

## **ANTI-RACISM RESOURCES**

### **Updated Additions to Original List Dated September 2020**

GENERAL & AFRICAN-AMERICAN

(Note: Charis Books of Decatur, Georgia

<https://www.charisbooksandmore.com> was a frequent source of the books listed, especially Fiction )

Haydenville Congregational Church

Peace & Justice Committee

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## **NON-FICTION BOOKS -- GENERAL**

**1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus** (2006) -- Charles C. Mann

This groundbreaking work of science, history, and archaeology radically alters our understanding of the Americas before the arrival of Columbus in 1492. Contrary to what so many Americans learn in school, the pre-Columbian Indians were not sparsely settled in a pristine wilderness; rather, there were huge numbers of Indians who actively molded and influenced the land around them. Challenging and surprising, this a transformative new look at a rich and fascinating world we only thought we knew.

**1493: Uncovering the New World Columbus Created** (2011) -- Charles C. Mann

A deeply engaging new history of how European settlements in the post-Colombian Americas shaped the world

**The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story** (2019) -- Nikole Hannah-Jones and The New York Times Magazine

A dramatic expansion of a groundbreaking work of journalism, this offers a profoundly revealing vision of the American past and present.

**Abolition. Feminism. Now.** (2021) -- Angela Y. Davis, Gina Dent, Erica R. Meiners

As a politic and a practice, abolition increasingly shapes our political moment -- halting the construction of new jails and propelling movements to divest from policing.

**Abolition for the People: The Movement for a Future Without Policing & Prisons** (2021) -- Colin Kaepernick, Editor

Edited by activist and former San Francisco 49ers super bowl quarterback Colin Kaepernick, this is a manifesto calling for a world beyond prisons and policing.

**Abolition Geography: Essays Toward Liberation** (2021) -- Ruth Wilson Gilmore

The first collection of writings from one of the foremost contemporary critical thinkers on racism, geography and incarceration brings together Gilmore's essays, articles and interviews from over the past two decades.

**An African American and Latinx History of the United States** (2018) -- Paul Ortiz

Spanning more than two hundred years, this is a revolutionary, politically charged narrative history, arguing that the "Global South" was crucial to the development of America as we know it. Scholar and activist Paul Ortiz challenges the notion of westward progress as exalted by widely taught formulations like "manifest destiny" and "Jacksonian democracy," and shows how placing African American, Latinx, and Indigenous voices unapologetically front and center transforms US history into one of the working class organizing against imperialism.

**African Proverbs for All Ages** (2021) -- Johnnetta Betsch Cole, Nelda Lateef  
(Illustrator)

An Oprah Book about the power of proverbs, how they evolve over time, and the wisdom of various cultures in Africa. It has been said that a proverb is a short sentence based on long experience.

**Afrikan Wisdom: New Voices Talk Black Liberation, Buddhism, and Beyond**  
(2021) -- Edited by: Valerie Mason-John

A spiritual, political, and interdisciplinary anthology of wisdom stories from Black liberation leaders and teachers.

**An Afro-Indigenous History of the United States** (2021) -- Kyle T. Mays

The first intersectional history of the Black and Native American struggle for freedom in our country that also reframes our understanding of who was Indigenous in early America. Beginning with pre-Revolutionary America and moving into the movement for Black lives and contemporary Indigenous activism, Mays argues that the foundations of the US are rooted in antiblackness and settler colonialism, and that these parallel oppressions continue into the present. He explores how Black and Indigenous peoples have always resisted and struggled for freedom, sometimes together, and sometimes apart.

**Against White Feminism: Notes on Disruption** (2021) Rafia Zakaria

A radically inclusive, intersectional, and transnational approach to the fight for women's rights. Upper-middle-class white women have long been heralded as "experts" on feminism. They have branded the language of the movement itself in whiteness by speaking over Black and Brown women in an effort to uphold privilege and perceived cultural superiority. Rafia Zakaria champions a reconstruction of feminism, centering women of color in this transformative overview and counter-manifesto to white feminism.

**All that She Carried** (2021) -- Tiya Miles

This book explores the history of a family through a cotton sack, embroidered with a list of mementos given from mother to daughter as they were about to be sold apart.

**America for Americans: A History of Xenophobia in the United States** (2019) -- Erika Lee

The United States is known as a nation of immigrants, but it is also a nation of xenophobia. This book shows that an irrational fear, hatred, and hostility toward immigrants has been a defining feature of our nation from the colonial era to the Trump era.

**America on Fire: The Untold History of Police Violence and Black Rebellion Since the 1960s** (2021) - Elizabeth Hinton

From one of our top historians, a groundbreaking story of policing and "riots" that shatters our understanding of the post-civil rights era.

**Bad Fat Black Girl: Notes from a Trap Feminist (2021) -- Sesali Bowen**

The funny and fearless entertainment journalist Sesali Bowen combines rule-breaking feminist theory, witty and insightful personal memoir, and cutting cultural analysis for an unforgettable, genre-defining debut.

**Be the Bridge (2019) -- LaTasha Morrison**

Focused on racial reconciliation.

**Becoming Abolitionists: Police, Protests, and the Pursuit of Freedom (2021)**

-Derecka Purnell

For more than a century, activists in the United States have tried to reform the police. From community policing initiatives to increasing diversity, none of it has stopped the police from killing about three people a day. These "solutions" do not match the problem: the police cannot be reformed. Purnell draws from her experiences as a lawyer, writer, and organizer initially skeptical about police abolition. She details how multi-racial social movements rooted in rebellion, risk-taking, and revolutionary love pushed her and a generation of activists toward abolition. Purnell shows that abolition is not solely about getting rid of police, but a commitment to create and support different answers to the problem of harm in society, and, most excitingly, an opportunity to reduce and eliminate harm in the first place.

**Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America: 1619-1964 (originally titled A History of the Negro in America) (1966) -- Lerone Bennett Jr**

Traces black history from its origins in western Africa, through the transatlantic journey and slavery, the Reconstruction period, the Jim Crow era, and the civil rights movement, to life in the 1990s.

**Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and its Urgent Lessons for Our Own (2020) -- Eddie S. Glaude Jr.**

James Baldwin grew disillusioned by the failure of the Civil Rights movement to force America to confront its lies about race. We live, according to Eddie S. Glaude, Jr., in the after times, when the promise of Black Lives Matter and the attempt to achieve a new America were challenged by the election of Donald Trump, a racist president whose victory represents yet another failure of America to face the lies it tells itself about race. We have been here before: For James Baldwin, the after times came in the wake of the Civil Rights movement, when a similar attempt to compel a national confrontation with the truth was answered with the murders of Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King, Jr. From this, Baldwin emerged with a sense of renewed purpose about the necessity of pushing forward in the face of disillusionment and despair. In the story of Baldwin's crucible, Glaude suggests, we can find hope and guidance through our own after times. Mixing biography with history, memoir, and trenchant analysis of our current moment, this is Glaude's attempt, following Baldwin, to bear witness to the difficult truth of race in America today. It is at once a searing exploration that lays bare the tangled web of race, trauma, and memory, and a powerful interrogation of what we all must ask of ourselves in order to call forth a new America.

**Behold the Land: The Black Arts Movement in the South** (2021) --James Smethurst  
Traces the movement's growing political power as well as its disruptive use of literature and performance to advance Black civil rights.

**Believing: Our Thirty-Year Journey to End Gender Violence** (2021) -- Anita Hill  
From the woman who gave the landmark testimony against Clarence Thomas as a sexual menace, Hill writes a new manifesto about the origins and course of gender violence in our society: a combination of memoir, personal accounts, law, and social analysis, and a powerful call to arms from one of our most prominent and poised survivors.

**Belly of the Beast: The Politics of Anti-Fatness as Anti-Blackness** (2021) --  
Da'Shaun L. Harrison  
Exploring the intersections of Blackness, gender, fatness, health, and the violence of policing.

**Bird Uncaged: An Abolitionist's Freedom Song** (2021) -- Marlon Peterson  
From a leading prison abolitionist, a moving memoir about coming of age in Brooklyn and surviving incarceration—and a call to break free from all the cages that confine us. This is a powerful debut that demands a shift from punishment to healing, an end to prisons, and a new vision of justice.

**Birth of a White Nation: The Invention of White People and Its Relevance Today** (2013) -- Jacqueline Battalora  
A fascinating book on race in America that begins with an exploration of the moment in time when "white people," as a separate and distinct group of humanity, were invented through legislation and the enactment of laws. The book provides a thorough examination of the underlying reasons as well as the ways in which "white people" were created. It also explains how the creation of this distinction divided laborers and ultimately served the interests of the elite.

**Black Futures** (2020) -- Kimberly Drew & Jenna Wortham  
This collection of work – essays, memes, dialogues, recipes, tweets, poetry, and more – tell the story of the radical, imaginative, provocative, and gorgeous world that Black creators are bringing forth today.

**A Black Gaze: Artists Changing How We See** (2021) -- Tina Campf  
Examination of Black contemporary artists who are shifting the very nature of our interactions with the visual through their creation and curation of a distinctively Black gaze.

**Black Genius: Inspirational portraits of African American Leaders** (2009) -- Dick Russell

Intimate, in-depth portraits, interviews, and essays of America's black leaders. Each figure is interconnected with the next, exploring themes of family and intergenerational community, spirituality, and diligence, activism, and struggle. These remarkable portraits reveal the true spirit of the American pioneers who forged much of the heart of this nation, but whose achievements have been largely overlooked.

**Black History 1619-2019: An Illustrated and Documented African-American History** (2019) -- Sandra K. Yocum & Frances P. Rice

An inspiring and educational journey through history and an in-depth look at the events which shaped the lives.

**The Black Intellectual Tradition: African American Thought in the Twentieth Century** (2021) -- Edited by: Derrick P. Alridge

Expansive in scope and interdisciplinary in practice, this delves into the ideas that animated a people's striving for full participation in American life.

**Black Radical Tradition: A Reader** (2022) -- Erin Grey, Asad Haider, Ben Mabie (Editors)

An exhaustive collection of black revolutionary theory from slavery and reconstruction to Black Power to Black Feminism

**A Black Woman's History of the United States** (2020) -- Daina Ramey Berry and Kali Nicole Gross

A vibrant and empowering history that emphasizes the perspectives and stories of African American women to show how they are—and have always been—instrumental in shaping our country. The authors reach far beyond a single narrative to showcase Black women's lives in all their fraught complexities. Berry and Gross prioritize many voices: enslaved women, freedwomen, religious leaders, artists, queer women, activists, and women who lived outside the law.

**Brujas: The Magic and Power of Witches of Color** (2021) -- Lorraine Monteagut, Ph.D.

This chronicles the magical lives of these practitioners as they extend their personal rituals to larger self-care and activist movements and use their services to empower young people of color.

**Carefree Black Girls: A Celebration of Black Women in Popular Culture** (2021) - Zeba Blay

An empowering and celebratory portrait of Black women—from Josephine Baker to Aunt Viv to Cardi B. In 2013, film and culture critic Zeba Blay was one of the first people to coin the viral term #carefreeblackgirls on Twitter. As she says, it was “a way to carve out a space of celebration and freedom for Black women online.”

**Carry On: Reflections for a New Generation** (2021) -- John Lewis

A brilliant and empowering collection of final reflections and words of wisdom from venerable civil rights champion, the late Congressman John Lewis at the end of his remarkable life.

**Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents** (2020) -- Isabel Wilkerson

Wilkerson argues that the racial tensions in the United States are better explained through the lens of caste, not race—a 400-year-old hierarchy placing white people at the top and Black people at the bottom. Wilkerson examines the different caste systems around the world and how they damage the lives of everyone involved, even those at the top. She believes that to understand how to move forward, we must examine the past and the racial structures that keep progress as a nation at bay.

**Change Everything: Racial Capitalism and the Case for Abolition** (2021) -- Ruth Wilson Gilmore, Naomi Murakawa (Editor)

Racial, gender, and environmental justice. Class war. Militarism. Interpersonal violence. Old age security. This is not the vocabulary many use to critique the prison-industrial complex. However, in this series of powerful lectures, Gilmore shows that the only way to dismantle systems and logics of control and punishment is to change everything from the ground up.

**The Choice We Face: How Segregation, Race, and Power Have Shaped America's Most Controversial Education Reform Movement** (2021)-- Jon N. Hale

A comprehensive history of school choice in the US, from its birth in the 1950s as the most effective weapon to oppose integration to its lasting impact in reshaping the public education system today.

**The Color of Money: Black Banks and the Racial Wealth Gap** (2019) -- Mehrsa Baradaran

When the Emancipation Proclamation was signed in 1863, the Black community owned less than one percent of the United States' total wealth. More than 150 years later, that number has barely budged. Baradaran pursues the persistence of this racial wealth gap by focusing on the generators of wealth in the Black community: Black banks. Studying these institutions over time, she challenges the myth that Black communities could ever accumulate wealth in a segregated economy. Instead, housing segregation, racism, and Jim Crow credit policies created an inescapable, but hard to detect, economic trap for Black communities and their banks.

**Colorization: One Hundred Years of Black Films in a White World** (2021) --Wil Haygood

Touching on everything from Blaxploitation to “Black Panther,” this new history uses film as a way explore Black culture. The book opens with “The Birth of a Nation” — “the movie that started it all,” a caption notes — and dives into the lives of prominent Black filmmakers and actors, including Spike Lee, Halle Berry, Sidney Poitier and Ava DuVernay.

**Cutting School: The Segrenomics of American Education (2017) -- Noliwe Rooks**

In an era characterized by levels of school segregation the country has not seen since the mid-twentieth century, cultural critic and American studies professor Noliwe Rooks provides a trenchant analysis of our separate and unequal schools and argues that profiting from our nation's failure to provide a high-quality education to all children has become a very big business. As our public education infrastructure crumbles, Rooks's book manages to find hope in the inspired individuals and powerful movements fighting to save our urban schools.

**The Dead Are Arising (2020) -- Les (and Tamara) Payne**

Biography of Malcolm X was a book that would bring one of the most important Americans of the 20th century into clearer focus, to show not just his family but the world in which he was born, to provide context for the man who more than any other leader of the 1960s moved Blacks to consider who we are, from whence we come and to plan for what we could become.

**Dear Science and Other Stories (2021) -- Katherine McKittrick**

Presents a creative and rigorous study of Black and anticolonial methodologies.

**Deep Diversity: A Compassionate, Scientific Approach to Achieving Racial Justice (2021) -- Shakil Choudhury**

Award-winning racial justice educator Shakil Choudhury explores the emotionally loaded topic of racism using a compassionate, scientific approach that everyone can understand.

**Democracy in Black: How Race Still Enslaves the American Soul (2017) -- Eddie S. Glaude Jr.**

A powerful polemic on the state of Black America that savages the idea of a post-racial society. America's great promise of equality has always rung hollow in the ears of African Americans. But today the situation has grown even more dire. From the murders of black youth killed by the police, to the dismantling of the Voting Rights Act, to the disaster visited upon poor and middle-class Black families by the Great Recession, it is clear that black America faces an emergency—at the very moment the election of the first Black president prompted many to believe we had solved America's race problem. Forceful in ideas and unsettling in its candor, this is a landmark book on race in America.

**Did That Just Happen?: Beyond "Diversity" -- Creating Sustainable and Inclusive Organizations (2021)- Stephanie Pinder-Amaker, Lauren Wadsworth**

An accessible guide showing all people how to create and sustain diversity and inclusivity in the workplace—no matter your identity, industry, or level of experience.

**Digital Black Feminism (2021) -- Catherine Knight Steele**

Traces the longstanding relationship between technology and Black feminist thought.



