

(Ebook pdf) Racial Healing: Confronting the Fear Between Blacks Whites

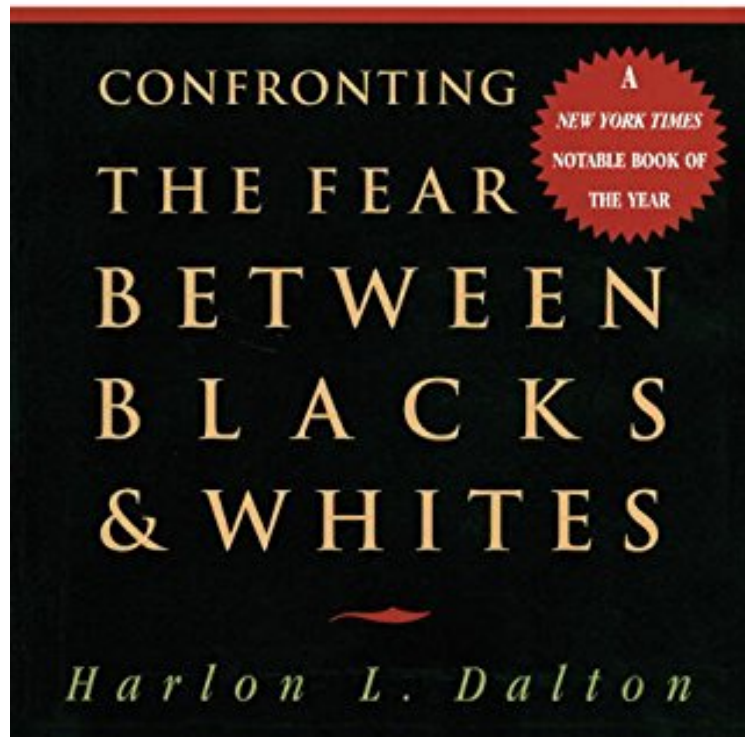
Racial Healing: Confronting the Fear Between Blacks Whites

Harlon L. Dalton

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"A careful, utterly candid, and engrossing analysis...To anyone deeply concerned about black-white relations in America...Dalton deserves a high-five—and a thorough read."—*CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR*

RACIAL HEALING



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Harlon L. Dalton : Racial Healing: Confronting the Fear Between Blacks Whites before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Racial Healing: Confronting the Fear Between Blacks Whites:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. DisappointingBy LuvtoreadThe book was recommended to me and since I am intrigued by the subject matter I bought it. I was deeply disappointed. I found the author's essay did not follow the chapter or section names. The author seemed to ramble. Some of the major points of existing racial bias still

extant in this country today which must have existed 20 years ago when this book was written were not addressed. There were some good moments, but overall I feel this book needed an editor's hand to reorganize and revise many areas. This book in my opinion does not address the racial issues of today and certainly does not live up to the title. 0 of 3 people found the following review helpful. ?By BCbought this book for a class that I didn't end up taking so i don't know much about it's content. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. easily one of the bestBy Chris FungThis is a very well-thought-out and very well-written book. After teaching a course on race and politics for 5 years now, I had despaired of finding a single book that introduces students to the core issues. I'm amazed to find that Prof. Dalton's book does just that: privilege, supremacy, class, gender, fear-mongering, alliance building. It's all here. Noting that this book is also ten years old, I have to say: "Dang, why didn't anyone tell me about this book before!" This is a book that is valuable for its analysis, but it's also valuable for the way in which he starts to address many of the problems that confront communities of color and white folks interested in social justice. Not only that, Dalton provides a couple of really exciting concrete examples of how common ground can be forged. Granted, some may find some of his discussion overly-rooted in middle-class experiences and in Christianity (one of the core examples for instance in this book is his discussion of the interracial gospel group "Salt and Pepper"). However, I don't think this is a negative: Dalton is leading from his strengths and if as Fannie Lou Hamer said, we have to pick up the bucket from where it lies, then middle-class alliance building is part of where it's at. For sure there are other books which discuss working-class coalitions (Steve Gregory's books are good examples of these), I don't begrudge Dalton his own choice of bucket. The brother has a fine mind, and a good way with words. He had me laughing out loud in places too. Highly highly recommended.

A New York Times Notable Book of the Year. Going against conventional wisdom, Dalton asserts that blacks and whites need not live estranged, and offers concrete proposals for what individual blacks and whites must do to bring about racial healing. When discussing race, Dalton suggests that blacks and whites "should simply put everything on the table. Own up to the tension. Acknowledge the risks. When someone inevitably screws up, rather than beat a hasty retreat, we should seize the opportunity to deepen the dialogue." The unflinching honesty of Dalton's views will spark debate and controversy. His vision of a truly just, multicultural America provides a thought-provoking, hopeful view to add to the diversity of debate over race.

From Publishers Weekly Yale Law professor Dalton argues for a more open and tolerant dialogue on race. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist "If you pick it, it will never heal" is poor advice, Yale law professor Dalton argues, on how to deal with race and the racial pecking order: we can hope to heal "what remains America's central social problem [only if we will] confront each other, take risks, make ourselves vulnerable, . . . put on the table all our fears, trepidations, wishes, and hopes," and unite "to transform how power and prestige are distributed in this society and, ultimately, the very meaning of race itself." Dalton's main goal here is honest engagement between Euro- and African Americans, and he spells out "What White Folk Must Do" (recognize the privilege white skin gives, accept joint ownership of the race problem, give up Horatio Alger, and resist the temptation to divide and conquer) and "What Black Folk Must Do" (retell their story in more complex, inclusive terms, restore community, take stock of African American culture, and build alliances with other people of color). Challenging as these prescriptions are, Dalton's book is lively and often funny, full of anecdotes that humanize issues too often viewed as abstractions. Mary Carroll From the Publisher Going beyond Cornel West's *Race Matters* and Derrick Bell's *Faces At The Bottom Of The Well*, Yale Law professor Harlon Dalton offers a tough but hopeful prescription for America's racial dilemma, based on the need for both blacks and whites to be brutally honest with each other about their fears and secret beliefs. In recent years, books dealing with the continuing conflict between blacks and whites have been enormously popular: Shelby Steele's *The Content Of Our Character* ; Stephen Carter's *Rejections Of An Affirmative Action Baby* ; Andrew Hacker's *Two Nations* ; Derrick Bell's *Faces At The Bottom Of The Well* ; Jim Nellson's *Volunteer Slavery* ; Nathan McCall's *Makes Me Want To Holler*. Building on this rich tradition of thoughtful and vibrant debate, *Racial Healing* offers the prospect of more open and harmonious relations between blacks and whites. When talking about race, Dalton writes blacks and whites "should simply put everything on the table. Own up to the tension. Acknowledge the risks. When someone inevitably screws up, rather than beat a hasty retreat, we should seize the opportunity to deepen the dialogue." Dalton's style is anecdotal, personal, and open -- not academic -- and his views will spark debate and controversy among and between blacks and whites, precisely because he is so honest with himself. After offering concrete proposals for what individual blacks and whites must do to bring about racial healing, Dalton presents a vision of what a truly just multiracial America might look like -- a note of hope long lacking in the debate over race.