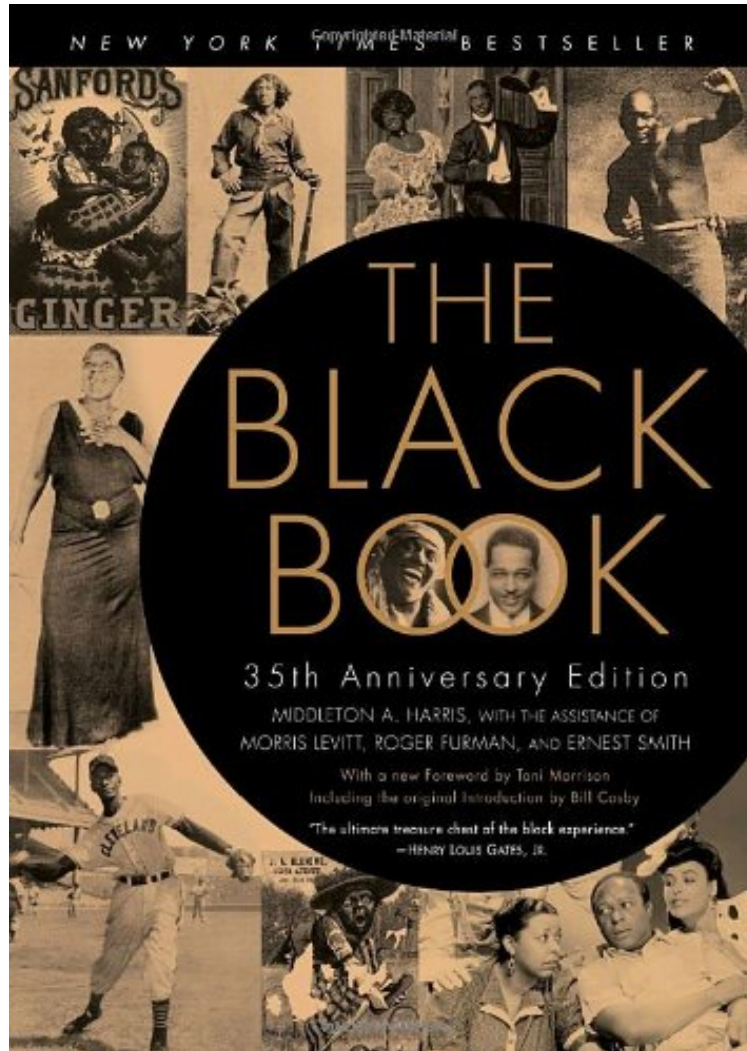


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## The Black Book: 35th Anniversary Edition

*From Random House*

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**From Random House : The Black Book: 35th Anniversary Edition** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Black Book: 35th Anniversary Edition:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent !!By BillofNY2NCWhether you're black or white this book is well worth the time and effort to read. I have not read all of it yet but I can tell you that from what I have read so far, I've learned a lot. I have always wanted to make an effort to learn more about African American history and I am finding this book to be an excellent resource. It touches on the very early years of slavery and the struggles for freedom. While some of the articles and photos in the book may be controversial and painful to some, I also believe that it is beneficial to include them to give the reader a sense of truth as to how things actually were during that time

period. Highly recommended. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. I highly recommend this book as a vital piece of real understanding ...By Michael A. Hughes A very well put together and comprehensive presentation of the African American experience in this nation's history and before. It awakens the emotions from sadness and rage, to pride and hopefulness. I highly recommend this book as a vital piece of real understanding of history, before it is washed away by today's conservative political efforts. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. One of the best books on black history in America ever...By Happy girl If you want to give a great gift for a history buff then get this. I had the original years ago. This one is much better and it's a great coffee table book and conversation piece. I love all of the little known facts in here and the patents. It is an invaluable resource. I will be giving some as gifts. It's a great book and every collector of history should have it in their library.

Seventeenth-century sketches of Africa as it appeared to marauding European traders. Nineteenth-century slave auction notices. Twentieth-century sheet music for work songs and freedom chants. Photographs of war heroes, regal in uniform. Antebellum reward posters for capturing runaway slaves. An 1856 article titled *A Visit to the Slave Mother Who Killed Her Child*. In 1974, Middleton A. Harris and Toni Morrison led a team of gifted, passionate collectors in compiling these images and nearly 500 others into one sensational narrative of the black experience in America: *The Black Book*. Now in a deluxe 35th anniversary hardcover edition, *The Black Book* remains a breathtaking testament to the legendary wisdom, strength, and perseverance of black men and women intent on freedom. Prominent collectors Morris Levitt, Roger Furman, and Ernest Smith, as well as Middleton Harris and Toni Morrison (then a Random House editor, now a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Nobel laureate) spent months studying, laughing at, and crying over these materials from transcripts of fugitive slaves trials and proclamations by Frederick Douglass and other celebrated abolitionists to chilling images of cross burnings and lynchings, patents registered by black inventors throughout the early twentieth century to vibrant posters from Black Hollywood films from the 1930s and 1940s. A labor of love and a vital link to the richness and diversity of African American history and culture, *The Black Book* honors the past, reminding us where our nation has been, and gives flight to our hopes for what is yet to come. Beautifully and faithfully presented, and featuring a new Foreword and original poem by Toni Morrison, *The Black Book* remains a timeless landmark work.

