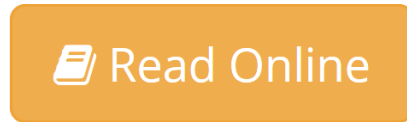


## Outlaw Woman: A Memoir of the War Years, 1960–1975, Revised Edition

By Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz



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In 1968, Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz helped found the Women’s Liberation Movement, part of what has been called the second wave of feminism in the United States. Along with a small group of dedicated women in Boston, she produced the first women’s liberation journal, *No More Fun and Games*.

Dunbar-Ortiz was also an antiwar and anti-racist activist and organizer throughout the 1960s and early 1970s and a fiery, tireless public speaker on issues of patriarchy, capitalism, imperialism, and racism. She worked in Cuba with the Venceremos Brigade and formed associations with other revolutionaries across the spectrum of radical politics, including the Civil Rights Movement, Students for a Democratic Society, the Revolutionary Union, the African National Congress, and the American Indian Movement. Unlike most of those involved in the New Left, Dunbar-Ortiz grew up poor, female, and part-Native American in rural Oklahoma, and she often found herself at odds not only with the ruling class but also with the Left and with the women’s movement.

Dunbar-Ortiz’s odyssey from Oklahoma poverty to the urban New Left gives a working-class, feminist perspective on a time and a movement that forever changed American society. In a new afterword, the author reflects on her fast-paced life fifty years ago, in particular as a movement activist and in relationships with men.

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### Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Named a "leader of the feminist movement" in Time and Life magazines, Dunbar-Ortiz (history, California State Univ., Hayward; Red Dirt; Roots of Resistance) takes the reader on a firsthand tour through the radical movements and events of the 1960s and early 1970s: South African apartheid, the Black Panthers, the Weather underground, and the antiwar and women's liberation movements. Dunbar-Ortiz cofounded an early feminist group, Cell 16, in Boston that published an influential journal, spoke extensively about women's liberation, worked in Cuba with people who had fought with Castro and Che Guevara, went underground, and was pursued by the FBI. Dunbar is frank about both her struggles and her triumphs. The reader will not find here an objective account of 1960s and 1970s U.S. history but an illuminating look at the inside of political organizing within the radical feminist and Socialist movements during that tumultuous and violent period. Although this is a memoir, Dunbar-Ortiz addresses so many historical events that readers unfamiliar with the period would have benefited from a bibliography. Recommended for academic libraries. Debra Moore, Cerritos Coll., Norwalk, CA

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From [Booklist](#)

Dunbar-Ortiz, currently a history professor, looks back on her earlier life at the forefront of the feminist movement and as publisher of the feminist journal *No More Fun and Games*. She recalls her life as a revolutionary in a period of social and political tumult, and the creation of the women's rights movement in the midst of the antiwar and civil rights struggles. Dunbar-Ortiz was a timid housewife when she left Oklahoma for California with her husband. As she developed and grew, she became enamored of feminist politics and eventually left her husband and young daughter for a peripatetic life of traveling, writing, teaching, and speaking out against oppression across the U.S and in Cuba and South Africa. She recalls her personal struggle to reconcile within herself the various frictions of the feminist, black-power, antiwar, and leftist groups. This masterful insider look at radical activism in the 1960s and 1970s is a follow-up to her memoir *Red Dirt: Growing Up Okie* (1997) and will especially appeal to devotees of the '60s. *Vanessa Bush*  
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Review

"Reminiscent of . . . "Living My Life," this . . . autobiography describes a feminist scholar's political coming of age during the turbulent '60s" -- *Chris Dodge, Utne Reader, July-August 2002*

"... a forcefully told, openly honest, and strongly charged saga of one women's daily struggle to get her message out..." -- *The Midwest Book Review, September 2002*

...[there's] no better experiential account of what propelled her...generation of activists into an 'irreversible direction and life-time commitment' -- *The Los Angeles Times, Sunday July 14th 2002*

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