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KING
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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929–1968), Nobel Peace Prize laureate and architect of the nonviolent civil rights movement, was among the twentieth century’s most influential figures. One of the greatest orators in U.S. history, Dr. King is the author of several books, including *Where Do We Go From Here* (Beacon Press). His speeches, sermons, and writings are inspirational and timeless classics. Dr. King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968.

The King Legacy Series will include Dr. King’s most important writings, published accessibly and in multiple formats, with new material underscoring King’s continued relevance for the twenty-first century.

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KING
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STRIDE TOWARD FREEDOM

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE

TRUMPET OF CONSCIENCE

WHY WE CAN’T WAIT

“ALL LABOR HAS DIGNITY”

STRENGTH TO LOVE

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Martin Luther King, Jr.
Stride Toward Freedom
The Montgomery Story

Introduction by Clayborne Carson

The classic story of nonviolent resistance in America—the Montgomery bus boycott—written by Martin Luther King, Jr.

In early 1957, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., set out to write about the Montgomery bus boycott. King described his book as “the chronicle of fifty thousand Negroes who took to heart the principles of nonviolence, who learned to fight for their rights with the weapon of love, and who, in the process, acquired a new estimate of their own human worth.”

Released the next year, *Stride Toward Freedom* was lauded by the general public and literary critics, often labeled “must reading.” Unavailable for almost a decade, King’s unparalleled historical account of the first successful large-scale application of nonviolent resistance in America is now must reading for a new generation of readers. In this revelatory work, King shares ideas of the thinkers, like Gandhi, who profoundly influenced him, and why.

“Martin Luther King’s early words return to us today with enormous power, as profoundly true, as wise and inspiring, now as when he wrote them fifty years ago.”
—Howard Zinn

Clayborne Carson is professor of history at Stanford University, the founding director of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Research and Education Institute, and director of the King Papers Project. The author and editor of numerous books, he is general editorial advisor to the King Legacy and lives in Palo Alto, California.

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Martin Luther King, Jr.
Where Do We Go From Here
Chaos or Community?

Foreword by Coretta Scott King

Introduction by Vincent Harding

The last book written by King—his final reflections after a decade of civil rights struggles

In 1967, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., isolated himself from the demands of the movement, rented a house in Jamaica with no telephone, and labored over his final manuscript. In this important work, which has been unavailable for more than ten years, we find King's acute analysis of American race relations and the state of the movement after a decade of civil rights efforts.

King lays out his thoughts, plans, and dreams for America's future, including the need for better jobs, higher wages, decent housing, and quality education. Today, as African American communities stand to lose more wealth than any other demographic during this economic crisis, King's call for economic equality and sustainability is especially pertinent. With a universal message of hope that continues to resonate, King demanded an end to global suffering, asserting that humankind—for the first time—has the resources and technology to eradicate poverty.

Coretta Scott King (1927–2006), the wife of Martin Luther King, Jr., was an American author and human rights activist. She helped lead the civil rights movement after King's assassination, carrying the message of nonviolence and the dream of a beloved community to many countries, and spearheading coalitions and foundations.

Civil rights activist **Vincent Harding** was a friend and colleague of King and worked with Coretta Scott King to establish the King Center in Atlanta, serving as its first director. A distinguished theologian and historian, he is the award-winning author of several books and lives in Denver, Colorado.

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Martin Luther King, Jr.
The Trumpet of Conscience

Original foreword by Coretta Scott King

New foreword by Marian Wright Edelman

MLK's final statements on racism, poverty, war, and the civil rights movement

In November and December 1967, Martin Luther King, Jr., delivered five lectures for the renowned Canadian Broadcasting Corporation Massey Lecture Series. The collection was immediately released by the CBC under the title *Conscience for Change*, but after King's assassination in 1968, the book was republished by Harper & Row as *The Trumpet of Conscience*.

