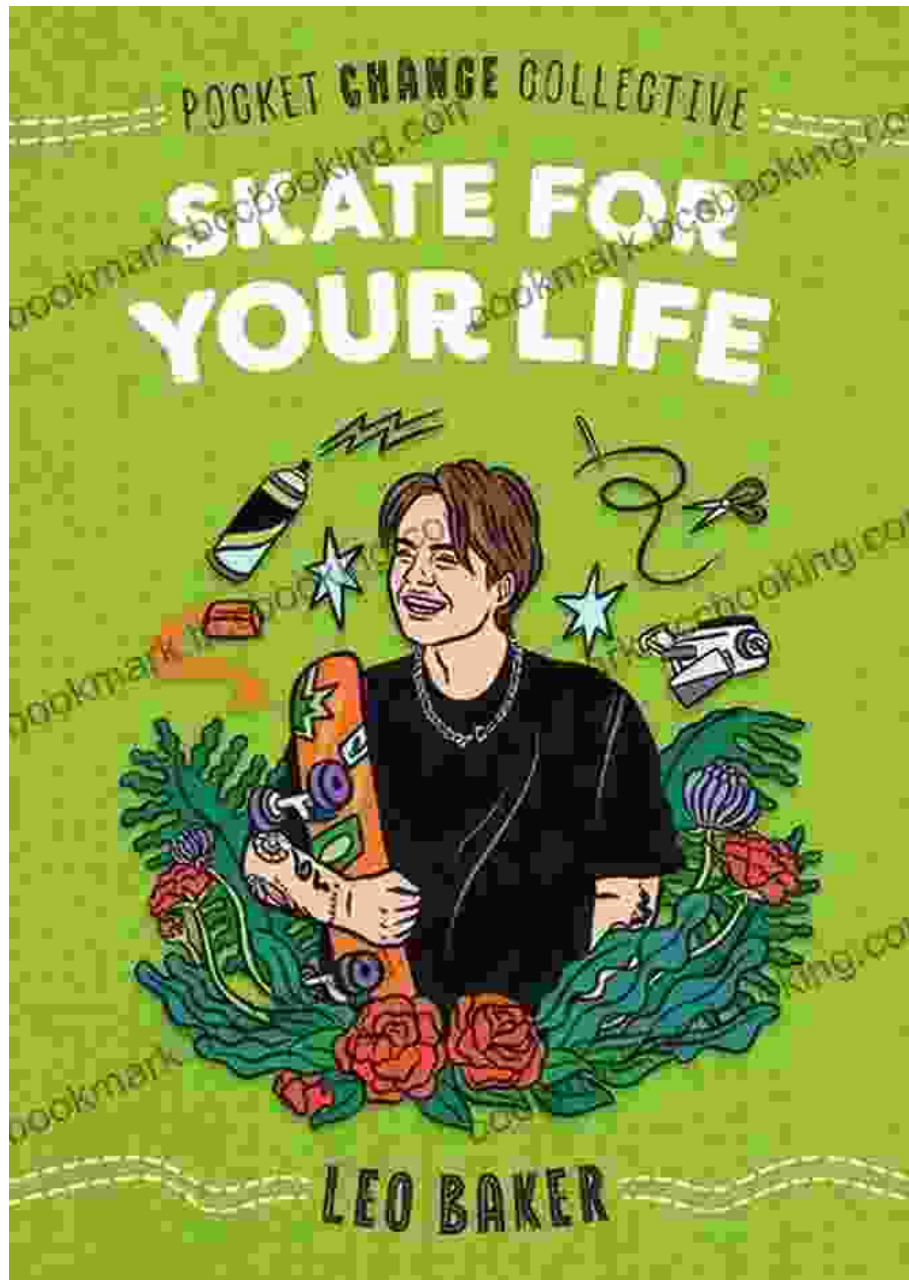


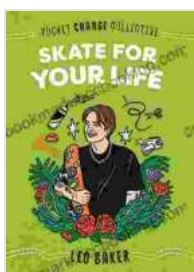
Skate For Your Life: The Pocket Change Collective that Changed the World



In the heart of inner-city Los Angeles, where poverty and violence cast long shadows, a group of renegade skateboarders emerged as beacons of hope for at-risk youth. The Pocket Change Collective, founded in 1995 by three

passionate individuals, embarked on a mission to use skateboarding as a catalyst for positive change.

