



# Orange Is the New Black: My Year in a Women's Prison

*Piper Kerman*

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With a career, a boyfriend, and a loving family, Piper Kerman barely resembles the reckless young woman who delivered a suitcase of drug money ten years before. But that past has caught up with her. Convicted and sentenced to fifteen months at the infamous federal correctional facility in Danbury, Connecticut, the well-heeled Smith College alumna is now inmate #11187-424—one of the millions of people who disappear “down the rabbit hole” of the American penal system. From her first strip search to her final release, Kerman learns to navigate this strange world with its strictly enforced codes of behavior and arbitrary rules. She meets women from all walks of life, who surprise her with small tokens of generosity, hard words of wisdom, and simple acts of acceptance. Heartbreaking, hilarious, and at times enraging, Kerman’s story offers a rare look into the lives of women in prison—why it is we lock so many away and what happens to them when they’re there.

## **Praise for *Orange Is the New Black***

“Fascinating . . . The true subject of this unforgettable book is female bonding and the ties that even bars can’t unbind.”—*People* (four stars)

“I loved this book. It’s a story rich with humor, pathos, and redemption. What I did not expect from this memoir was the affection, compassion, and even reverence that Piper Kerman demonstrates for all the women she encountered while she was locked away in jail. I will never forget it.”—**Elizabeth Gilbert**, author of *Eat, Pray, Love*

“This book is impossible to put down because [Kerman] could be you. Or your best friend. Or your daughter.”—*Los Angeles Times*

“Moving . . . transcends the memoir genre’s usual self-centeredness to explore how human beings can always surprise you.”—*USA Today*

“It’s a compelling awakening, and a harrowing one—both for the reader and for Kerman.”—**Newsweek.com**

**Look for special features inside. Join the Random House Reader’s Circle for author chats and more.**

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