

# Hood Games: The Rise and Fall of Darayl Howard

Darayl Howard was a rising star in the world of basketball. He was drafted by the Philadelphia 76ers in 1995 and quickly became one of the most exciting players in the league. Howard was a gifted athlete with a unique combination of size, speed, and skill. He was a force on both ends of the court, and he quickly became a fan favorite.

However, Howard's career was cut short by a series of off-court incidents. In 1996, he was arrested for possession of marijuana. In 1997, he was arrested for assault. And in 1998, he was arrested for murder.

Howard's involvement in crime and violence was a major disappointment to his fans and to the NBA. He was a talented player with a bright future, but his off-court problems ultimately derailed his career.



## Hood Games by C. Darayl Howard

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 3893 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 153 pages



## The Early Years

Darayl Howard was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1975. He was the youngest of five children. His father was a truck driver, and his mother worked as a nurse. Howard grew up in a tough neighborhood, and he was often involved in fights.

As a child, Howard was a gifted athlete. He excelled at basketball, football, and track and field. He was also a good student, and he earned a scholarship to attend college.

## **College Career**

Howard played basketball for the University of North Carolina. He was a key member of the team's 1993 national championship team. Howard was named the ACC Player of the Year in 1995, and he was selected as a first-team All-American.

## **NBA Career**

Howard was drafted by the Philadelphia 76ers with the 17th overall pick in the 1995 NBA Draft. He quickly became a starter, and he averaged 12.4 points and 8.4 rebounds per game in his rookie season.

Howard continued to improve in his second season, and he averaged 16.1 points and 9.2 rebounds per game. He was one of the most promising young players in the NBA, and he was expected to be a star.

## **Off-Court Problems**

However, Howard's career was derailed by a series of off-court incidents. In 1996, he was arrested for possession of marijuana. In 1997, he was

arrested for assault. And in 1998, he was arrested for murder.

Howard's involvement in crime and violence was a major disappointment to his fans and to the NBA. He was a talented player with a bright future, but his off-court problems ultimately derailed his career.

## **The Murder of Mark Jones**

In 1998, Howard was arrested for the murder of Mark Jones. Jones was a 22-year-old man who was shot and killed in a parking lot. Howard was convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison.

Howard has always maintained his innocence, and he has appealed his conviction several times. However, his appeals have been unsuccessful, and he remains in prison.

## **Legacy**

Darayl Howard was a talented basketball player who had a promising career ahead of him. However, his off-court problems ultimately derailed his career. He is now serving a life sentence in prison for the murder of Mark Jones.

Howard's story is a cautionary tale about the dangers of crime and violence. It is a reminder that even the most talented people can make bad choices, and that those choices can have devastating consequences.

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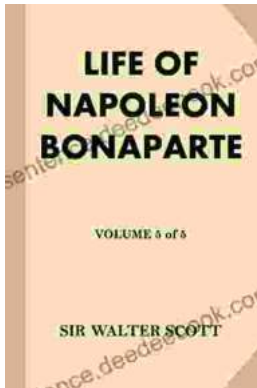
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