

Name _____



The Notorious B.I.G.: A Hip-Hop Legend

The Notorious B.I.G., also known as Biggie Smalls, was one of the most influential and iconic figures in the world of hip-hop. His life story and music continue to inspire and resonate with fans around the globe. In this passage, we will delve into the life and hip-hop music of The Notorious B.I.G.

Early Life and Humble Beginnings

The Notorious B.I.G. was born as Christopher George Latore Wallace on May 21, 1972, in Brooklyn, New York. Growing up in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood, he faced the challenges of a tough environment.

The Emergence of a Legend

Biggie Smalls began rapping as a teenager, and his talent was undeniable. His distinctive deep voice and intricate lyrics set him apart in the emerging East Coast hip-hop scene. He was discovered by Sean Combs, also known as Puff Daddy, who signed him to Bad Boy Records.

Debut Album and Instant Stardom

In 1994, The Notorious B.I.G. released his debut album, "Ready to Die." The album was an instant hit, featuring tracks like "Juicy" and "Big Poppa." It went on to become a classic and established Biggie as a hip-hop legend.

East Coast-West Coast Rivalry

During the mid-1990s, tensions between East Coast and West Coast hip-hop artists were high, leading to a rivalry between Biggie Smalls and West Coast rapper Tupac Shakur. This rivalry played out in their music and personal lives.

Tragic End and Legacy

On March 9, 1997, The Notorious B.I.G. was tragically killed in a drive-by shooting in Los Angeles, California, at the age of 24. His murder remains unsolved, and his death was a profound loss to the music world.

Impact on Hip-Hop

Biggie's storytelling ability, vivid lyrics, and storytelling made him a revered figure in hip-hop. He paved the way for future artists and his influence can be heard in the music of today's hip-hop stars.

