

REFERENCE/READINGS for:

Race, Black Lives, Slavery, Black Culture, Racism, Politics & White Privilege

1. BLACK LIFE and BLACK CULTURE

AUTHOR NAME	TITLE	YEAR PUBLISHED	BRIEF SYNOPSIS
Baldwin, James	<i>The Price of the Ticket: Collected Nonfiction</i>	2021	An essential compendium of James Baldwin's most powerful nonfiction work, calling on us "to end the racial nightmare, and achieve our country." Personal and prophetic, these essays uncover what it means to live in a racist American society with insights that feel as fresh today as they did over the 4 decades in which he composed them. Longtime Baldwin fans and especially those just discovering his genius will appreciate this essential collection of his great nonfiction writing, available for the first time in affordable paperback. Along with 46 additional pieces, it includes the full text of dozens of famous essays from such books as: • <i>Notes of a Native Son</i> ; • <i>Nobody Knows My Name</i> ; • <i>The Fire Next Time</i> ; • <i>No Name in the Street</i> ; and • <i>The Devil Finds Work</i> . This collection provides the perfect entrée into Baldwin's prescient commentary on race, sexuality, and identity in an unjust American society.
Baldwin, James	<i>The Fire Next Time</i> Baldwin is perhaps best known for this small but powerful book. As an essayist, he is at the height of his powers with this book.	1963	Baldwin is the most ruthlessly honest analyst of white innocence to pick up a pen. Baldwin was a boy preacher, who outgrew the rituals and theology that hemmed in the very souls' religion meant to free, he never left the pulpit -his words drip with the searing eloquence of an evangelist of race determined to get to the brutal bottom of America's original sin. James Baldwin is an iconic author for our time, a writer who gave the world countless poignant essays, shorts stories, <u>novels</u> , plays, and poems during his 63 years. As a gay Black man coming to terms with his identity in the 1950s, '60s, and '70s, Baldwin (who died on December 1, 1987), used his distinct perspective and lyrical writing to shed light on issues of race, homosexuality, and religion in a way that placed him ahead of his time when it came to social commentary. The book was released in 1963 and consists of two essays. In "My Dungeon Shook," Baldwin writes to his teenage nephew about race in America, historically and in the present day. Arguably his most well-known work, <i>The Fire Next Time</i> may effortlessly change the way you think about race in this country—even today. I think it's something everyone should read.
Baldwin, James	<i>Go Tell it on the Mountain</i>	1953	A Semi-autobiographical book, this is a story about family, church, and Black people's lives within a religious context. It is a story of repression and inspiration; about community and Harlem and being Black. This book depicts the way Baldwin frames an idea and a story. In one of the greatest American classics, Baldwin chronicles a fourteen-year-old boy's discovery of the terms of his identity. Baldwin's rendering of his protagonist's spiritual, sexual, and moral struggle of self-invention opened new possibilities in the American language and in the way Americans understand themselves. With lyrical precision, psychological directness, resonating symbolic power, and a rage that is at once unrelenting and compassionate, Baldwin tells the story of the stepson of the minister of a storefront Pentecostal church in Harlem one Saturday in March of 1935. Originally published in 1953, Baldwin said of his first novel, "Mountain is the book I had to write if I was ever going to write anything else."
Baldwin, James	<i>Notes of a Native Son</i>	1955	#26 on <i>The Guardian's</i> list of 100 best nonfiction books of all time, the essays explore what it means to be Black in America In an age of Black Lives Matter, James Baldwin's essays on life in Harlem, the protest novel, movies, and African Americans abroad are as powerful today as when they were first written. Written during the 1940s and early 1950s, when Baldwin was only in his twenties, the essays collected in <i>Notes of a Native Son</i> capture a view of black life and black thought at the dawn of the civil rights movement and as the movement slowly gained strength through the words of one of the most captivating essayists and foremost intellectuals of that era. Writing as an artist, activist, and social critic, Baldwin probes the complex condition of being black in America. With a keen eye, he examines everything from the significance of the protest novel to the motives and circumstances of the many black expatriates of the time, from his home in "The Harlem

