



# A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story

By Elaine Brown

Download now

Read Online →

## A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story By Elaine Brown

Elaine Brown assumed her role as the first and only female leader of the Black Panther Party with these words: “I have all the guns and all the money. I can withstand challenge from without and from within. Am I right, Comrade?” It was August 1974. From a small Oakland-based cell, the Panthers had grown to become a revolutionary national organization, mobilizing black communities and white supporters across the country—but relentlessly targeted by the police and the FBI, and increasingly riven by violence and strife within. How Brown came to a position of power over this paramilitary, male-dominated organization, and what she did with that power, is a riveting, unsparing account of self-discovery.

Brown’s story begins with growing up in an impoverished neighborhood in Philadelphia and attending a predominantly white school, where she first sensed what it meant to be black, female, and poor in America. She describes her political awakening during the bohemian years of her adolescence, and her time as a foot soldier for the Panthers, who seemed to hold the promise of redemption. And she tells of her ascent into the upper echelons of Panther leadership: her tumultuous relationship with the charismatic Huey Newton, who would become her lover and her nemesis; her experience with the male power rituals that would sow the seeds of the party's demise; and the scars that she both suffered and inflicted in that era’s paradigm-shifting clashes of sex and power. Stunning, lyrical, and acute, this is the indelible testimony of a black woman’s battle to define herself.

**“A glowing achievement.”** —*Los Angeles Times*

**“Honest, funny, subjective, unsparing, and passionate. . . A Taste of Power weaves autobiography and political history into a story that fascinates and illuminates.”** —*The Washington Post*

**“A stunning picture of a black woman’s coming of age in America. Put it on the shelf beside *The Autobiography of Malcolm X.*”** —*Kirkus Reviews*

↓ [Download A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story ...pdf](#)

# A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story

By Elaine Brown

## A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story By Elaine Brown

Elaine Brown assumed her role as the first and only female leader of the Black Panther Party with these words: “I have all the guns and all the money. I can withstand challenge from without and from within. Am I right, Comrade?” It was August 1974. From a small Oakland-based cell, the Panthers had grown to become a revolutionary national organization, mobilizing black communities and white supporters across the country—but relentlessly targeted by the police and the FBI, and increasingly riven by violence and strife within. How Brown came to a position of power over this paramilitary, male-dominated organization, and what she did with that power, is a riveting, unsparring account of self-discovery.

Brown’s story begins with growing up in an impoverished neighborhood in Philadelphia and attending a predominantly white school, where she first sensed what it meant to be black, female, and poor in America. She describes her political awakening during the bohemian years of her adolescence, and her time as a foot soldier for the Panthers, who seemed to hold the promise of redemption. And she tells of her ascent into the upper echelons of Panther leadership: her tumultuous relationship with the charismatic Huey Newton, who would become her lover and her nemesis; her experience with the male power rituals that would sow the seeds of the party's demise; and the scars that she both suffered and inflicted in that era’s paradigm-shifting clashes of sex and power. Stunning, lyrical, and acute, this is the indelible testimony of a black woman’s battle to define herself.

“A glowing achievement.” —*Los Angeles Times*

“Honest, funny, subjective, unsparring, and passionate. . . *A Taste of Power* weaves autobiography and political history into a story that fascinates and illuminates.” —*The Washington Post*

“A stunning picture of a black woman’s coming of age in America. Put it on the shelf beside *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

## A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story By Elaine Brown Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #253712 in Books
- Brand: Anchor Books
- Published on: 1993-12-01
- Released on: 1993-12-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.20" h x .90" w x 5.90" l, 1.04 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 452 pages

 [Download A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story ...pdf](#)

## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Brown here relates the dramatic story of her youth, her political awakening and her role in the Black Panther Party when she succeeded her lover Huey Newton to become the group's first female leader. Though smoothly written, the book contains much reconstructed dialogue that may daunt readers. Brown's memoir takes her from a Philadelphia ghetto to California, from college to cocktail waitressing, from wanting to be white to joining the black power movement. She meets Eldridge Cleaver, George Jackson and Bobby Seale, goes to jail, visits North Korea and North Vietnam, debates Marxism and gets involved in Oakland, Calif., politics. When other Black Panthers seemed to lose sight of the revolution and seek power for its own sake, Brown, with a growing feminist consciousness, left the group. She now lives in France and expresses ambivalent feelings about the party she once loved. Having made her acquaintance, the reader wonders about her present life.

Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

Brown, who became involved in and eventually led the Black Panther party until 1977, here offers her autobiography. She traces both the growth and evolving philosophies of the party and her own attempts to help black women. She also describes the drug and domestic abuse within the party, as well as vividly depicting the violence committed against society at large. While Brown includes an objective and lengthy description of Panther founder Huey Newton, who brilliantly rallied black people in America, she also depicts a man whose drug and alcohol dependencies hindered the growth of the party. Brown's autobiography ends inconclusively: she does not seem to have grasped how her past actions presently affect her life. Does she experience feelings of guilt or regret? We don't find out, but her story is still interesting. *A Taste of Power* is recommended for large public and academic libraries and those with women's studies collections. Previewed in Prepub Alert, LJ 9/11/92, and "Malcom X: By Any Book Necessary," LJ 10/15/92 . -- Jeanine McAdam, Mt. Sinai Medical Ctr. Lib., New York

Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Review

"Profound, funny. . . . Movie makers, where are you? This narration is as wild and moving as *Bonnie and Clyde*. It's as adventurous as *Lawrence of Arabia*. It has more gore than 14 *Terminators*. And it also has beautiful, touching, heartbreaking accounts of a lonely black childhood. . . . Brown sees racial oppression in national and global context; every political word she writes pounds home a lesson about commerce, money, racism, communism, you name it. . . . A glowing achievement." —*Los Angeles Times*

"*A Taste of Power* is chilling, well-written, and profoundly entertaining." —*The New York Times Book Review*

"Honest, funny, subjective, unsparing, and passionate. . . . *A Taste of Power* weaves autobiography and political history into a story that fascinates and illuminates." —*Washington Post*

"A stunning picture of a black woman's coming of age in America. Put it on the shelf beside *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"A superb achievement. Finally I understood what the Black Panthers were all about. They were bold, daring, and beautiful, and so is *A Taste of Power*." —Claude Brown, author of *Manchild in the Promised*

*Land*

“What Elaine Brown writes is so astonishing, at times it is even difficult to believe she survived it. And yet she did, bringing us that amazing light of the black woman’s magical resilience, in the gloominess of our bitter despair.” —Alice Walker, author of *The Color Purple*

“This is the kind of book you develop a relationship with—one of those tumultuous, passionate relationships commonly reserved for lovers. I drank my morning coffee with it, and arrived at work in anticipation of returning to it in the evening. . . . Fascinating. . . . Remarkable.” —Farah Jasmine Griffin, *Boston Review*

“The writing is lyrical, poetic, searing, and staunchly intelligent, much I suspect like the author herself.” —Marita Golden, author of *Long Distance Life*

“With this book, Elaine Brown makes a crucial contribution to American history, African-American history, women’s history.” —Hattie Gossett, author of *presenting sister noblues*

“This is a powerful book on a personal level that tells Brown’s own story without sentimentality but with insight and candor. . . . A must for anyone interested in any insight into the organization.” —*New York Amsterdam News*

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Alex Lynch:**

Now a day people that Living in the era exactly where everything reachable by connect to the internet and the resources in it can be true or not require people to be aware of each details they get. How many people to be smart in getting any information nowadays? Of course the reply is reading a book. Examining a book can help men and women out of this uncertainty Information especially this A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story book since this book offers you rich information and knowledge. Of course the data in this book hundred percent guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

#### **Aaron Marks:**

A lot of people always spent their particular free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them household or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read a new book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent the entire day to reading a book. The book A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story it is very good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book provides high quality.

**Charlotte Cooper:**

As a scholar exactly feel bored to reading. If their teacher expected them to go to the library or make summary for some publication, they are complained. Just very little students that has reading's soul or real their pastime. They just do what the instructor want, like asked to the library. They go to at this time there but nothing reading really. Any students feel that studying is not important, boring and also can't see colorful photos on there. Yeah, it is being complicated. Book is very important to suit your needs. As we know that on this time, many ways to get whatever we would like. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story can make you really feel more interested to read.

**Nancy Thornton:**

Reserve is one of source of understanding. We can add our expertise from it. Not only for students but in addition native or citizen have to have book to know the update information of year to year. As we know those books have many advantages. Beside all of us add our knowledge, can also bring us to around the world. With the book A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story we can consider more advantage. Don't you to be creative people? To be creative person must like to read a book. Just choose the best book that suited with your aim. Don't end up being doubt to change your life by this book A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story. You can more pleasing than now.

**Download and Read Online A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story By Elaine Brown #YVX1DZHR3MT**

## **Read A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story By Elaine Brown for online ebook**

A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story By Elaine Brown Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story By Elaine Brown books to read online.

### **Online A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story By Elaine Brown ebook PDF download**

**A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story By Elaine Brown Doc**

**A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story By Elaine Brown Mobipocket**

**A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story By Elaine Brown EPub**

**YVX1DZHR3MT: A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story By Elaine Brown**