**The Diversity Gap: Where Good Intentions Meet True Cultural Change** (2021) -- Bethaney Wilkinson

A sweeping leadership framework to institute clear and intentional actions throughout your organization so that people of all racial backgrounds are empowered to lead, collaborate, and excel at work.

**Don't Let It Get You Down: Essays on Race, Gender, and the Body** (2021) -- Savala Nolan

A powerful and provocative collection of essays that offers poignant reflections on living between society's most charged, politicized, and intractably polar spaces—between black and white, rich and poor, thin and fat.

**Down Along with That Devil's Bones** (2021) -- Connor Towne O'Neill

A poignant exploration of the debate over Confederate monuments in America. O'Neill's dive into the history of these items and their impact is a timely contribution to the conversation on memorializing hate and the persistence of extremism in America.

**Eloquent Rage: A Black Feminist Discovers Her Superpower** (2018) -- Brittney Cooper

In the Black feminist tradition of Audre Lorde, Brittney Cooper reminds us that anger is a powerful source of energy that can give us the strength to keep on fighting. Far too often, Black women's anger has been caricatured into an ugly and destructive force that threatens the civility and social fabric of American democracy, but Cooper shows us that there is more to the story than that.

**Entertaining Race: Performing Blackness in America** (2021) -- Michael Eric Dyson

Black people were forced to entertain white people in slavery, have been forced to entertain the idea of race from the start, and must find entertaining ways to make race an object of national conversation. Dyson's career embodies these and other ways of performing Blackness, ranging from 1991 to the present.

**Field Study** (2020) -- Chet'la Sebree

A genre-bending exploration of Black womanhood and desire, written as a lyrical, surprisingly humorous, and startlingly vulnerable prose poem.

**The Fire Is Upon Us: James Baldwin, William F. Buckley Jr., and the Debate over Race in America** (2019) -- Nicholas Buccola

How the clash between the civil rights firebrand and the father of modern conservatism continues to illuminate America's racial divide

**The Fire This Time: A New Generation Speaks About Race** (2016) -- Jesmyn Ward

In this widely lauded collection, Jesmyn Ward gathers our most original thinkers and writers to speak on contemporary racism and race. She shines a light on the darkest corners of our history, wrestles with our current predicament, and imagines a better future.

**Five Days: The Fiery Reckoning of an American City** (2020) -- Wes Moore

An illuminating portrait of the 2015 uprising in Baltimore in the aftermath of the death of Freddie Gray.

**Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African-Americans 1619-2019** (2020)

--Ibram X. Kendi and edited by Keisha N. Blain.

A compilation of 90 authors spanning that period.

**Franchise: The Golden Arches in Black America** (2020) -- Marcia Chatelain

Reveals the untold history of how fast food became one of the greatest generators of black wealth in America.

**Full Dissidence: Notes from an Uneven Playing Field** (2021) -- Howard Bryan

A bold and impassioned meditation on injustice in our country that punctures the illusion of a postracial America and reveals it as a place where authoritarianism looms large. Whether the issues are protest, labor, patriotism, or class division, it is clear that professional sports are no longer simply fun and games. Rather, the industry is a hotbed of fractures and inequities that reflect and even drive some of the most divisive issues in our country.

**A Girl Is A Body of Water** (2021) -- Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi

An unforgettable, sweeping testament to the true and lasting connections between history, tradition, family, friends, and the promise of a different future.

**Halfway Home: Race, Punishment, and the Afterlife of Mass Incarceration** (2021) -- Reuben Jonathan Miller.

Miller wants us to understand incarceration's "afterlife" — how prison follows people "like a ghost," a permanent specter in the lives of the 19.6 million Americans who have a felony record. These people have done their time, but they're still constrained by what Miller describes as "an alternate form of citizenship."

**Hood Feminism: Notes from the Women That a Movement Forgot** (2021) -- Mikki Kendall

A great book about how to make Black women's issues more central to the progressive movement

**How the Word Is Passed: A Reckoning with the History of Slavery Across America** (2021) -- Clint Smith

Beginning in his hometown of New Orleans, Clint Smith leads the reader on an unforgettable tour of monuments and landmarks—those that are honest about the past and those that are not—that offer an intergenerational story of how slavery has been central in shaping our nation's collective history, and ourselves.

**How to Be An Antiracist (2019) -- Ibram X. Kendi**

Ibram X. Kendi's concept of antiracism reenergizes and reshapes the conversation about racial justice in America--but even more fundamentally, points us toward liberating new ways of thinking about ourselves and each other. Instead of working with the policies and system we have in place, Kendi asks us to think about what an antiracist society might look like, and how we can play an active role in building it.

**In Defiance: Little Known Seekers of Racial Justice and Equality Since the Dawn of Racism ( ? ) -- Dr. Amilcar Shabazz and Michael Weiner**

Uplifts 20 men and women, Black and white, who we still know little about.

**In Search of the Color Purple: The Story of an American Masterpiece (2021) -- Salamishah Tillet**

Prominent academic and activist Tillet combines cultural criticism, history, and memoir to explore Walker's epistolary novel and shows how it has influenced and been informed by the zeitgeist.

**An Indigenous People's History of the United States (2014) -- Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz**

The first history of the United States told from the perspective of Indigenous peoples. Today in the United States, there are more than five hundred federally recognized Indigenous nations comprising nearly three million people, descendants of the fifteen million Native people who once inhabited this land. The centuries-long genocidal program of the US settler-colonial regimen has largely been omitted from history. Now, for the first time, acclaimed historian and activist Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz offers a history of the United States told from the perspective of Indigenous peoples and reveals how Native Americans, for centuries, actively resisted expansion of the US empire. Spanning more than four hundred years, this classic bottom-up peoples' history radically reframes US history and explodes the silences that have haunted our national narrative.

**The Inner Work of Racial Justice: Healing Ourselves and Transforming Our Communities Through Mindfulness (2019) -- Rhonda Magee**

It is only by healing from injustices and dissolving our personal barriers to connection that we develop the ability to view others with compassion and to live in community with people of vastly different backgrounds and viewpoints. Incorporating mindfulness exercises, research, and Magee's hard-won insights, this book offers a road map to a more peaceful world.

**Invisible Child: Poverty, Survival and Hope in an American City** (2021) -- Andrea Elliott

Dasani was a precocious and spunky 11-year-old with limitless potential when Elliott, a Times investigative journalist, first met her at a Fort Greene homeless shelter in 2012. That encounter led to a five-part series shadowing Dasani as she navigated child poverty in New York City. For this book, Elliott immersed herself in the lives of Dasani and her family for eight years, at times slipping past security guards at the shelter. She also traces the family's ancestry back to a North Carolina slave plantation, telling a vivid and devastating story of American inequality.

**Island on Fire: The Revolt That Ended Slavery in the British Empire** (2020) -- Tom Zoellner

In 1831 enslaved Jamaicans revolted. What began as a peaceful movement soon became a bloodbath as British troops retaliated.

**Last Best Hope: America in Crisis and Renewal** (2021) -- George Packer

Acclaimed National Book Award-winning author George Packer diagnoses America's descent into a failed state, and envisions a path toward overcoming our injustices, paralyses, and divides

**The Last Slave Ships: New York and the End of the Middle Passage** (2020) -- John Harris

Long after the transatlantic slave trade was officially outlawed in the early nineteenth century by every major slave trading nation, merchants based in the United States were still sending hundreds of illegal slave ships from American ports to the African coast. John Harris explores how the U.S. government went from ignoring, and even abetting, this illegal trade to helping to shut it down completely in 1867.

**Lessons in Liberation: An Abolitionist Toolkit for Educators** (2021) -- Collective for the Education for Liberation

Born from sustained organizing, and rooted in Black and women of color feminisms, disability justice, and other movements, abolition calls for an end to our reliance on imprisonment, policing and surveillance, and to imagine a safer future for our communities.

**A Little Devil in America: Notes in Praise of Black Performance** (2021) -- Hanif Abdurraqib

A profound and lasting reflection on how Black performance is inextricably woven into the fabric of American culture. Each moment in every performance he examines has layers of resonance in Black and white cultures, the politics of American empire, and Abdurraqib's own personal history of love, grief, and performance.

**Life, I Swear: Intimate Stories from Black Women on Identity, Healing, and Self-Trust** (2021) -- Chloe Dulce Louvouezo

In this stunningly illustrated essay collection inspired by the popular podcast *Life, I Swear*, prominent Black women reflect on self-love and healing, sharing stories of the trials and tribulations they've faced and what has helped them confront pain, heal wounds, and find connection.

**Make Good the Promises: Reclaiming Reconstruction and Its Legacies** (2021) -- Kinshasha Holman Conwill and Paul Gardullo

An incisive and illuminating analysis of the enduring legacy of the post-Civil War period known as Reconstruction—a comprehensive story of Black Americans' struggle for human rights and dignity and the failure of the nation to fulfill its promises of freedom, citizenship, and justice.

**The Matter of Black Lives: Writing from The New Yorker** (2021) --Edited by: Jelani Cobb and David Remnick

A collection of The New Yorker's groundbreaking writing on race in America—including work by James Baldwin, Toni Morrison, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Hilton Als, and Zadie Smith.

**May We Forever Stand: A History of the Black National Anthem** (2021) -- Imani Perry

In this rich, poignant, and readable work, Imani Perry tells the story of the Black National Anthem as it traveled from South to North, from civil rights to Black power, and from countless family reunions to Carnegie Hall and the Oval Office.

**Mediocre: The Dangerous Legacy of White Male America** (2020) -- Ijeoma Oluo

Through the last 150 years of American history Oluo exposes the devastating consequences of white male supremacy on women, people of color, and white men themselves. *Mediocre* investigates the real costs of this phenomenon in order to imagine a new white male identity, one free from racism and sexism.

**Misogynoir Transformed: Black Women's Digital Resistance** (2021) -- Moya Bailey

When Bailey first coined the term *misogynoir*, a groundbreaking concept, she defined it as the ways anti-Black and misogynistic representation shape broader ideas about Black women, particularly in visual culture and digital spaces. She had no idea that the term would go viral, touching a cultural nerve and quickly entering into the lexicon.

**Nice White Ladies: The Truth about White Supremacy, Our Role in It, and How We Can Help Dismantle It** (2021) -- Jessie Daniels

An acclaimed expert illuminates the distinctive role that white women play in perpetuating racism, and how they can work to fight it.

**No Study Without Struggle: Confronting Settler Colonialism in Higher Education.**  
(2021) -- Leigh Patel

Examines how student protest against structural inequalities on campus pushes academic institutions to reckon with their legacy built on slavery and stolen Indigenous lands.

**Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen: The Emotional Lives of Black Women**  
(2021) -- Inger Burnett-Zeigler

Esteemed clinical psychologist, Dr. Inger Burnett-Zeigler, praises the strength of Black women, while exploring how trauma and adversity have led to deep emotional pain and shaped how they walk through the world.

**Not "A Nation of Immigrants": Settler Colonialism, White Supremacy, and a History of Erasure and Exclusion** (2021) -- Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

Debunks the pervasive and self-congratulatory myth that our country is proudly founded by and for immigrants, and urges readers to embrace a more complex and honest history of the United States.

**On Juneteenth** (2021) -- Annette Gordon-Reed

The essential, sweeping story of Juneteenth's integral importance to American history, as told by a Pulitzer Prize-winning historian and Texas native. Weaving together American history, dramatic family chronicle, and searing episodes of memoir, Gordon-Reed provides a historian's view of the country's long road to Juneteenth, recounting both its origins in Texas and the enormous hardships that African-Americans have endured in the century since, from Reconstruction through Jim Crow and beyond.

**Original Sisters: Portraits of Tenacity and Courage** (2021) -- Anita Kunz

From Joan of Arc to Josephine Baker, from Hippolyta to Greta Thunberg, from Anne Frank to Misty Copeland: these women made and changed history. But there are just as many whom you've never heard of, who were never recognized in their lifetimes, whose achievements need to be brought to light. They include the anti-Nazi activist Sophie Scholl, who was executed at age twenty-one by the Third Reich, and Alice Ball, a young African American scientist who discovered a treatment for leprosy but died tragically before she could receive credit for it. This is not only a breathtaking art book. *Original Sisters* also recounts the history that has been secret.

**Out of the Sun: On Race and Storytelling** (2021) -- Esi Edugyan

In a slim volume of essays mixing memoir and social history, the novelist offers "meditations" on an array of Black figures from around the world. She addresses race and representation, and explores with empathy what it means to be seen, and who remains unseen in our current culture.

**An Outkast Reader: Essays on Race, Gender, and the Postmodern South (Music of the American South #4)** (2021) -- Regina Bradley (Editor), Fredara Hadley (Contributor), Michelle Hite (Contributor)

The volume includes a who's who of hip-hop and African American studies scholarship, including Charlie Braxton, Susana M. Morris, Howard Ramsby II, Reynaldo Anderson, and Ruth Nicole Brown.

**Overground Railroad: The Green Book and the Roots of Black Travel in America** (2020) -- Candacy Taylor

Taylor, a cultural documentarian, traveled to thousands of sites mentioned in the Green Book, the essential guidebook for Black travelers braving American roads during Jim Crow. Highlighting threats such travelers faced, her lively, illustrated history is mindful of the ongoing struggle for Black social mobility today.

**Pause, Rest, Be: Stillness Practices for Courage in Times of Change** (Feb 2022) -- Octavia F. Raheem

Drawing wisdom from yoga philosophy and her many years of teaching experience, Octavia Raheem offers us the motivation and guidance we need to restore ourselves in the midst of all types of change. Raheem gives us three simple restorative yoga poses (savasana, side lying pose, and child's pose), and offers short teachings, reflections, and practices to show us how slowing down, stillness, and deeper connection to our own transitions empower us to move through collective shifts with more grace - and what it means to navigate shifts and change with presence and courage.

**A Peculiar Indifference: The Neglected Toll of Violence on Black America** (2020) -- Elliott Currie.

This comprehensive study by a veteran legal scholar argues that the extraordinary violence against Black lives is a result of the nation's refusal to address the structural roots of the problem.

**'Please Don't Sit on My Bed in Your Outside Clothes: Essays** (2021) -- Phoebe Robinson

Robinson, an actress, comedian and co-creator of the podcast *2 Dope Queens*, wrote her latest book of essays during the pandemic, taking up everything from Black Lives Matter to dating under lockdown to commercialized self care. Of course, there's plenty of levity — her way of coping.

**Pleasure Activism : The Politics of Feeling Good** (2019) -- Adrienne Maree Brown

How do we make social justice the most pleasurable human experience? How can we awaken within ourselves desires that make it impossible to settle for anything less than a fulfilling life? Author and editor Adrienne Maree Brown finds the answer in something she calls "pleasure activism," a politics of healing and happiness that explodes the dour myth that changing the world is just another form of work.

**The Poetics of Difference: Queer Feminist Forms in the African Diaspora (2021) --**  
Mecca Jamilah Sullivan

Black women writers and artists across the African Diaspora have developed nuanced and complex creative forms. Sullivan ventures into the unexplored spaces of black women's queer creative theorizing to learn its languages and read the textures of its forms.

**The Price of the Ticket: Collected Nonfiction: 1948-1985 (1985) --** James Baldwin  
An essential compendium of James Baldwin's most powerful nonfiction work, calling on us "to end the racial nightmare, and achieve our country."

**The Purpose Of Power: How We Come Together When We Fall Apart (2020) --**  
Alicia Garza

Long before #BlackLivesMatter became a rallying cry for this generation, Garza had spent the better part of two decades learning and unlearning some hard lessons about organizing. She reflects on how making room amongst the woke for those who are still awakening can inspire and activate more people to fight for the world we all deserve.

**A Question of Freedom : The Families who Challenged Slavery from the Nation's Founding to the Civil War (2020) --** William G. Thomas III .

