

No Way But This: in search of Paul Robeson. Scribe Publications Pty Limited, 2017.

9781925548143. 2017. 304 pages. Jeff Sparrow

The son of an escaped slave, Paul Robeson became a global African-American figure as a sportsman, scholar, actor who played Othello three times and above all as a singer with a voice of extraordinary resonance who excelled in both popular and classical music and remembered for 'Ol Man River. Robeson was a lifelong anti-Fascist, supporting the republican cause in the Spanish Civil War and encountering Nazism at first hand as he travelled through Germany in the thirties with his wife Essie and their white friend Marie. Robeson's father William became a minister of religion after escaping slavery, obtaining an academically prestigious degree in theology. "Paul Robeson was truly a giant of a man, in physical stature, courage, intellect, and creative endeavour. With this intimate and engaging portrait, we are able to gain an invaluable insight into a major political and artistic talent of the twentieth century. Ours is a time requiring inspiration, affiliation, and solidarity. There are many worthy books about the life of Paul Robeson, but this is one not to be missed." - - Red Flag. "...a splendid account of this fabulous figure...This is an intriguing life, beautifully realised by a fine writer, and should be widely read and appreciated." "Sparrow's book is a very effective and compelling way of introducing Robeson to readers not so interested in conventional biographies." - -Tayo Aluko, Morning Star. About the Author. Paul Robeson was a prize-winning scholar and the greatest footballer of his era, even before he ascended to global superstardom as a singer, Hollywood actor, and activist. The son of an escaped slave, Robeson stunned audiences with "Ol Man River" and Othello, as his passion for social justice led him from Jazz Age Harlem to the mining towns of Wales, from the frontiers of the Spanish Civil War to Stalin's Russia. Charismatic, eloquent, and handsome, he had everything and then lost it all for the sake of his principles. Jeff Sparrow traces Robeson's troubled life and stellar career, in a story IN NO Way But This, Jeff Sparrow recounts a personal pilgrimage from his native Australia to places around the world Paul Robeson visited, while assessing the impact his life continues to have today. From Sydney where Robeson's career ended in 1960 Sparrow continued via Greensboro and Williamston, North Carolina, where his father had been enslaved, to Robeson's birthplace in Princeton, New Jersey, and Harlem, New York, where he lived most of his adult life. Sparrow's book is a very effective and compelling way of introducing Robeson to readers not so interested in conventional biographies. Yet the section misleadingly described as "further reading" is actually a bibliography, listing the author's research sources, many of which had nothing at all to do with Robeson. Paul Robeson: The Life and Times of a Free Black M. by Eloise Greenfield | Hardcover. Pre-Owned. C \$6.96. From United States. Buy It Now. +C \$8.94 shipping. No Way But This: in search of Paul Robeson, Sparrow 9781911344292 New*. Brand New. C \$28.26. From United States. Buy It Now. Free International Shipping. No Way But This: in search of Paul Robeson, Sparrow 9781911617204 New*.