



When a Heart Turns Rock Solid: The Lives of Three Puerto Rican Brothers on and Off the Streets

By Timothy Black

Random House USA Inc. Paperback / softback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, When a Heart Turns Rock Solid: The Lives of Three Puerto Rican Brothers on and Off the Streets, Timothy Black, This provocative and compelling book examines how jobs, schools, the streets, and prisons have shaped the lives and choices of a generation of Puerto Rican youth at the turn of the twenty-first century. At the center of this riveting account-based on an unprecedented eighteen-year study-are three engaging, streetwise brothers from Springfield, Massachusetts: Fausto, incarcerated for seven years and in and out of drug treatment, an insightful and sensitive street warrior playing on the edges of self-destruction; Julio, the family patriarch, a former gang member turned truck driver, fiercely loyal to his family and friends; and Sammy, a street maven, recovering drug addict, father of four, straddling two realms-the everyday world of low-wage work and the allure of the drug economy-as he shuttles between recovery and relapse. Timothy Black spent years with the brothers and their parents, wives and girlfriends, extended family, coworkers, criminal partners, friends, teachers, lawyers, and case workers. He closely observed street life in Springfield, including the drug trade; schools and GED programs; courtrooms, prisons, and...



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