Led by the charismatic trio of Tony Hawk, Stacy Peralta, and Steve Olson, the Pocket Change Collective set up shop in a dilapidated warehouse in the infamous Skid Row neighborhood. With a meager budget and a boundless supply of passion, they transformed the space into a safe haven for kids who felt lost and forgotten.



Skate for Your Life (Pocket Change Collective) by Leo Baker

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2486 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 64 pages



The Pocket Change Collective's approach was simple yet revolutionary. They believed that skateboarding was more than just a sport; it was a tool for empowerment and education. Through daily skateboarding sessions, mentorship programs, and educational workshops, they taught kids the importance of self-reliance, perseverance, and respect.

As the Collective's reputation grew, so did its impact. Kids from all walks of life flocked to the warehouse, eager to learn the secrets of skateboarding and to find a sense of belonging. The Pocket Change Collective became a beacon of hope in a community plagued by gangs, drugs, and despair.

One of the most inspiring stories to emerge from the Pocket Change Collective is that of Miki Vuckovich. Miki grew up in a troubled home in South Central Los Angeles. He was often bullied and felt like an outsider. But when he discovered the Pocket Change Collective, everything changed. Miki found a community of peers who accepted him for who he was. He also discovered a passion for skateboarding that would forever change his life.

Through the mentorship of Tony Hawk and the other members of the Collective, Miki developed into a skilled skateboarder and a confident young man. He went on to become a professional skateboarder and a role model for countless other youth who have faced similar challenges.

The Pocket Change Collective's impact has extended far beyond its humble beginnings in Skid Row. The Collective has inspired countless other organizations around the world to use skateboarding as a force for good. Today, there are Pocket Change chapters in cities across the United States, and even in far-flung countries like Peru and South Africa.

The Pocket Change Collective's story is a testament to the power of skateboarding to transform lives. It is a story of hope, resilience, and the indomitable spirit of young people.

The Pocket Change Collective's Impact on Education

One of the most significant impacts of the Pocket Change Collective has been on the educational outcomes of the youth they serve. Studies have shown that kids who participate in the Collective's programs are more likely to stay in school and graduate. They also have higher GPAs and are more likely to attend college.

The Pocket Change Collective's success in improving educational outcomes is due to a number of factors. First, skateboarding is a FUN activity that keeps kids engaged. Second, the Collective provides a supportive and positive environment where kids feel safe to learn and grow. Third, the Collective's programs are designed to teach kids valuable life skills, such as self-discipline, teamwork, and problem-solving.

The Pocket Change Collective's educational programs are a model for after-school programs across the country. They have shown that skateboarding can be a powerful tool for promoting academic achievement and preparing kids for success in life.

The Pocket Change Collective's Impact on Social Justice

The Pocket Change Collective's work has also had a profound impact on social justice in inner-city Los Angeles. The Collective has helped to reduce gang violence, promote peace, and build bridges between different communities.

One of the most important ways that the Pocket Change Collective has promoted social justice is by providing kids with a sense of belonging. When kids feel like they belong to a community, they are less likely to turn to gangs or violence. The Collective also provides kids with a positive outlet for their energy and creativity. This helps to reduce boredom and frustration, which can lead to crime.

In addition to providing kids with a sense of belonging and a positive outlet for their energy, the Pocket Change Collective also works to address the root causes of poverty and violence in inner-city Los Angeles. The

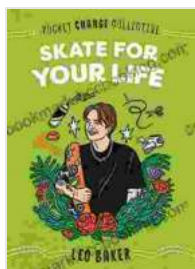
Collective provides job training, housing assistance, and other social services to families in need.

The Pocket Change Collective's work on social justice is a model for community organizations across the country. They have shown that it is possible to make a difference in the lives of young people and to create a more just and equitable society.

The Pocket Change Collective's story is an inspiration to us all. It is a story of hope, resilience, and the indomitable spirit of young people. The Collective has shown us that skateboarding can be a powerful force for positive change and social justice.

If you are looking for a way to make a difference in the world, consider supporting the Pocket Change Collective. Your donation will help to provide kids with the opportunity to experience the life-changing benefits of skateboarding.

To learn more about the Pocket Change Collective, visit their website at www.pocketchangecollective.org.



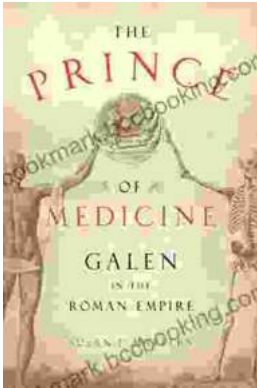
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