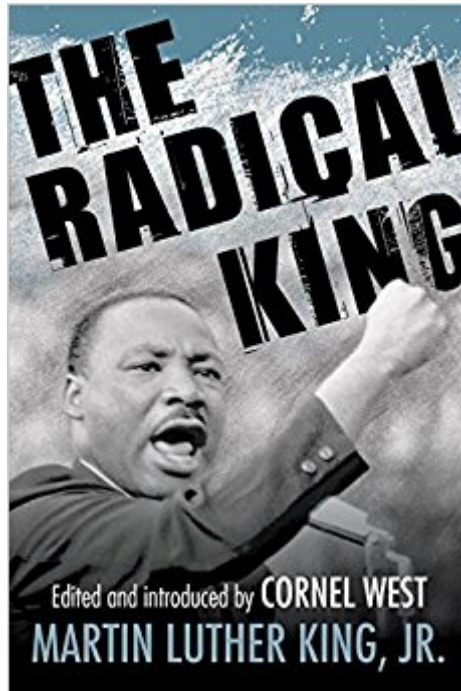




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The Radical King (King Legacy)



Synopsis

A revealing collection that restores Dr. King as being every bit as radical as Malcolm X. “The radical King was a democratic socialist who sided with poor and working people in the class struggle taking place in capitalist societies. . . . The response of the radical King to our catastrophic moment can be put in one word: revolution—a revolution in our priorities, a reevaluation of our values, a reinvigoration of our public life, and a fundamental transformation of our way of thinking and living that promotes a transfer of power from oligarchs and plutocrats to everyday people and ordinary citizens. . . . Could it be that we know so little of the radical King because such courage defies our market-driven world?”—Cornel West, from the Introduction

Every year, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is celebrated as one of the greatest orators in US history, an ambassador for nonviolence who became perhaps the most recognizable leader of the civil rights movement. But after more than forty years, few people appreciate how truly radical he was. Arranged thematically in four parts, *The Radical King* includes twenty-three selections, curated and introduced by Dr. Cornel West, that illustrate King’s revolutionary vision, underscoring his identification with the poor, his unapologetic opposition to the Vietnam War, and his crusade against global imperialism. As West writes, “Although much of America did not know the radical King—and too few know today—the FBI and US government did. They called him the most dangerous man in America.” . . . This book unearths a radical King that we can no longer sanitize.

From the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

“This useful collection takes King from the front lines of Southern segregation to a national movement for economic equality to an international condemnation of imperialism and armed intervention.” Kirkus Reviews “King’s skills as a preacher and rhetorician are amply in evidence, as is his profound empathy with others.” Publishers Weekly From the Hardcover edition.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929–1968), Nobel Peace Prize laureate and architect of the nonviolent civil rights movement, was among the twentieth century’s most influential figures. One of the greatest orators in US history, King also authored several books, including *Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story*, *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?*, and *Why We Can’t Wait*. His speeches, sermons, and writings are inspirational and timeless. King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968. Cornel West, one of America’s most gifted and provocative intellectuals, has been profoundly influenced by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A professor at Union Theological Seminary, Dr. West has also taught at Yale, Harvard, and Princeton. The recipient of more than twenty honorary degrees, he has written many important books, including the best-selling *Race Matters* and *Democracy Matters*. He lives in New York City. From the Hardcover edition.

There is a small torn part of me with this book. I had purchased this book and The Essential Martin Luther King Jr book within weeks of one another. Both books had a few of the same speeches. Many of the speeches found in this book are also found on the internet for free, so why buy this one? Cornel West has a focus for this book- to show how radical King’s views on love were and why he lost popularity within the white and black communities. West selects certain speeches, gives an introduction of place and what to look for, and then lets the speech flow without follow up comment. What happens is the reader sees a progression of how this speech that was done 2 years earlier has been modified to be a bit stronger than before with emphasis, with focus, and with the cry for love. He gets more radical as time moves forward.

I love reading Dr. King’s own words and find the book a powerful reminder of who Dr. King was. He has been too long hijacked by right winged politicians and I find that even young children are not

properly taught about his legacy. They seem to think of him as someone who has done good deeds. Dr. King has been disgracefully watered down. I read it quickly and have referred to it many times in conversation as I am a Radical Lover myself or at least trying to be the best one I can be.

This is a most important book, one that will be appreciated by all thoughtful, progressive people. King's writings collected here and the introductions by Cornell West reflect the full scope of Dr King's radical critique of American society and his profound commitment to nonviolence. Martin Luther King's words ring as true or perhaps more true today than when they were written.

I loved the Radical King. We get a great insight into Martin Luther Kings way of thinking.

Gave me a new appreciation of Dr. King. Some of the parts by Cornell West tried to push him a bit more toward the violent segregations, but everything King said showed he stuck firmly to non-violent integrationist. Also, it shows him as a thoroughly religious proponent of radical love.

This book gives one the insight and then understand the foundation of Dr King's philosophy

Excellent

a full presentation of the great political mind of this global hero. MLK Jr. was about class as much as race.

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