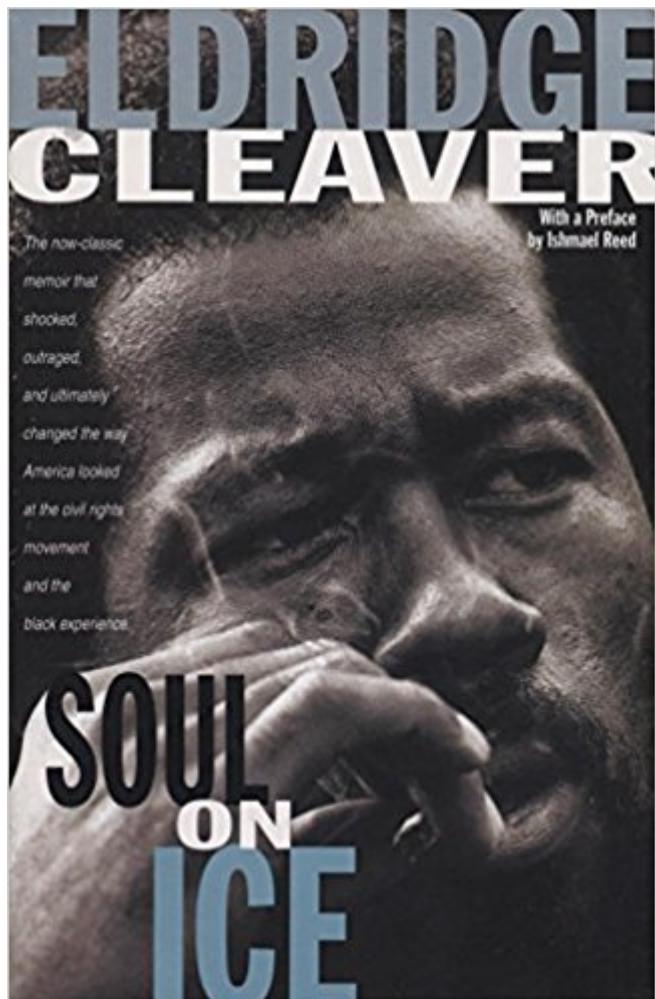


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## Soul On Ice



## Synopsis

The now-classic memoir that shocked, outraged, and ultimately changed the way America looked at the civil rights movement and the black experience. By turns shocking and lyrical, unblinking and raw, the searingly honest memoirs of Eldridge Cleaver are a testament to his unique place in American history. Cleaver writes in *Soul on Ice*, "I'm perfectly aware that I'm in prison, that I'm a Negro, that I've been a rapist, and that I have a Higher Uneducation." What Cleaver shows us, on the pages of this now classic autobiography, is how much he was a man.

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## Customer Reviews

"A collection of essays straight out of Dante's Inferno. The hell is there, and its name is America...as with Malcolm X, Cleaver's book is a spiritual autobiography. An odyssey of a soul in search of itself, groping toward a personal humanism which will give meaning to life...the book is important...the book is extraordinary." —Shane Stevens, *The Progressive*"A remarkable book...beautifully written...Eldridge Cleaver makes you twist and flinch...he throws light on the dark areas that we wish he would leave alone." —The Nation"Brilliant and revealing." —New York Times Book Review"All the essays [in *Soul on Ice*] deal with racial hurt, racial struggle, and racial pride...Eldridge Cleaver is a promising and powerful writer, an intelligent and turbulent and passionate and eloquent man." —Robert Coles, *Atlantic Monthly*

The now-classic memoir that shocked, outraged, and ultimately changed the way America looked at

the civil rights movement and the black experience. By turns shocking and lyrical, unblinking and raw, the searingly honest memoirs of Eldridge Cleaver are a testament to his unique place in American history. Cleaver writes in *Soul on Ice*, "I'm perfectly aware that I'm in prison, that I'm a Negro, that I've been a rapist, and that I have a Higher Uneducation." What Cleaver shows us, on the pages of this now classic autobiography, is how much he was a man.

I see why the FBI was scared of Eldridge Cleaver's; his words are frightening- even after more than forty years this admitted iconoclast will put your soul on ice as you read his essays. What is salient and even more troubling at same time is the social dynamics of America are still producing more Eldridge Cleavers. Yet, be careful, Cleaver likes to beguile the reader too, he'll write words to get a reaction out of you. Even sadder, too many of his conclusions are still true today. Moreover, his scathing attack on James Baldwin gave me a whole new perspective on the author's books and Cleaver's criticism of gays suggest that he had a phobia of homosexuals, not uncommon in the African American community. Finally, in his penultimate he seems to be rambling- losing his focus. Yet, I highly recommend this book; the essays touch a nerve.

Cleaver was one of the leaders for black radical intelligentsia... we could use his wisdom today

This book is a book gives great insight to the thoughts of a black man and his views on the white race and white women, the black race and black women, politics and more. Very interesting read.

I did a paper for college on this book which turned into quite an interesting and truly engaging class discussion. I've lost a few copies of this book to other people wanting to borrow my copy of this book. Great read.

This was a replacement for a book I read long, long ago. It did not disappoint, The book was in good condition and I was satisfied

The best of the essays in this book challenge the prevalent viewpoint in the US and offer exposure to the perspective of a very intelligent person born with the odds against him. Enlightening. The worst of the essays (three love letters, some pseudo intellectual, anti-homosexual, generalizations on the racial/gender/sexual roles of black men and women and white men and women (No mention of any others identity groups. Cleaver seems blind to other minorities, age discrimination, LGBTQ,

etc)) are sort of painful to read. One could do better with collections of Malcolm X speeches, or Howard Zinn's "A People's History of the US".

There is much in there that's worth reading and Cleaver does a good job of exposing racism and injustice. But be prepared for two faults: Cleaver must have been an early post-modernist and you get a lot of meaningless psychobabble. Worse, he apparently considered rape an revolutionary or insurrectionary act rather than a crime. Ideally, a black man would rape a white woman. But starting out by practicing on black women was all right too. This is hardly a minor flaw. The book is filled with hatred and as study of hatred it's fairly interesting. But if a movie presented a black man as Cleaver presents himself, it would ( and probably rightfully so ) be considered horribly racist. The funny thing is, Cleaver went on to later condemn his book and support Ronald Reagan.

Very nice book in great condition. Thanks.

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