



## THE CO-OP: THE KIDS OF DORIE MILLER

A New Yorker examines her family's roots in New York City's first unsegregated housing co-op, finding and examining an old solution to the current affordable housing crisis.

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### SYNOPSIS

THE CO-OP: THE KIDS OF DORIE MILLER follows Paulina Davis, a former education law/disability rights attorney, as she uncovers her family's history at NYC's pioneering unsegregated housing co-op, The Dorie Miller Housing Co-operative ("The Co-op"). Founded by Congressman Adam Clayton Powell Jr., this housing complex aimed to combat housing discrimination. Paulina's journey leads her to her aunt Jackie, a resident from 1956 to 2016, who fondly recalls the close-knit community that embraced jazz legends like Jimmy Heath, Clark Terry, and Julian "Cannonball" Adderley.

It's that sense of community Paulina searches for when moving for the sixth time in nine years in an unaffordable market. Despite The Co-op's success, Paulina's quest unveils systemic housing problems that cast shadows. Aunt Jackie's 11-year struggle to claim her family apartment after her mother's death in 2004 highlights such challenges. Then, in 2019, the city foreclosed on The Co-op during the Thomas family apartment's sale.

Returning to her roots, Paulina connects with current and past residents fighting for The Co-op's legacy and future. And Paulina's journey compels her to challenge her ingrained notions about homeownership in a U.S. plagued by an affordable housing crisis.

### CONTACTS

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