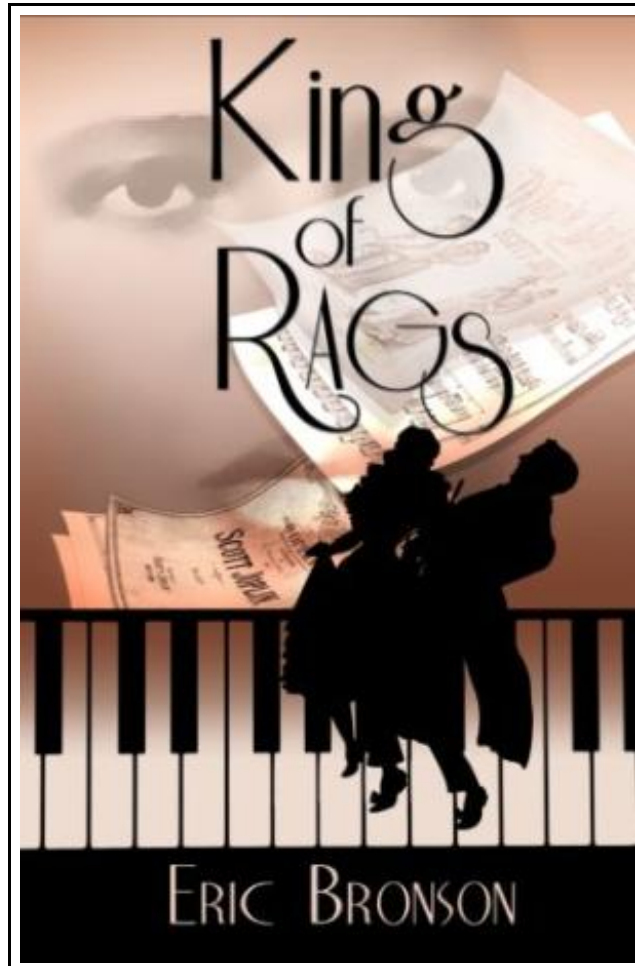


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Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 178 pages. When music publisher John Stark first heard Scott Joplin play his piano, he knew that ragtime was the music of hope for a new America. But Joplin would never be content with popularity and fame. Joplin committed himself to racial justice in the early 1900s. He was inspired by Booker T. Washington and the Dahomeyan defeat in West Africa. But due to this earnest pursuit, he was ignored by the masses for writing the music of Civil Rights fifty years before America was ready to listen. King of Rags, by Professor Eric Bronson, is a historical fiction account of the quest for racial equality at the turn of the 20th Century. Dr. Bronson takes a fresh and invigorating look at the tragic life of Scott Joplin and his fellow ragtime musicians as they frantically transformed the seedy and segregated underbelly of comedians, conmen and prostitutes who called Americas most vibrant cities home. His story brings to light numerous interesting and little known historical discoveries about life in America including: 1. One hundred years before hip-hop star Ludacris was called a corrupter of morals, before Elvis was attacked for playing the devils music, ragtime musicians like Scott Joplin were criticized in the media for spoiling the innocent sensibilities of teenage boys and girls. 2. The father of the blues, W. C. Handy was influenced by ragtime musicians in St. Louis. 3. One hundred years before Barack Obama became Americas first African-American president, Joplin wrote an opera about Booker T. Washingtons invitation to the White House, entitled A Guest of Honor. 4. Treemonisha, Joplins race opera about a young black woman who lifts her village out of ignorance, was ignored in his lifetime and for many years after his death. 5. Joplin, the king of...

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