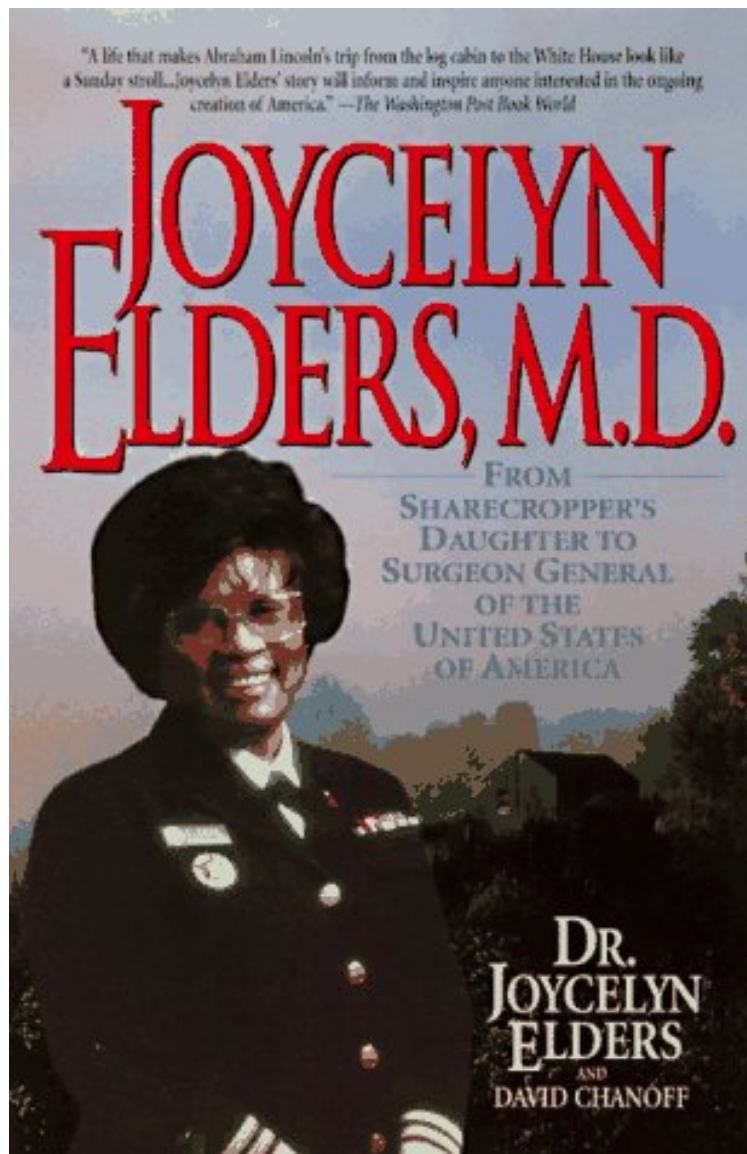


[Download] Joycelyn Elders, M.D. : From Sharecropper's Daughter to Surgeon General of the United States of America

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Joycelyn Elders

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Joycelyn Elders : Joycelyn Elders, M.D. : From Sharecropper's Daughter to Surgeon General of the United States of America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Joycelyn Elders, M.D. : From Sharecropper's Daughter to Surgeon General of the United States of America:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An important story from an extraordinary woman
By Sharon Fratepietro
I predict that this autobiography by Joycelyn Elders, M.D., will be read by future generations of history students to understand what it was like to grow up dirt-poor and black in the 20th century under Jim Crow in the American South. Through determination, natural intelligence, and a charismatic personality, Joycelyn Elders became not just a physician, but a medical school professor, state health director, and national Surgeon General. Readers of this book will note that her life did not just include personal achievement, but also the same sort of family problems that beset many, including mental illness and drug addiction. Dr. Elders' courage in pursuing health issues related to sexuality brought down the full wrath of the Religious Right and ultimately led President Bill Clinton to fire her for speaking the truth in her role as Surgeon General. History will judge whether Bill Clinton or Joycelyn Elders is the role model others will want to follow. This book deserves a place on every high school reading list today. All the rest of us will be inspired and gratified by Dr. Elders' remarkable story, told in a most appealing, conversational manner. Treat yourself to a copy of this book, and when you're finished reading it, pass it on as a gift to your best friend.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. If you like memoirs and American history, read this book
By Customer
Great book! I recommend it highly. Engaging, accessible. A remarkable life! Also an excellent way to learn about recent American history. I keep giving my copy of the book away and then have to buy another one.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
By Kathryn B.
Great story, and especially pertinent to today's issues.

In a dazzling American success story, and against all odds, Dr. Joycelyn Elders rose from an impoverished childhood as the great granddaughter of slaves to the highest medical position in the nation. Here is her inspiring life story, told with the candor and conviction that has fueled her controversial views on such subjects as abortion, sex education and drug legalization, and has made her a champion for the poor, people of color and women.

.com Dr. Elders, with David Chanoff, has written a folksy and humble account of her life's journey from sharecropper's daughter in rural Arkansas to Surgeon General of the United States. Interestingly, given the controversial circumstances of her forced resignation when she was demonized by the Republican right for open discussion of sexuality, Dr. Elders reveals an upbringing suffused with the sort of family values that she was accused of destroying. "There wasn't any alcoholism," she writes, "nor was there any talk of men beating their wives, or of separation or divorce either." Her own sex education was typically scant, and indeed one has the impression of a woman who remained somewhat naive on such matters even as she gained an education beyond the comprehension of her parents.
From Publishers Weekly
Elders (b. 1933), a professor of pediatrics at the University of Arkansas, began life in the rural town of Schaal, Ark., as the oldest of eight children born to a poor sharecropper father and a mother who taught her to read by the time she was five. In candid, gripping prose, Elders describes the segregated world of her youth, then details her career through her appointment as surgeon general. Awarded a scholarship to Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Elders became a physical therapist and joined the army to study medicine. Her work attracted the attention of Governor Bill Clinton, who appointed her director of the Arkansas Health Department and, later, surgeon general of the U.S. Her outspoken advocacy of sex education for teenagers caused controversy, and she was forced to resign. Elders does not blame the president for her resignation, and believes that Clinton's political enemies may have initiated the arrest of her son for selling drugs. Writer Chanoff has collaborated on nine other autobiographies. Photos not seen by PW. Author tour. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From Library Journal
Elders, currently a professor of pediatrics at the University of Arkansas Medical School, was for 15 months the U.S. surgeon general. In this memoir, she recounts her many accomplishments, focusing on her transformation from a poor black girl to a medical scientist. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.