Each oration found here encompasses a distinct theme and speaks prophetically to today's perils, addressing issues of racial equality, conscience and war, the mobilization of young people, and nonviolence. In addition, this attractive gift package includes the original audio recording of King delivering two of the lectures, "Conscience and the Vietnam War" and "A Christmas Sermon on Peace"—the latter a powerful, concluding speech that was a live broadcast of his 1967 Christmas Eve sermon at Ebenezer Baptist Church. These orations illustrate how King never lost sight of our shared goals for justice.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929–1968), architect of the nonviolent civil rights movement, was a Nobel Peace Prize laureate and one of the greatest orators in U.S. history. The author of several books, including *Stride Toward Freedom* (Beacon / 0069-4 / \$14.00 pb) and *Where Do We Go from Here?* (Beacon / 0067-0 / \$14.00 pb), King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968. **Coretta Scott King** (1927–2006), the wife of Martin Luther King, Jr., was an American author and human rights activist. Distinguished author and civil rights lawyer **Marian Wright Edelman** has been a lifelong advocate for disadvantaged Americans and is the president of the Children's Defense Fund.

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Martin Luther King, Jr.
Why We Can't Wait

Introduction by Dorothy Cotton

Dr. King's best-selling account of the civil rights movement in Birmingham during the spring and summer of 1963

In 1963, Birmingham, Alabama, was perhaps the most racially segregated city in the United States, but the campaign launched by Fred Shuttlesworth, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and others demonstrated to the world the power of nonviolent direct action.

Often applauded as King's most incisive and eloquent book, *Why We Can't Wait* recounts the Birmingham campaign in vivid detail, while underscoring why 1963 was such a crucial year for the civil rights movement. King examines the history of the civil rights struggle and the tasks that future generations must accomplish to bring about full equality. The book also includes the extraordinary "Letter from Birmingham Jail," which King wrote in April of 1963.

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Dorothy Cotton is the former education director for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and she worked closely with Dr. King on teaching nonviolence and citizenship education.

"No child should graduate from high school without having read this book. In telling the story of the third American Revolution, it is as integral to American history as the Declaration of Independence."

—Jesse Jackson

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Martin Luther King, Jr.
“All Labor Has Dignity”

Edited and introduced by Michael K. Honey

An unprecedented and timely collection of Dr. King’s speeches on labor rights and economic justice

People forget that Dr. King was every bit as committed to economic justice as he was to ending racial segregation. As we struggle with massive unemployment, a staggering racial wealth gap, and the near collapse of our financial system, King’s prophetic writings and speeches underscore his relevance for today.

Hitting all the civil rights movement highlights—Montgomery, Selma, Memphis, Albany, and Birmingham—award-winning historian Michael Honey traces King’s economic dream, from lectures to unions in the 1960s to addresses during his Poor People’s Campaign, culminating with his momentous “Mountaintop” speech, delivered in support of striking black sanitation workers in Memphis.

Gathered in one volume for the first time, the majority of these speeches will be new to most readers. They help us imagine King anew: as a human rights leader whose commitment to economic justice was a crucial part of his civil rights agenda.

Michael K. Honey, a former Southern civil rights organizer, is professor of labor and ethnic history and of humanities at the University of Washington-Tacoma. The author of three books, including *Going Down Jericho Road: The Memphis Strike, Martin Luther King’s Last Campaign*, he lives in Tacoma.

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Martin Luther King, Jr.
Strength to Love

Foreword by Coretta Scott King

The classic collection of sermons preached by Martin Luther King, Jr.

As Dr. King prepared for the Birmingham Campaign in early 1963, he drafted the final sermons for *Strength to Love*, a volume of his most well known homilies. King had begun working on the sermons during a fortnight in jail in July 1962. Having been arrested for holding a prayer vigil outside Albany City Hall, King and Ralph Abernathy shared a jail cell for 15 days that was, according to King, “dirty, filthy, and ill-equipped” and “the worse I have ever seen.” While behind bars, he spent uninterrupted time preparing the drafts for classic sermons such as “Loving Your Enemies,” “Love in Action,” and “Shattered Dreams,” and continued to work on the volume after his release.

As the first volume of sermons by an African American preacher widely available to a white audience, *Strength to Love* was a landmark work and remains a concrete testament to King’s lifelong commitment to preach the social gospel. His fusion of Christian teachings and social consciousness promotes King’s vision of love as a potent social and political force for change, the efficacy of religious faith in surmounting evil, and the vital need for true human integration.

Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968), Nobel Peace Prize laureate and architect of the nonviolent civil rights movement, was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee on April 4, 1968. He is the author of several books including *Trumpet of Conscience* (Beacon), *Stride Toward Freedom* (Beacon), and *Where Do We Go From Here?* (Beacon).

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