

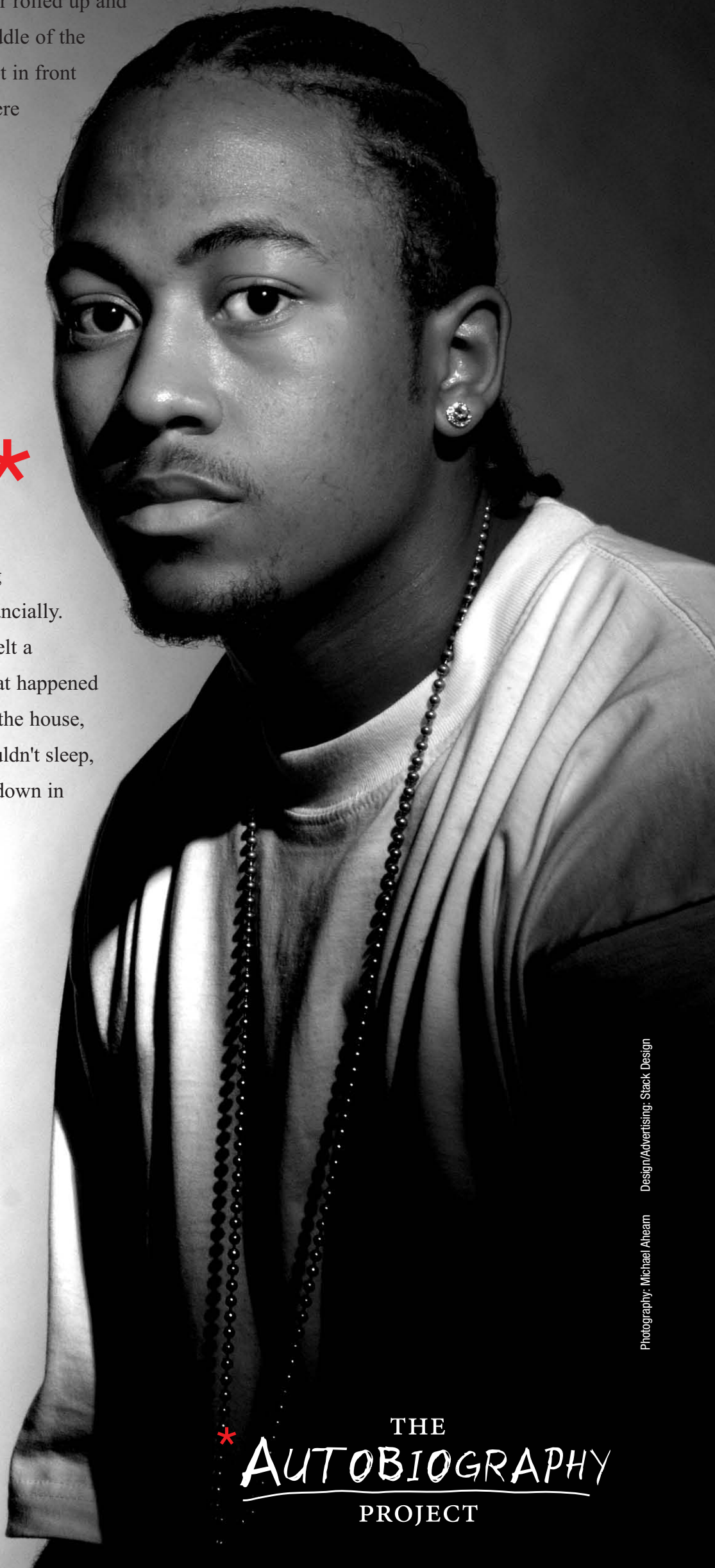
In My Life

At the age of ten, I saw my first killing. It happened a couple houses down from where I lived. I was just walking home from the basketball court when a black car rolled up and shot five times at a kid that lived down the street from me. It was the middle of the day. The kid got hit three times in the head and dropped about twenty feet in front of me. At the shots I was so scared that I didn't move or blink. I stood there shaking while other people went running. At the time all kinds of things

**CHRISTIAN.
ATHLETE.
REALIST.
AUTOBIOGRAPHER.***

were running through my mind about how maybe the shooter was aiming for me. The kid was a drug dealer. He used to take care of his family financially. Now that he was dead who was going to take care of them? Suddenly I felt a hand grab my shoulder. I turned around. It was my brother. He asked what happened and I told him. He told me to run in the house. While I was running into the house, I kept hearing shots. I could hear the killer's laugh. For about a week I couldn't sleep, because every time I closed my eyes, I would picture Rob slumped face down in the grass with his head leaking blood.

– Tim Bowman



*** THE
AUTOBIOGRAPHY
PROJECT**

Photography: Michael Ahearn
Design/Advertising: Stack Design

The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin is the most widely published autobiography of all time. In honor of Franklin's 300th birthday, the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary and *One Book, One Philadelphia* invited today's Philadelphians to submit memoirs of their own, using no more than 300 words. At the end of the project – May 17, 2006 – a panel of judges selected twenty autobiographies to appear on bus shelters throughout the city. Visit www.theautobiographyproject.com for more information about the project, and to read more Philadelphia stories.

The Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary is a non-profit organization established to mark the 300-year anniversary of Benjamin Franklin's birth. *One Book, One Philadelphia* is a project of the Mayor's Office and the Free Library of Philadelphia.



Greater Philadelphia
Workshop Studio