



***The Death Proclamation of  
Generation X:  
A Self-Fulfilling Prophecy of Goth,  
Grunge and Heroin***

By Maxim W. Furek  
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***The Death Proclamation of Generation X: A Self-Fulfilling Prophecy of Goth, Grunge and Heroin*** takes a hard, penetrating look at the despondent heart of darkness of the 1990's. A probing chronicle of America's 13th generation, caught between the idealistic Baby Boomers and the well-financed Generation Y, this group was scapegoated and dismissed without the chance to prove themselves. The book explores the impact that personalities such as Andrew Wood, Kurt Cobain, Layne Staley, River Phoenix, Marilyn Manson and Anna Nicole Smith left on their generation. Blending the psychological and sociological variables of goth, grunge and heroin, the author is able to weave a dark tapestry of this unique demographic group born between 1965-1978. Although intended for a mass audience, this work will have immediate impact on addictions professionals, social workers, cultural anthropologists, educators and others working in the field.

Furek, a former music critic, also penned *The Jordan Brothers: A Musical Biography of Rock's Fortunate Sons*, which detailed the career of Frackville's legendary rock band. Furek's efforts led to a Jordan Brothers Reunion in 1986 and a special proclamation from the Schuylkill County Commissioners.

**Advance praise for *The Death Proclamation of Generation X...***

\_\_\_\_ "Heroin is nothing new to those of us that survived the drug culture of the 60's and 70's. Yes, some of us remember the "sweet" marriage to the high and the agony of being divorced from its access. But Maxim Furek captures something we don't understand-how heroin fit into the heart of darkness and despondency of the 90's scene. His proclamation created immense sadness within me while trying to understand a different kind of search- a nihilistic curtain call...heroin in the 90's." Cardwell C. Nuckols, MA, PhD

\_\_\_\_ "Furek's insightful and challenging explorations are sure to launch discussions and debates about a generation that cannot be compartmentalized any more than past generations."

Darryl Morden, music critic, radio writer-producer and Buzzine Music Editor

\_\_\_\_ "They were here such a short time---Kurt Cobain and River Phoenix—but there remains a fascination with their dark era, even among many too young to have known them in their own time. Abuse of the drug GHB shot upwards after Billy Idol G'd out in public and River died from a cocktail of drugs that allegedly included G (but testing wasn't being done for GHB at that time). Why follow in the footsteps of disaster of this or any other drug? What have they taught us? How have they shaped the future? Perhaps developing a better understanding of Generation X through Furek's expedition through their historic minefield will enable us to better understand and respond to today's era of drug abuse, school shootings, suicides and mental health issues."

Trinka Porrata, Project GHB

\_\_\_\_ "Maxim's book, *The Death Proclamation of Generation X* (iUniverse 2008) addresses the relationship between celebrity culture (specifically, goth and grunge movements) in the context of a pervasive generational fixation on mortality and heroin addiction(s)."

Edward J. Carvalho, MFA, Poet - "*If the radiance of a thousand suns*": *Songs of the American Hiroshima* (Six Bad Apples Press, 2008-09)

\_\_\_\_ "Furek uses celebrities, noted singers and musicians, as examples of how the good life passed this group by. Xers are prone to drug use, especially heroin, the hip drug of the 1990s. Furek has researched his subject meticulously. The volume of young celebrities he confronts us with is at times overwhelming..."

Jim Colyer, Nashville Scene

\_\_\_\_ "Furek's style is hip and edgy, his words are secret windows into the dark parade of Goth, grunge and heroin. That darkness, comprised of sardonic indifferent and opiated nightmares, became the desolation of Generation X."

Anonymous blog

\_\_\_\_ Not Bad For A Boomer... "Being part of the demographic I've read a lot about the subject. This one was pretty good (I always hesitate to compliment boomers, mostly because they're so quick to compliment themselves). The author is a little clueless, talking about "grunge" fashion (there's an oxymoron for you). Also he focuses a lot on heroin use, but for all his babbling on the subject he never points out the obvious-heroin is a painkiller, and it works just as well for mental pain as for physical. Overall it's a fun one-day read."

Rising Poppy, Michigan (\*\*\*) out of 5)  
Amazon.com