			Ghetto" to a sobering "Journey to Atlanta." <i>Notes of a Native Son</i> inaugurated Baldwin as one of the leading interpreters of the dramatic social changes erupting in the United States in the twentieth century, and many of his observations have proven almost prophetic. His criticism on topics such as the paternalism of white progressives or on his own friend Richard Wright's work is pointed and unabashed. He was also one of the few writers on race at the time who addressed the issue with a powerful mixture of outrage at the gross physical and political violence against black citizens and measured understanding of their oppressors, which helped awaken a white audience to the injustices under their noses. Naturally, this combination of brazen criticism and unconventional empathy for white readers won Baldwin as much condemnation as praise. This book established Baldwin's voice as a social critic, and it remains one of his most admired works. The essays collected here create a cohesive sketch of black America and reveal an intimate portrait of Baldwin's own search for identity as an artist, as a black man, and as an American.
Baldwin, James	<i>No Name in the Street</i>	1972	An extraordinary history of the turbulent sixties and early seventies that displays James Baldwin's fury and despair more deeply than any of his other works, and powerfully speaks to contemporary conversations around racism. "It contains truth that cannot be denied." — <i>The Atlantic Monthly</i> . In this stunningly personal document, James Baldwin remembers in vivid details the Harlem childhood that shaped his early consciousness and the later events that scored his heart with pain -the murders of Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, his sojourns in Europe and in Hollywood, and his return to the American South to confront a violent America face-to-face.
Baldwin, James	<i>I Am Not Your Negro</i> (a film directed by Raoul Peck)	FILM: 2017	In his final years, Baldwin had envisioned a book about his three assassinated friends, Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King. His deeply personal notes for the project have never been published before. To compose his stunning documentary film, <i>I Am Not Your Negro</i> , acclaimed filmmaker Raoul Peck mined James Baldwin's published and unpublished oeuvre, selecting passages from his books, essays, letters, notes, and interviews that are every bit as incisive and pertinent now as they have ever been. Weaving these texts together, Peck brilliantly imagines the book that Baldwin never wrote. Peck's film uses them to jump through time, juxtaposing Baldwin's private words with his public statements, in a blazing examination of the tragic history of race in America.
Baldwin, James	<i>Another Country</i>	1962	The novel is primarily set in Greenwich Village and Harlem, New York City, in the late 1950s. It portrayed many themes that were taboo at the time of its release, including bisexuality, interracial couples and extramarital affairs.
Baldwin, James	<i>Blues for Mr. Charlie</i>	1964	<i>Blues for Mister Charlie</i> , a tragedy in three acts by James Baldwin, is a denunciation of racial bigotry and hatred. The play was based on a murder trial that took place in Mississippi in 1955. "Mister Charlie" is a slang term for a white man. In a small Southern town, a white man murders a black man, then throws his body in the weeds. With this act of violence--which is loosely based on the notorious 1955 killing of Emmett Till--James Baldwin launches an unsparing and at times agonizing probe of the wounds of race. For where once a white storekeeper could have shot a "boy" like Richard Henry with impunity, times have changed. And centuries of brutality and fear, patronage and contempt, are about to erupt in a moment of truth as devastating as a shotgun blast. In his award-winning play, Baldwin turns a murder and its aftermath into an inquest in which even the most well-intentioned whites are implicated--and in which even a killer receives his share of compassion.
Baldwin, James	<i>Nobody Knows My Name</i>	1961	Told with Baldwin's characteristically unflinching honesty, this collection of illuminating, deeply felt essays -- "passionate, probing, controversial" (<i>The Atlantic</i>). Examines topics ranging from race relations in the United States to the role of the writer in society, and offers personal accounts of Richard Wright, Norman Mailer and other writers.
Baldwin, James	<i>Jimmy's Blues and Other Poems</i>	2014	Currently, James Baldwin is quoted a lot. In 2015, when Freddie Gray was arrested and killed by the Baltimore Police Department, Baltimore rioted. For weeks, the city was in a state of emergency as citizens fought back against the inherent white supremacy of police departments. It was another murder of another young Black man in America who was simply trying to live his life. Painfully relevant Baldwin quotes could be seen all over social media during the Baltimore protests. Decades later, his words still describe the current injustices in our country.

Baldwin, James	<i>If Beale Street Could Talk</i>	1974	Told through the eyes of Tish, a nineteen-year-old girl, in love with Fonny, a young sculptor who is the father of her child, Baldwin's story mixes the sweet and the sad. Tish and Fonny have pledged to get married, but Fonny is falsely accused of a terrible crime and imprisoned. Their families set out to clear his name, and as they face an uncertain future, the young lovers experience a kaleidoscope of emotions—affection, despair, and hope. In a love story that evokes the blues, where passion and sadness are inevitably intertwined, Baldwin has created two characters so alive and profoundly realized that they are unforgettably ingrained in the American psyche.
Baldwin, James	<i>Giovanni's Room</i>	1956	Set among the bohemian bars and nightclubs of 1950s Paris, this groundbreaking novel about love and the fear of love is "a book that belongs in the top rank of fiction" (<i>The Atlantic</i>). In the 1950s Paris of American expatriates, liaisons, and violence, a young man finds himself caught between desire and conventional morality. David is a young American expatriate who has just proposed marriage to his girlfriend, Hella. While she is away on a trip, David meets a bartender named Giovanni to whom he is drawn in spite of himself. Soon the two are spending the night in Giovanni's curtainless room, which he keeps dark to protect their privacy. But Hella's return to Paris brings the affair to a crisis, one that rapidly spirals into tragedy. David struggles for self-knowledge during one long, dark night—"the night which is leading me to the most terrible morning of my life." With a sharp, probing imagination, James Baldwin's now-classic narrative delves into the mystery of loving and creates a deeply moving story of death and passion that reveals the unspoken complexities of the human heart.

