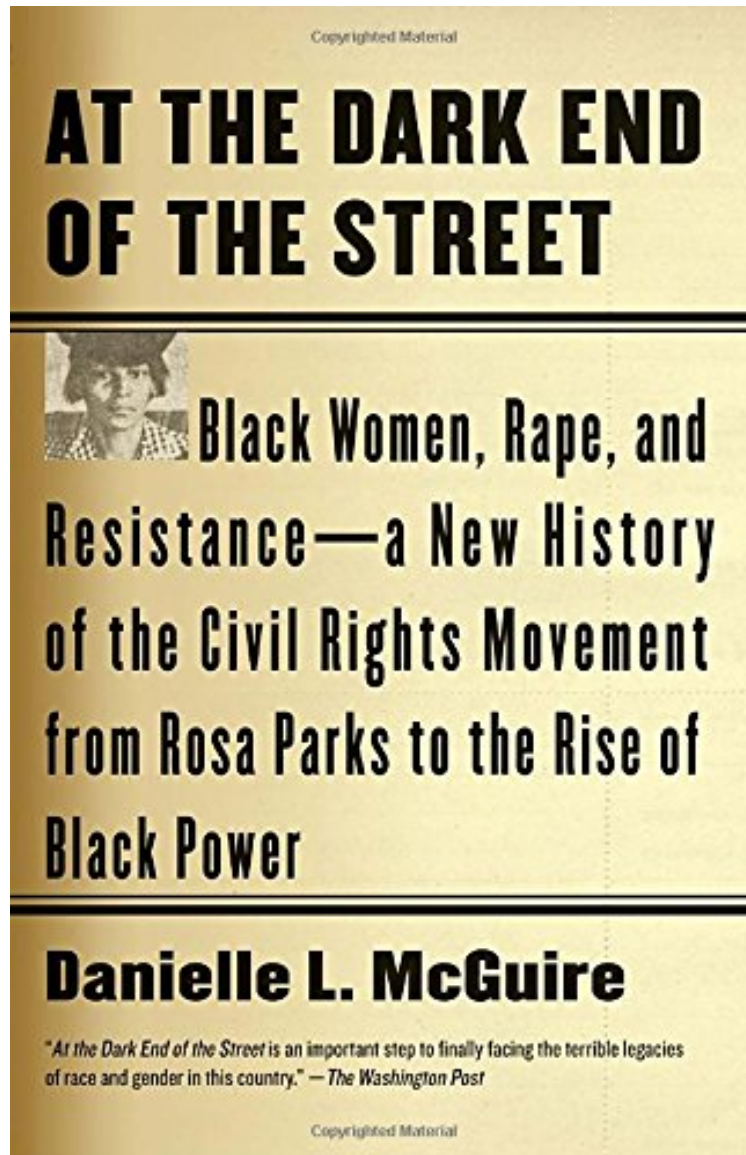


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# At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance--A New History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power

Danielle L. McGuire

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**Danielle L. McGuire : At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance--A New History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance--A New History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power*:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. If he is going to make stupid statements he should know his facts. By santa cruz woman Should be taught in all schools. It documents the special ongoing oppression of black women by rape. They grew up knowing their bodies were not their own but the property of any passing white. This book documents the courage with which they fought back against overwhelming odds to report these crimes and receive legal justice and the ongoing failure of state and federal powers to take steps. The bus boycott was organized and led by women against a system where bus drivers were free to beat them and sexually harass them. Many were beaten and raped and lost their jobs but in the face of death did not give up. The crimes detailed here are horrid to read but the courage of the women and men who protested should not be forgotten. The book has a lot of footnotes and a long bibliography for those who want to read more and she has interviewed many who took part. Others have pointed that Rosa Parks was an active freedom fighter and that other women had been protesting bus unequal practices. It is well written and very readable. Mike Ditka football player who just stated there has been no oppression in 100 yrs should be forced to read this. If he is going to make stupid statements he should know his facts. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Very Interesting Read. By ladyglammity This book is wonderful but sad and horrific concerning the things that have happened to african american women. The book is detailed so you must be able to read about gang rape, etc. If these issues are a trigger for you then reading this book is not a good idea. Certain parts made me cringe, and I had to stop reading at certain parts. With all of that said, it is a great read because it gives you another point of view of Rosa Parks and not just the Bus Boycott. She accomplished so much more than that. She was a key figure with the NAACP and I learned a lot about her life from this book. It is a tough read but I am so glad I got a chance to read it and learn about my history. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. We all know and love Rosa Parks as the tired woman who refused to ... By CynMcGuire opens with an extremely in depth account of the rape of Recy Taylor. The reader plummets into dialogue and descriptions that pertain to the rape of a woman coming home from church. Another woman enters the picture and her name is Rosa Parks, she is the investigator sent by the NAACP to document and assess this incident. In the first few pages of her book, Danielle McGuire has already made us question, why have we never heard this before? We all know and love Rosa Parks as the tired woman who refused to give up her seat, an action that supposedly started the Civil Rights Movement, and now we are informed that she was one of the NAACP's best investigators? How perverse, that we would not know this history. Historiographies such as McGuire's *At the Dark End of the Street* stresses the abilities of southern black communities the force that developed the infrastructure of the civil rights movement. Danielle McGuire presents us with a narrative of defending black womanhood as a means of fighting against white supremacy. Recy Taylor, and others like her, though rarely able to bring their attackers to justice, used their voices and their stories as direct action against the status quo.

