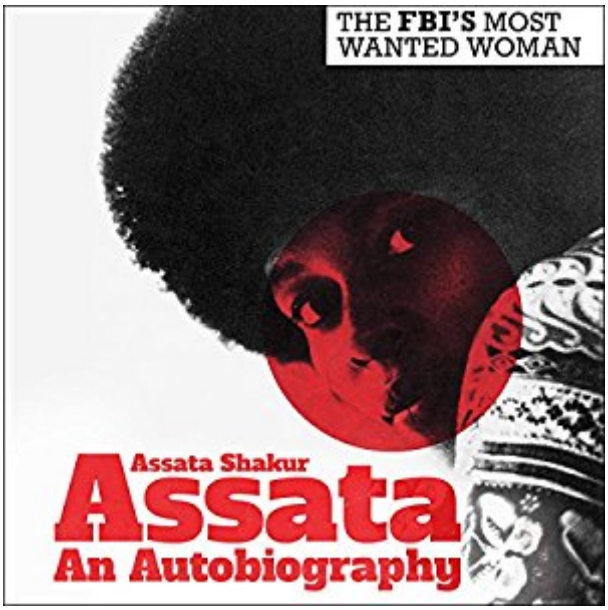
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Synopsis

In 2013 Assata Shakur, founding member of the Black Liberation Army, former Black Panther and godmother of Tupac Shakur, became the first ever woman to make the FBI's most wanted terrorist list. Assata Shakur's trial and conviction for the murder of a white State Trooper in the spring of 1973 divided America. Her case quickly became emblematic of race relations and police brutality in the USA. While Assata's detractors continue to label her a ruthless killer, her defenders cite her as the victim of a systematic, racist campaign to criminalise and suppress black nationalist organisations. This intensely personal and political autobiography reveals a sensitive and gifted woman, far from the fearsome image of her that is projected by the powers that be. With wit and candor, Assata recounts the formative experiences that led her to embrace a life of activism. With pained awareness she portrays the strengths, weaknesses and eventual demise of black and white revolutionary groups at the hands of the state. A major contribution to the history of black liberation, destined to take its place alongside The Autobiography of Malcolm X and the works of Maya Angelou. Foreword written by Angela Davis.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A must read! I love this book. It was very informative, and well written. Assate touched on some important topics in the book that most public schools in America would never teach. In my opinion, things are getting worse for blacks living in America! Blacks are still be oppressed by a system

which was meant to protect and serve them.

You really get an understanding of Assata's life and what she had to go through while dealing with the corrupted legal system. Not only that but you get to go inside the Black Liberation Movement as well as organizations within the movement and she points out good things as well as things that may need improvement in order for blacks and other oppressed group of people to really become liberated. this is an honest look at her life and her experiences. This is a must read for anyone that wants to get a better understanding of the BLM and how to take action against the oppressor which isn't just human but an entire system.

Assata' story is less romantic and more sobering of the hardship and growing pangs one must go through to live a meaningful life amidst the lives mediated by things or aspired for. Certainly this book could have been 300 pages more, written as a meditation of experience; we get a trajectory and logic, coming of age, and a dissenting narrative that is so important.

Assata was the first book for a book club my colleague and I started with our students. Our discussion of the book was not well attended, but it was lively. Assata tells her story and also includes some of her poetry; we all afreed that we liked her poetry. The compelling way she tells her story drew us all in. There were things that we wished we knew more about--her relationship with her family, especially her daughter who was born in prison, how she escaped, what her life is like in Cuba. Certainly, it is not prudent to reveal too much, since she is still a fugitive. Maybe we'll find out in her next book.

an accurate experience of the lives of many young black people during the sixties and early seventies when police brutality was used to oppress the majority of black communities. Yes, capitalism played a part but I believe that racial issues played the major part. Anyway, its a very good book and i highly recommend it.

I think the back and for the between prison and childhood was great. However, how did she become free and end up in Cuba? I read the book to answer that question along with reading some background. Seems like the book left out a lot.

Very Good book. Read as a novel more than an autobiography.

This book, in addition to being historically significant is beautifully written engaging storytelling. I can’t believe it hasn’t been adapted into a film. It alternates between stories of her childhood and stories of her inhumane treatment by police and the government. It is one of the best autobiographies I’ve read.

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