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PUBLISHER OF CUT-TH-EDGE CREATIVE
FIERCELY INDEPENDENT



YIPPIE GIRL EXPLOITS IN PROTEST AND DEFEATING THE FBI BY JUDY GUMBO



MARKETING POINTS:

- An insider, feminist perspective on 1960s anti-war, environmental, and other forms of activism.
- Features extensive excerpts from years of illegal FBI surveillance records obtained by the author after successful legal action.
- Author was extensively involved in such notable events as Chicago Conspiracy Trial, and other historical actions.
- In this time of new social justice movements, *Yippie Girl* provides a strategic guide for today's activists.
- As one of the few women directly involved in the original Yippie movement, author offers a unique perspective of standing up to the movement's dominant male power structure and succeeding on her own terms.

"A sharp-edged memoir of years of protest and resistance . . .
A welcome addition to the literature of radical activism."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Judy Gumbo was, and is, a badass . . . My advice to every young revolutionary, young feminist, or future badass out there looking to heal this troubled world? STEAL THIS BOOK!"

—*Alexandra Styron, author, Steal This Country*

In 1968, a 24-year-old woman moved to Berkeley, California and immediately became enmeshed in the Youth International Party, aka The Yippies, a recently-formed satirical protest group. In the next few years, Judy Gumbo (a nickname given her by Eldridge Cleaver), was soon at the center of counter-cultural activity—from protests in People's Park, to meetings at Black Panther headquarters, to running a pig for President at the raucous Democratic National Convention in Chicago, a protest that devolved into violent attacks by the police and arrests that led to the notorious Chicago Conspiracy Trial.

In this insider feminist memoir, Gumbo reveals intimate details of her fellow radicals Jerry Rubin, Anita & Abbie Hoffman, Eldridge Cleaver, Paul Krassner, Stew Albert, and more, detailing their experiences in radical anti-war protests and her own skirmishes with, and victory over, illegal FBI surveillance.

Yippie Girl explores Gumbo's life as a protester to show that, while circumstances always change, protesters can stay loyal to the causes they believe in and remain true to themselves. She also reveals how dogmatism, authoritarianism, and interpersonal conflict can damage those same just causes, offering a timeless and strategic guide for activists today protesting against injustice in all its forms.

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PHOTO BY GARY GOLDBERG



Judy Gumbo is one of the few female members of the original Yippies, a satirical protest group founded in the 1960s and involved in organizing Chicago 1968 protests that led to arrests, and the Chicago Conspiracy Trial. As part of her activism, Judy was involved in notorious feminist organizations, radical environmentalism, visited North Vietnam during the war, and traveled the globe agitating against the war and for the liberation of women. Her activism led to illegal surveillance by the FBI; she later successfully sued to obtain copies of their extensive records on her. Judy has a Ph.D. in Sociology and spent the majority of her professional career as an award-winning fundraiser for Planned Parenthood. She currently lives in a co-housing community in Berkeley, CA.

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High Praise for Judy Gumbo and YIPPIE GIRL: Exploits in Protest and Defeating the FBI

"We have to get our history right. So young folks can see where we were coming from . . . And **Yippie Girl** tells it like it is."

BOBBY SEALE Founding chairman and national organizer of the Black Panther Party

"A sharp-edged memoir of years of protest and resistance . . . A welcome addition to the literature of radical activism." **KIRKUS REVIEWS**

"Judy Gumbo was and is quite a dame. Her new book is splendid."

—**Susan Brownmiller**, feminist, activist, author, *Against Our Will, Men, Women and Rape*

"Irreverent, yet intimate . . . Yippies, Black Panthers, Chicago 8 defendants, the Capitol bombing, and FBI agents populate this politically important, feminist work."

—**Robert Meeropol**, son of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg; founder, the Rosenberg Fund for Children; author, *An Execution in the Family*

"With the world fractured by orchestrated divisiveness, **Yippie Girl** is a healing balm."