Thomas focuses on the seven decades that preceded the Dred Scott decision, tracing the stories of several enslaved families in Maryland through the generations. Altogether, the families pursued more than a thousand freedom suits, a number of them successful.

**Race Against Time: The Politics of a Darkening America (2021) --** Keith Boykin

After a deadly pandemic, shocking incidents of police brutality, a racial justice crisis, and the fall of a dangerous demagogue, America remains more divided than at any time in decades. At the heart of this national crisis is the fear of a darkening America—a country in which there is no longer a predominant white majority

**Race For Profit: How Banks and the Real Estate Industry Undermined Black Homeownership (2019) --** Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor

Uncovers how exploitative real estate practices continued well after housing discrimination was banned. The same racist structures and individuals remained intact after redlining's end, and close relationships between regulators and the industry created incentives to ignore improprieties.

**Race Talk and the Conspiracy of Silence: Understanding and Facilitating Difficult Dialogues on Race (2016) --** Derald Wing Sue

This book debunks the most pervasive myths about race using evidence, easy-to-understand examples, and practical tools. It covers:

- Characteristics of typical, unproductive conversations on race
- Tacit and explicit social rules related to talking about racial issues
- Concrete advice for educators and parents on approaching race in a new way



**The Rage of Innocence: How America Criminalizes Black Youth** (2021) -- Kristin Henning

A brilliant analysis of the foundations of racist policing in America: the day-to-day brutalities, largely hidden from public view, endured by Black youth growing up under constant police surveillance and the persistent threat of physical and psychological abuse.

**Read This to Get Smarter: about Race, Class, Gender** (2021) -- Blair Imani

An approachable guide to being an informed, compassionate, and socially conscious person today—from discussions of race, gender, and sexual orientation to disability, class, and beyond.

**Reclaiming Her Time: The Power of Maxine Waters** (2020) -- Helena Andrews-Dyer, R. Eric Thomas

To millions nationwide, Congresswoman Maxine Waters is a hero of the resistance and an icon. Throughout her forty years in public service and eighty years on earth, she has been a role model and a crusader for justice, as well as one of the most powerful Black women in America.

**Reclaiming Our Space: How Black Feminists Are Changing the World from the Tweets to the Streets** (2019) -- Feminista Jones

Complex conversations around race, class, and gender that have been happening behind the closed doors of academia for decades are now becoming part of the wider cultural vernacular. With important online conversations, not only are Black women influencing popular culture and creating sociopolitical movements; they are also galvanizing a new generation to learn and engage in Black feminist thought and theory, and inspiring change in communities around them. Further, it explains why intersectional movement building will save us all.

**Revolution in Our Time: The Black Panther Party's Promise to the People** (2021) -- Kekla Magoon

This book connects the Black Panther Party to the Black Lives Matter movement.

**Right Within: How to Heal from Racial Trauma in the Workplace** (2021) -- Minda Harts

The essential self-help book for women of color to heal—and thrive—in the workplace.

**#SayHerName: Black Women's Stories of State Violence and Public Silence** (2021) - Kimberle Crenshaw

Since the movement's founding in 2014, #SayHerName has gained international attention and has served as both a rallying cry and organizing principle in the aftermath of police killings of Black women. It lifts up the stories of these women and girls in order to build a gender-inclusive framework for understanding, discussing, and combating police violence.

**Say It Loud: On Race, Law, History and Culture** (2021) -- Randall Kennedy

This collection of essays about racial politics and culture in America demonstrates Kennedy's commitment to reflection over partisanship and thinking over feeling.

**Say Their Names: How Black Lives Came to Matter in America** (2021) -- Curtis Bunn, et al.

An incisive, gripping exploration of the forces that pushed our unjust system to its breaking point after the death of George Floyd and a definitive guide to America's present-day racial reckoning.

**The Second: Race and Guns in a Fatally Unequal America** (2021) -- Carol Anderson

An unflinching, critical new look at the Second Amendment -- and how it has been engineered to deny the rights of African Americans since its inception.

**Shoutin' in the Fire: An American Epistle** (2021) -- Danté Stewart

A stirring meditation of being Black and learning to love in a loveless, anti-Black world. Stewart uses his personal experiences as a vehicle to reclaim and reimagine spiritual virtues like rage, resilience, and remembrance—and explores how these virtues might function as a work of love against an unjust, unloving world.

**Sickening: Anti-Black Racism and Health Disparities in the United States** (2021) -- Anne Pollock

An event-by-event look at how institutionalized racism harms the health of African Americans in the twenty-first century.

**The Sisters Are Alright: Changing the Broken Narrative of Black Women in America** -- second edition (2021) -- Jessica Louise, Halimah Washington, and Dr. Adia McClellan Winfrey

A slew of harmful stereotypes continues to follow Black women. The second edition of this bestseller debunks vicious misconceptions rooted in long-standing racism and shows that Black women are still alright.

**The Slave's Cause** (2017) -- Manisha Sinha

This book is a comprehensive new history of the abolition movement in a transnational context. It illustrates how the abolitionist vision ultimately linked the slave's cause to the struggle to redefine American democracy and human rights across the globe.

**Social Justice Parenting: How to Raise Compassionate, Anti-Racist, Justice-Minded Kids in an Unjust World** (2021) -- Dr. Traci Baxley

An empowering, timely guide to raising anti-racist, compassionate, and socially conscious children, from a diversity and inclusion educator with more than thirty years of experience.

**Solitary: A Biography** (2019) - Albert Woodfox

The life story of a man who served more than four decades in solitary confinement - all for a crime he did not commit. That he survived was, in itself, a feat of endurance against the violence and deprivation he faced daily. That he was able to emerge whole from his odyssey within America's prison and judicial systems is a triumph of the human spirit, and makes his book a clarion call to reform the inhumanity of solitary confinement in the U.S. and around the world.

**Soul City: Race, Equality, and the Lost Dream of an American Utopia** (2021) -- Thomas Healy.

In the 1970s, Floyd McKissick, a civil rights activist, set out to create a Black-run city in rural North Carolina. Healy's account is a parable of America's tragic racial past and its insidious legacy. "McKissick's dream, struggle and, ultimately, failure to build an American city on behalf of Black citizens is one of the greatest least-told stories in American history."

**The Souls of Black Folk** (1903) -- W. E. B. Du Bois.

Du Bois, born in Great Barrington Mass, was the great grandson of a man who won his freedom by fighting in the Revolutionary War. Du Bois was the first African American to earn a Doctorate at Harvard. The book is a collection of essays that are amazingly predictive of the problems of today.

**South to America: A Journey Below the Mason-Dixon to Understand the Soul of a Nation** (January 2022) -- Imani Perry

The idiosyncrasies, dispositions, and habits of the South are stranger and more complex than much of the country tends to acknowledge. In *South to America*, Imani Perry shows that the meaning of *American* is inextricably linked with the South, and that our understanding of its history and culture is the key to understanding the nation as a whole.

**The Spirit of Our Work: Black Women Teachers (Re)Member** (2021) -- Dr. Cynthia B. Dillard

An exploration of how engaging identity and cultural heritage can transform teaching and learning for Black women educators in the name of justice and freedom in the classroom.

**State of Emergency: How We Win in the Country We Built** (2021) -- Tamika Mallory

Social justice leader Mallory states her case for action in this searing indictment of America's historical, deadly, and continuing assault on Black and brown lives.

**The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together** (2021) -- Heather McGhee

McGhee writes about the many ways racism has defeated efforts to create a more economically just America. Once the civil rights movement expanded America's conception of "the public," white America's support for public goods collapsed.

**The Talk: Conversations About Race, Love & Truth** (2020) -- Wade Hudson and Cheryl Willis Hudson (Editors)

Thirty authors and illustrators invite you into their homes to witness the conversations they have with their children about race identity and self-esteem. This collection is a call-to-action that invites all families to be anti-racist and advocates for change.

**Tangled Up in Blue: Policing the American City** (2021)-- Rosa Brooks

Brooks decided to become a cop because she wanted the kind of insider experience that would help her understand how police officers make sense of their world—and whether that world can be changed. Here she provides a radical inside examination of American policing.

**Thick: And Other Essays** (2019) - Tressie McMillan Cottom

Cottom offers cultural commentary reflecting her interweaving of the academic with the popular, all informed by Blackness. She both challenges whiteness and misogyny within the Black community.

**Things I Have Withheld** (2021) -- Kei Miller

This linked collection of essays blends memoir and literary commentary to explore the silences that exist in our conversations about race, sex, and gender.

**This Bridge Called My Back 4th Edition: Writings by Radical Women of Color** (2015) -- Cherrie Moraga & Gloria Anzaldua, eds.

Originally released in 1981, this book is a testimony to women of color feminism as it emerged in the last quarter of the 20th century. Through personal essays, criticism, interviews, testimonials, poetry, and visual art, the collection explores race, class, gender, and sexuality — systemic to women of color oppression and liberation.

**This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation, and the Stories That Make Us** (2022) -- Cole Arthur Riley

In her debut, the creator of *Black Liturgies* weaves stories from three generations of her family alongside contemplative reflections to discover the "necessary rituals" that connect us with our belonging, dignity, and liberation.

**This Is What America Looks Like: My Journey from Refugee to Congresswoman** (2021) -- Ilhan Omar with Rebecca Paley

At age twelve Omar's family achieved refugee status in the United States after going through war and a refugee camp. She was penniless, spoke only Somali and had missed out on years of schooling, but she rolled up her sleeves, determined to find her American dream. She questioned stereotypes and built bridges with her classmates and in her community. In under two decades she became a grassroots organizer, graduated from college and was elected to Congress. This book is both the inspiring coming of age story of a refugee and a multidimensional tale of the hopes and aspirations, disappointments and failures, successes, sacrifices and surprises, of a devoted public servant with unshakable faith in the promise of America.

**To Redeem a Nation: A History and Anthology of the Civil Rights Movement (1993)**  
--Thomas R West & James Mooney

The struggle for civil rights was one of the most powerful movements in American history. This outstanding reader is rich in reminiscences and other primary sources, with 64 selections in all. The materials are grouped and presented so as to explain the logic, the strategies, and the conflicts within a movement that has recast much of the nation's mind and culture.

**Traveling Black: A Story of Race and Resistance (2020)** -- Mia Bay

The automobile figures prominently as Bay situates it in the broader context of the various forms that mobility took after Emancipation. She writes of how various forms of transportation, initially embraced by Black travelers for their potential to offer an escape from the degradation and dangers of the Jim Crow era, succumbed to the stubborn forces of segregation.

**The Trouble with White Women: A Counterhistory of Feminism (2021)** -- Kyla Schuller

An incisive history of white feminists and the women who have continually defied them. Women including Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Margaret Sanger, and Sheryl Sandberg are commonly celebrated as leaders of feminism. Award-winning scholar Kyla Schuller argues that their white feminist politics dispossessed the most marginalized to liberate themselves. Schuller also brings to life the two-hundred-year counter history of Black, Indigenous, Latina, poor, queer, and trans women pushing back against white feminists and uniting to dismantle systemic injustice.

**Unbound: My Story of Liberation and the Birth of the Me Too Movement (2021)** -- Tarana Burke

From the founder and activist behind one of the current largest movements, the "me too" movement, Burke debuts a powerful memoir about her own journey to saying those two simple yet infinitely powerful words—me too—and how she brought empathy back to an entire generation.

**Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man (2020)** -- Emmanuel Acho

Acho takes on all the questions, large and small, insensitive and taboo, many white Americans are afraid to ask--yet which all Americans need the answers to, now more than ever. With open-hearted generosity, Acho explains the vital core of such fraught concepts as white privilege, cultural appropriation, and "reverse racism."

**Unfollow Me (2021)** -- Jill Louise Busby

An intimate, impertinent, and incisive collection about race, progress, and hypocrisy. This is a sharply personal and self-questioning critique of white fragility (and other words for racism), respectability politics (and other words for shame), and all the places where fear masquerades as progress.

**Until I Am Free: Fannie Lou Hamer's Enduring Message to America (2021) --Keisha N. Blain**

Explores the Black activist's ideas and political strategies, highlighting their relevance for tackling modern social issues including voter suppression, police violence, and economic inequality.

**The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration (2011) -- Isabel Wilkerson**

From 1915 to 1970, this exodus of almost six million people changed the face of America. Wilkerson interviewed more than a thousand people and gained access to new data and official records, to write this definitive and vividly dramatic account of how these American journeys unfolded, altering our cities, our country, and ourselves.

**We Are the Ones We Have Been Waiting for: Inner Light in a Time of Darkness New Edition (2021) -- Alice Walker, Foreword by Rebecca Walker**

Walker's clear vision and calm meditative voice--truly "a light in darkness"--has struck a deep chord among a large and devoted readership. In her new introduction, Walker reflects on the contemporary political and spiritual crises in the post-Trump era United States, making this classic book relevant for the current moment.

**We Cry Justice: Reading the Bible with the Poor People's Campaign (2021) -- Liz Theoharis**

Organized into fifty-two chapters, each focusing on a key Scripture passage, Theoharis offers comfort and challenge from the many stories of the poor taking action together.

**We Were There: The Third World Women's Alliance and the Second Wave (2021) -- Patricia Romney**

Highlighting the essential contributions of women of color to the justice movements of the 1970s, this historical resource will inspire activists today and tomorrow, reminding a new generation that solidarity is the only way forward.

**What's Up with White Women? Unpacking Sexism and White Privilege in Pursuit of Racial Justice (2021)-- Ilsa Govan, Tilman Smith**

A practical guide for white women who are interested in becoming more effective in their cross-cultural, anti-racist practices.

**White Borders: The History of Race and Immigration in the United States from Chinese Exclusion to the Border Wall (2021) -- Reece Jones**

The first book to show that immigration laws in the US have always been motivated by racial exclusion and the desire to save the idea of a white America.

**White Space, Black Hood: Opportunity Hoarding and Segregation in the Age of Inequality** (2021) -- Sheryll Cashin

Shows how government created "ghettos" and affluent white space and entrenched a system of American residential caste that is the linchpin of US inequality-- and issues a call for abolition.

**Who Will Pay Reparations on My Soul? Essays** (2020) - Jesse McCarthy

In essays written during the period from the police killings of Michael Brown in 2014 and both Breonna Taylor and George Floyd in 2020, this collection reveals how Black resistance also happens in art, church and the academy.

**Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race** (2019) -- Reni Eddo-Loge

Exploring everything from eradicated Black history to the inextricable link between gender, class and race, this is the essential handbook for anyone who wants to understand race relations in Britain today. The book begins with a summary of the experience of Black and Asian people in the UK, also covering institutional racism in British society and definitions of class which only include white people.

**A Wider Type of Freedom: How Struggles for Racial Justice Liberate Everyone** (2021) -- Daniel Martinez HoSang

A sweeping history of transformative, radical, and abolitionist movements in the United States that places the struggle for racial justice at the center of universal liberation.

**Womanish: A Grown Black Woman Speaks on Love and Life** (2021) --Kim McLarin

When Black women gather, unrehearsed refrains are often heard, surrounded by voices of encouragement or disbelief. McLarin incorporates these Black female voices into her writing.

**You Are Your Best Thing: Vulnerability, Shame Resilience, and the Black Experience** (2021) -- Tarana Burke and Brené Brown

Tarana Burke and Dr. Brené Brown bring together a dynamic group of Black writers, organizers, artists, academics, and cultural figures to discuss the topics the two have dedicated their lives to understanding and teaching: vulnerability and shame resilience. In discussing vulnerability they ask, "How do you take the armor off in a country where you're not physically or emotionally safe?" In this book they address the Black experience with vulnerability and shame resilience, a stark and potent collection of essays on Black shame and healing.

