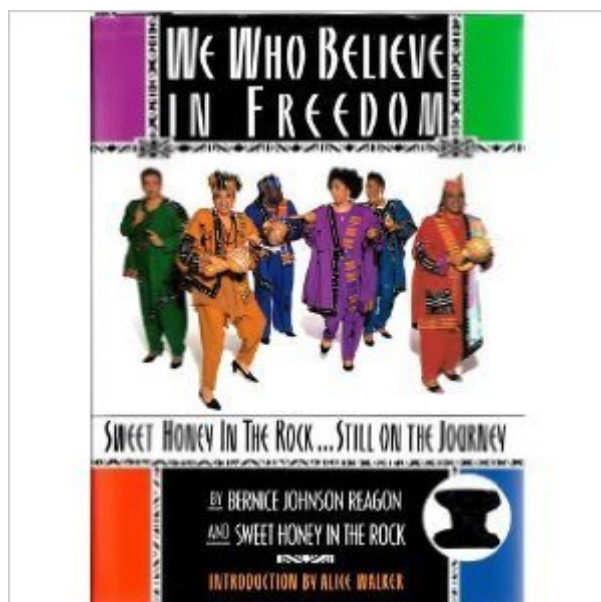


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We Who Believe In Freedom



Book Information

Paperback: 367 pages

Publisher: Anchor; First Edition edition (October 1, 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385468628

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (3 customer reviews)

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Voice

Customer Reviews

Named for a song chronicling the life of civil rights activist Ella Baker, this book is a must-read for anyone interested in social justice, music, or personal biographies of some of the greatest heroines of our time. Its chapters chronicle not only the 20-year journey Sweet Honey in the Rock has taken as a singing group and social/historical force within the African-American community, but also communicate the forces of its members' personal lives which brought them to the group and their experiences as its singers and herstorians. With each chapter contributed from someone with a connection to the group, the reader is brought from singer to audience member to organizer and even sound technician. All perspectives give insight into the group's amazing and unique dynamics. Perhaps the most riveting chapter is contributed by the group's founder and only constant member, Bernice Johnson Reagon. She shares the experience, wisdom and courage of a woman whose life has been shaped by and devoted to the study and preservation of African-American culture, history, social movements and the music that naturally encircles and drives these forces. As she explains her roots in a southern Black church, her experiences as a member of the SNCC's Freedom Singers, and her life as a fighter for freedom in this world, singing is emphasized as a natural part of one who lives a life devoted to struggle for change. It is never seen as a force apart. Singing is who she is, rising from her community membership and historical roots, and taking shape as a driving cultural force communicating hope and the continuing struggle for change.

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