

The Word of a Woman Feminist Dispatches 1968-1992 by Robin Morgan

Review by Evelyne Accad

Robin Morgan who, for more than twenty years has been at the forefront of the Women's Movement, award-winning poet, political theorist, activist, founder of the Sisterhood is Global Institute, the first international feminist policy group, currently editor in chief of Ms. magazine, writer of some of the most important works in the field--Sisterhood is Powerful, Sisterhood is Global, The Demon Lover: On the Sexuality of Terrorism to name a few-- has, once more struck a cord in this compilation of two decades of essays of "personal windows into the births, truths and changes of the Women's Movement."

Her essays cover the first Miss America Pageant protest in 1968 to the "divorce" from the New Left, from the first fights for abortion rights and against pornography and rape, to global feminist consciousness and actions around issues of racism, colonialism, neocolonialism, war and peace, the environment, etc. Among the essays that moved me most, and are most likely to touch readers in this part of the world, are: "The World Without Simone de Beauvoir," (1986) "Women in the Intifada," (1992). The book is full of powerful analysis and recordings of important events from "A Massacre in Montreal," (1990) to "The International Crime of Genital Mutilation," (1979).

Like Robin Morgan herself, so full of life, enthusiasm and projects, working till exhaustion, always ready to listen, give advice and help, always in tune with the downtrodden, her voice is intense, personal, joyful, sad, humorous, witty, meditative, theoretical, analytical, critical, praiseworthy, and passionate throughout. It comes out in strength and tenderness, making us laugh and cry,

making us conscious yet giving us hope in the future and providing us with a model to admire and follow.

Robin Morgan. The Word of a Woman: Feminist Dipatches 1968-1992. New York/London. Norton & Company. 1992. ISBN 0-393-03427-5