**You Don't Know Us Negroes and Other Essays** (Jan 2022) -- Zora Neale Hurston

This is a quintessential gathering of provocative essays from one of the world's most celebrated writers, Zora Neale Hurston. Spanning more than three decades and penned during the backdrop of the birth of the Harlem Renaissance, Montgomery bus boycott, desegregation of the military, and school integration, Hurston's writing articulates the beauty and authenticity of Black life as only she could.

**You'll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey: Crazy Stories About Racism,**  
(2021) -- Amber Ruffin and Lacey Lamar

Writer and performer on *Late Night with Seth Meyers* Amber Ruffin and her sister, Lacey Lamar, write with humor and heart to share absurd anecdotes about everyday experiences of racism. They are hilarious and effective at the same time.

**The Young Lords: A Radical History** (2019) -- Johanna Fernández

Fernández has written the definitive account of the Young Lords, from their roots as a Chicago street gang to their rise and fall as a political organization in New York in the 1960s. Led by poor and working-class Puerto Rican youth, they fashioned themselves after the Black Panther Party, including engaging in a series of urban guerrilla actions against the city's racist policies.. Fernández shows that movement organizers were concerned with finding solutions to problems as pedestrian as garbage collection and the removal of lead paint from tenement walls; gentrification; lack of access to medical care; childcare for working mothers; and the warehousing of people who could not be employed in deindustrialized cities. She illustrates how the Young Lords' politics and preoccupations, especially those concerning the rise of permanent unemployment, foretold the end of the American Dream.



## **NON-FICTION BOOKS -- YOUNG ADULT**

**Allies: Real Talk About Showing Up, Screwing Up, And Trying Again (2021) --**  
Shakirah Bourne and Dana Alison Levy

There are no easy answers, but this book helps you ask better questions. Self-reflection prompts, resources, journaling ideas, and further reading suggestions help you find out what you can do. Because we're all in this together. And we all need allies.

**Black Birds in the Sky: The Story and Legacy of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre (2021) --**Brandy Colbert

A searing new work of nonfiction from award-winning author Brandy Colbert about the history and legacy of one of the most deadly and destructive acts of racial violence in American history: the Tulsa Race Massacre.

**The Other Talk: Reckoning with Our White Privilege (2021) --** Brendan Kiely

In *The Other Talk*, Kiely hopes to have a frank conversation with teenagers about racism, but from a new angle: In addition to explaining the ways that racism harms people of color, he wants to explore white privilege. Because, Kiely explains, "although many of us talk about racism, we just don't talk about *being* white and all the privileges we get *because* we're white."

## **NON-FICTION BOOKS -- CHILDREN**

**The 1619 Project: Born on the Water** (2021) -- Nikole Hannah-Jones , Renée Watson, et al

A young student receives a family tree assignment in school, but she can only trace back three generations. Grandma gathers the whole family, and the student learns that 400 years ago their ancestors were stolen and brought to America by white slave traders, but that before that, they had a home, a land, and a language. She learns how the people said to be born on the water survived. Ages 7 - 10

**African Icons: Ten People Who Shaped History** (2021) --Tracey Baptiste

Black history began long ago with the many cultures and people of the African continent. Through portraits of ten heroic figures, Baptiste takes readers on a journey across Africa to meet some of the great leaders and thinkers whose vision built a continent and shaped the world. Ages 10- 14

**All Different Now: Juneteenth, the First Day of Freedom** (2014) -- Angela Johnson & E.B. Lewis

Through the eyes of one little girl, Johnson and Lewis tell the story of the first Juneteenth, the day freedom finally came to the last of the slaves in the South. This picture book includes notes from the author and illustrator, a timeline of important dates, and a glossary of relevant terms. Ages 5 - 8

**Bold Words from Black Women: Inspiration and Truths from 50 Extraordinary Leaders Who Helped Shape Our World** (2022) -- Tamara Pizzoli, Monica Ahanonu (Illustrator)

Celebrate the power of Black womanhood in this first-of-its-kind collection of inspirational quotes from fifty activists, artists, and leaders, featuring bold, attention-grabbing illustrations—perfect for readers of *Herstory* and *Little Leaders*. This incredible volume honors fifty modern women, presented with their own words, who have dared to raise their voices and persevere through hardship and injustice to become revolutionaries and dreamers, artists and creators. Ages 3 months - 18 years

**Call and Response: The Story of Black Lives Matter** (2021) -- Veronica Chambers

A broad and powerful exploration of the history of Black Lives Matter told through photographs, quotes, and informative text. Ages 10 +

**Enough! 20+ Protesters Who Changed America** (2021) -- Emily Easton

America has been molded and shaped by those who have taken a stand and said they have had enough. In this picture book the reader stands alongside the nation's most iconic civil and human rights leaders whose brave actions rewrote history. Ages 5 - 8

**Feminist AF: A Guide to Crushing Girlhood** (2021) -- Brittney Cooper, Chanel Craft Tanner, Susana Morris

Hip-hop and feminism combine in this empowering guide with attitude, from author Cooper and founding members of the Crunk Feminist Collective. Ages 13 - 18

**I Have the Right to Culture** (2021) -- Alain Serres

Told from the perspective of a child, this colorful book explores what it means to be a child who has the right to find beauty in their world. Ages 3 - 6

**Juneteenth** (2006) -- Drew Nelson & Vaunda Micheaux Nelson

On June 19th, 1865, a message arrived in Texas that slavery had ended, although the Civil War had actually ended in April and it took two months for word to reach Texas. Still the joy of that amazing day has never been forgotten. Every year, people all over the United States come together on June 19th to celebrate the end of slavery. Ages 8 - 9

**Liberty's Civil Rights Road Trip** (2021) -- Michael W. Waters

As told through the innocent view of a child, Liberty's Civil Rights Road Trip serves as an early introduction to places, people, and events that transformed history as she travels with her and other families to significant sites of the Civil Rights events. Ages 6 - 12

**The Me I Choose To Be** (2021) -- Natasha Anastasia Tarpley, Regis and Kahran Bethencourt (artist)

A celebration of the many things a person can be! The possibilities presented are endless in this ode to the power of potential, which is an immersive call for self-love and highlighting of the inherent beauty of all Black and brown children. Ages 3+

**Ophie's Ghosts** (2021) -- Justina Ireland

A sweeping tale of the ghosts of the country's past that won't stay buried, starring an unforgettable girl named Ophie. Ages 9 - 12

**Recognize: An Anthology Honoring and Amplifying Black Life** (2021) -- Wade Hudson and Cheryl Willis Hudson, Editors

A follow-up to *The Talk: Conversations About Race, Love & Truth*. Award-winning Black authors and artists come together to create a moving anthology collection celebrating Black love, Black creativity, Black resistance, and Black life. Ages 10 - 12

**Shirley Chisholm Dared: The Story of the First Black Woman in Congress** (2021) --Alicia D. Williams

Discover the inspiring story of the first Black woman elected to Congress and to run for president in this picture book biography. Ages 4 - 8

**Something Happened in Our Park: Standing Together After Gun Violence** (2021)

-- Ann Hazzard, Marianne Celano, and Marietta Collins

This important follow-up to the groundbreaking *Something Happened in Our Town* is a much-needed story to help communities in the aftermath of gun violence. Ages 5 - 9

**Stacey's Extraordinary Words** (Dec 2021) -- Stacey Abrams

The debut picture book from iconic voting rights advocate Stacey Abrams is an inspiring tale of determination, based on her own childhood. Stacey is a little girl who loves words more than anything. Ages 4 - 8

**Sweet People Are Everywhere** (2021) -- Alice Walker

*Sweet People Are Everywhere*, an illustrated picture book featuring a poem by internationally renowned writer and activist Alice Walker, is a powerful celebration of humanity. The poem addresses a young boy getting his first passport, taking the boy—and the reader—on a journey through a series of countries around the globe where “sweet people” can be found. Ages 4 - 8

**Threads of Peace: How Mohandas Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. Changed the World** (2021) -- Uma Krishnaswami

Keenly examines and celebrates these extraordinary activists' lives, the threads that connect them, and the threads of peace they laid throughout the world. Ages 9 - 14

**Ways to Grow Love (A Ryan Hart Story #2)** (2021) -- Renée Watson

Watson continues her charming young middle-grade series starring Ryan Hart, an African-American girl who is pure spirit and sunshine. Ages 7 - 10

**When We Say Black Lives Matter** (2020) -- Maxine Beneba Clarke

In a poetic missive, Clarke celebrates the meaning behind the words *Black Lives Matter*. Ages 6 - 9

**You Are Revolutionary** (2021) -- Cindy Wang Brandt

In this inspiring picture book she speaks to every child who sees injustice in the world, revealing that they already have inside themselves everything they need to make big, transformative change in the world -- just as they are. Ages 4 - 7

## **NON-FICTION BOOKS -- CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE**

**Be the Bridge: Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation** (2017) -- LaTasha Morrison

A leading advocate for racial reconciliation offers a clarion call for Christians to move toward relationship and deeper understanding in the midst of a divisive culture. With racial tensions as high within the church as outside the church, it is time for Christians to become the leaders in the conversation on racial reconciliation. Be the Bridge is a recent book by LaTasha Morrison about racial reconciliation. It includes significant free print resources to both broaden and deepen members' understanding of the issues.

**The Black Church: This Is Our Story, This Is Our Song** (2020)--by Henry Louis Gates Jr.

Gates interweaves his own childhood experiences with more than 400 years of history to analyze how Christianity, and the community of Black churches, helped create a culture that subverted centuries of oppression. "We need only look at the brilliant use of the church in all of its forms — from W.E.B. Du Bois's triptych of 'the Preacher, the Music, and the Frenzy' to the use of the building itself — to see the revolutionary potential and practice of Black Christianity in forging social change," Gates writes. "There is no question that the Black Church is one of the parents of the civil rights movement, and today's Black Lives Matter movement is one of its heirs."

**The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church's Complicity in Racism** (2020) -- Jemar Tisby.

An acclaimed, timely narrative of how people of faith have worked against racial justice, and a call for urgent action by all Christians today in response.

**Coming Together in the 21st Century: The Bible's Message in an Age of Diversity** (2009) -- Curtiss Paul DeYoung.

This newly revised and expanded 15th anniversary edition offers readers an in-depth study of multiculturalism and diversity in Scripture. It features contributions from ethnically and culturally diverse men and women who offer their unique perspectives.

**Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.** (2019) -- Lenny Duncan

Lenny Duncan is the unlikeliest of pastors. Formerly incarcerated, he is now a black preacher in the whitest denomination in the United States: the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Shifting demographics and shrinking congregations make all the headlines, but Duncan sees something else at work-- drawing a direct line between the church's lack of diversity and the church's lack of vitality. The problems the ELCA faces are theological, not sociological. But so are the answers. Duncan offers a bold new vision for the future of his denomination and the broader mainline Christian community of faith.

**Dear White Christians: For Those Still Longing for Racial Reconciliation** (2020) -- Jennifer Harvey

With the troubling and painful events of the last several years—from the killing of numerous unarmed Black men and women at the hands of police to the rallying of white supremacists in Charlottesville — it is clearer than ever that the reconciliation paradigm, long favored by white Christians has failed to heal the deep racial wounds in the church and American society. Now in its second edition with a new preface addressing the explosive changes in American culture and politics since 2014, as well as an appendix that explores what a reparations paradigm can actually look like, *Dear White Christians* calls justice-committed Christians to do the gospel-inspired work of opposing racist social structures around them.

**Disunity in Christ: Uncovering the Hidden Forces That Keep Us Apart** (2013) -- Christena Cleveland

Despite Jesus' prayer that all Christians "be one," divisions have been epidemic in the church from the beginning to the present. In this eye-opening book, learn the hidden reasons behind conflict and divisions.

**Divided by Faith: Evangelical Religion and the Problem of Race in America** (2000) -- Michael Emerson and Christian Smith

Through a nationwide telephone survey of 2,000 people and an additional 200 face-to-face interviews, Emerson and Smith probed the grassroots of white evangelical America. They found that despite recent efforts by the movement's leaders to address the problem of racial discrimination, evangelicals themselves seem to be preserving America's racial chasm. The authors contend that it is not active racism that prevents evangelicals from recognizing ongoing problems in American society. Instead, it is the evangelical movement's emphasis on individualism, free will, and personal relationships that makes invisible the pervasive injustice that perpetuates racial inequality. Combining a substantial body of evidence with sophisticated analysis and interpretation, the authors throw sharp light on the oldest American dilemma. In the end, they conclude that despite the best intentions of evangelical leaders and some positive trends, real racial reconciliation remains far over the horizon.

**The Fire Next Time** (1963) -- James Baldwin

This book contains two essays: "My Dungeon Shook: Letter to my Nephew on the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Emancipation" and "Down at the Cross: Letter from a Region of My Mind". The first essay, written in the form of a letter to Baldwin's 14-year-old nephew, discusses the central role of race in America. The second essay deals with the relations between race and religion, focusing in particular on Baldwin's experiences with the Christian church as a youth, as well as the Islamic ideas of others in Harlem.

**I Bring the Voices of My People: A Womanist Vision for Racial Reconciliation**

(2019) -- Chanequa Walker-Barnes

In this brilliant and prophetic book, Walker-Barnes helps us see the deep roots of racism and patriarchy entwined with the history and culture of the church.

**Reconciliation Blues: A Black Evangelical's Inside View of White Christianity**

(2008 ) -- Edward Gilbreath

Gilbreath gives an insightful, honest picture of both the history and the present state of racial reconciliation in evangelical churches.

**The Souls of Black Folk** (1903 ) -- W.E.B. Du Bois

Du Bois (1868–1963) played a key role in developing the strategy and program that dominated early 20th-century Black protest in America. In this collection of essays he eloquently affirms that it is beneath the dignity of a human being to beg for those rights that belong inherently to all mankind. He also charges that the strategy of accommodation to white supremacy advanced by Booker T. Washington would only serve to perpetuate Black oppression.

**Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America** (2017) -- Michael Eric Dyson

As the country grapples with racist division at a level not seen since the 1960s, Dyson speaks out in this provocative and deeply personal call for change. He argues that if we are to make real racial progress we must face difficult truths, including being honest about how Black grievance has been ignored, dismissed, or discounted.

**Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism** (2016) -- Drew Hart

Theologian and blogger Hart places police brutality, mass incarceration, anti-Black stereotypes, poverty, and everyday acts of racism within the larger framework of white supremacy. Focusing on Jesus, Hart offers concrete practices for churches that seek solidarity with the oppressed and are committed to racial justice.

**White Awake: An Honest Look at What It Means to Be White** (2017) -- Daniel Hill

Daniel Hill came to realize that even though he is white he does have a culture and that when white culture comes in contact with other cultures, it almost always wins. In this book, he describes the seven stages for white people to expect on the path to cultural awakening. This book gives a new perspective on being white and also on how to be an agent of reconciliation in our increasingly diverse and divided world.

**White Lies: Nine Ways to Expose and Resist the Racial Systems That Divide Us –**  
(2020) -- Daniel Hill

What steps can white Christians take to make good, lasting change? How can they get involved without unintentionally doing more harm than good? Hill provides nine practices rooted in Scripture that will position people to be active supporters of inclusion, equality, and racial justice. With stories, studies, and examples from his own journey, Hill provides answers to these questions.

**White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity (2020)**

-- Robert P. Jones

Drawing on history, public opinion surveys, and personal experience Jones delivers a provocative examination of the unholy relationship between American Christianity and white supremacy, and issues an urgent call for white Christians to reckon with this legacy for the sake of themselves and the nation.



## **NON-FICTION BOOKS -- TEACHERS**

**Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain: Promoting Authentic Engagement and Rigor Among Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students** (2014) -- Zaretta Hammond

To learn how to modify your pedagogy to connect with learners of all cultures.