Rosa Parks was often described as a sweet and reticent elderly woman whose tired feet caused her to defy segregation on Montgomery's city buses, and whose supposedly solitary, spontaneous act sparked the 1955 bus boycott that gave birth to the civil rights movement. The truth of who Rosa Parks was and what really lay beneath the 1955 boycott is far different from anything previously written. In this groundbreaking and important book, Danielle McGuire writes about the rape in 1944 of a twenty-four-year-old mother and sharecropper, Recy Taylor, who strolled toward home after an evening of singing and praying at the Rock Hill Holiness Church in Abbeville, Alabama. Seven white men, armed with knives and shotguns, ordered the young woman into their green Chevrolet, raped her, and left her for dead. The president of the local NAACP branch office sent his best investigator and organizer--Rosa Parks--to Abbeville. In taking on this case, Parks launched a movement that exposed a ritualized history of sexual assault against black women and added fire to the growing call for change.

From Booklist Long before Rosa Parks became famous for resisting Jim Crow laws, she was engaged in advocating for social justice for black women who were the victims of sexual violence at the hands of white men. Historian McGuire aims to rewrite the history of the civil rights movement by highlighting sexual violence in the broader context of racial injustice and the fight for freedom. Parks worked as an investigator for the NAACP branch office in Montgomery, Alabama, specializing in cases involving black women who had been sexually assaulted by white men--cases that often went untried and were the political opposite of the allegations of black men raping white women ending in summary lynching with or without trials. McGuire traces the history of several rape cases that triggered vehement resistance by the NAACP and other groups, including the 1975 trial of Joan Little, who killed a white jailer who sexually assaulted her. Despite the long tradition of dismissing charges brought by blacks against whites, several of the cases ended in convictions, as black women asserted their right to be treated justly. --Vanessa Bush A story of courage. . . . At the

Dark End of the Street is an important step to finally facing the terrible legacies of race and gender in this country. The Washington Post McGuire goes far beyond other historians in exploring the origins of the civil rights movement. A powerful book that should alter forever how the civil rights movement is viewed. Grand Rapids Press A vital retelling. Full of lively storytelling, and buttressed by excellent research, Danielle McGuire's provocative narrative forces readers to rethink what they know about that pivotal movement in U. S. history: its time frame, its actors, its legacy. Ms. One of those rare studies that makes a well-known story seem startlingly new. Anyone who thinks he knows the history of the modern civil rights movement needs to read this terrifying, illuminating book. Kevin Boyle, author of Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights and Murder in the Jazz Age, winner of the National Book Award. Valuable for reminding us of Parks' radicalism. She was not a frail old lady who wouldn't get up from her bus seat because she was tired and her feet ached. . . . A welcome corrective. The Independent Weekly (Raleigh, NC) Groundbreaking. . . . Inspiring. Elle People can learn about a new side of Rosa Parks. They can also discover other previously unknown female freedom fighters. Time This gripping story changes the history books, giving us a revised Rosa Parks and a new civil rights story. You can't write a general U.S. history without altering crucial sentences because of McGuire's work. Masterfully narrated, At the Dark End of the Street presents a deep civil rights movement with women at the center, a narrative as poignant, painful and complicated as our own lives. Timothy B. Tyson, author of Blood Done Sign My Name: A True Story McGuire restores to memory the courageous black women who dared seek legal remedy, when black women and their families faced particular hazards for doing so. McGuire brings the reader through a dark time via a painful but somehow gratifying passage in this compelling, carefully documented work. Publishers Weekly (starred review) Just when we thought there couldn't possibly be anything left to uncover about the civil rights movement, Danielle McGuire finds a new facet of that endlessly prismatic struggle at the core of our national identity. Diane McWhorter, author of Carry Me Home: Birmingham, Alabama, the Climactic Battle of the Civil Rights Revolution Eye-opening. Sacramento Book Following the lead of pioneers like Darlene Clark Hine, Danielle McGuire details the all too ignored tactic of rape of black women in the everyday practice of southern white supremacy. Just as important, she plots resistance against this outrage as an integral facet of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s. This book is as essential as its history is infuriating. Nell Irvin Painter, author of The History of White People About the Author Danielle L. McGuire was born in Janesville, Wisconsin. She attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and received her Ph.D. from Rutgers University. She is an assistant professor in the History Department at Wayne State University and lives in Detroit, Michigan.