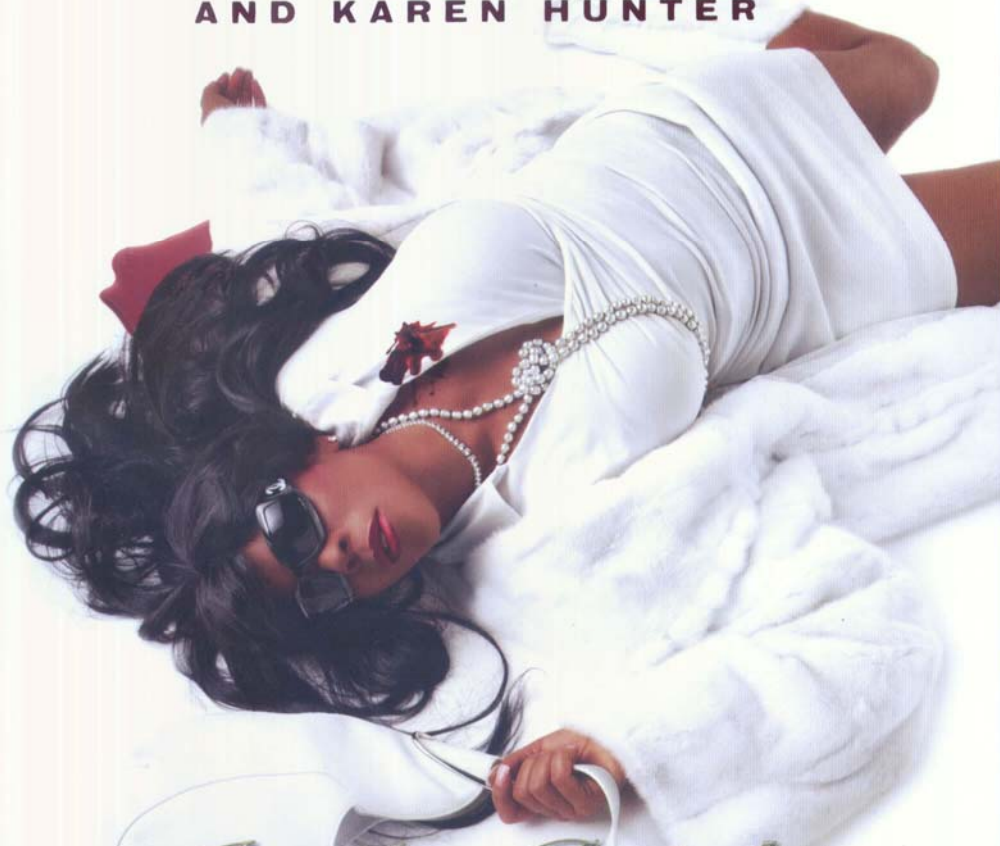


# WENDY WILLIAMS

AND KAREN HUNTER



*Is the Bitch*

**DEAD**

*or What?*

THE RITZ HARPER CHRONICLES #2

"Miss Harper, Eduard Davis just sent you a box of his latest designs!"

Eduard's couture shirt company was called Karma, with the tag "Looking Good Is the Best Revenge." Ritz loved the Urban Hippie line of Karma, which was ironic because she never quite grasped the concept of karma in her own life.

"Miss Harper, Don Ramos called. He has a necklace that he made for you to wear at the awards program next week."

Years ago, it was Jakob the Jeweler who was Ritz's jewelry person, but he got too famous and too big. That was before the money-laundering scandal that got him arrested and on the front pages of the local papers. Until that point, everybody who was anybody in entertainment had visited and purchased from Jakob the Jeweler. Ritz dumped him long before the controversy. He became too common. She found Don Ramos—actually, he found her—before she was even big enough to afford the jewels. He saw Ritz's potential. So she gave him a shout-out every chance she got on the air. In exchange, she got thousands of dollars of free diamonds and platinum jewelry—one of the many perks of being Ritz Harper. She loved the perks. She loved being big enough to make other people successful, too.

Being a star was what Ritz Harper lived for. Being in a hospital bed, with tubes sticking out of her, an ugly hospital gown with her ass out, no makeup, no hairpieces or wigs—for crying out loud, it was a bit more than she could take. She had to get back. And she had to get back now.