**White Folks Who Teach In The Hood, and the Rest of Y'All Too: Reality Pedagogy and Urban Education** (2017) -- Christopher Emdin

Drawing on his own experience of feeling undervalued and invisible in classrooms as a young man of color and merging his experiences with more than a decade of teaching and researching in urban America, Emdin offers his theory of Reality Pedagogy for teaching and learning in urban schools. He begins by taking to task the perception of urban youth of color as unteachable and reimagines the classroom as a site where students become the experts in their own learning. Merging real stories with theory, research, and practice, Emdin demonstrates how by implementing reality pedagogy in their own classrooms, urban youth of color will benefit from truly transformative education.

**Despite the Best Intentions: How Racial Inequality Thrives in Good Schools** (2017) --Amanda Lewis and John Diamond.

Through extensive interviews and data-gathering, Diamond and Lewis have created a rich and disturbing portrait of the achievement gap between white, Black and Latino students that persists more than fifty years after the formal dismantling of segregation. As students progress from elementary school to middle school to high school, their level of academic achievement increasingly tracks along racial lines. The authors examine what factors within the school itself could be causing the disparity. Most crucially, they challenge many common explanations of the 'racial achievement gap,' exploring what race actually means in this situation, and why it matters.

## **ARTICLES**

**105 Things White People Can Do for Racial Justice** (2017) -- The Center for Social Impact Strategy

<https://csis.upenn.edu/independent-learning/75-things-white-people-can-do-for-racial-justice/>

**The Case for Reparations** (June 15, 2014) -- Ta-Nehisi Coates -- The Atlantic

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/06/the-case-for-reparations/361631/>

**Resources for White People to Learn and Talk About Race and Racism** (May 17, 2018) -- Nina L. Berman -- Fracture Atlas

<https://blog.fracturedatlas.org/resources-for-white-people-to-learn-and-talk-about-race-and-racism-5b207fff4fc7>

**The Uses of Anger: Women Responding to Racism** (1981) -- Audre Lorde -- Black Past

<https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/speeches-african-american-history/1981-audre-lorde-uses-anger-women-responding-racism/>

**Walking While Black** (July 8, 2016) -- Garnette Cadogan -- Literary Hub

<https://lithub.com/walking-while-black>

**What Black History Should Already Have Taught Us About the Fragility of American Democracy** (November 5, 2020) -- Jelani Cobb -- New Yorker

<https://www.newyorker.com/news/daily-comment/what-black-history-should-already-have-taught-us-about-the-fragility-of-american-democracy>

**When Feminism is White Supremacy in Heels (August 16, 2018)-- When Feminism is White Supremacy in Heels** -- Rachel Cargle -- Harper's Bazaar

<https://www.harpersbazaar.com/culture/politics/a22717725/what-is-toxic-white-feminism/>

**'Why Seeing Yourself Represented on Screen Is So Important** (February 20, 2018) -- Kimberley Lawson -- Vice

<https://www.vice.com/en/article/zmwq3x/why-diversity-on-screen-is-important-black-panther>

## **MEMOIRS -- ADULT**

**Afropessimism** (2021) -- Frank B. Wilderson, III

Radical in conception, remarkably poignant, and with soaring flights of memoir, Afropessimism reverberates with wisdom and painful clarity in the fractured world we inhabit.

**All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley's Sack, a Black Family Keepsake** (2021) --Tiya Miles

A renowned historian traces the life of a single object handed down through three generations of Black women to craft an extraordinary testament to people who are left out of the archives

**Better, Not Bitter: Living on Purpose in the Pursuit of Racial Justice** (2021) -- Yusef Salaam

This inspirational memoir serves as a call to action from prison reform activist Yusef Salaam of the Exonerated Five, that will inspire us all to turn our stories into tools for change in the pursuit of racial justice.

**Bird Uncaged: An Abolitionists's Freedom Song** (2021) -- Marlon Peterson

Author and prison abolitionist picks apart his time in prison in the aftermath of a robbery gone wrong and his work to change the narrative around the prison system in his memoir.

From a leading prison abolitionist, a moving memoir about coming of age in Brooklyn and surviving incarceration—and a call to break free from all the cages that confine us.

**Black Boy Out of Time: A Memoir** (2021) -- Hari Ziyad

An eloquent, restless, and enlightening memoir by one of the most thought-provoking journalists today about growing up Black and queer in America, reuniting with the past, and coming of age their own way.

Exploring childhood, gender, race, and the trust that is built, broken, and repaired through generations, Ziyad investigates what it means to live beyond the limited narratives Black children are given and challenges the irreconcilable binaries that restrict them.

Heartwarming and heart-wrenching, radical and reflective, Hari Ziyad's vital memoir is for the outcast. It offers us a new way to think about survival and the necessary disruption of social norms. It looks back in tenderness as well as justified rage, forces us to address where we are now, and, born out of hope, illuminates the possibilities for the future.

**Black Is The Body: Stories From My Grandmother's Time, My Mother's Time, and Mine** (2019) -- Emily Bernard

In these twelve deeply personal, connected essays, Bernard details the experience of growing up Black in the south with a family name inherited from a white man, surviving a random stabbing at a New Haven coffee shop, marrying a white man from the North and bringing him home to her family, adopting two children from Ethiopia, and living and teaching in a primarily white New England college town. Each of these essays sets out to discover a new way of talking about race and of telling the truth as the author has lived it.

**Brothers and Keepers** (1984) -- John Wideman

A portrait of two brothers arriving at different destinies -- one an award-winning writer, the other a fugitive wanted for a robbery that resulted in a murder. Wideman weighs the bonds of blood, affection and guilt that connects them. With a new afterword by his brother Robert Wideman, who was released after more than fifty years in prison.

**Brown White Black: An American Family at the Intersection of Race, Gender, Sexuality, and Religion** (2019) -- Nishta J. Mehra

For marginalized people, widening the understanding of identity is a path to freedom. Mehra writes unapologetically about her bonds to her identities in this collection. She delves unflinchingly into each of her identities and their sharp intersections. In "Pretending to Be White," she recalls growing up as an Indian girl in the Black/white paradigm of Memphis, recounting her desire to be "the good kind of different" for white people while remaining loyal to the ethnic community that raised her.

**Dear Senthuran** (2021) -- Akwaeke Emezi

Electrifying and inspiring, animated by the same voracious intelligence that distinguishes Emezi's fiction, this is a revelatory account of storytelling, self, and survival.

**Do The Right Thing** (1989) -- Spike Lee

The phenomenon of Spike Lee continues with this revealing and engaging look at his outstanding career, his creative process, and the screenplay for his dynamic movie *Do The Right Thing*. Following his debut with *She's Gotta Have It* he has established himself in the film industry and in American popular culture. This book reveals Spike Lee as a Hollywood iconoclast and gifted visionary.

**Fire Shut Up in My Bones** (2014) -- Charles Blow

A memoir of how one of America's most respected journalists, New York Times columnist Charles M. Blow, found his voice by coming to terms with a painful past. He mines the African-American Louisiana town where he grew up -- a place where slavery's legacy felt astonishingly close, reverberating in the elders' stories and in the near-constant wash of violence. Eventually, Blow escapes to a nearby state university, where he joins a Black fraternity. A powerfully redemptive memoir that both fits the tradition of African-American storytelling from the South, and gives it an indelible new slant.

**Gathering Blossoms Under Fire: The Journals of Alice Walker, 1965–2000** (April 2022) -- Alice Walker, Edited by Valerie Boyd

From National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize–winning author Alice Walker and edited by critic and writer Valerie Boyd, comes an unprecedented compilation of Walker’s fifty years of journals drawing an intimate portrait of her development over five decades as an artist, human rights and women’s activist, and intellectual. A powerful blend of Walker’s personal life with political events, this revealing collection offers rare insight into a literary legend.

**Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversations** (2019) -- Mira Jacob

Touching, often humorous, and utterly unique graphic memoir takes readers on her journey as a first-generation American. At an increasingly fraught time for immigrants and their families, she delves into difficult conversations about race, sex, love, and family.

**Heavy: An American Memoir** (2018) -- Kiese Laymon

Laymon grew up as a hard-headed Black son to a complicated and brilliant Black mother in Jackson, Mississippi. From his early experiences of sexual violence, to his suspension from college, to his trek to New York as a young college professor, he charts his complex relationship with his mother, grandmother, anorexia, obesity, sex, writing, and ultimately gambling. By attempting to name secrets and lies he and his mother spent a lifetime avoiding, Laymon asks himself, his mother, his nation, and us to confront the terrifying possibility that few in this nation actually know how to responsibly love, and even fewer want to live under the weight of actually becoming free.

**How We Fight for Our Lives** (2020) -- Saeed Jones

Haunted and haunting, this is a coming-of-age memoir about a young, Black, gay man from the South as he fights to carve out a place for himself, within his family, within his country, within his own hopes, desires, and fears. Through a series of vignettes that chart a course across the American landscape, Jones draws readers into his boyhood and adolescence—into tumultuous relationships with his family, into passing flings with lovers, friends, and strangers. Each piece builds into a larger examination of race and queerness, power and vulnerability, love and grief: a portrait of what we all do *for* one another—and *to* one another—as we fight to become ourselves.

**I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings** (1969) -- Maya Angelou

Here is a book that captures the longing of lonely children, the brute insult of bigotry, and the wonder of words that can make the world right. Maya Angelou’s debut memoir is a modern American classic.

Sent by their mother to live with their devout, self-sufficient grandmother in a small Southern town, Maya and her brother endure the ache of abandonment and the prejudice of the local “powhitetrash.” At eight years old and back at her mother’s side in St. Louis, Maya is attacked by a much older man — and has to live with the consequences for a lifetime. Years later, in San Francisco, Maya learns that love for herself, the kindness of others, her own strong spirit, and the ideas of great authors will allow her to be free instead of imprisoned.

**I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness** (2018) -- Austin Channing Brown

From a leading voice on racial justice, an eye-opening account of growing up Black, Christian, and female that exposes how white America's love affair with "diversity" so often falls short of its ideals.

**Imperial Intimacies: A Tale of Two Islands** (2019) -- Hazel V Carby

A haunting and evocative history of British empire, told through one woman's family story.

**The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano** (1789) -- Olaudah Equiano

This is a memoir written by Olaudah Equiano, an influential African advocate of abolishing the slave trade in Britain during the late 18th century.

**Memorial Drive: A Memoir** (2020) -- Natasha Trethewey

A personal and exquisitely wrought memoir of a daughter reckoning with the brutal murder of her mother at the hands of her former stepfather, and the moving, intimate story of a poet coming into her own in the wake of a tragedy

With penetrating insight and a searing voice that moves from the wrenching to the elegiac, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Natasha Trethewey explores this profound experience of pain, loss, and grief as an entry point into understanding the tragic course of her mother's life and the way her own life has been shaped by a legacy of fierce love and resilience. This is a compelling and searching look at a shared human experience of sudden loss and absence but also a piercing glimpse at the enduring ripple effects of white racism and domestic abuse. This is a luminous, urgent, and visceral memoir from one of our most important contemporary writers and thinkers.

**My Race to Freedom: A Life in the Civil Rights Movement** (2020) -- Gwendolyn Patton

The civil rights movement was defined by figures thrust into positions of importance; be they participants in a sit-in, Freedom Riders, or marchers in protests, those involved with the movement didn't expect to be in that position. Patton came to Montgomery in 1956 to visit relatives and found herself in the midst of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. That experience sparked a lifetime of civil rights activism, Patton came to call Montgomery her home, and the movement and its legacy became the most important aspect of her life.

**No Ashes in the Fire (2018) - Darnell Moore**

When Darnell Moore was fourteen, three boys from his neighborhood tried to set him on fire. They cornered him while he was walking home from school, harassed him because they thought he was gay, and poured a jug of gasoline on him. He escaped, but just barely. It wasn't the last time he would face death.

Three decades later, Moore is an award-winning writer, a leading Black Lives Matter activist, and an advocate for justice and liberation. He now shares the journey taken by that scared, bullied teenager who not only survived, but found his calling.

**Notes on Grief (2021)-- Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie**

An exquisite work of meditation, remembrance, and hope, written in the wake of Adichie's beloved father's death during the COVID-19 pandemic world, keeping Adichie and her family members separated from one another. She writes about being one of the millions of people grieving that year; about the familial and cultural dimensions of grief and also about the loneliness and anger that are unavoidable in it.

**Once I Was You: A Memoir of Love and Hate in a Torn America (2020) -- Maria Hinojosa**

The Emmy Award-winning journalist tells the story of immigration in America through her family's experiences and decades of reporting. She shares her experience of growing up Mexican American on the South Side of Chicago, offering a personal account of how the rhetoric around immigration has not only long informed American attitudes toward outsiders, but also sanctioned willful negligence and profiteering at the expense of our country's most vulnerable populations.

**Punch Me Up to the Gods: A Memoir (2021) - Brian Broome**

Brian Broome describes his early years growing up in Ohio as a dark-skinned Black boy harboring crushes on other boys. Brian's recounting of his experiences reveal a perpetual outsider awkwardly squirming to find his way in. A no-nonsense mother and broken father play crucial roles in our misfit's origin story, but it is Broome's voice in the retelling that shows the true depth of vulnerability for young Black boys that is often quietly near to bursting at the seams.

**The Purpose of Power: How We Come Together When We Fall Apart (2020) -- Alicia Garza**

In 2013, Alicia Garza wrote what she called "a love letter to Black people" on Facebook, in the aftermath of the acquittal of the man who murdered seventeen-year-old Trayvon Martin. Garza wrote: "Black people. I love you. I love us. Our lives matter." #BlackLivesMatter then became the hashtag heard around the world. Before this Garza had spent the better part of two decades learning and unlearning some hard lessons about organizing. The lessons she offers are different from the "rules for radicals" that animated earlier generations of activists, and diverge from the charismatic, patriarchal model of the American civil rights movement. She reflects instead on how making room amongst the woke for those who are still awakening can inspire and activate more people to fight for the world we all deserve.

**Read Until You Understand: The Profound Wisdom of Black Life and Literature** (2021) -- Farah Jasmine Griffin

This memoir by a Columbia professor probes the role of Black literature in her life and explores her own connections to the themes in the books she reveres, making literary analysis both accessible and relevant.

**Saga Boy: My Life of Blackness and Becoming** (2021) -- Antonio Michael Downing

Growing up as a clever, willful boy in a tiny village in the tropical forests of Trinidad - raised by his indomitable grandmother, Miss Excellly, and her King James Bible - Downing is steeped in the legacies of his scattered family, the vibrant culture of the island, and the weight of its colonial history. But following Miss Excellly's death the eleven-year-old Downing's life changes dramatically when he is sent to live with his devoutly evangelical aunt in rural Canada, where they are the only Black family in a landscape starkly devoid of the warm lushness of his childhood.

Isolated and longing for home, Downing begins a decades-long journey to transform himself through music and performance that changes when his choices land him in a jail cell and he must face who he has become. *Saga Boy* is a poignant journey of overcoming, belonging, and becoming one's own self.

**Somebody's Daughter** (2021) -- Ashley C. Ford

Through poverty, adolescence, and a fraught relationship with her mother, Ford battles her body and her environment, embarking on a powerful journey to find the threads between who she is and what she was born into, and the complicated familial love that often binds them.

**Surviving the White Gaze** (2020) -- Rebecca Carroll

A powerful memoir from Black cultural critic Rebecca Carroll recounting her painful struggle to overcome a completely white childhood in order to forge her identity as a Black woman in America. Carroll grew up the only black person in her rural New Hampshire town. Adopted at birth, her early childhood was loving and idyllic—and yet she couldn't articulate the deep sense of isolation she increasingly felt as she grew older. As an adult, Carroll forged a path from city to city, struggling along the way. Ultimately, through the support of her chosen Black family, she was able to heal. Intimate and illuminating, this is a timely examination of racism and racial identity in America today.