.com Book Description Seventeenth-century sketches of Africa as it appeared to marauding European traders. Nineteenth-century slave auction notices. Twentieth-century sheet music for work songs and freedom chants. Photographs of war heroes, regal in uniform. Antebellum reward posters for capturing runaway slaves. An 1856 article titled *A Visit to the Slave Mother Who Killed Her Child*. In 1974, Middleton A. Harris and Toni Morrison led a team of gifted, passionate collectors in compiling these images and nearly 500 others into one sensational narrative of the black experience in America: *The Black Book*. Now in a deluxe 35th anniversary hardcover edition, *The Black Book* remains a breathtaking testament to the legendary wisdom, strength, and perseverance of black men and women intent on freedom. Prominent collectors Morris Levitt, Roger Furman, and Ernest Smith, as well as Middleton Harris and Toni Morrison (then a Random House editor, now a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Nobel laureate) spent months studying, laughing at, and crying over these materials from transcripts of fugitive slaves trials and proclamations by Frederick Douglass and other celebrated abolitionists to chilling images of cross burnings and lynchings, patents registered by black inventors throughout the early twentieth century to vibrant posters from Black Hollywood films from the 1930s and 1940s. A labor of love and a vital link to the richness and diversity of African American history and culture, *The Black Book* honors the past, reminding us where our nation has been, and gives flight to our hopes for what is yet to come. Beautifully and faithfully presented, and featuring a new Foreword and original poem by Toni Morrison, *The Black Book* remains a timeless landmark work. Look Inside *The Black Book: 35th Anniversary Edition* Click on thumbnails for larger images *Cakewalking Couple* Courtesy of Verta Mae Grosvenor *Sunlight Soap: Advertisement, circa 1890* Courtesy of Verta Mae Grosvenor *Sculptured Mask: Ife Bronze Head, 13th century*. This head, uncovered in Ife, Nigeria, was made by the lost wax process long before Europeans reached the region (960-1160 A.D.) Courtesy of the Greater Acacia Collection *Sheet Music for The Funny Little Darkies (circa 1870)* *Movie Poster for While Thousands Cheer (1940)*, starring Kenny Washington and Mantan Moreland Courtesy of the Ernest Smith Collection *From Publishers Weekly* Starred . As fresh as the day it was born, 35 years ago, this category-smashing book is scrapbook, photo album, treasure chest and time capsule. An undated history of black life and culture in America emerges from the abundant photographs and contemporaneous reportage along with bountiful facsimiles of highly diverse articles (e.g., commercial advertisements, public notices, patent applications, sheet music and obituaries). Resonant scraps, photos and facts pepper the pages The land on which Madison Square Garden in New York now rests once belonged to a black woman, Annie d'Angola; a photograph of Leo Pinckney, the first draftee of World War I; a list of black jockeys who've won the Kentucky Derby. Subjects occasionally cluster, among them black resistance to slavery, slave art (e.g., quilts, clothing, tools and furniture) and voodoo. Toni Morrison's quiet editorial hand is subtly acknowledged by her preface, which, in 1974, appeared without attribution as back jacket copy. Given the celebrated status of this book, which remains as valuable and fresh as when newly made, and the

unlikelihood of another edition, an index would have been useful and welcome. Photos. (Nov.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "This book should be in every home to be read and shown to every child, at least until that child reaches age 12." Bill Cosby "The Black Book is an incredible testament to the strength, character, and endurance of a people never meant to succeed. Especially in these historic times, I can think of no better way to celebrate African American achievement than through a retrospective look at our history painful and pleasurable our shared experiences and our successes. This is a book no American black or white can afford to ignore." Dr. Cornel West, Princeton University "I love The Black Book. I vividly remember when it was published: I was a graduate student in England, at Cambridge, desperately looking for sources in the emerging field of African American Studies. Both the book and Toni Morrison's brilliant New York Times Magazine essay which I avidly devoured opened up for me the very possibilities for, and the keen attraction of, the use of documents and artifacts to recreate the full and rich narrative of African American History. I read it like one reads a coffee table book, making my way through its lovely pages leisurely; but I also used it religiously as a scholarly reference source. One of the beautiful things about this beautiful book is that it fulfills both functions, and does so with great aplomb. When The Black Book was published, virtually no one knew that these sources even existed. No single book has done more to shape the field of African American History than has this brilliantly conceived book. It is the ultimate treasure chest of the Black Experience." Dr. Henry Louis Gates Jr., Harvard University "A terrible error grew as humans spread out around the globe from our common ancestors in Southern Africa: race became a source of division and hierarchy instead of the minor adaptation to climate it truly was. The Black Book records some of the everyday suffering and wisdom that this false hierarchy has caused. There is not a member of the human family on earth who cannot learn from it." Gloria Steinem "The Black Book is an important document of American history that defines a people's strength, hope, and perseverance. By honoring the past, Toni Morrison's remarkable book sheds light on the present, and shows the unlimited potential for the future." Gay Talese "Terrific, terrific, terrific... tell the truth and shame the devil." Melvin Van Peebles, Writer/Director "Bountiful Resonant As fresh as the day it was born, 35 years ago, this category-smashing book is scrapbook, photo album, treasure chest and time capsule." Publishers Weekly, starred review