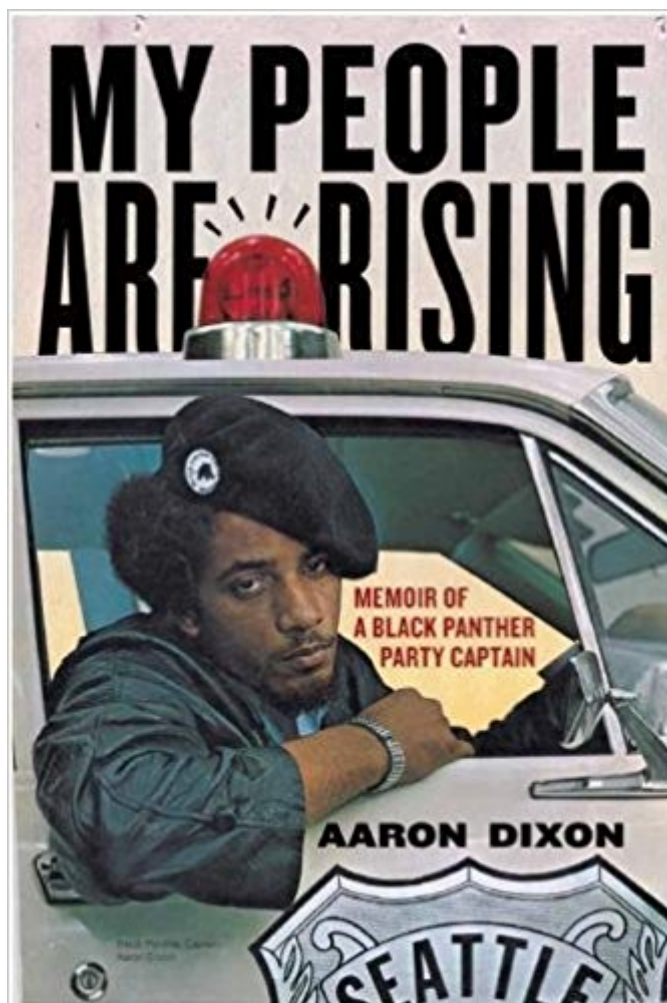


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# My People Are Rising: Memoir Of A Black Panther Party Captain



## Synopsis

In an era of stark racial injustice, Aaron Dixon dedicated his life to revolution, founding the Seattle chapter of the Black Panther Party in 1968 at age nineteen. In *My People Are Rising*, he traces the course of his own radicalization, and that of a generation. Through his eyes, we witness the courage and commitment of the young men and women who rose up in rebellion, risking their lives in the name of freedom. *My People are Rising* is an unforgettable tale of their triumphs and tragedies, and the enduring legacy of Black Power.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“This book is a moving memoir experience: a must read. The dramatic life cycle rise of a youthful sixties political revolutionary.”  
—Bobby Seale, founding Chairman and National Organizer of the Black Panther Party: 1966 to 1974  
“Aaron Dixon is a courageous, compassionate, and wise freedom fighter whose story of his pioneering work in the Black Panther Party is powerful and poignant. Don't miss it!”  
—Cornel West  
“Dixon's lyrical prose provides a candid appraisal of the Black Panther Party that highlights the neglected contributions of Northwest activists. This is a striking blend of social history, memoir and political analysis. Required reading for all those interested in black liberation struggles, and radical history of the 20th century.”  
—Laura Chrisman, editor-in-chief, *The Black Scholar*  
“My People Are Rising: Memoir of a Black Panther Party Captain” is the most authentic book ever written by a member of the Black Panther Party. Aaron Dixon does an absolutely superb job of presenting life in the Party from the

perspective of a foot soldier; a warrior for the cause of revolutionary change and Black Power in America. He pulls no punches and holds nothing back in writing honestly about those times (late 1960s and during the 1970s) as he successfully presents a visual picture of the courage, commitment, and sometimes, shocking brutality of life as a Panther activist in Seattle, Washington and Oakland, California. This is an unforgettable must read book!"