**Three Girls From Bronzeville: A Uniquely American Memoir of Race, Fate, and Sisterhood** (2021) -- Dawn Turner

A former journalist at The Chicago Tribune, Turner revisits her childhood, along with those of her sister and her best friend, in the Chicago neighborhood of Bronzeville. The community, Turner writes, is the "cradle of the city's Great Migration, the epicenter of Black business and culture." But Turner's book is guided by a wrenching question: How did she find success and stability while her sister and friend were left behind?



**Toufah: The Woman Who Inspired an African #MeToo Movement** (2021) -- Toufah Jallow & Kim Pittaway

An inspiring memoir of resilience from a courageous young woman who was a powerful advocate.

**Unbound: My Story of Liberation and the Birth of the Me Too Movement** (2021) -- Tarana Burk

From the founder and activist behind one of the largest movements the times, the "me too" movement, Tarana Burke debuts a powerful memoir about her own journey to saying those two simple yet infinitely powerful words - me too. Burke didn't always have the courage to say "me too." As a child, she reeled from her sexual assault, believing she was responsible. Unable to confess what she thought of as her own sins for fear of shattering her family, her soul split in two. One side was the bright, intellectually curious Bronxite steeped in Black literature and power, and the other was the bad, shame ridden girl who thought of herself as a vile rule breaker, not of as a victim.

Burke fought to reunite her fractured soul, through organizing, pursuing justice, and finding community. She shares her extensive work supporting and empowering Black and brown girls, and the devastating realization that to truly help these girls she needed to help that scared, ashamed child still in her soul. Through these young women Burke found that we can only offer empathy to others if we first offer it to ourselves. This is the story of an inimitable woman's inner strength and perseverance, all in pursuit of bringing healing to her community and the world around her.

**We're Better Than This: My Fight for the Future of Our Democracy** (2019) -- Elijah Cummings, James Dale and Maya Rockey Moore Cummings

Until his death in October 2019, Elijah Cummings was one of the most respected figures in contemporary politics, a politician who held fast to his beliefs but was not afraid to reach across the aisle in the name of friendship and progress. Yet in his final years of life, Cummings recognized that democracy was the underdog. His memoir draws from Cummings's own life to show the formative moments that prepared him for the disturbing first years of the Trump presidency and spurred him to hold the administration accountable for their actions. Cummings offers a never-before-told perspective on how his personal history, coming of age in South Baltimore, laid the foundation of a life spent fighting for justice. Part memoir, part call to action, this is the story of our modern-day democracy, as well as a retrospective on the life and career of one of our country's most inspirational politicians.

**The Yellow House** (2019) -- Sarah M. Broom

This chronicles Broom's family, her life growing up in New Orleans East, and the eventual demise of her beloved childhood home after Hurricane Katrina.

## **MEMOIRS -- YOUNG ADULT**

### **All Boys Aren't Blue** (2020) -- George M. Johnson

In a series of personal essays, prominent journalist and LGBTIA+ activist Johnson explores his childhood, adolescence, and college years. From the memories of getting his teeth kicked out by bullies at age five to his first sexual relationships, this young-adult memoir weaves together the trials and triumphs faced by Black queer boys.

Both a primer for teens eager to be allies as well as a reassuring testimony for young queer men of color, this book covers topics such as gender identity, toxic masculinity, brotherhood, family, structural marginalization, consent, and Black joy.

### **Defiant: Growing Up in the Jim Crow South** (2021) -- Wade Hudson

Hudson takes a critical look at the strides and struggles of the past in this memoir about a young Black man growing up in the South during the heart of the Civil Rights Movement.

### **We Are Not Broken** (2021) -- George M. Johnson

This is a striking memoir that celebrates Black boyhood and brotherhood as it shares the vibrant story of four brothers raised by their fiercely devoted grandmother, who held the family together and provided the anchor they needed as they navigated growing up Black in America.

## **FICTION -- BOOKS -- ADULT**

### **Americanah** (2013) -- Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

The story of two Nigerians making their way in the U.S. and the UK, raising universal questions of race, belonging, the overseas experience for the African diaspora, and the search for identity and a home. Ifemelu and Obinze are young and in love when they depart military-ruled Nigeria for the West. Beautiful, self-assured Ifemelu heads for America, where despite her academic success, she is forced to grapple with what it means to be Black for the first time. Quiet, thoughtful Obinze had hoped to join her, but with post-9/11 America closed to him, he instead plunges into a dangerous, undocumented life in London.

### **Assembly** (2021) -- Natasha Brown

A story about the stories we live within – those of race and class, safety and freedom, winners and losers. And it is about one woman daring to take control of her own story, even at the cost of her life.

### **Beloved** (2004) -- Toni Morrison

A spellbinding and dazzlingly innovative portrait of a woman haunted by the past. Sethe was born a slave and escaped to Ohio, but eighteen years later she is still not free. She is still held captive by memories of Sweet Home, the beautiful farm where so many hideous things happened. Meanwhile Sethe's house has long been troubled by the angry, destructive ghost of her baby, who died nameless and whose tombstone is engraved with a single word: *Beloved*. Sethe works at beating back the past, but it makes itself heard and felt incessantly in her memory and in the lives of those around her. When a mysterious teenage girl arrives, calling herself Beloved, Sethe's terrible secret explodes into the present. Combining the visionary power of legend with the unassailable truth of history, Morrison's unforgettable novel is one of the great and enduring works of American literature.

### **Bitter** (2022) -- Akwaeke Emezi

A companion novel to the critically acclaimed PET that explores both the importance and cost of social revolution--and how youth lead the way.

After a childhood in foster care, Bitter is thrilled to have been chosen to attend Eucalyptus, a special school where she can focus on her painting surrounded by other creative teens. But outside this haven, the streets are filled with protests against the deep injustices that grip the city of Lucille.

Bitter's instinct is to stay safe within the walls of Eucalyptus . . . but her friends aren't willing to settle for a world that's so far away from what they deserve. Pulled between old friendships, her artistic passion, and a new romance, Bitter isn't sure where she belongs—in the studio or in the streets. And if she does find a way to help the revolution while being true to who she is, she must also ask: at what cost?

**Black Girls Must Be Magic** (Feb 2022) -- Jayne Allen

In this second installment in the Black Girls Must Die Exhausted series, Tabitha Walker copes with more of life's challenges and a happy surprise - a baby - with a little help and lots of love from friends old and new.

For Tabitha, her grandmother's old adage, "Black girls must die exhausted" is becoming all too true. When an unexpected turn of events draws Marc—her on and off-again ex-boyfriend—back into her world with surprising demands, and the situation at work begins to threaten her livelihood and her identity, Tabitha must make some tough decisions about her and her baby's future. It takes a village to raise a child, and Tabitha turns to the women who have always been there for her.

Bolstered by the fierce support of Ms. Gretchen, her grandmother's best friend, the counsel of her closest friends Laila and Alexis, and the calming presence of her doula Andouele, Tabitha must find a way to navigate motherhood on her own terms.

**Black Girls Must Die Exhausted** (2021) -- Jayne Allen

The first novel in a three-book series about modern womanhood, in which a young Black woman must rely on courage, laughter, and love—and the support of her two longtime friends—to overcome an unexpected setback that threatens the most precious thing she's ever wanted.

**The Bluest Eye** (1970) -- Toni Morrison

The first novel written by Toni Morrison takes place in Lorain, Ohio and tells the story of a young African-American girl named Pecola who grew up following the Great Depression. Set in 1941, the story tells that she is consistently regarded as "ugly" due to her mannerisms and dark skin. As a result, she develops an inferiority complex, which fuels her desire for the blue eyes she equates with "whiteness".

**Children of Blood and Bone** (2018) -- Tomi Adeyemi

In her Legacy of Orisha series, Adeyemi celebrates the depths of West African mythology. A fantasy novel in which Black people are not excluded or positioned as other.

**The Cutting Season** (2012) -- Attica Locke

A thriller that intertwines two murders separated across more than a century. It takes place on a sprawling antebellum plantation that has been turned into an eerie tourist attraction, complete with full-dress re-enactments and carefully restored slave quarters. Nearby, a corporation has been snapping up land from struggling families who have been growing sugar cane for generations, and is now replacing local employees with illegal laborers. Tensions mount when the body of a female migrant worker is found in a shallow grave on the edge of the property. New facts about the long-ago disappearance of a former slave t has unsettling ties to the current murder. This is at once a thoughtful meditation on how America reckons its past with its future, and a high-octane page-turner.

**The Days of Afrekete** (2021) - Asali Solomon

Liselle Belmont is facing new questions about her husband no longer being a politician. Just before the night begins, she hears from an FBI agent, who claims that her husband is corrupt. Is it possible? Across town, Selena is making her way through the same day with chronic depression. The only time she was ever really happy was with Liselle back in college. But they've lost touch.

Solomon has written a deeply human examination of two women coming back to themselves at midlife. It is a celebration of our choices and where they take us, the people who change us, and how we can reimagine ourselves even when our lives seem set.

**Dead Dead Girls** (2021) -- Nekesa Afia

The start of an exciting new historical mystery series set during the Harlem Renaissance.

**Everyman** (2021) -- M Shelly Conner

Eve Mann arrives in Ideal, Georgia, in 1972 looking for answers about the mother who died giving her life. Eve's search for her mother, and the father she never knew, is a mission to discover her identity, her name, her people, and her home. Eve's questions and longing launch a multigenerational story that sprawls back to the turn of the twentieth century, settles into the soil of the South, the blood and souls of Black folk making love and life and fleeing in a Great Migration into the savage embrace of the North.

**Get A Life, Chloe Brown** (2019) -- Talia Hibbert

Chloe Brown is a chronically ill computer geek who is ready to move out of her parent's house and get a life. She's even compiled a list to help her do so. But she needs a coach in being bad and finds one in bad boy handyman.

**Go Tell It On the Mountain** (1953) -- James Baldwin

Baldwin describes the course of the fourteenth birthday of John Grimes in Harlem, 1935. He also uses extended flashback episodes to recount the lives of John's parents and aunt, and to link this urban boy in the North to his slave grandmother in an earlier South. At the heart of the story three main conflicts intertwine: a clash between father and son, a coming-of-age struggle, and a religious crisis. Baldwin deals with issues of race and racism more elliptically in this novel than in his other works.

**The Hate U Give** (2017) -- Angie Thomas

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil, who was unarmed, at the hands of a police officer. Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what *really* went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr.

**Homegoing** (2017) --Yaa Gyasi

Follows the parallel paths of sisters and their descendants through eight generations: from the Gold Coast to the plantations of Mississippi, from the American Civil War to Jazz Age Harlem. Gyasi illuminates slavery's troubled legacy both for those who were taken and those who stayed—and shows how the memory of captivity has been inscribed on the soul of our nation.

**The Icarus Girl** (2005) -- Helen Oyeyemi

Jess Harrison, age eight, is the child of an English father and a Nigerian mother. Possessed of an extraordinary imagination, she has a hard time fitting in at school. It is only when she visits Nigeria for the first time that she makes a friend who understands her: a ragged little girl named TillyTilly. But soon TillyTilly's visits become more disturbing, until Jess realizes she doesn't actually know who her friend is at all. Drawing on Nigerian mythology, Helen Oyeyemi presents a striking variation on the classic literary theme of doubles — both real and spiritual — in this lyrical and bold debut.

**In Every Mirror She's Black** (2021) -- Lolá Ákínmádé Åkerström

Three Black women are linked in unexpected ways to the same influential white man in Stockholm as they build their new lives. This story is told through the perspectives of three women: successful marketing executive Kemi Adeyemi, Brittany-Rae Johnson, a model turned flight attendant, and refugee Muna Saheed. It is a fast-paced, richly nuanced yet accessible contemporary novel that touches on important social issues of racism, classism, fetishization, and tokenism, and what it means to be a Black woman navigating a white-dominated society.

**Island Queen** (2021) -- Vanessa Riley.

In this novel Riley explores the real-life experiences of Dorothy Kirwan Thomas, who was born to an Irish planter and an enslaved woman in 1756 on the island of Montserrat and, against all odds, became a powerful Caribbean entrepreneur. The book offers perspective of some aspects of West Indian colonial culture: the roots of color and class privilege, the implications of concubinage and common-law marriages, and the participation of some free people of African ancestry in slavery.

**Libertie** (2021) -- Kaitlyn Greenidge

Based on the lives of Susan Smith McKinney Steward, the first Black female doctor in New York State, and her daughter, Greenidge's novel centers its post-Civil War New York story on an enduring quest for freedom. The story starts out with Libertie, who is dark skinned, and her mother, who is light enough to pass. The young Libertie worships her mother, spending hours working at the clinic. Her mother attempts to heal a former slave him of the mental and spiritual effects of enslavement, which becomes complicated, after they have rescued him from the plantation by carrying hm in a coffin. After Libertie's medical education is unsuccessful, she meets and marries a young Haitian and goes with him to live in Haiti. Through a series of revelations, discoveries and coincidences, Libertie questions her experience in Haiti, including whether freedom can not resolve her dilemmas.

**Look For Me and I'll Be Gone: Stories** (2021)-- John Wideman

Fiction and real-life tragedy collide in the American's inventive, melancholic stories addressing criminal justice and the concept of time.

**The Lost Book of Adana Moreau** (2021) -- Michael Zapata

The story of a Latin American science fiction writer and the lives her **lost** manuscript unites decades later in post-Katrina New Orleans. He won the Chicago Review of Book Award for Fiction for this novel.

**Lost Children Archive** (2019) -- Valeria Luiselli

A family's road trip across America collides with an immigration crisis at the southwestern border. On the radio, there is news about an "immigration crisis": thousands of kids trying to cross the border into the United States, but getting detained--or lost in the desert along the way. As the family drives, we sense they are on the brink of a crisis of their own. A fissure is growing between the parents. This is a richly engaging story of how we document our experiences, and how we remember the things that matter to us the most. With urgency and empathy, it takes us deep into the lives of one remarkable family as it probes the nature of justice and equality today.

**The Love Songs of W.E.B. Du Bois: A Novel** (2021) -- Honoree Fanonne Jeffers

This is an intimate yet sweeping novel that chronicles the journey of one American family, from the centuries of the colonial slave trade through the Civil War to our own tumultuous era. In her first novel, Jeffers traces the history of one family from the arrival of its first enslaved ancestors. At its heart is Ailey, growing up in the 1980s, who returns each year to her family's ancestral home in Georgia. As she gets older, she uncovers secrets about her history that challenge her sense of self and belonging.

This novel follows a young Black woman figuring out how to live with joy in the modern American South. The novel switches between the past and the present, alternating the heroine's story with those of her ancestors.

**Midnight Atlanta** (2021) -- Thomas Mullen

A stunning new novel in the award-nominated, critically acclaimed *Darktown* series in which a newspaper editor is murdered against the backdrop of Rosa Parks' protest and Martin Luther King Jr's emergence.

**A Million Aunties** (2020) -- Alecia McKenzie

The Jamaican-born author's new novel about a young Black painter from New York who travels to Port Segovia, Jamaica, in the wake of his wife's death, is an emotionally resonant ode to adopted families and community resilience. McKenzie's message is clear: There is power in us simply showing up for one another.

**Monster in the Middle** (2021) -- Tiphonie Yanique

To understand Fly and Stela's romance - and the baggage they've each brought to it - this novel delves into their secret-laced family histories, looking at their parents' lives and own comings-of-age, leaping from Ghana to the Virgin Islands to 21st-century New York.

