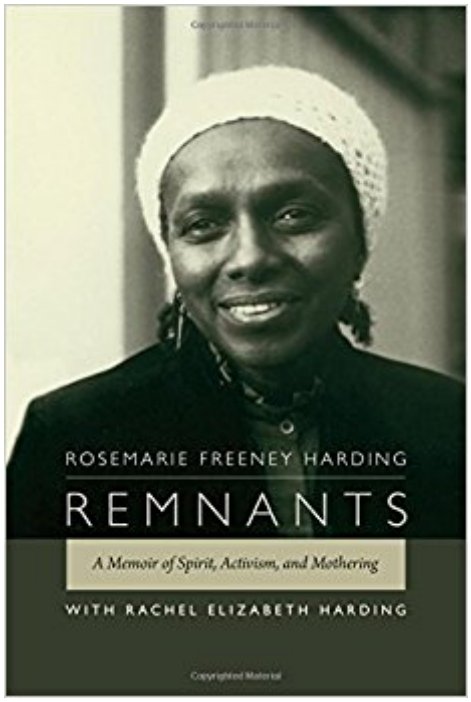
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Remnants: A Memoir Of Spirit, Activism, And Mothering



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Synopsis

An activist influential in the civil rights movement, Rosemarie Freeney HardingÃ¢â ¬â„¢s spirituality blended many traditions, including southern African American mysticism, Anabaptist Christianity, Tibetan Buddhism, and Afro-Brazilian CandomblÃƒÂ©. Remnants, a multigenre memoir, demonstrates how Freeney Harding's spiritual life and social justice activism were integral to the instincts of mothering, healing, and community-building. Following Freeney HardingÃ¢â ¬â„¢s death in 2004, her daughter Rachel finished this decade-long collaboration, using recorded interviews, memories of her mother, and her mother's journal entries, fiction, and previously published essays.

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Customer Reviews

"Remnants is an extraordinary gift. It is a kind of Rosetta Stone of the African American Woman's soulÃ¢â ¬â •all the 'remnants,' the bits and pieces Rosemarie carefully saved, remembered, nurtured, in her ancestors, relatives, and self coming together in this extremely useful compendium of wisdom, of sureness and insight that we will be able to use for generations to come." (Alice Walker)"A unique and provocative crossover text, Rosemarie Freeney Harding and Rachel Elizabeth Harding's Remnants troubles the boundaries of authorship, of genre, of discipline, of voice and agency. It hovers at the boundaries of the sacred and secular, but knits them together in the daily lives of practitioners and communities for whom a division is untenable, unthinkable even. It impels us to think deeply about the meaning of politics and the kinds of hidden

intimacies that make committed public engagement possible, without succumbing to the unhelpful public/private binary. We need the stories of the kinds that are recounted here." (M. Jacqui Alexander, author of Pedagogies of Crossing: Meditations on Feminism, Sexual Politics, Memory, and the Sacred)"I could not put this book down.Ã Â It is a work of love and a testament to the power of love between a mother and her daughter and an abiding belief in the possibilities we have to help create a more loving, humane world.Ã Â This is a book of astounding beauty and wisdom.Ã Â This is a memoir that encourages us to live into our best self. It is a read more than worthy of your time and will linger in your head and heart." (Emilie M. Townes, author of Womanist Ethics and the Cultural Production of Evil)Ã¢â ¬Å“[A] spirited compilation of ecumenical history, folk wisdom, fiction, memoir, and poetry. . . . The central message of HardingÃ¢â ¬â„¢s life is abiding love, passed down through generations, strengthened in the aftermath of grief, racial terrorism, and trauma. The book also tells the unusual story of Mennonite House, a pioneering center of interracial activism in Atlanta co-founded by Harding and her husband, and offers other insights that shape its powerful narrative.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Publishers Weekly)"Co-authored by Rachel and her late mother, [Remnants] is in its very composition both intimate and collaborative. ...It is a book of returning to the source as a resource for the future and present. There are lessons about human connection and resilience, and our capacities to be better to one another. Out of the particulars of these two lives, a window opens into Black life more broadly, in all of its complexity and interconnectedness with the vast networks of humanity." (Imani Perry Public Books 2016-02-02)"Remnants will appeal to those who are interested in religion and social transformation. Social change advocates, justice seekers, grassroots organizers, nonviolent revolutionaries, race critical theorists, theologians, clergy, historians, womanists, ethicists, ancl educators will all find gems within Remnants.... Remnants provides hope for a better humanity." (Dean J. Johnson The Mennonite Quarterly Review 2016-01-01)

