



Freedom on My Mind

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Freedom on My Mind reveals the richly diverse and complex experience of black people in America in their own words, from the Colonial era of Benjamin Banneker to the present world of Kweisi Mfume and Clarence Thomas. Personal correspondence, excerpts from slave narratives and autobiographies, leaflets, significant addresses and speeches, oral histories and interviews, political manifestos, and important statements of black institutions and organizations are brought together to form a volume that testifies to the boundless creative potential of black Americans in indefatigable pursuit of the dream of freedom.

Arranged thematically, the selections illustrate the politics of resistance?as reflected through gender and sexuality, kinship and community, work and leisure, faith and spirituality. They also highlight the contributions of women to black identity, history, and consciousness, and offer excerpts from the work of some of the finest stylists in the African American canon. A general introduction as well as short introductions and bibliographies for each document further enhance the usefulness of the book for students and researchers.

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Freedom on My Mind From Columbia University Press Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #2513917 in Books
- Published on: 2003-07-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.12" h x 1.83" w x 6.40" l, 2.47 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 640 pages

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review The constant struggle for freedom of people of African descent in the Americas, from the colonial era to the present day, forms the focal point of this anthology. Highlighting the variance between white and black concepts and applications of freedom, the collection provides a perspective of the struggle from the bottom up, in the reality of ordinary life, where people express their struggles through their imaginations as an expression of creative possibilities. This collection of speeches, essays, poems, sermons, folktales, letters, and interviews reflects the struggle within the American culture, and resistance in multiple forms, including the recognition of the significance of gender and sexuality in this struggle. The first part explores gender, kinship, and community, with contributions by Sojourner Truth, W. E. B. DuBois, Eldridge Cleaver, Anita Hill, and Angela Davis. Part 2 focuses on political, economic, and social justice and includes a letter from Benjamin Banneker to Thomas Jefferson and essays by Booker T. Washington, Bayard Rustin, and Jesse Jackson. The final section--culture, faith, and celebration--includes contributions from Henry Louis Gates Jr., Ralph Ellison, Michael Eric Dyson, and Louis Farrakhan. An excellent read and reference resource. *Vanessa Bush*

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Review

The beauty of this volume is not that it challenges the existing canon on black experience but that it fills lacunae left by other works... Essential reading for anyone interested in American history and African American studies, this is recommended for both public and academic libraries.

(Edward G. McCormack, University of Southern Mississippi *Library Journal*)

Highlighting the variance between white and black concepts and applications of freedom,... [t]his collection of speeches, essays, poems, sermons, folktales, letters, and interviews reflects the struggle within the American culture... An excellent read and reference resource.

(*Booklist*)

Spanning the period from the Colonial era to the present, this important anthology features the works of noteworthy figures of African American history and culture... Highly recommended.

(*Choice*)

Recommended for all public and academic libraries.

(Anthony J. Adam *American Reference Books Annual*)

Elegantly structured anthology.

(Andrew Radford *Journal of American Studies*)

Review

Manning Marable--the Du Bois of the contemporary era--is a person of far-reaching intelligence. In this, his latest book, he has selected with painstaking and exquisite care intriguing and insightful articles and essays that distill the very essence of the African-American experience over the centuries. These are combined with his brilliant and concise prefatory notes that place these documents in historical context; in sum, this is the latest masterwork from one of our premier intellectuals.

(Gerald Horne, author of *Race Woman: The Lives of Shirley Graham Du Bois*)

Users Review

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Doris Seavey:

Here thing why this particular Freedom on My Mind are different and reputable to be yours. First of all studying a book is good but it really depends in the content from it which is the content is as yummy as food or not. Freedom on My Mind giving you information deeper including different ways, you can find any guide out there but there is no publication that similar with Freedom on My Mind. It gives you thrill studying journey, its open up your eyes about the thing this happened in the world which is probably can be happened around you. It is easy to bring everywhere like in park, café, or even in your way home by train. When you are having difficulties in bringing the printed book maybe the form of Freedom on My Mind in e-book can be your choice.

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