



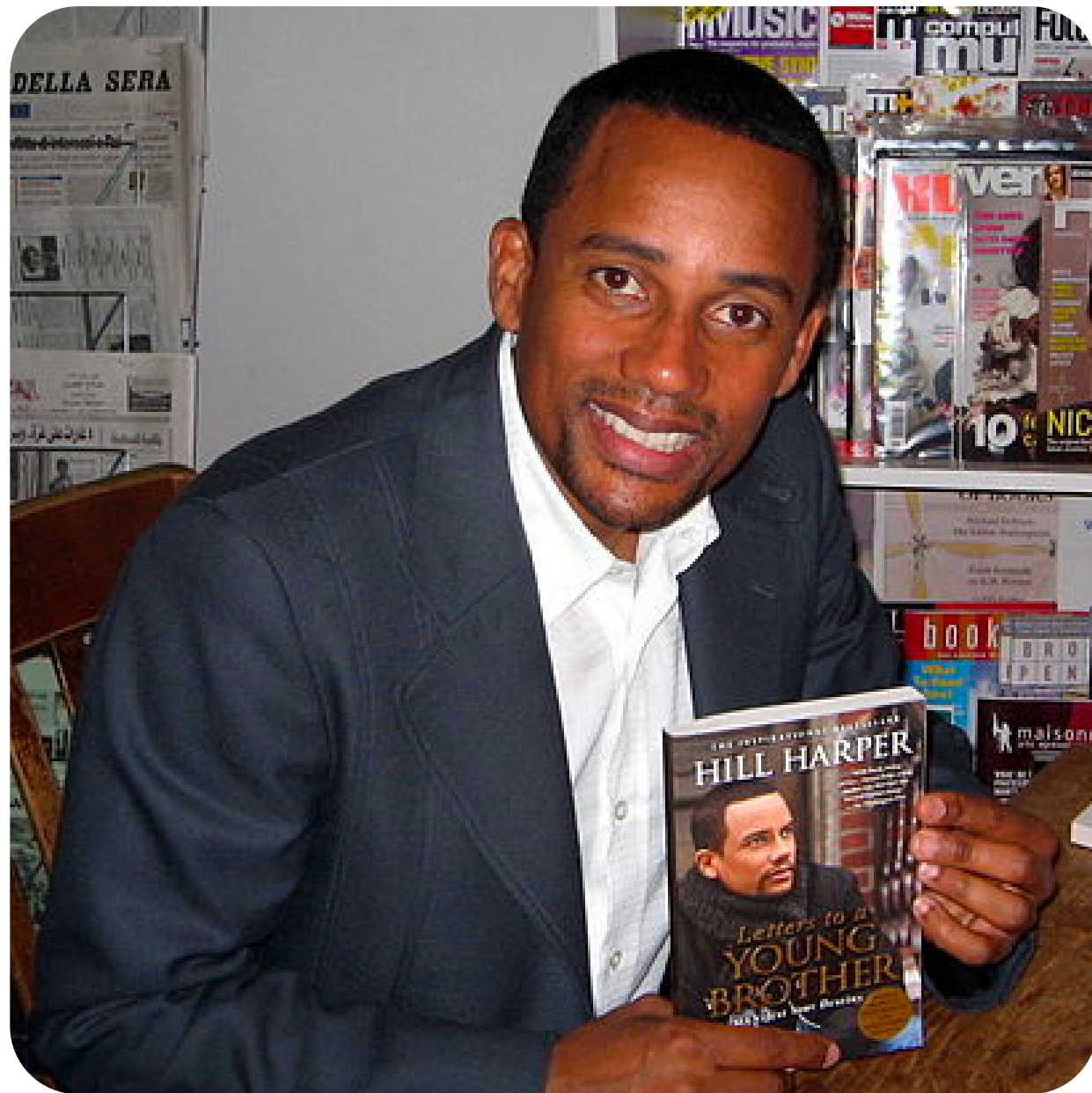
LETTERS TO A YOUNG BROTHER

MAN-IFEST YOUR DESTINY

By Hill Harper

Presentation by Chanel Cain

About the Author



Hill Harper is an accomplished author and actor, with credits including "CSI: NY" and "The Good Doctor." He graduated from Brown University in 1988 before going to Harvard Law School, where he graduated cum laude in 1992. While at Harvard he discovered his love for acting and later pursued it as a career both on stage and camera. He uses his platform to teach life lessons through his writings.



Structure

Letters

The book is written as a series of 15 letters addressed to "a young brother" as Harper writes to him over the course of a year. Each letter discusses a different issue the boy is facing and offers advice about how he can move forward and MANifest the life he wants for himself.

Emails

At the end of every letter is an email section, where an extra question is asked. Here, Harper adds extra details or expands upon one of the ideas presented in the main letter. In some emails he forwards them to some of his friends to offer extra advice, including Venus Williams, Gabrielle Union, and his former classmate Barack Obama.

Tone and Themes

Tone

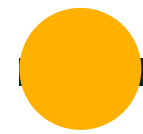
The tone of this book is light yet serious. Harper oftentimes writes like he's your uncle giving you the best advice he can. At times it can feel like a nostalgic after school special, which I believe makes it an easy, relatable read.

Themes

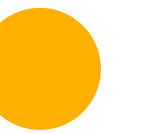
The main theme of the book is that despite all of life's obstacles, you are in control of where you go. It is up to you to find what makes you happy in life and to give 100% of yourself to make it happen.

I argue another theme of the book is that wisdom is meant to be shared from generation to generation to ensure the children of now don't make the same mistakes of the past.

Time Period





April 9, 2005



April 20, 2006

The book takes place over the course of a year as Harper imparts wisdom onto the young boy who writes him. Much of the advice is timeless, such as believing in yourself and the importance of being intentional with your life. The book does show its age with references to Lance Armstrong and Donald Trump as potential role models, but it also presents people like Denzel Washington, Jay-Z, and Jamie Foxx.



Take Aways

01 **MANifesting is for anyone.**

02 **Life is yours to control, so make the most of it.**

03 **A year can make a big difference in your life.**



You are David,
a masterpiece waiting
to be revealed to the
world.

–Hill Harper