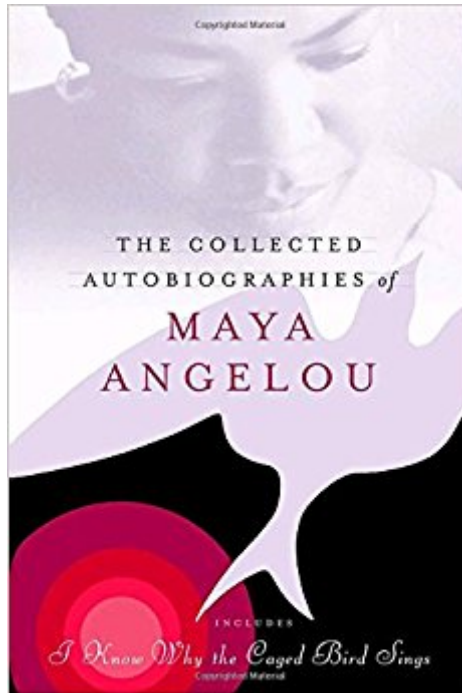




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The Collected Autobiographies Of Maya Angelou (Modern Library)



Synopsis

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER — Maya Angelou's classic memoirs have had an enduring impact on American literature and culture. Her life story is told in the documentary film *And Still I Rise*, as seen on PBS's *American Masters*. This Modern Library edition contains *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, *Gather Together in My Name*, *Singin' and Swingin'* and *Gettin' Merry Like Christmas*, *The Heart of a Woman*, *All God's Children Need Traveling Shoes*, and *A Song Flung Up to Heaven*. When *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* was published to widespread acclaim in 1969, Maya Angelou garnered the attention of an international audience with the triumphs and tragedies of her childhood in the American South. This soul-baring memoir launched a six-book epic spanning the sweep of the author's incredible life. Now, for the first time, all six celebrated and bestselling autobiographies are available in this handsome one-volume edition. Dedicated fans and newcomers alike can follow the continually absorbing chronicle of Angelou's life: her formative childhood in Stamps, Arkansas; the birth of her son, Guy, at the end of World War II; her adventures traveling abroad with the famed cast of *Porgy and Bess*; her experience living in a black expatriate "colony" in Ghana; her intense involvement with the civil rights movement, including her association with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Malcolm X; and, finally, the beginning of her writing career. The *Collected Autobiographies of Maya Angelou* traces the best and worst of the American experience in an achingly personal way. Angelou has chronicled her remarkable journey and inspired people of every generation and nationality to embrace life with commitment and passion.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“This testimony from a black sister marks the beginning of a new era in the minds and hearts of all black men and women. . . . I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings liberates the reader into life simply because Maya Angelou confronts her own life with such a moving wonder, such a luminous dignity. I have no words for this achievement, but I know that not since the days of my childhood, when the people in books were more real than the people one saw every day, have I found myself so moved. . . . Her portrait is a biblical study in life in the midst of death.”

•James Baldwin

“Simultaneously touching and comic.”

•The New York Times

“It is a heroic and beautiful book.”

•The Plain Dealer

“Maya Angelou is a natural writer with an inordinate sense of life and she has written an exceptional autobiographical narrative . . . a beautiful book”

•an unconditionally involving memoir for our time or any time.

•Kirkus Reviews

Superbly told, with the poet's gift for language and observation, Angelou's autobiography of her childhood in Arkansas - a world of which most Americans are ignorant.

This a collection of all 6 books & make an almost continuous narrative of Maya's early to mid-life, when she was in her early forties. What shines through is her enormous talent to face numerous challenges in life, albeit certain periods of depression. She doesn't deny that, beside a 2-year training in dance & song, she's not qualified for any profession. BUT, maybe because of it she learns basics of several languages, attracts friends, jobs & boyfriends so quickly & efficiently. It's truly amazing. I think the highest point in her life was being accepted & trained, on the spot, to perform a leading role in the first international performance of Gershwin's Porgy & Bess. It's shockingly eye-opening that it was in her late thirties that she realized there're quite a few white people who understand the blacks' incredible injustices in this country & are prepared to devote money & time to make a difference. The book is printed on excellent paper, with very good readable font. I highly recommend it to ALL people who can go through 1166 pages at any pace. For me it was page-turner : a unique story of a unique talent.

and her fortitude, grit and ability to bounce back time and time and time again. Family does win out. Her grandmother taught her to be proud of herself, and how to learn from books. Her mother, to know she could do anything she set her mind to. "To hope for the best but be prepared for the worst." How one woman knew and made friends with so many influential people is like a fairy story but oh so real. I wish I could thank her personally for such an incredibly well written set of autobiographies.

I started reading her first autobiography the same week she passed away. I was in the process of purchasing all of her additional autobiographies when I came across this gem! Now I have them all accessible to me at once without having to track down another book. She is inspiring and captivating! An excellent read.

I liked it, it was very well written and very, very interesting. The life she led was unexpected, by me. I was too young to know that what the blacks wanted was what the whites already had, by law. But the law didn't apply, to them. I'm happy that things have changed and everything seems to be somewhat in balance. There will always be radicals out there, but ... there will be a change.

Maya Angelou's autobiographies are an amazing and intimate journey through her life. I have loved her since I heard her read, "On the Pulse of Morning" at President Clinton's Inaugural. She has left us so many gifts. These autobiographies are just one of many. A must read for anyone who wants to understand that Maya Angelou's greatness was not only in her writing but also in how she overcame struggles in her life., thus providing us with an example we could all follow.

I fell totally in love with Maya Angelou when reading her autobiography! (Noe I am into her poems!) An excellent wrilter, and a woman not afraid to write about Eeverything! Her courage and ability to make the best of any situation are amazing. What a vary talented woman we have recently lost. I wish had read her many years ago. I intend to read and reread her books.

Amazing read, beautifully written, emotionally pulling. There is a reason she is so well known.

I had previously much of Angelou's poetry and one of her books, but it was good to learn of the details of her life. I learned more about her struggles as a single mother and the many thing she was

successful doing. What a wide range of talent she had. For me it was an advantage to have all of the books in one volume. Each book added depth to the life of Angelou.

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