

BY C.L. LANEY

TYLER PERRY

MEDIA MOGUL



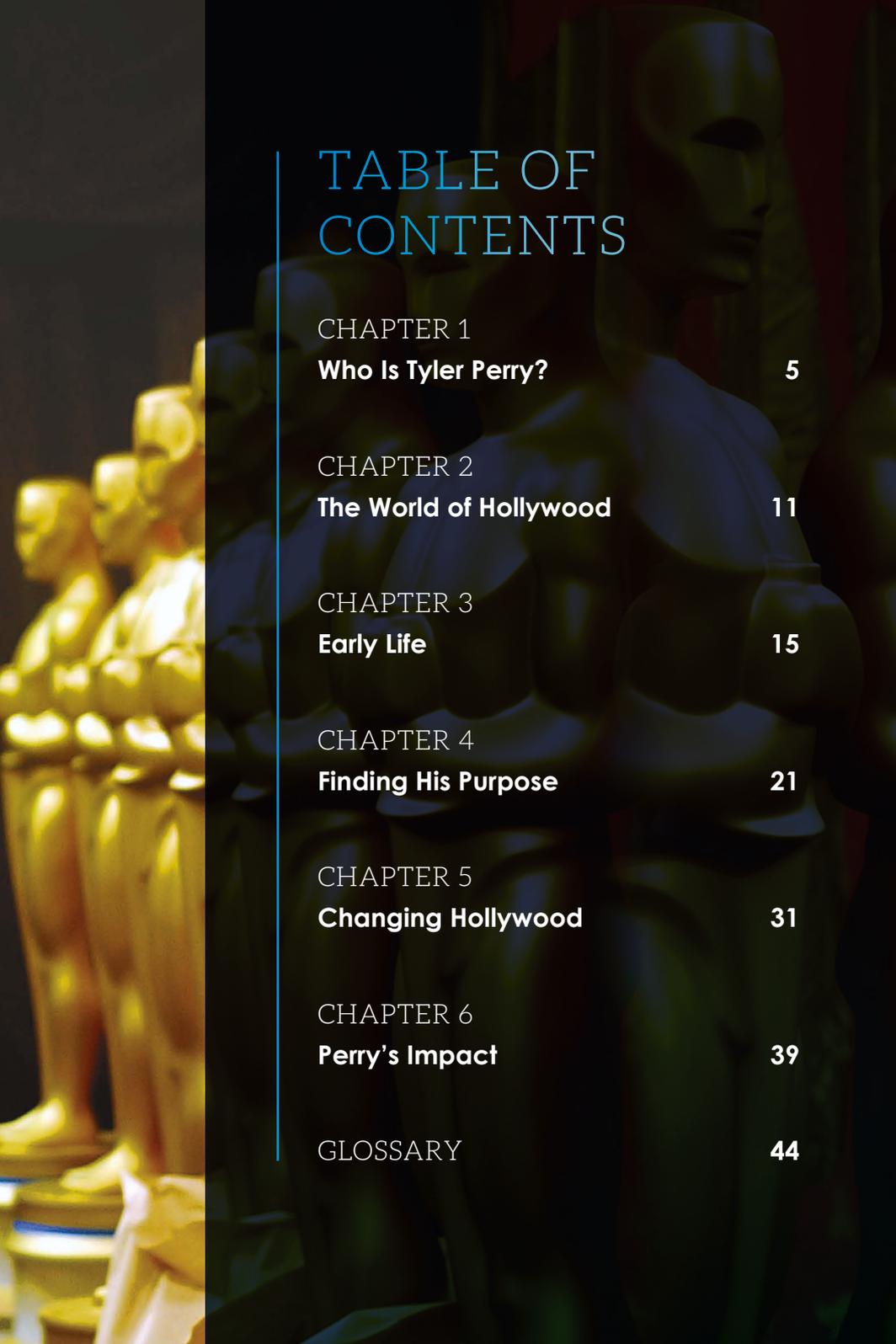


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CHAPTER 1

Who Is Tyler Perry?

Making it in Hollywood is hard. Few find fame. Some try for years. They may get a big break. But this doesn't happen often. Others make their own success. That is what Tyler Perry did.

Tyler Perry is an actor. He also writes, produces, and directs. His work includes plays, movies, and TV shows. The star had a tough childhood. Now he is a media giant.

Perry is best known for one character. That is Madea. She is a bold grandmother. Her first appearance was in a play. This role was played by Perry. He went on to write more Madea plays. Later, he directed Madea movies too. People find these very funny. Many like their messages about faith.

So far, 11 Madea movies have been made. They have earned over \$670 million. Perry's other projects have also been successful. In 2019, he opened a film studio. It is in Atlanta, Georgia. Several hit movies have been made there. The casts included mostly Black actors. Some now call the city Black Hollywood.



Perry created and produced the television sitcom *House of Payne*, which premiered in 2006. In this photo from 2007, one of the show's sets can be seen in the background.



Perry's rise to fame has not been easy. He faced many challenges. **Poverty** was one. **Abuse** was another. For a while, he even lived in his car.

Today, Perry is a billionaire. The filmmaker tries to be an example for others. He wants to create opportunities for Black artists. His work is doing just that.



TYLER PERRY

Despite a rough childhood and many setbacks early in his career, Tyler Perry's spirit never broke. Through sheer determination, he has risen to dominate Hollywood and has become an advocate for people in underrepresented groups in the film industry. Perry now uses his influence and wealth to create opportunities for underdogs like himself.

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