Author, poet, punk rocker Jim Carroll dies

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Poet, author and punk rocker Jim Carroll has died.

The Basketball Diaries author passed away Friday, September 11th, from a heart attack at the age of 60, his ex-wife told the New York Times.

Carroll's poetry career began in the late 1960s, when he was still in his teens. But it was his 1978 autobiography The Basketball Diaries that exposed him to his biggest audience.

The book -- which was adapted into a movie in 1995 with Leonardo DiCaprio -- began as Carroll's personal journey, before it was eventually published in trade paperback. It chronicles his years as a young sports star at a private Manhattan high school -- and his subsequent drug use.

Carroll has also published several poetry collections and released several music albums, most notably 1980's "Catholic Boy."

More About: Jim Carroll

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