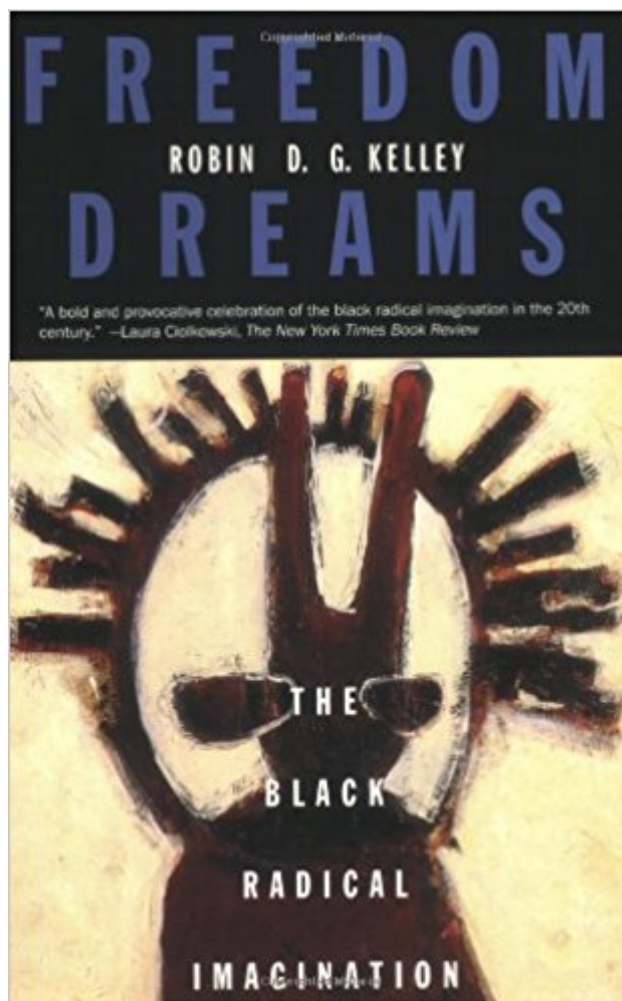


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Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination



Synopsis

Kelley unearths freedom dreams in this exciting history of renegade intellectuals and artists of the African diaspora in the twentieth century. Focusing on the visions of activists from C. L. R. James to Aime Cesaire and Malcolm X, Kelley writes of the hope that Communism offered, the mindscapes of Surrealism, the transformative potential of radical feminism, and of the four-hundred-year-old dream of reparations for slavery and Jim Crow. From 'the preeminent historian of black popular culture' (Cornel West), an inspiring work on the power of imagination to transform society.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kelley, a history professor and a writer with a progressive political slant, analyzes the black radical tradition within the context of a higher consciousness that imagines how society should and could be and lets that dream dictate action. This pursuit of freedom and equality underlies, if not justifies, the basis of measuring the success of black radical movements. He takes the reader on a survey of black radical movements--Back to Africa, the Garvey movement, associations with communism and Marxism, local protests, Third World consciousness and identification, reparation, and black feminism--finding a common core centered on the dream of freedom. In one section, Kelley connects the black radical tradition with surrealism, focusing on freedom as a concept that initiates in the mind and has a nontraditional manner of self-manifestation. Kelley sees such mindscapes as the counterbalance to what many perceive as the failure of certain movements. However, Kelley's capacity to integrate these imaginative mindscapes into the freedom quest allows the reader to

perceive the continuity and ultimate success of these freedom movements. Vernon FordCopyright
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'Based on Kelley's belief that to make a better world we must first imagine it, this brilliantly
conceived and written book recounts the accomplishments of black activists and thinkers over the
past century who have been committed to remaking the world.' --Library Journal

Not your same ole history lesson, he treasures the scholarship of activist women. Reparations
complexity explained. Kelley opens our hearts and minds to the arts and its connection to society's
history and future. Scholarly for all levels.

Robin Kelley is that rare academic who manages to be both brilliant and captivating -- he takes
complex ideas and expresses them in a way that anyone can understand. I read this after reading
Yo Mama's DisFUNKtional and I liked them both.

Intelligent writing!

This book is a good read. I am glad I have it to read then add to my library.

He is DA MAN!!! So I expected nothing less than excellence.

I loved it!

A gift request.

highly recommend

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