—**Meegan Lee Ochs**, daughter of Phil Ochs; Artist Relations Manager, ACLU of Southern California

"There are those who were anti-war activists in the 60s and 70s—and then there is Judy Gumbo . . . Always a powerful life force, Judy has turned into a powerful writer."

BILL RITTER News anchor, WABC-TV New York

"I first met Judy Gumbo at the Chicago Conspiracy Trial where I provided legal assistance to Bill Kunstler and Lenny Weinglass . . . **Yippie Girl** tells it as it actually was. And it ain't over yet."

MARIE "MICKI" LEANER Activist, Jane Collective, Chicago-based underground abortion service; co-founder, Women's Prison Project & The China Group

"At last! We so need to hear more voices of women involved in the 60s youth and anti-war movement."

ANIKO BODROGHKOZY Professor of Media Studies, University of Virginia; author, *Equal Time: Television and the Civil Rights Movement*

"Love the writing: VERY live, immediate—this does not feel like ancient history, it's living and breathing in our lives right now. It's part of our power, people power."

KRIS WELCH Host, *The Talkies*, KPFA-FM

"We've all read about the counter-cultural adventures of the Yippie Boys—Abbie Hoffman, Jerry Rubin, Paul Krassner, and Ed Sanders. Now we finally get to hear the real deal stories from the other side of the cisgender divide."

LARRY "RATSO" SLOMAN Author, *Steal This Dream: Abbie Hoffman & the Countercultural Revolution*

"Judy Gumbo is a great storyteller, though it helps that she has a great story to tell . . . Should be on the shelf of anyone interested in activism."

CRAIG PEARISO Associate Professor of Art History, Boise State University; author, *Radical Theatrics: Put-Ons, Politics, and the Sixties*

"An absolute delight to read, full of fascinating anecdotes, populated by a virtual Who's Who of the 60s countercultural left."

CHARLES L. PONCE LEON Professor of History and American Studies, Long Beach State University

"A must read for students of the 60s and anyone who wants a blue print for how to challenge the patriarchy."

CLARA BINGHAM Author, *Witness to the Revolution: Radicals, Resisters, Vets, Hippies, and the Year America Lost its Mind and Found its Soul*

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MICHAEL I. NIMAN Professor of Journalism, SUNY Buffalo State; author, *People of the Rainbow: A Nomadic Utopia*

"Indispensable for its insights into the antiwar, counterculture, and women's liberation movements."

ROBERT C. COTTRELL Professor Emeritus, History & American Studies, California State University, Chico

"One hell of a good read. . . . Judy Gumbo takes us into her Sixties world, and what a world it was!"

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"No one has recreated the 60s more vividly, more compassionately or with a more delicious sense of humor."

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LOUISE YELIN Professor Emerita, Literature and Gender Studies, Purchase College SUNY, feminist and anti-war activist

"Gumbo has written a romp—breathless, amazing & terrifying all at the same time."

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"[A] clear-eyed history . . . evidence of the important role she & other women played despite the efforts of the FBI to silence them and the efforts of movement men to either use or ignore them."

BETTY MEDSGER Author, *The Burglary: The Discovery of J. Edgar Hoover's Secret FBI*

"Judy Gumbo was, and is, a badass . . . My advice to every young revolutionary, feminist, or future badass out there looking to heal this troubled world? STEAL THIS BOOK!"

ALEXANDRA STYRON Author, *Steal This Country: A Handbook for Resistance, Persistence and Fixing Almost Everything*

"Behind every successful man is a woman—and behind every prominent Yippie guy was an unsung Yippie girl. One of the most fascinating is Judy Gumbo."

ROY RIVENBURG Syndicated columnist and former staff writer, *Los Angeles Times*

"Judy Gumbo, a principal figure in the Youth International Party. . . establishes her place among those she dubs winners of 'the Academy Award of Protest.'"