—Larry Gossett, Chair Metropolitan King County Council

There have been many books about the Black Panther party but never has there been a Panther book as illuminating as this memoir by Aaron Dixon. It's the story from a different perspective than we've ever seen: the former member who has remained a long-distance runner for revolution. It's indispensable for anyone with an interest in black politics or the politics of change in the United States.

—Dave Zirin, The Nation

**Aaron Dixon:** Aaron Dixon was co-founder and Captain of the Seattle chapter of the Black Panther Party. He has remained engaged in politics since, founding various non-profits for Seattle youth and running as a Green Party candidate in the 2006 Senate race. He lives in Seattle, WA.

The Author is family and proud to have Our story chronicled so well. Truly Well Done. J.W.Wilson III.

Read the new memoir, "My People Are Rising: Memoir of A Black Panther Party Captain" by Aaron Dixon, Haymarket Books, 2012, and not many pages in you'll find yourself on a non-stop thrill a minute wow o wow front row seat warts and all roller coaster ride through a turbulent era. "My People Are Rising" is an amazing book, honest to a fault informative, confessional and revelatory. "My People Are Rising" is a quick read edge of your seat page-turner with a real surprise ending. The main surprise in "My People Are Rising" is that while so many others including myself, have fallen by the wayside, Aaron is still around and despite everything, is still loyal to and very active in the ongoing struggles for human rights. "My People Are Rising" nails the turbulent '60's. Listen to any rock song check any documentary 1967, was a heady time to be young. Change was coming, everybody knew it, but nobody knew what that change would look like and everyone except maybe the folks on Star Trek suspected the worst. "My People Are Rising" nails the era. In 1966, I was 22, fresh out of the Army, new to Seattle and liking it well enough to take an even bigger chance than not returning back east, by leaving a promising but not quite my cup of tea skilled-trade job at Boeing and starting community college. Early in 1967, I saw a notice on a Laundromat bulletin board, went to a few meetings asked too many questions, didn't say no often enough and suddenly found myself named to a position I'd have to grow into as the Area Coordinator for the Student

Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) or "Snick". No staff, no money, and not much support from SNCC headquarters in Atlanta, our tiny group struggled until a visit that spring from Stokely Carmichael, and the arrival of two far more experienced organizers. One, real bookish but crazy guy, EJ Brisker, sent from SNCC in Atlanta and the other, a very earnest returning VISTA Volunteer and former high school basketball star, Larry Gossett. Together we organized demonstrations pickets leafleting campaigns, supported other causes, gave interviews and made appearances. When we felt local Democrats were ignoring our issues we switched parties, organized and got Mike Ross, a black candidate elected State Assembly District Representative as a Republican. Most importantly here, we took busloads of young people to conferences. Aaron and Elmer Dixon were among the very first SNCC volunteers and met Huey Newton and Bobby Seal on one of the bus trips organized by Seattle SNCC and the University of Washington Black Student Union. While some of us had reservations, Aaron and Elmer Dixon came back from that trip determined to become Panthers. Forty-five years later the journey continues and man what a long strange trip it has been. God Bless you Aaron Dixon, and Right-on!

really important read today

This is the absolute best book on the BPP I could find anywhere. It's the best because it's coming from a leader in the party, and thus making this book a very valuable resource for African American History.

Good

I have recommended this book the young organizers who are in the fronts lines, now. I was in the Young Worker's Liberation League during this period, in Seattle. Angela Davis was our National Chairman. We did not believe in armed violence, but where also targets of the Seattle Police and FBI. Young people need to know what may happen when you directly confront the the Government. So this book is useful in that regard.

Great historical panther book that tells the story how I never before heard.

The only reason I bought this book was because my deceased brother was mentioned in it. I never planned on reading anything outside of the paragraph that he was mentioned in. But about a week

ago I thought I'd read it until I got bored and then forget about it. Well, I never got bored. It's easy to read and it's a good book. Aaron Dixon did a great job.

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