspirational, nonfiction book written from the perspective of an intuitive nineteen-year-old college student. The title of the book was inspired by a riddle: ***What is the one thing the most powerful man in the world wishes he had; but if he had, he would have never been the most powerful man in the world?*** The book makes a strong implication about America's feelings toward its sons. It also raises thoughts and questions concerning the value of procreation as it relates to the advancing of society. It attempts to examine the significance of sonship in its most general sense using a historical/political apparatus, and it includes the author's perspective on some of the most recent disturbing social events in our nation. This book further reveals and mentions amazing historical facts about some of our nation's lost sons and lost legacies that were in many cases removed from becoming possible political threats. It also reveals character flaws in some questionable practices of our nation, which are birthed through fear, hatred, and greed.

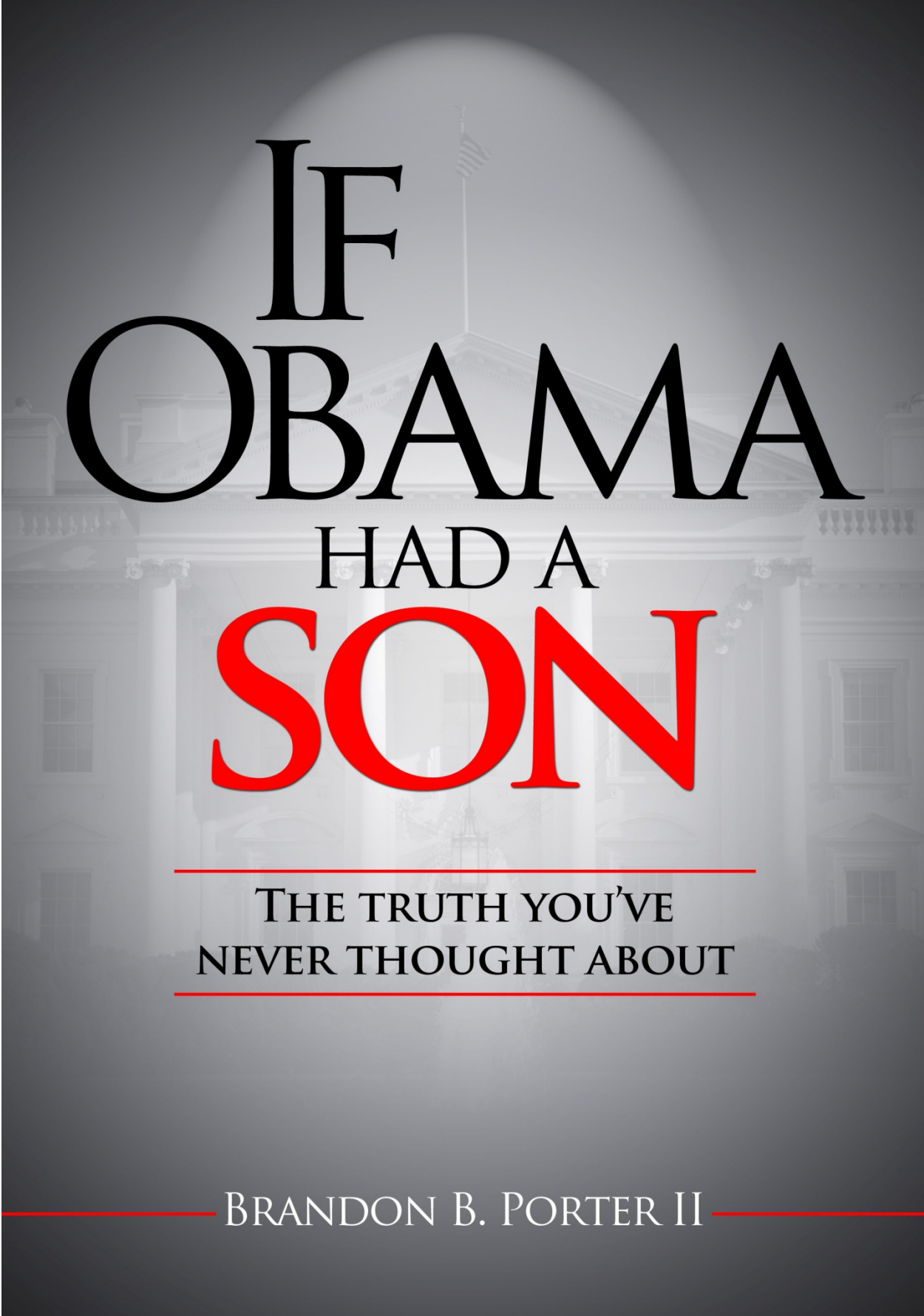
The first four chapters of this book highlight several things: the riddle and probable questions attached to it; the value of a name; the power and responsibility of succession; and the burden, fear, and accountability attached to legacy. Several theories are explored within these chapters: (1) Barack Obama's sonless status could have been a factor in his winning the presidential election. (2) Society has an expectation that names of great people will pass from one generation to the next by way of the reproduction of offspring. (3) Every son must carry the mantle of his father, accepting the responsibility of making significant deposits into his generation and pouring into the next. (4) Challenges often exist in regards to sons of powerful, influential men in their attempts or in the expectation of them to carry out the legacy of their fathers.

The second set of chapters, 5 – 8, reveals the greatest problem that plagues America's black sons in particular. As expressed over and over within this section of the book, the subject of racism cannot be ignored whenever there's a discussion on the plight of the black son. This book characterizes racism in America as a product of the fear of legacy. It examines the imbalances of justice, supported by staggering statistics. It explains how black society has been made to feel marginalized and discredited by disenfranchisement. And it ponders the egregious attacks against black leadership, especially in the political realm.

The author literally turns the page in the final section of this book, offering a remedy that would discourage prejudice and encourage peaceful existence, self-respect, personal responsibility, and love for humanity. Chapters 9-13, written in second person point of view in a conversational tone, encourage young, black men to take their positions as people who were destined for greatness. The author encourages fellow sons to make good use of their time and to refrain from living their lives shrouded under a veil of stereotypes and a "hood" mentality. In these chapters, he also encourages his readers to strive to emulate not only their fathers, but also all powerfully successful people that preceded them and to make good use of what has been invested into them in order to invest into their future. Finally, as somewhat of a postscript, the author directly addresses those without fathers in their lives. He encourages them to find inspiration in positive sources and develop the fortitude to start their own legacies as they strive to become the epitome of the fathers that they only dreamed of.

Overall, this book is a discussion that deals with the survival of sons and the embracing of daughters. It highlights the power and responsibility of succession, while illuminating the burden, accountability, and fear attached to legacy. It examines the imbalances of justice and the

disenfranchisement of a people. It advocates the respect of all mankind and the love for humanity. It encourages family values and the strengthening of America's youth. It's about loving our neighbors by respecting their differences. This book anticipates the rise of coming generations by highlighting the importance of a family legacy that is characterized by a reputable family name. *If Obama Had a Son* is a must read for both youth and adults who have the nerve to experience some of *The Truth You've Never Thought About*.



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