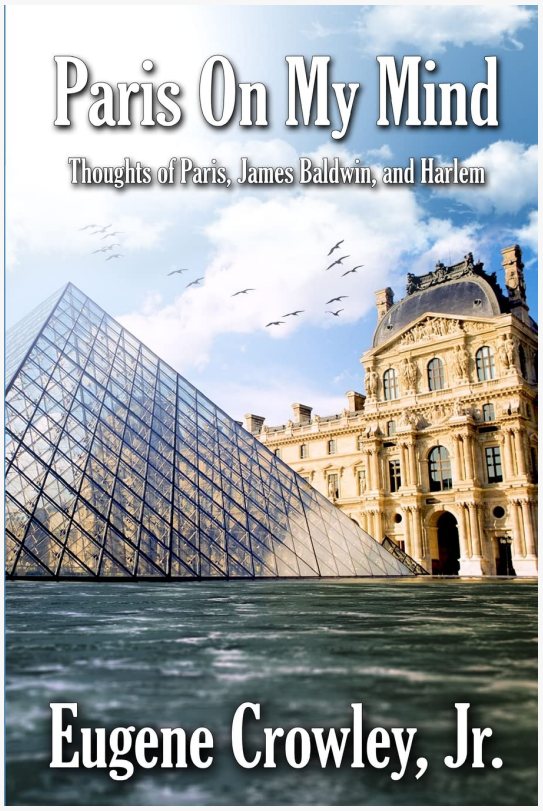
Paris On My Mind Connects James Baldwin, Paris, And The Enduring Wisdom Of The Past

Eugene Crowley Jr. explores self-knowledge, language, history, and spiritual wisdom as paths toward personal growth and social understanding.



Paris on my Mind: Thoughts of Paris, James Baldwin, and Harlem by Eugene Crowley

NEW YORK CITY, NY, UNITED STATES, September 16, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Author and longtime educator Eugene Crowley Jr. examines history, language, spirituality, and self-discovery in Paris on my Mind: Thoughts of Paris, James Baldwin, and Harlem. Inspired by his participation in the 2016 American University in Paris conference, “A Language To Dwell In: James Baldwin, Paris, and International Visions,” the book considers how wisdom inherited from earlier generations can help people confront contemporary social conflicts. Crowley argues for moving beyond what he calls “survival of the fittest” toward “survival of the wisest,” emphasizing reflection rather than conflict.

Crowley’s connection to Paris in Paris on my Mind: Thoughts of Paris, James Baldwin, and Harlem also reaches back to his hometown of St. Joseph, Missouri, founded by French-American trader Joseph Robidoux. From that personal connection, the book expands into an exploration of Baldwin’s thought and the importance of understanding history. Crowley encourages readers to look beyond the assumptions of modern society and consider philosophers, prophets, religious traditions, and historical voices as resources for understanding identity, purpose, and the human condition.

A particularly meaningful section of Paris on my Mind: Thoughts of Paris, James Baldwin, and Harlem is Chapter 5, “Dwelling in Languages,” which examines the power Crowley believes words have in shaping individual and social experience. He cautions against destructive speech, judgment, argument, and the need to control others, connecting these behaviors to an ego-driven struggle that can interfere with peace and self-knowledge. In their place, he advocates truthful speech, thoughtful self-examination, and a greater awareness of how language affects

both the speaker and the people around them.

Written for readers interested in personal growth, purpose, history, spirituality, and self-knowledge, Paris on my Mind: Thoughts of Paris, James Baldwin, and Harlem encourages a renewed engagement with the past. Crowley draws attention to Baldwin's insistence on confronting history and truth while also considering ideas associated with Socrates, Cicero, the Upanishads, Transcendentalism, and other intellectual and spiritual traditions. His larger message asks readers to resist narrow thinking, examine inherited assumptions, and approach life as a journey toward greater understanding without relying on violence or a warring mentality.

Eugene Crowley Jr. taught English grammar and world literature for 32 years in Chicago Public Schools and holds a master's degree in General Psychology. He is also the author of Upside Down World: The Loss of the Sacred Cosmos. In Paris on my Mind: Thoughts of Paris, James Baldwin, and Harlem, Crowley brings his experience as an educator together with his interests in history, literature, psychology, and spirituality. The result is an invitation to seek wisdom across generations and use knowledge of the past to pursue a more thoughtful future.

The book is now available—secure your copy here: https://a.co/d/0gWcoEGK

For review copies, interview requests, or additional information, please contact:

Eugene Crowley Jr.
BrightKey PR
genecrowleyjr@yahoo.com

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