



FOREWORD

Almost a decade ago in 2016, Anarchist organisation Black Rose Anarchist Federation published 'The Black Anarchism Reader'. It's an impressive collection with plenty of great discussions on lesser considered topics, individuals, and struggles.

In the British Isles, the majority of this conversation is held inside of over-priced books and academic papers; two things most people don't have access to. Many comrades of mine have never read anything by our peers. I hope the publication of this can help to change that, for everyone.

There are inevitable shortcomings with such a project, namely, there is certain to be a key text here or there that I've missed and countless authors, events, and debates I've never heard of, read up on or have forgotten. There's a distinct lack of discussion around of afro-pessimism for example as I struggled to find many black anarchists or anti-authoritarians talking about this in a brief, non academic manner.

As Atticus Bagby-Williams & Nsambu Za Suekama put it;

... black anarchism is not an academic discipline and cannot be approached as such; Black Anarchist politics resides within a culture of oral tradition, letters from jailed and/or exiled revolutionaries, and self-published literature in the form of 'zines, primarily because many initial Black Anarchist intellectuals emerged from prison struggles.

Black Anarchism and the Black Radical Tradition
2022

As such I've tried to include as many interviews, conversations and zines as possible, instead of just focusing on polished academic works. This reader is gonna be a mess of ideas and will lack context and nuance at times. I've, for the sake of providing as diverse a set of voices as possible - have tried to stick to one article per author in the main body of work, with some exceptions in the appendix.

