



## Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians

*By Al Kennedy*

Download now

Read Online ➔

### **Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians** By Al Kennedy

From age four in 1937 to his death in 1998, Donald Harrison Sr. embraced the tradition of New Orleans' Mardi Gras Indians. As Big Chief of the Guardian of the Flames, he led with both wisdom and passion. This biography of this remarkable man is based on more than seventy interviews with his family and others he influenced.

📄 [Download Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians ...pdf](#)

# Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians

*By Al Kennedy*

## **Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians By Al Kennedy**

From age four in 1937 to his death in 1998, Donald Harrison Sr. embraced the tradition of New Orleans' Mardi Gras Indians. As Big Chief of the Guardian of the Flames, he led with both wisdom and passion. This biography of this remarkable man is based on more than seventy interviews with his family and others he influenced.

## **Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians By Al Kennedy Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #1370574 in Books
- Published on: 2010-02-17
- Released on: 2010-02-17
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.10" h x 1.50" w x 6.40" l, 1.70 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 416 pages

 [Download Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians ...pdf](#)

## **Editorial Review**

### **From the Inside Flap**

Based on more than seventy interviews with the subject and his close friends and family, this biography delves deep into the life of Donald Harrison—a waiter, performer, mentor to musicians, philosopher, devoted family man, and, most notably, the Big Chief of the Guardians of the Flame, a Mardi Gras Indian tribe. The firsthand accounts and anecdotes from those who knew him offer insight into the electrifying existence of a man who enriched the culture of New Orleans, took pride in his African American heritage, and advocated education throughout the city.

Beneath a vibrant costume of colorful feathers and intricate beading stood a man of conviction who possessed a great intellect and intense pride. Harrison grew up during the Great Depression and faced discrimination throughout his life but refused to bow down to oppression. Through determination and an insatiable eagerness to learn, he found solace in philosophy, jazz, and art and spiritual meaning in the Mardi Gras Indian tradition. He shared his ideals and discoveries with his family, whom he protected fiercely, until he took his last breath in 1998. Harrison's wife, children, and grandchildren continue to carry his legacy by furthering literacy programs for New Orleans' youth.

From Harrison's birth in 1933 to his desire to become a Mardi Gras Indian to the moment he met his beloved wife, author Al Kennedy shares Harrison's significant life experiences. He allows Big Chief Donald to take center stage and explain—in his own words—the mysterious world of the Mardi Gras Indians, their customs, and beliefs. Rare personal photographs from family albums depict the Big Chief with his family, parading through the streets on Carnival Day, and performing the timeless rituals of the Mardi Gras Indians of New Orleans. This well-researched biography presents a side of the Big Chief the public did not see, revealing the rebellious spirit of a man who demanded respect, guarded his family, and guided his tribe with utmost pride.

Al Kennedy teaches American history at the University of New Orleans. He has lectured on the musical heritage of New Orleans and received numerous awards for his research on New Orleans history and culture, including the Jazztown Award, the New Orleans International Music Colloquium Jazz Supporter Award, and the Mardi Gras Indian Hall of Fame Blue Eagle Award. Kennedy resides in Metairie, Louisiana, with his wife, Vickie.

### **From the Back Cover**

"Provides an enormously enjoyable, richly informative, and deeply moving insight into the life of a magnificent American hero, Big Chief Donald Harrison, Sr., the late great leader of the legendary Guardians of the Flame Mardi Gras Indians in New Orleans . . . To meet the Harrisons is to encounter an America you can't help but fall in love with and be inspired by forever, while gaining a glimpse into the powerful and meaningful tradition of the Mardi Gras Indians in New Orleans. It's a story of strength, passion, survival, and resistance. It's a story for today."

—Jonathan Demme, Academy Award-winning director, *The Silence of the Lambs*, *Philadelphia*, *The Manchurian Candidate*, *New Home Movies from the Lower 9th Ward*, *Rachel Getting Married*, and *Neil Young Trunk Show*

"Building on his impressive knowledge of New Orleans culture, Al Kennedy delivers a masterpiece of artistic biography. The world needs to know about Big Chief Donald Harrison, Sr. Al Kennedy tells his full

story in this wonderful book. Two-Way-Pocky-Way [make way] for a powerful read."

-Robert Farris Thompson, Col. John Trumbull Professor, History of Art; Master of Timothy Dwight College, Yale University; and author, *Tango: The Art History of Love*, *Face of the Gods*, and *Aesthetic of the Cool*

#### About the Author

As a teacher of American history at the University of New Orleans, award-winning author Al Kennedy frequently lectures on the city's musical heritage. His expertise has earned him several honors, including the Jazztown Award, the New Orleans International Music Colloquium Jazz Supporter Award, and the Mardi Gras Indian Hall of Fame Blue Eagle Award. Kennedy earned his BA from Loyola University, a masters degree in public administration, and a PhD in urban studies/urban history from the University of New Orleans. He resides in Metairie, Louisiana, with his wife.

#### Users Review

##### From reader reviews:

##### **Dora Bair:**

What do you in relation to book? It is not important with you? Or just adding material when you need something to explain what the one you have problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy particular person? If you don't have spare time to complete others business, it is make you feel bored faster. And you have free time? What did you do? Every person has many questions above. They need to answer that question since just their can do which. It said that about e-book. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is appropriate. Because start from on guardería until university need this particular Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians to read.

##### **Laura Enriquez:**

Now a day individuals who Living in the era exactly where everything reachable by match the internet and the resources inside it can be true or not demand people to be aware of each details they get. How people have to be smart in acquiring any information nowadays? Of course the answer is reading a book. Studying a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information particularly this Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians book since this book offers you rich info and knowledge. Of course the knowledge in this book hundred pct guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

##### **Leroy Mallett:**

Reading can called brain hangout, why? Because if you are reading a book specifically book entitled Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every single aspect that maybe unknown for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a publication then become one contact form conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get ahead of. The Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians giving you another experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful facts for your better life in this particular era. So now let us show you the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished looking at it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary investing spare time activity?

**Sharon Keller:**

In this particular era which is the greater person or who has ability to do something more are more valuable than other. Do you want to become one among it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you should do is just spending your time very little but quite enough to possess a look at some books. One of many books in the top list in your reading list is usually Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians. This book and that is qualified as The Hungry Mountains can get you closer in growing to be precious person. By looking right up and review this book you can get many advantages.

**Download and Read Online Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians By Al Kennedy #K05QCY2GHIM**

## **Read Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians By Al Kennedy for online ebook**

Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians By Al Kennedy Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians By Al Kennedy books to read online.

### **Online Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians By Al Kennedy ebook PDF download**

**Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians By Al Kennedy Doc**

**Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians By Al Kennedy Mobipocket**

**Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians By Al Kennedy EPub**

**K05QCY2GHIM: Big Chief Harrison and the Mardi Gras Indians By Al Kennedy**