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JEFF JONES, advocates for good causes in upstate New York and **ELEANOR STEIN**, organizes, advocates and teaches about climate change, justice and human rights in upstate New York



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ABOUT JUDY GUMBO

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THE STORY BEHIND YIPPIE GIRL BY JUDY GUMBO (www.yippiegirl.com)

Judy Clavir Albert, known as Judy Gumbo, (b. June 25, 1943 in Toronto, Canada) is a Canadian-American activist. She was an original member of the Yippies, the Youth International Party, a 1960s countercultural and satirical anti-war group—along with fellow radicals Anita and Abbie Hoffman, Nancy Kurshan and Jerry Rubin, and her lover then husband Stew Albert. Judy received her nickname, “Gumbo,” from Black Panther Party leader Eldridge Cleaver. When Judy objected to Cleaver calling her “Mrs. Stew,” Cleaver nicknamed her Gumbo, because “Gumbo goes with Stew.”

Gumbo arrived in Berkeley in the fall of 1967 where she coordinated classified sex ads at the 60’s underground newspaper the *Berkeley Barb*. She helped found a more radical offshoot the *Berkeley Tribe*. The *Barb*’s publisher Max Scherr made his feelings about women’s liberation clear when he titled a piece Judy wrote, “Why the Women are Revolting.” In the Spring of 1968 Gumbo joined the Yippies in Chicago to run a pig named Pigasus for President during the Democratic National Convention. She went on to help stage the People’s Park protests in Berkeley and continued to advocate for women’s rights through W.I.T.C.H. (Women’s International Terrorist Conspiracy from Hell), a Yippie guerilla theater feminist group. In 1969-70 Gumbo attended the world-famous Trial of the Chicago 8 where she learned from her traditional woman’s job of disseminating the drama of the daily Trial transcripts that she who publicizes history can rule worlds.

In 1971 Judy broke up her relationship with Stew Albert. She moved to Washington D.C. to help organize the April 10th Women’s March on the Pentagon and the anti-war Mayday demonstrations—the largest mass arrest in U.S. history. In his recent book *Mayday 1971*; Larry Roberts recognizes Judy as one of only two female “key people” at Mayday and a major radical woman protester. After Mayday Judy began to question her sexual identity. She lived briefly in a lesbian commune but was what one commune member called “a Guest Lesbian.” Judy went on to protest the Vietnam War at both 1972 Democratic and Republican Conventions in Miami, Florida. Judy proudly notes this 1972 FBI report:

The subject JUDY GUMBO is considered to be the most vicious, the most anti-American, the most anti-establishment, and the most dangerous to the internal security of the United States.

Without her knowledge, the FBI had labelled Judy a “prime suspect” in a Weather Underground bombing. And put her under extraordinary but clandestine surveillance. Until, in 1975, Gumbo discovered a tracking device on her car. She brought a landmark lawsuit and discovered that the FBI had installed not one but two tracking devices, that her home had been burglarized seven times and a listening device installed. Judy’s lawsuit challenged warrantless wiretapping and the FBI’s illegal surveillance of her. She won—and received a \$20,000 settlement (a \$75,000 value in 2020) plus 1,300 pages of unredacted FBI files that include hilarious personal comments made by FBI agents—including FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover—about her.

In 1970, Judy and two other Yippie women had visited the former North Vietnam while the war still raged. In 2013, Judy returned to Vietnam to help celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Paris Peace Accords. In 2019 she visited a now unified Vietnam and was awarded a medal by the Vietnamese government to express that country’s gratitude for her activist role in helping end a horrific war in Vietnam.

Judy had divorced her unfaithful starter husband, actor David Hemblen, in 1968. She and Stew Albert were married from 1977 until Stew’s death in 2006. In 2008, she married David Dobkin, a co-founder of Berkeley Co-Housing, David died in 2014. Gumbo is now happily married to distinguished historian Arthur Eckstein. A Yippie friend and author calls Judy Gumbo “the Liz Taylor of the Yippies.”

Find Judy Gumbo on Facebook under Judy Gumbo Albert and Yippie Girl, follow @JudyGumbo on Twitter, or at Judy Gumbo on Wikipedia. The Stew Albert and Judy Gumbo Albert Archives are housed at the Labadie Collection of Social Protest at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor:

<https://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/f/findaid/findaid-idx?c=sclead&idno=umich-scl-albert>

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