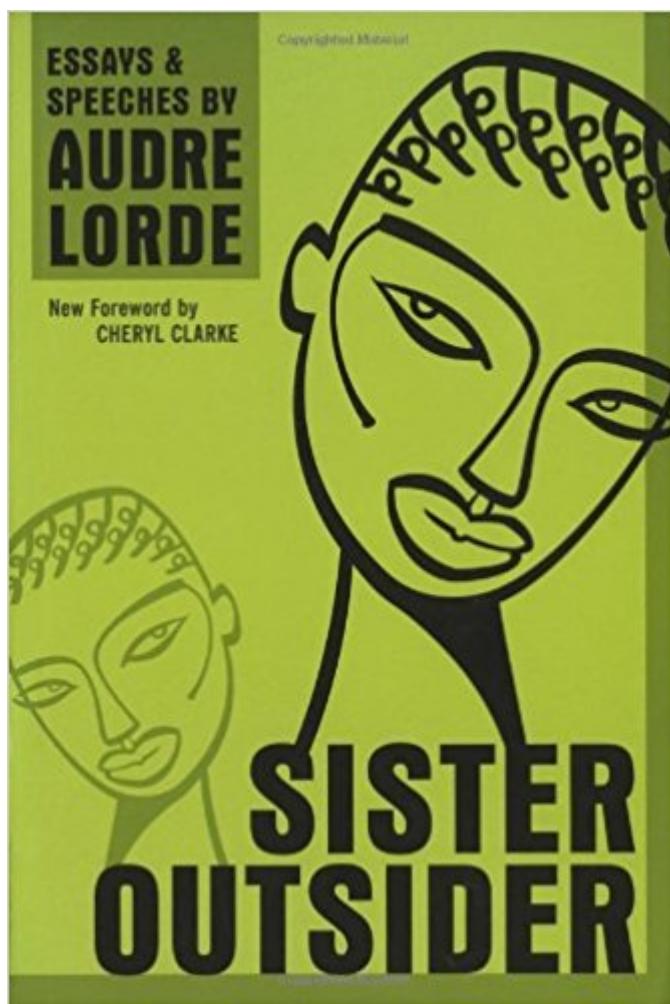


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# Sister Outsider: Essays And Speeches (Crossing Press Feminist Series)



## Synopsis

Presenting the essential writings of black lesbian poet and feminist writer Audre Lorde, *Sister Outsider* celebrates an influential voice in twentieth-century literature. In this charged collection of fifteen essays and speeches, Lorde takes on sexism, racism, ageism, homophobia, and class, and propounds social difference as a vehicle for action and change. Her prose is incisive, unflinching, and lyrical, reflecting struggle but ultimately offering messages of hope. This commemorative edition includes a new foreword by Lorde-scholar and poet Cheryl Clarke, who celebrates the ways in which Lorde's philosophies resonate more than twenty years after they were first published. These landmark writings are, in Lorde's own words, a call to "never close our eyes to the terror, to the chaos which is Black which is creative which is female which is dark which is rejected which is messy which is... [Lorde's] works will be important to those truly interested in growing up sensitive, intelligent, and aware." *New York Times*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"An eye-opener"- Publishers Weekly "[Sister Outsider is] another indication of the depth of analysis that black women writers are contributing to feminist thought."- Barbara Christian, PhD, author of Black Feminist Criticism: Perspectives on Black Women Writers

\*The classic collection of 15 essays and speeches by the prominent black lesbian feminist writer Audre Lorde, reissued with a new foreword by Cheryl Clarke. \*Required reading in many cultural

theory, literary criticism, gay/lesbian studies, and women's studies programs at universities.

\*â fIncludes landmark essays such as "Uses of the Erotic" and "Poetry Is Not a Luxury" and a seminal dialogue between Lorde and poet Adrienne Rich.

I cannot offer high enough praise for this work. It is an amazing collection. The pieces are thought-provoking, deeply moving, inspiring and so well written. The insights it offers are not to be missed. I couldn't stop talking about the book and the author and the important things she has to say. The impact is formed and heightened by the beautiful poetic composition and the direct and fearless way Lorde speaks. This book is beautiful, but it is also important, and worthwhile.

This is a staple read if you are interested in learning about intersectional feminism and you may even learn a little more about yourself in the process.

I wish I'd read this book 30 years ago when it came out. It's still as relevant today as it was then--and in many ways just as revolutionary. I'm not black, but it applies to anyone who does not run with the crowd and has a strong desire to look at things honestly in spite of the personal discomfort involved. Things need to change in the US--we need to see ourselves as in this thing together(life, the "American experiment"),and this book drives that home.

essential reading for feminists and gender studies majors. this book has a lot of writings to learn from

Outstanding! Everyone should read and hear about Poet Lorde.

This book pieces together many sources that create a fairly comprehensive picture of Audre Lorde. She makes one of the more compelling cases for why anger should be in the arsenal of minority-status groups, which is something I'm always struggling with in feminism, Black feminism, et al.

Great book. Very interesting.

Sister Outsider by Audre Lorde pushed me to think about equality from yet another angle. It's easy to think about equality from the point of view of one's own benefit, but when one expands out to

think about equality from the point of view of people with myriad experiences, the struggle isn't quite as easily defined as once thought. Sister Outsider explores myriad attitudes toward people facing inequality and explores how a one size fits all feminism isn't going to fix the problems of inequality. She explores division and judgment and conflicting attitudes mirroring racial issues, class issues, and ingrained belief systems. The essays and speeches included in Sister Outsider drive home the point that we need to listen to one another and find ways to work together instead of assuming one group's work will benefit everyone or that other people's equality can wait until later. Lorde spoke from her experience to provoke thought and perhaps an understanding that could bring together myriad interests by opening a dialogue. Sister Outsider gave me insight into the complexity of the struggle for equality created by the fracturing of the groups seeking equality.

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