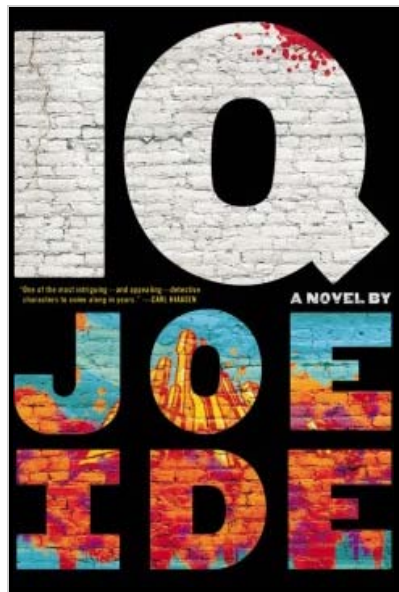


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## IQ

by Joe Ide

**Price: \$26.00**(Hardcover)

Published: October 18, 2016



Rating: 4.0/5 (1 vote cast)

### From the Publisher:

A resident of one of LA's toughest neighborhoods uses his blistering intellect to solve the crimes the LAPD ignores.

East Long Beach. The LAPD is barely keeping up with the neighborhood's high crime rate. Murders go unsolved, lost children unrecovered. But someone from the neighborhood has taken it upon himself to help solve the cases the police can't or won't touch.

They call him IQ. He's a loner and a high school dropout, his unassuming nature disguising a relentless determination and a fierce intelligence. He charges his clients whatever they can afford, which might be a set of tires or a homemade casserole. To get by, he's forced to take on clients that can pay.

This time, it's a rap mogul whose life is in danger. As Isaiah investigates, he encounters a vengeful ex-wife, a crew...

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### About The Author

Joe Ide

Joe Ide is of Japanese American descent. Growing up in South Central Los Angeles, Joe's favorite books were the Conan Doyle Sherlock Holmes stories. The idea that a person could face the world and vanquish his enemies with just his intelligence fascinated him. Joe went on to earn a graduate...

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### Release Info

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### What We Say

He had me at "IQ" -- a very cool nickname. Here is a deeply satisfying, funny and emotionally complex novel that's also the launch of a promising new mystery series. Isaiah Quintabe aka IQ is a Los Angeles high school dropout who happens to be Sherlock-smart. Like the great Easy Rawlins, IQ is a detective on the sly, helping local people who can't or won't go to the police and who (sometimes) pay him any way they can. When a paranoid rap star decides his ex-wife is trying to kill him, the Kanye-like nutter's agent hires IQ to calm the guy down and get his meal ticket back in the recording studio. Unfortunately for the agent, IQ quickly realizes the rap star isn't so crazy after all. From this set-up, debut author Joe Ide tells his story on two tracks. In the present, IQ follows his one shaky lead through the world of dog-breeding, right up to

the door of a lunatic assassin. In flashback, we see how the once-promising student Isaiah is devastated after his brother is killed in a car accident, devolving into a life of crime alongside a street-savvy gang member at his high school. So we get the suspense of a case to solve while delving into the deeper, more meaningful mystery of how the righteous IQ once leaned into the bad side...and what made him turn his life around. Ide handles all this very, very well and the book is filled with great and real characters -- even when they're behaving in Carl Hiaasen lunacy, they're still believable. It's a pleasure to see IQ solve puzzles with his intellect and as a bonus he's also a fine wheel man with a skill set in self defense. Except for an early action scene that's movie-ready but out of character for IQ and the novel as a whole, Ide never misses a beat. He doesn't yet have the historical scope of Walter Mosley and it'll take the second entry to see if Ide can absorb us in a crime without the dramatically rich flashbacks to IQ as a troubled, depressed kid. But boy is this a fun, superior debut. -- Michael Giltz

## What Others Say

"One of the most original thrillers of the year . . . [A] sometimes scary, often whimsical, off-the-wall delight . . . It's a mad world that late-blooming Joe Ide has brought forth from his past, a spicy mix of urban horror, youthful striving and show-business absurdity. His IQ is an original and welcome creation."âPatrick Anderson, *Washington Post* -

"Wonderfully quirky . . . Exhilarating language and [an] oddball cast . . . A total laff-riot"âMarilyn Stasio, *New York Times Book Review* -

"A few things I love about this... [IQ is] rooted in his community in a way that his inspiration never was... *IQ* is a small story in the way the best of Conan Doyle's were.... It's a detective story that plays out very close to home, on the streets and corners that Ide (who grew up in South Central) knows best. And Isaiah fits into those streets like they were made for him. A consulting detective for a time and a place that needs one."âJason Sheehan, *NPR* -

"*IQ* delivers a moving, yet action-packed plot that never disappoints as it looks at rap music, a community...

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