



The Black Panther

is an African
cat

Poems of Exploration

and Testimony

by Wopashitwe Mondo Eyen we Langa



Wopashitwe Mondo Eyen we Langa (formerly, David Rice) began writing poems when he was 18, and has been locked up since he was 22. He and Ed Poindexter, leaders in the Omaha chapter of the Black Panther Party, were framed by the FBI and the Omaha Police Department for the murder of a police officer. They are victims of the FBI's notorious domestic spying, harassment, and disruption program code-named COINTELPRO, which targeted and attempted to "neutralize" U. S. citizens who were deemed by the FBI to be a "danger to the United States."

"Most of the poems and raps in this collection were written in the past 10 years or so. "The White Sea" is a poem i wrote in '69 or '70, before the case came down. It is included because i wrote it while i thought of us as "black," while i was in the Party, and while i was still on the street. It's also included because it's a poem that wound up, for me, being prophetic."

"But looking back on those days, i wish We, and i, had known that it was important and crucial for us to get to know our African selves, the history of our people, traditional African cultures and values. I wish We'd understood that the Black Panther was really an African cat."

House of August Press
P. O. Box 8224
Van Nuys, CA 91409

Distributed in the USA by:
Aframerican Bookstore
3226 Lake Street
Omaha, NE 68111
402-455-9200

U.S. \$9.95



TARGET ZERO

INTRODUCTION BY KATHLEEN CLEAVER
FOREWORD BY HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.
AFTERWORD BY CECIL BROWN

A LIFE IN WRITING

EDITED BY KATHLEEN CLEAVER



ELDRIDGE CLEAVER

"This excellent anthology is bound to add to our knowledge of one of the most fascinating personalities in American history."

—Ishmael Reed, prize-winning novelist and literary critic, author of *Flight to Canada* and *Airing Dirty Laundry*

FROM THE FOREWORD BY HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR., W. E. B. DU BOIS PROFESSOR OF THE HUMANITIES, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

"Eldridge was an imposing man: he was very tall, handsome, and had a sharp wit that was delightfully challenging. His humor comes across in the writings Kathleen has ably collected here, just as his depth of knowledge, his passion, and eloquence in expressing his beliefs come across in every line. This book is an enlightening testimony of a turbulent and controversial time, an essential historical record of the origins and development of Black Panther ideology, an exploration of the meaning of prison and exile, and ultimately the compelling saga of an unforgettable life.

These collected writings chart Eldridge's lifetime in his own words and thus, for the first time, the full arc of the intellectual transformation of this exceptional mind comes to light. In *Target Zero*, Eldridge Cleaver writes himself firmly and squarely and into the history of American letters."

Jacket design and illustration by PHIL PASCUZZO

\$27.95/\$37.95 Can.

ISBN 1-4039-6237-5



palgrave
macmillan

www.palgrave.com