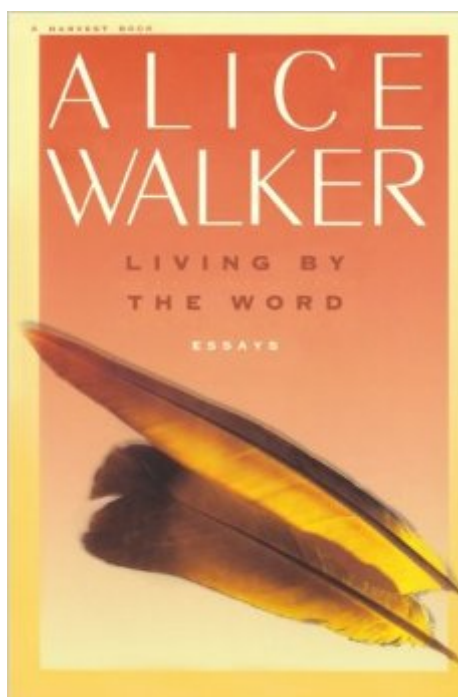


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Living By The Word: Selected Writings, 1973-1987



Synopsis

In meditative and passionate prose, these provocative essays explore feminist, environmental, and political issues and shed new light on racial debates, including the controversy surrounding Walker's™s bestseller, *The Color Purple*.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #105,621 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #41 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Women Authors](#) #56 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Women's Studies > Women Writers](#) #444 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Essays & Correspondence > Essays](#)

Customer Reviews

"Living by the Word: Selected Writings 1973-1987" is an excellent collection from prolific author Alice Walker. In this collection of essays and journal entries, Walker demonstrates the essential union of her political, spiritual, and artistic "selves." Walker writes about many topics: animal rights, her daughter's smoking habit, her father, the problematic legacy of Joel Chandler Harris, pioneering African-American thinker Benjamin Banneker, vegetarianism, Reggae legend Bob Marley, her own 1983 trip to China, and more. Particularly fascinating are her thoughts on the controversies surrounding her great novel "The Color Purple." Although the "New Age" vibe of much of the book may be too much for some readers, I found the book to be well-written and consistently interesting. Walker is a writer who has created a remarkable body of work, and "Living by the Word" is an excellent example of her passion and insight.

Thoroughly enjoyed her essays! You had an opportunity to travel with Alice as she journeys all over the world and other worlds greeting her ancestors. Each essay gave you the feel that she was in your living room, sharing from her life. Really enjoyable.

How could I not give it 5 stars?? All the emotion that is evoked coming from her soul & compassion for all living beings truly make for a beautiful compilation. Each new story is precious & makes one feel the need to pass this book around to all friends & acquaintances...

It was very interesting reading the journal and short speeches, etc. of Alice Walker, who has been one of my favorite writers for a long time. Her writings invoke a time many years ago when politics and reaction to government were somewhat more subject to active response on the part of the people. It was also insightful into her as a person, rather than just an author.

I love this book. Full disclosure time: I love the writing of Alice Walker, so I'd probably read her grocery lists if she published a compilation of them. But truly, this book is in my list of Top 20 Favorites of All Time. I found it in a bookstore on a bad day in a bad part of town during a bad period of a bad (back then) life. Reading this book every morning before going off to my bad job kept me sane. I loved it so much I didn't read the last few pages for a long, long time because I just didn't want to finish it. Walker sees the poetic truth of life and renders it in brilliant prose. She is absolutely a writer's writer. I love this book. (I know, I said that already... just... for emphasis.)

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