**Moon and the Mars** (2021) -- Kia Corthron

An exploration of New York City and America in the burgeoning moments before the start of the Civil War through the eyes of a young, biracial girl.

**My Monticello** (2021) -- Jocelyn Nicole Johnson

United by these characters' relentless struggles against reality and fate, this is a formidable book that bears witness to this country's legacies.

**Native Son** (1940) -- Richard Wright

Tells the story of 20-year-old Bigger Thomas, a black youth living in utter poverty in a poor area on Chicago's South Side in the 1930s. While not apologizing for Bigger's crimes, Wright portrays a systemic causation behind them.

**Noor** (2021) -- Nnedi Okorafor

From African futurist luminary Okorafor comes a new science fiction novel of intense action and thoughtful rumination on biotechnology, destiny, and humanity in a near-future Nigeria.

**Notes from A Black Woman's Diary: Selected Works of Kathleen Collins** (2019)

Edited by Nina Lorez Collins

Collins celebrates this fertile mind through her fiction (both finished and not), plays and personal reflections. Women take up space in her work with their love and their trauma. Readers will discover Collins is as she characterized herself: "I live way ahead of myself in some ways, seeing things long before it is their time to come into being."

**On Girlhood: 15 Stories from the Well-Read Black Girl Library** (2021) -- Glory Edim, editor

Proudly introducing the Well-Read Black Girl Library Series, this is a lovingly curated anthology celebrating short fiction from such luminaries as Rita Dove, Alice Walker, Toni Morrison and more.

**Open Water** (2021) -- Caleb Azumah Nelson

A debut novel, set in southeast London, balances two stories of a 20-something Black photographer's experience: falling in love with a dancer, but also encountering violence, economic inequality and omnipresent systemic oppression in a predominantly white city.

**The Other Black Girl** (2021) -- Zakiya Dalila Harris

An electric debut about the tension that unfurls when two young Black women meet against the starkly white backdrop of New York City book publishing.

**Palmares** (2021) -- Gayl Jones

The epic rendering of a young Black woman's journey in 17th-century colonial Brazil through slavery to a utopia where Black people are free.



**The Perishing** (2021) -- Natasha Deón

Set in 1930s Los Angeles, Lou, a teenage girl, wakes up in an alleyway with no recollection of how she got there. She eventually becomes the first Black journalist for The Los Angeles Times but is unnerved by memories from the past and the future; before long she wonders if she's a god with a specific purpose.

**A Princess in Theory: Reluctant Royals** (2018) -- Alyssa Cole

A Cinderella-style love story with a Black female lead who's in graduate school -- and a love interest looking to find marriage with a good woman in order to secure his future.

**The Prophets** (2021) -- Robert Jones, Jr.

A singular debut novel about the forbidden union between two enslaved young men on a Deep South plantation, the refuge they find in each other, and a betrayal that threatens their existence.

**Rainbow Milk: A Novel** (2021) -- Paul Mendez

A revelatory coming-of-age narrative from a new voice follows nineteen-year-old Jesse McCarthy as he grapples with his racial and sexual identities against the backdrop of his Jehovah's Witness upbringing.

**Recitatif** (2021) -- Toni Morrison

Toni Morrison's first published short story in 1983 in *Confirmation: An Anthology of African American Women*, an anthology edited by Amiri Baraka and his wife Amina Baraka. This is the only short story written by the acclaimed novelist.

**Sankofa** (2021) -- Chibundu Onuzo

Examining freedom, prejudice, and personal and public inheritance, *Sankofa* is a story for anyone who has ever gone looking for a clear identity or home and found something more complex in its place.

**Shallow Waters** (2021) -- Anita Kopacz

In this lyrical debut novel—perfect for fans of *The Water Dancer* and the *Legacy of Orisha* series—the Yoruba deity of the sea, Yemaya, is brought to vivid life as she discovers the power of Black resilience, love, and feminine strength in antebellum America.

**She Who Would Be King** (2021) - Wayétú Moore

A novel of exhilarating range, magical realism, and history—a retelling of Liberia's formation in which it reimagines the dramatic story of Liberia's early years through three unforgettable characters who share an uncommon bond. When the three meet in the settlement of Monrovia, their gifts help them salvage the tense relationship between the African American settlers and the indigenous tribes, as a new nation forms around them.

**Such A Fun Age** (2019) -- Kiley Reid

A debut novel about race and privilege, set around a young Black babysitter, her well-intentioned employer, and a surprising connection that threatens to undo them both.

**Three Rooms** (2021) -- Jo Hamya

Following a young, unnamed woman of color armed with multiple degrees and a bitter experience of the job market, this debut novel invokes the reality of living in a world where a reasonable demand — a place to call one's own — is resolutely categorized as unreasonable.

**Transcendent Kingdom** (2020) -- Yaa Gyasi

Gifty is a sixth-year PhD candidate in neuroscience studying reward-seeking behavior in mice and the neural circuits of depression and addiction. Her brother, Nana, was a gifted high school athlete who died of a heroin overdose after an ankle injury left him hooked on OxyContin. Her suicidal mother is living in her bed. Gifty is determined to discover the scientific basis for the suffering she sees all around her. But even as she turns to the hard sciences to unlock the mystery of her family's loss, she finds herself hungering for her childhood faith and grappling with the evangelical church in which she was raised, whose promise of salvation remains as tantalizing as it is elusive.

**The Vanishing Half** (2020) -- Brit Bennett.

Follows the lives of twin light-skinned Black girls who run away from home at the age of sixteen. Desiree marries a dark-skinned Black man and has a child, while Stella lives her life passing as white.

**Vinyl Moon** (2022) -- Mahogany L. Browne

This novel weaves together prose, poems, and vignettes to tell the story of Angel, a young woman whose past was shaped by domestic violence but whose love of language and music and the gift of community grant her the chance to find herself again.

**We Love You, Charlie Freeman** (2016) --Kaitlyn Greenidge

Two paralleled stories of racial degradation that occurred at a New England research institute six decades apart.

**When No One is Watching** (2020) -- Alyssa Cole

A mystery thriller that quickly escalates as it seeks to answer two seemingly unrelated questions: what is the history of Sydney's childhood neighborhood? and, as she and that neighborhood face the realities of gentrification that are very literally knocking on their front doors, where exactly are her former neighbors going after they leave?

**While Justice Sleeps**, (2021) -- Stacey Abrams

Abrams isn't just a politician and voting rights activist. She also writes books — to date, several romance novels. Now, she's expanded into thriller territory. Avery Keene, a Black Supreme Court law clerk, is rattled when the justice she works for falls into a coma — and is even more surprised to learn he made her his guardian and granted her power of attorney. There is a dizzying array of plotlines — murders, a merger, illicit relationships -- and action.

**Zikora: A Short Story** (2021) -- Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Adichie's first fiction book since "Americanah" takes place in an American delivery room as a Nigerian woman gives birth. Adichie packs in family histories, meditations on nostalgia and commentary on the challenges faced by Black mothers in the United States.

## **FICTION -- BOOKS -- YOUNG ADULT**

### **Beasts of Prey** (2021) -- Ayana Gray

In this fantasy series, fate binds two Black teenagers together as they journey into a magical jungle to hunt down the vicious monster who is threatening their home.

### **Concrete Rose** (2021) -- Angie Thomas

This prequel to the popular The Hate U Give follows its 17-year-old hero as he learns he's going to become a father, considers leaving his gang and envisions his family legacy. Despite these challenges, a reviewer noted that it "showcases the full humanity of Black folks — and Black boys in particular."

### **Dear Justyce** (2020) -- Nic Stone

An incarcerated teen writes letters to his best friend about his experiences in the American juvenile justice system. A sequel to *Dear Martin*.

### **Dear Martin** (2017) -- Nic Stone

After a traffic stop turns violent at the hands of the police, a young Black teen grapples with racism - and what it means for his future.

### **Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls: 100 Real-Life Tales of Black Girl Magic** (2021)

-- edited by Lilly Workneh, Foreword by #BlackGirlMagic originator Ca

The latest installment in the *New York Times* bestselling Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls series, featuring 100 barrier-breaking Black women and girls who showcase the spirit of Black Girl Magic.

### **Grown** (2021) -- Tiffany D. Jackson

A novel that is described as a "riveting, ripped-from-the-headlines mystery that exposes horrific secrets hiding behind the limelight and embraces the power of a young woman's voice."

### **If It Makes You Happy** (2019) -- Claire Kann

a coming-of-age novel about a young girl learning to embrace her cultural and sexuality identity.

### **Juliet Takes a Breath** (2021) -- Gabby Rivera

In a summer bursting with queer brown dance parties, a sexy fling with a motorcycling librarian, and intense explorations of race and identity, Juliet learns what it means to come out - to the world, to her family, to herself.

### **Long Division: A Novel** (2021) -- Kiese Laymon

Debut novel about Black teenagers that is an exploration of celebrity, authorship, violence, religion, and coming of age in post-Katrina Mississippi.

**The Problem with the Other Side** (2021) -- Kwame Ivery

Uly, who is Black, and Sallie, who is white, are in a happy relationship. Then Sallie's older sister, Leona, announces that she's running for student-body president, promising to pressure the school to end the school's "Send and Receive" policy of accepting students from smaller and poorer neighborhoods. Seeing racism in Leona's message, Uly's sister, Regina, decides to enter the race. Both candidates ask their siblings to be their campaign manager, which means Uly and Sallie are suddenly opponents in an election where the stakes grow ever higher. (Note that the novel does contain scenes of gun violence.)

**Skin of the Sea** (2021) -- Natasha Bowen

A fantasy debut inspired by West African mythology, in which a mermaid takes on the gods themselves.

**The Swag Is in the Socks** (2021) -- Kelly J. Baptist

Xavier Moon is stepping out of the shadows when his great-uncle gives him some outlandish socks and some even stranger requests. A story about heart, confidence, and standing on your own two feet.

**Things We Couldn't Say** (1994) -- Jay Coles

From one of the brightest and most acclaimed new authors in YA fiction, a new novel about a bisexual Black boy finding first love . . . and facing the return of the mother who abandoned his preacher family when he was nine.

**Vinyl Moon** (2022) -- Mahogany L. Browne

A teen girl hiding the scars of a past relationship finds home and healing in the words of strong Black writers. This novel is reported to be a beautiful sophomore novel from a critically acclaimed author and poet that explores how words have the power to shape and uplift our world even in the midst of pain.

**Why We Fly** (2021) -- Kimberly Jones & Gilly Segal

From the New York Times bestselling authors of *I'm Not Dying with You Tonight* comes a story about friendship, privilege, sports, and protest.

**You Should See Me in a Crown** (2020) -- Leah Johnson

In Leah Johnson's YA novel, Liz Lighty, a protagonist that thinks she's too Black, too poor, and too awkward, is the leading lady.

## **FICTION -- CHILDREN'S BOOKS**

**Antiracist Baby** (2020) -- Ibram X. Kendi.

Introduces the youngest readers and the grown-ups in their lives to the concept and power of antiracism while providing the language necessary to begin critical conversations. Ages 0 - 3

**Beautifully Me** (2021) -- Nabela Noor

From designer, creator, and self-love advocate Nabela Noor comes a much-needed picture book about loving yourself just as you are. Ages 4 - 8

**Bella's Recipe for Success** (2021) -- Ana Siqueira

Peppered with Spanish vocabulary and set in an intergenerational Latinx home, this will show all kids the value of practicing to learn a new skill, and that it's okay to make mistakes along the way. Ages 4 - 7

**Black Boy Joy: 17 Stories Celebrating Black Boyhood** (2021) -- Edited by Kwame Mbalia

Celebrate the joys of Black boyhood with stories from seventeen bestselling, critically acclaimed Black authors--including Jason Reynolds (the Track series), Jerry Craft (*New Kid*), and Kwame Mbalia (the Tristan Strong series) Ages 8 - 12

**Blast Off** (2021) -- Linda C. Cain and Susan Rosenbaum

An inspiring story about a young Black girl who wants to be an astronaut, written years before Black astronauts were sent into space. This picture book has been out of print for decades, until now. Ages 7 +

**Change Sings: A Children's Anthem** (2021) -- Amanda Gorman, Loren Long

A lyrical picture book debut from presidential inaugural poet Amanda Gorman and illustrator Loren Long Ages 4 - 8

**The Crossover** (2014) -- Kwame Alexander

12-year old Josh Bell and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this fast and furious middle grade novel of family and brotherhood. Ages 10-14

**Cuba in My Pocket** (2021) -- Adrianna Cuevas

By the author of 2021 Pura Belpré Honor Book *The Total Eclipse of Nestor Lopez*, a sweeping, emotional middle grade historical novel about a twelve-year-old boy who leaves his family in Cuba to immigrate to the U.S. by himself, based on the author's family history. Ages 8+

**Dovey Undaunted: A Black Woman Breaks Barriers in the Law, the Military, and the Ministry** (2021) -- Tonya Bolden

Dovey was also among the first Black women to enter the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, and was one of the first ordained female ministers in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Ages 9 - 12

**Dream Street** (2021) -- Tricia Elam Walker

Discover the true meaning of community in this picture book about a very special street bursting with joy, hope, and dreams. An award-winning illustrator and critically acclaimed author pay tribute to the neighborhood where they grew up as cousins. Ages 4 - 8

**Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls: 100 Real-Life Tales of Black Girl Magic** (2021)

-- Lilly Workneh, editor

The latest installment in the *New York Times* bestselling Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls series, featuring 100 barrier-breaking Black women and girls who showcase the spirit of Black Girl Magic. Ages 6+

**Hair Love** (2019) -- Matthew A. Cherry

The children's book version of the Oscar-winning short film. *Hair Love* is a story of a father's support, a mother's love, and the complexities that come with loving your natural hair. It's a story that is reported to have much depth in its simplicity. Ages 4 - 8

**I Am Every Good Thing** (2020) -- Derrick Barnes

The confident Black narrator of this book is proud of everything that makes him who he is. He's got big plans, and no doubt he'll see them through - as he's creative, adventurous, smart, funny, and a good friend. Sometimes he falls, but he always gets back up. And other times he's afraid, because he's so often misunderstood and called what he is not. Ages 3 - 7

**Keep Your Head Up** (2021) -- Aliya King Neil

Teach little ones that it's okay to have a bad day in this brightly illustrated, gently affirmative picture book about keeping our heads up and letting things pass. Ages 4 - 8

**A Kids Book About Racism** (-- Jelani Memory

A clear description of what **racism** is, how it makes people feel when they experience it. Ages 5 - 9

**Let Me Hear a Rhyme** (2021) -- Tiffany D. Jackson

In this celebration of '90s rap culture, three Brooklyn teens create a legacy for their murdered friend by making him into a rap star from beyond the grave. Ages 13 - 17

**Magic Like That** (2021) -- Samara Cole Doyon

In this celebration of Black Girl Magic, a young girl finds confidence and excitement in the versatility of her natural hair and the way her different hairstyles reflect the natural world. Ages 5 - 8

**Maya and the Robot** (2021) -- Eve L. Ewing

An illustrated middle grade novel about a forgotten homemade robot who comes to life just when aspiring African-American fifth-grade scientist Maya needs a friend -- and a science fair project. Ages 6 - 8

**Nina: A Story of Nina Simone** (2021) -- Traci Todd, Christian Robinson (illustrator)

This illuminating picture book biography tells the story of little Eunice who grew up to become the acclaimed singer Nina Simone and her bold, defiant, and exultant legacy. Ages 4 - 8

