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WE FLEW OVER THE BRIDGE
The Memoirs of Faith Ringgold

"Faith Ringgold has already won my heart as an artist, as a woman, as an African American, and now with her entry into the world of autobiography (where I dwell), she has taken my heart again. She writes so beautifully."—Maya Angelou

"Bridging is the major motif of Ringgold's life She is a bridge between the Harlem Renaissance and the civil rights era. She is a bridge between her mother's applied art of fashion design and her own fine art of painting and story quilts. She is a bridge between the black power movement and the women's movement. And she is a bridge between the abstract art that dominated the '60s and the issue-oriented art that connected with viewers' hearts—and lives."—Carrie Rickey, *Philadelphia Inquirer*

In *We Flew over the Bridge*, one of the country's preeminent African American artists—and award-winning children's book authors—shares the fascinating story of her life. Faith Ringgold's artworks—startling "story quilts," politically charged paintings, and more—hang in the Studio Museum in Harlem, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Guggenheim Museum, the Museum of Modern Art, and other major museums around the world, as well as in the private collections of Maya Angelou, Bill Cosby, and Oprah Winfrey. Her children's books, including the Caldecott Honor Book *Tar Beach*, have sold hundreds of thousands of copies. But Ringgold's path to success has not been easy. In this gorgeously illustrated memoir, she looks back and shares the story of her struggles, growth, and triumphs. Ringgold recollects how she had to surmount a wall of prejudices as she worked to refine her artistic vision and raise a family. At the same time, the story she tells is one of warm family memories and sustaining friendships, community involvement, and hope for the future.

Faith Ringgold was born in Harlem in 1930. She began painting more than forty years ago, and has exhibited in museums in the United States, Europe, South America, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. In addition to *Tar Beach*, the children's books she has written and illustrated include *Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad in the Sky*, *If a Bus Could Talk: The Story of Rosa Parks*, and *My Dream of Martin Luther King*. Ringgold has received more than seventy-five awards, fellowships, citations, and honors, including seventeen honorary doctorates. She lives in Englewood, New Jersey. Visit her website at: <http://www.faithringgold.com/>.