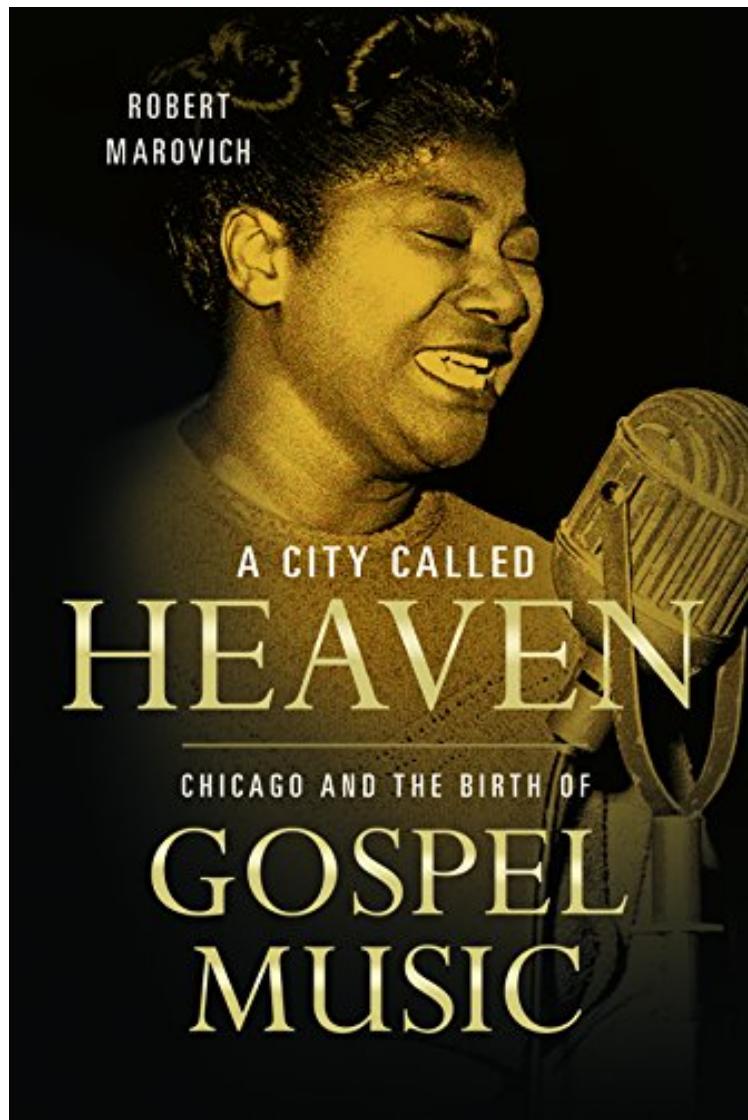


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A City Called Heaven: Chicago and the Birth of Gospel Music (Music in American Life)

Robert M. Marovich

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Robert M. Marovich : A City Called Heaven: Chicago and the Birth of Gospel Music (Music in American Life)
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A City Called Heaven: Chicago and the Birth of Gospel Music (Music in American Life):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A City Called Heaven is a must read!By Renee S. de BruinBeing a Dutch Fan of Old School Black Gospel, nit only from Chicago, but hey, isn't always easy, because they're not so many fans here and even in the whole of Europe, it's a 'foreign' thing. I've learned a lot by scanning the www, following dedicated YouTubers as Rowoches c.s. and reading Heilbut and Just Mahalia Baby. That isn't much, and life

experience of the impact and the beauty of church, praise and service is unknown to me. This book is a goldmine, because every page is packed with information, names and anecdotes, and all of this brought to us with love and dedication from a formidable writer. I'll cherish it, in my small Gospel library, and will read it again and again, if only because it's so full of knowledge. I may a lifetime to digest it all, but I will! Thank you, Bob Marovich. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. "Devil in the White City:" Meet "A City Called Heaven" By Laurel Delaney If Erik Larson's "Devil in the White City" uncovered the dark side of Chicago, Bob Marovich's "A City Called Heaven" casts a heavenly light on African Americans whose singing of the good news helped transform their trials and tribulations into a potent force that would forever change American music. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great Book By Music Griot Awesome, well researched book by one of the top gospel historians of the last two decades. Robert really did the world of musicology a great service when he added this book to the public lexicon.

In *A City Called Heaven*, gospel announcer and music historian Robert Marovich shines a light on the humble origins of a majestic genre and its indispensable bond to the city where it found its voice: Chicago. Marovich follows gospel music from early hymns and camp meetings through the Great Migration that brought it to Chicago. In time, the music grew into the sanctified soundtrack of the city's mainline black Protestant churches. In addition to drawing on print media and ephemera, Marovich mines hours of interviews with nearly fifty artists, ministers, and historians--as well as discussions with relatives and friends of past gospel pioneers--to recover many forgotten singers, musicians, songwriters, and industry leaders. He also examines how a lack of economic opportunity bred an entrepreneurial spirit that fueled gospel music's rise to popularity and opened a gate to social mobility for a number of its practitioners. As Marovich shows, gospel music expressed a yearning for freedom from earthly pains, racial prejudice, and life's hardships. In the end, it proved to be a sound too mighty and too joyous for even church walls to hold.

"Essential."--Choice "A City Called Heaven is a valuable resource that points to the many voices that were important to the success of gospel music. nbsp; With his text, Marovich extends an invitation to readers and gospel music lovers to celebrate the beautiful and spirit-filled contributions of those who paved the gospel highway from Chicago to heaven and back."--Black Grooves nbsp;