**Nubia: Real One** (2021) -- L. L. McKinney

Though Nubia is Amazonian and Wonder Woman's sister, the world won't accept her as a hero in the same way they do Wonder Woman. But when the opportunity arises to save her best friend, Nubia jumps at the chance to prove she is worthy. This fresh graphic novel reimagining of DC Comics' first Black woman superhero story is heartfelt and beautiful with vibrant illustrations that leap off the pages. Ages 14 - 17

**On Girlhood: 15 Stories from the Well-Read Black Girl Library** (2021) -- Glory Edim, editor

Proudly introducing the Well-Read Black Girl Library Series, *On Girlhood* is a lovingly curated anthology celebrating short fiction from such luminaries as Rita Dove, Alice Walker, Toni Morrison, and more. Ages 12 - 18

**Paradise on Fire** (2021) -- Jewell Parker Rhodes

A powerful coming-of-age survival tale exploring issues of race, class, and climate change. Ages 10 -18

**The People Remember** (2021) -- Ibi Zoboi; Loveis Wise, illustrator

A picture book that uses the principles of Kwanzaa to talk about the history of African Americans. This lyrical tribute is sumptuously illustrated. Ages 4 - 8

**Piece by Piece: The Story of Nisrin's Hijab** (2021) -- Priya Huq

In this graphic novel, Nisrin will have to rely on faith, friends, and family to help her recover after she is the target of a hate crime. Ages 10 - 18

**Pride** (2018) -- Ibi Zoboi

A remix of a classic using the key themes from Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* and placing them in Brooklyn. Zuri's neighbourhood is the latest casualty to gentrification, and when Darcy's family move in across the street, judgemental and arrogant Darius becomes the target for all her frustrations. Ages 13+



**The Proudest Color** (2021) -- Sheila Modir and Jeffrey Kashou

Kids at school tell her she is different, but her mother tells her to be proud. From a diverse team and based on extensive research, this is a timely, sensitive introduction to race, racism, and racial pride. Ages 4 - 8

**The Real Santa** (2021) -- Nancy Redd

Join one Black family on their journey to discover what the real Santa looks like in this joyous tale celebrating identity, family and holiday cheer. Ages 4 - 8

**Remember to Dream, Ebere** (2021) -- Cynthia Erivo

An inspirational and heartwarming tale of a mother and child, and the dreams they build together. Ages 4 - 8

**Revolution in Our Time: The Black Panther Party's Promise to the People** (2021) -- Kekla Magoon

An essential account of the Black Panthers as militant revolutionaries and as human rights advocates working to defend and protect their community. Ages 12+

**Set Me Free** (2021) -- Ann Clare LeZotte

Described as riveting and complex, delicately nuanced and fervently feminist, *Set Me Free* is a masterful stand-alone companion to *Show Me a Sign*, as well as a searing exposé of ableism, racism, and colonialism that will challenge you to think differently about the dignity and capacity within every human being. Ages 5 - 9

**A Soft Place to Land** (2021) -- Janae Marks

A novel that is said to offer readers hope in this novel of friendship and second chances. Exploring powerful themes, such as responsibility, loyalty and forgiveness. Ages 8 - 12

**Together** (2021) -- Mona Damluji

Social justice kids' author Innosanto Nagara teams up with poet and activist Mona Damluji for a tender visual feast that juxtaposes individual action with the power of people acting together. Ages 3 - 7

**When Langston Dances** (2021) -- Kaija Langley

A young Black boy dreams of dancing in this exuberant picture book celebrating the beauty of dance, and the wonder of Black Boy Joy. Ages 4 - 8

**You Are So Wonderful** (2003) -- Jacqueline J. Lewis.

A picture book reminding all children that they are wonderfully made. Ages 3 - 5

## **FICTION -- SHORT STORIES**

### **Love in Color: Mythical Tales from Around the World, Retold (2021) --**

Bolu Babalola

These stories reimagine beautiful tales of love and romance explored in folklore and mythology.

### **The Secret Lives of Church Ladies (2020) -- Deesha Philyaw (2020)**

A debut short story collection that contains nine stories about Black women, church, and sexuality.

### **The Stories of John Edgar Wideman (1992) -- John Edgar Wideman**

As a writer Wideman decided to try to preserve, memorialize, and recapture his family's vanishing past and his own receding impressions. He has turned his old neighborhood -- Homewood, a black community in Pittsburgh -- into one of those mythic places in literature.

One is a meditation on the plight of the author's son, who is serving a life term in prison for the stabbing death of a teen-age traveling companion in August 1986. Another recounts a harrowing visit made by a group of foreign journalists to a Black South African settlement.

Many non-Homewood stories in this volume tackle the thorny subject of relations between the races: a young Black woman, who is teaching English at a prestigious university, struggles to cope with feelings of displacement and alienation that have been heightened by hate mail and threats ("Signs"); a white woman finds a Black jogger arousing her sexual fantasies ("Statue of Liberty"); and an aging Holocaust survivor tries to forge an emotional bond with his Black cleaning woman ("Valaida").

### **The World Doesn't Require You (2019) -- Rion Amilcar Scott**

Reviewed as shattering rigid genre lines to explore larger themes of religion, violence, and love—all told with sly humor and a dash of magical realism.

### **You Made Me Love You: Selected Stories, 1981-2018 (2018) -- John Edgar Wideman**

Postindustrial Pittsburgh is the locus of many of Wideman's novels and memoirs. The critic Dwight Garner writes that Wideman's narrators "remain in close emotional contact with the cringing, the alienation, the clowning, the wariness, the self-mistrust and self-satire that came with growing up poor and Black in Pittsburgh.

## **POETRY**

### **African American Poetry: 250 Years of Struggle & Song: A Library of America Anthology** (2020) -- Kevin Young, Editor

A literary landmark: the biggest, most ambitious anthology of Black poetry ever published, gathering 250 poets from the colonial period to the present.

### **Black Girl, Call Home** (2021) -- Jasmine Mans

A poetry collection about race, feminism, and queer identity. Mans is described as writing to call herself—and us—home. Each poem explores what it means to be a daughter of Newark, and of America—and the painful, joyous path to adulthood as a young, queer Black woman.

### **Black Girl Magic** (2018) -- Mahogany L. Browne

*Black Girl, they say you ain't 'posed to be here*, reflects the author. Much of what twenty-first century culture tells Black girls is not pretty: Don't wear this; don't smile at that. Don't have an opinion; don't dream big. And most of all, don't love yourself. In response to such destructive ideas, internationally recognized poet Mahogany Browne challenges the conditioning of society by crafting an anthem of strength and magic undeniable in its bloom for all beautiful Black girls. *Black Girl Magic* is described as a journey from girlhood to womanhood and an invitation to readers to find magic in themselves.

### **Bless the Daughter Raised by a Voice in Her Head: Poems** (2022) -- Warsan Shire

Poems of migration, womanhood, trauma, and resilience from award-winning Somali British poet Warsan Shire.

### **Call Us What We Carry: Poems** (2021) -- Amanda Gorman

The breakout poetry collection by presidential inaugural poet Amanda Gorman

### **The Essential June Jordan** (2021) -- edited by Jan Heller Levi and Christoph Keller.

A selection of poems published between 1971 and 2001, this posthumous volume reflects Jordan's view of poetry as "a political action" that can "build a revolution." Her own poems "can feel like a rallying cry for solidarity," Elisa Gabbert writes in her latest poetry column. "Jordan puts love and delight in her poems, not just vengeance and justice."

### **Ghost in a Black Girl's Throat** (2021) -- Khalisa Rae

The way we look at inherited trauma is exposed in this debut poetry collection, as Rae reckons with living in a haunted southern town that not only tolerates racism but encourages it.

### **Ghost Letters** (2021) -- Baba Badji

Probes what it means to be Senegalese, Black and in the United States.

**Gumbo Ya Ya: poems** (2021) -- Aurielle Marie

*Gumbo Ya Ya* is a cauldron of hearty poems exploring race, gender, desire, and violence in the lives of Black girls, soaring against the backdrop of a contemporary South.

**I Remember Death by Its Proximity to What I Love** (2021) -- Mahogany L. Browne

An evocative book-length poem that explores the impacts of the prison system on both the incarcerated and the loved ones left behind.

**Mutiny** (2021) -- Phillip B. Williams

A new collection of poems about revolt and renewal that is described as rebuking classical mythos and western canonical figures, and embracing Afro-Diasporan folk and spiritual imagery. Williams is said to conjure the hell of being erased, exploited, and ill-imagined and then, through a force and generosity of vision, propel himself into life, selfhood, and a path forward.

**Passion** (1980) -- June Jordan

With love and humor, via lyrics and rants, Jordan is said to call for nothing less than radical compassion. This new edition includes a foreword by Nicole Sealey.

**Perfect Black** (2021) -- Crystal Wilkinson

Wilkinson combines a deep love for her rural roots with a passion for language and storytelling in what is described as a compelling collection of poetry and prose about girlhood, racism, and political awakening, imbued with vivid imagery of growing up in Southern Appalachia.

**Reparations Now!** (2021) -- Ashley M. Jones

In formal and non-traditional poems, Jones calls for long-overdue reparations to the Black descendants of enslaved people in the United States of America.

**Stereo(TYPE): Poems** (2021) -- Jonah Mixon-Webster

A radical, urgent collection of poems about Blackness, the self, and the dismantling of corrupt powers in the fight for freedom.

**Such Color: New and Selected Poems** (2021) -- Tracy K. Smith

These new works confront America's historical and contemporary racism and injustices, while they also are described as rising toward the registers of the ecstatic, the rapturous, and the sacred - urging us toward love as a resistance to everything that impedes it.

**What Noise Against the Cane** (2021)-- Desiree C. Bailey

Explores the Haitian Revolution and what it means to be a Black woman in the United States today.

## **PODCASTS**

The 1619 Project (New York Times)

Code Switch podcast -- A Decade on Watching Black People Die

History of the US with Slavery at the center (NYT Podcast).

Seeing White, produced by Scene On Radio --- <https://www.sceneonradio.org/seeing-white/>

Side Effects of White Women (episode with Amanda Seales)

Still Processing (episode on Kaepernick)

Uncivil (Gimlet Media)

Well Meaning White People -- Smartest Person in the Room episode

Whistling Vivaldi (NPR)

White Lies (NPR)

The Witness Podcast Network - Pass the Mic

Women.Talk.God. with Ruby Sales and Jacqui Lewis

## **VIDEOS**

ACLU videos about situations that led to reviews and commissions related to police actions and citizen responses. They show that past “reforms” or calls for reforms have not resulted in actual reforms, which has led to “defund the police” or disinvest in police and invest in communities.

What 100 Years of History Tells Us About Racism in Policing  
 Los Angeles, 1992  
 Detroit, 1967  
 Harlem, 1935  
 Chicago, 1919

[https://www.aclu.org/news/criminal-law-reform/what-100-years-of-history-tells-us-about-racism-in-policing/?initms\\_aff=nat&initms\\_chan=eml&utm\\_medium=eml&initms=201217\\_100yrpolicing\\_petition\\_gradead\\_sail&utm\\_source=sail&utm\\_campaign=100yrpolicing&utm\\_content=201217\\_racialjustice\\_petition\\_gradead&af=NOrSVCBi%2FEgqP20VFf3bm4pTWmgXFU07T%2FpJsqhO7q4HzK1EtJCn64aovC0UFqjgCIP1tIrDwZcxJE0dhpw%2B55AuzLAS3MyquSpY1B4ULFdglrflL2TJ0zXW0grJgzfwZBqQIE24mus41flrXda9NQ305yJ9DKiOIlloCeu3gzYo2IKmPmkEGhBG8BOISySNjC&gs=jSfs6llhQeX2OTww6lNks4bS9raEmG2oc4%2BDYzZArnTseMByNR%2FSngk3%2BKn5yzd&ms\\_aff=nat&ms\\_chan=eml&ms=201217\\_100yrpolicing\\_cultivation\\_gradead\\_sail](https://www.aclu.org/news/criminal-law-reform/what-100-years-of-history-tells-us-about-racism-in-policing/?initms_aff=nat&initms_chan=eml&utm_medium=eml&initms=201217_100yrpolicing_petition_gradead_sail&utm_source=sail&utm_campaign=100yrpolicing&utm_content=201217_racialjustice_petition_gradead&af=NOrSVCBi%2FEgqP20VFf3bm4pTWmgXFU07T%2FpJsqhO7q4HzK1EtJCn64aovC0UFqjgCIP1tIrDwZcxJE0dhpw%2B55AuzLAS3MyquSpY1B4ULFdglrflL2TJ0zXW0grJgzfwZBqQIE24mus41flrXda9NQ305yJ9DKiOIlloCeu3gzYo2IKmPmkEGhBG8BOISySNjC&gs=jSfs6llhQeX2OTww6lNks4bS9raEmG2oc4%2BDYzZArnTseMByNR%2FSngk3%2BKn5yzd&ms_aff=nat&ms_chan=eml&ms=201217_100yrpolicing_cultivation_gradead_sail)

## **MOVIES** ( a very partial list)

### **13th** (2016)

Filmmaker Ava DuVernay explores the history of racial inequality in the United States, focusing on the fact that the nation's prisons are disproportionately filled with African-Americans.

### **Amend: The Fight for America** (2021)

An exploration of the Fourteenth Amendment as the most enduring hallmark of democracy in the United States on Netflix

### **I Am Not Your Negro** (2016)

A documentary film and social critique directed by Raoul Peck, based on James Baldwin's unfinished manuscript *Remember This House*. Narrated by actor Samuel L. Jackson, the film explores the history of racism in the United States through Baldwin's recollections of civil rights leaders Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King Jr., as well as his personal observations of American history.

### **The Long Shadow** --(2019)

When filmmaker and investigative journalist Frances Causey, a daughter of the South, set out to explore the continuing racial divisions in the US, what she discovered was that the politics of slavery didn't end with the Civil War. In an astonishingly candid look at the United States' original sin, *The Long Shadow* traces slavery's history from America's founding up through its insidious ties to racism today.

# **RESOURCES FOR RAISING ANTI-RACIST CHILDREN**

## **BOOKS**

**Raising Anti-Racist Kids: Empowering the Next Generation of Changemakers** (2020) -- Ibram X. Kendi and Derecka Purnell

The uprising across the country demanding racial justice is a powerful reminder that families of all backgrounds need to be pro-active in raising children to understand racism and discrimination, and helping our kids to be a force for anti-racist change in the world.

**Raising White Kids: Bringing Up Children in a Racially Unjust America** ( 2018) -- Jennifer Harvey

Living in a racially unjust and deeply segregated nation creates unique conundrums for white children that begin early in life and impact development in powerful ways. This book offers age-appropriate insights for teaching children how to address racism when they encounter it and tackles tough questions about how to help white kids be mindful of racial relations while understanding their own identity and the role they can play for justice.

## **BLOG**

**KidLit Rally 4 Black Lives: Anti-Racist Resources for Children, Families, and Educators** -- June 4, 2020 -- Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich

## **VIDEOS**

**Embrace Race:** [www.embracerace.org](http://www.embracerace.org)

**Raising Equity:** [www.raisingequity.org](http://www.raisingequity.org)

**Raising Race Conscious Kids:** [www.raceconscious.org](http://www.raceconscious.org)

## **WORKSHEET**

<http://www.childrenscommunityschool.org/wpcontent/uploads/2018/02/theyre-not-too-young-1.jpg>



## **ACTIVITIES**

**Racial Bias Test** — <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/user/agg/blindspot/indexrk.htm>

## **ANTIRACISM TRAINING**

**Answering the Call: An Antiracism Training -- Dr. Jacqui Lewis**

Defining Critical Terms

Talking About Race: Ten Important Things to Know

Additional Resources

[https://www.bvcucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Answering-the-Call\\_Resources.pdf](https://www.bvcucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Answering-the-Call_Resources.pdf)