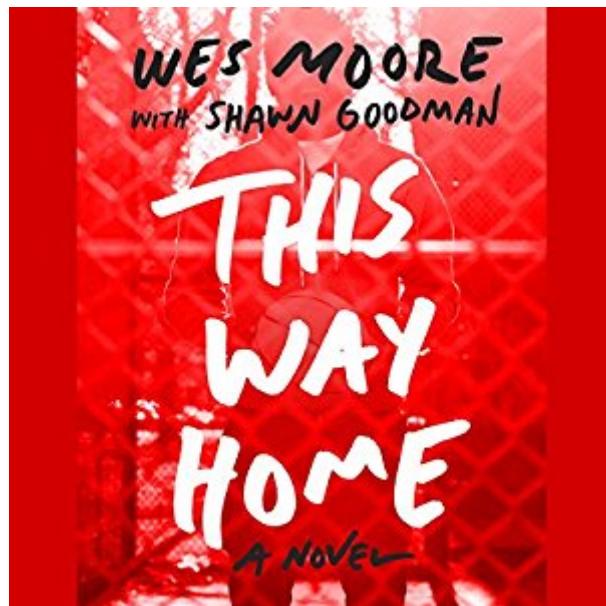


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# This Way Home



## Synopsis

One young man searches for a place to call home in this gut-wrenching, honest novel from New York Times best-selling author Wes Moore with Shawn Goodman. Elijah Thomas knows one thing better than anyone around him: basketball. At 17, he's earned the reputation of a top-level player, one who steps onto the court ready for battle, whether it's a neighborhood pickup game or a tournament championship. What Elijah loves most about the game is its predictability: If he and his two best friends play hard and follow the rules, their team will win. And this formula has held true all the way up to the summer before their senior year of high school, when a sinister street gang, Blood Street Nation, wants them to wear the Nation's colors in the next big tournament. The boys gather their courage and take a stand against the gang, but at a terrible cost. Now Elijah must struggle to balance hope and fear, revenge and forgiveness, to save his neighborhood. For help, he turns to the most unlikely of friends: Banks, a gruff ex-military man, and his beautiful and ambitious daughter. Together the three work on a plan to destroy Blood Street and rebuild the community they all call home. This Way Home is a story about reclamation. It's about taking a stand for what matters most and the discovery that, in the end, hope, love, and courage are our most powerful weapons.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Version: Unabridged

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Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B016WW8V96

Best Sellers Rank: #65 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Sports > Basketball #241 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Violence #515 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Death & Dying

## Customer Reviews

All did

Seventeen year old Elijah Thomas lives for basketball, but dreams that someday he'll be playing

and look up to find his long absent father watching with approval. Thus far that hasn't happened, but he, along with best friends Michael and Dylan mesh well together on the court and have reached a level where they're going to try winning the \$3,000 prize in the summer tournament. Most everyone else is bigger and older, but Elijah is their secret weapon. When Michael gets them expensive new shoes and specially designed jerseys with the local gang's logo, Elijah's bothered by what's likely involved in expected payment. So is his mom who talks him into not wearing the new items for the final tournament game. In the meantime, Mom also got him a job doing chores for Banks a crotchety middle aged army veteran whose daughter, Kerri, is extremely pretty and smart. The two of them click, even though she keeps telling him that their meetings are not a date. When retaliation comes, Elijah is angry, his mother terrified, while Banks and Kerri are willing to help. How this plays out makes for a decent read. This is a book that will appeal more to urban and inner city kids, but the plot is strong enough to hold the attention of teens liking a story with suspense and interesting characters.

I enjoyed this book - read it in one sitting. I loved the basketball scenes - it made me want to go shoot hoops. I really liked the banter between the three friends. I loved the moments between Banks and Elijah. That ending really surprised me - I didn't see it coming. It made me sad, but it also made me think about the entire book. Part of me wanted to go back and read it again.

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