Rosemarie Freeney Harding (1930Ã¢â ¬â œ2004) was an organizer, teacher, social worker, and cofounder of Mennonite House, an early integrated community center in Atlanta. She also cofounded the Veterans of Hope Project at the Iliff School of Theology.Rachel Elizabeth Harding, daughter of Rosemarie Freeney Harding and Vincent Harding, is Assistant Professor of Indigenous Spiritual Traditions in the Ethnic Studies Department at the University of Colorado, Denver, and author of A Refuge in Thunder: CandomblÃƒÂ© and Alternative Spaces of Blackness.

Remnants is a testament to the creative imagination, mystical spirit, and sacred activism of

Rosemarie Freeney Harding (1930-2004). She was an organizer, teacher, social worker, wife of Dr Vincent Harding (1931-2014) and mother of Rachel Elizabeth Harding (Professor of Indigenous Spiritual Traditions, University of Colorado, Denver) who co-authored this utterly unique work.Rachel drew upon her motherÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s journals and other writings as well as many hours of taped conversations. She has woven her own words and her motherÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s into a seamless flow that maintains a unified, distinctive voice. In RachelÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s words her mother modeled a ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“female-centered, indigenous wisdom about the world.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• It is the elucidation of that indigenous, African wisdom contextualized in a contemporary North American environment during a cauldron of social, cultural, and political turmoil that makes the testimony in this volume illuminating and indispensable.The book begins with the ancestors of Rosemarie Freeney in southern Georgia. It is in that soil and from that people that her own way of being in the world was formed. Rosemarie was born after her family had migrated to Chicago in the 1920s. The memoir describes her growth among a loving family of southerners living in the north and details both the beauty of African-American life in those early years and its gradual deconstruction in the subsequent decades. We are then taken back to Georgia as Rosemarie and her husband and children begin a new work in Atlanta during the height of the civil rights movement. In the final third of the book the story pushes outward and inward exploring the edges of spirit, pain, wisdom, and mystery. It is impossible to finish reading this book with any assumption that you have exhausted it.Remnants provides a unique perspective on the spirituality of liberation and resistance embodied in the the southern freedom movement. It explores how those involved in that movement endured the inherent trauma of the struggle. It expands our understanding of the spiritual resources they utilized. Recent studies of the civil rights movement have explored its origins in the Black church. Rachel Harding however argues that African-American spirituality ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“had a source more profound than any anguished nineteenth century conversion to the faith of their oppressors.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• Her motherÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s witness is evidence of that assertion.I am starting a list of twenty-first century spiritual classics. Remnants is my first entry.

Technically superior from the beginning and full expressions of love regardless of circumstances of inhumane attitudes of those opposed to civil rights. After the historical accuracy of the old south to the great migration to the north and full circle back to the south intertwined with religious intonations of Christianity and other religions. We travel through life’s maze with Rose Marie as she sees the light, and spreads joy, life and being a more peaceful people of those near and far. I’m impressed with Rachel and her brilliant family from top to bottom, and her many Civil Rights friends and others.

From understanding how we are all connected, with all that implies, to demonstrating resilience in the face of deep suffering, Remnants is filled with timeless lessons. Dr. Rachel Harding and her mom have written a book that will be of immense value to anyone who reads it with a view to learning from the wisdom it contains. Thank you ladies for providing us with additional lens through which we can apprehend our world.

I found the book about the Harris sisters to be very accurate. Rose's description of the civil rights era were clear, like you were standing there with her. I am giving this book to all my children to pass down to their children. It will give them a paternal history of where they came from. Bravo Rachel!

Probably the best book I've ever read! What an inspiration. This book should be required reading in High Schools. First account stories of what life was/is like for African Americans told with such beauty, honesty, and warmth.

I loved this book. It tells the story and the method of how to survive radical racism in American. This book is a primer for the turbulent times were are currently experiencing.

Great book, shipped quickly.

An inspiring book about a woman with a shining spirit. Excellent read. Highly recommend!

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