



# Mandela: The Authorized Portrait

*Kate Parkin*

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## **Mandela: The Authorized Portrait** Kate Parkin

'What makes Mandela so special is that he's a real human being. . . . He's got a real life. And the fact that he is so flesh-&-blood real makes his greatness & his sacrifice & his wisdom & his courage in the face of all that has happened to him even more remarkable.'" -From the foreword by President Bill Clinton Named one of "Time" magazine's 100 Most Important People of the 20th Century, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela has dedicated his life to fighting racism, segregation, oppression, & exploitation-& championing democracy, equality, & education. This book celebrates the courage, determination, & remarkable humanity of a great man & chronicles his extraordinary contribution to humankind. Much of the story in "Mandela: The Authorized Portrait" is told by those whose very lives he has touched. Drawing on 60 original and extensive interviews with family members, close friends, colleagues, & many of the world's leading figures in politics & entertainment, this book tells the inspirational story of an incredible man-from his birth & early childhood in rural South Africa & his involvement with and eventual leadership of the African National Congress through his 27-year imprisonment & eventual emergence as one of the world's notable leaders & most active agents for change. This richly designed portrait features a foreword by former U.S. president Bill Clinton & an introduction by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. It is illustrated with 250 images & features material taken from private collections as well as the Nelson Mandela Foundation archive-some of it published here for the first time. The book features artifacts & facsimiles of Mandela's voluminous writings & correspondence-written records of his negotiations with the prison authorities, intimate letters to his family & friends during his imprisonment, & material from Mandela's personal diaries & calendars. It is one of the most lavishly illustrated & comprehensive tributes to Nelson Mandela's life & work ever produced.

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