ADDITIONAL MUST-READS:

A. Books about slavery, showing it was far more varied and complicated than once believed.

AUTHOR NAME	TITLE	YEAR PUBLISHED	BRIEF SYNOPSIS
Berlin, Ira	<i>Many Thousands Gone: The First Two Centuries of Slavery in North America</i>	2018	An incisive history of slavery before cotton became king. Traces the evolution of black society from the first arrivals in the early seventeenth century through the Revolution. In telling their story, Ira Berlin, a leading historian of southern and African-American life, reintegrates slaves into the history of the American working class and into the tapestry of our nation. Laboring as field hands on tobacco and rice plantations, as skilled artisans in port cities, or soldiers along the frontier, generation after generation of African Americans struggled to create a world of their own in circumstances not of their own making. As the nature of the slaves' labor changed with place and time, so did the relationship between slave and master, and between slave and society. Demonstrates the meaning of slavery and of race itself was continually renegotiated and redefined, as the nation lurched toward political and economic independence and grappled with the Enlightenment ideals that had inspired its birth.
Camp, Stephanie, M.H.	<i>Closer to Freedom: Enslaved Women and Everyday Resistance in Plantation South</i>	2004	Explores the fate of enslaved women. Discusses the multiple dimensions to acts of resistance that might otherwise appear to be little more than fits of temper. Brings new depth to understanding the lives of enslaved women, whose bodies and homes were inevitably political arenas. Truancy becomes an act of pursuing personal privacy. Illegal parties ("frolics") become an expression of bodily freedom. And bondwomen who acquired printed abolitionist materials and posted them on the walls of their slave cabins (even if they could not read them) become the subtle agitators who inspire more overt acts. The culture of opposition created by enslaved women's acts of everyday resistance helped foment and sustain the more visible resistance of men in their individual acts of running away and in the collective action of slave revolts. Camp argues the Civil War years saw revolutionary change that had been in the making for decades.
Glymph, Thavolia	<i>Out of the House of Bondage: The Transformation of the Plantation Household</i>	2003	Probes the relationships between black and white women. The plantation household was, first and foremost, a site of production. This fundamental fact has generally been overshadowed by popular and scholarly images of the plantation household as the source of slavery's redeeming qualities, where 'gentle' mistresses ministered to 'loyal' slaves. This book recounts a very different story. The very notion of a private sphere, as divorced from the immoral excesses of chattel slavery as from the amoral logic of market laws, functioned to conceal from public scrutiny the day-to-day struggles between enslaved women and their mistresses, subsumed within a logic of patriarchy. One of emancipation's unsung consequences was the exposure to public view of the

			unbridgeable social distance between the women on whose labor the plantation household relied and the women who employed them. This is a story of race and gender, nation and citizenship, freedom and bondage in the nineteenth century South; a big abstract story that is composed of equally big personal stories.
Hannah-Jones, Nikole	<i>The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story</i>	NOV 2021	#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • NAACP IMAGE AWARD WINNER. <i>A New Origin Story</i> offers a profoundly revealing vision of the American past and present. ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: <i>The Washington Post</i>, NPR, <i>Esquire</i>, <i>Marie Claire</i>, <i>Electric Lit</i>, <i>Ms. magazine</i>, <i>Kirkus Reviews</i>. In late August 1619, a ship arrived in the British colony of Virginia bearing a cargo of twenty to thirty enslaved people from Africa. Their arrival led to the barbaric and unprecedented system of American chattel slavery that would last for the next 250 years. This is sometimes referred to as the country's original sin, but it is more than that: It is the source of so much that still defines the United States. <i>The New York Times Magazine's</i> award-winning "1619 Project" issue reframed our understanding of American history by placing slavery and its continuing legacy at the center of our national narrative. This new book substantially expands on that work, weaving together eighteen essays that explore the legacy of slavery in present-day America with thirty-six poems and works of fiction that illuminate key moments of oppression, struggle, and resistance. The essays show how the inheritance of 1619 reaches into every part of contemporary American society, from politics, music, diet, traffic, and citizenship to capitalism, religion, and our democracy itself. This is a book that speaks directly to our current moment, contextualizing the systems of race and caste within which we operate today. It reveals long-glossed-over truths around our nation's founding and construction—and the way that the legacy of slavery did not end with emancipation, but continues to shape contemporary American life.
Johnson, Charles	<i>Middle Passage</i>	1990	National bestseller. Story about a newly freed slave who hops aboard a slave ship -giving color and texture to slavery. Rutherford Calhoun, a newly freed slave and irrepressible rogue, is lost in the underworld of 1830s New Orleans. Desperate to escape the city's unscrupulous bill collectors and the pawing hands of a schoolteacher hellbent on marrying him, he jumps aboard the <i>Republic</i> , a slave ship en route to collect members of a legendary African tribe, the Allmuseri. Thus begins a voyage of metaphysical horror and human atrocity, a journey which challenges our notions of freedom, fate and how we live together. Vivid and unforgettable characters; interplay of comedy and serious ideas, this dazzling modern classic is a perfect blend of the picaresque tale, historical romance, sea yarn, slave narrative and philosophical allegory.
Jones, Edward, P.	<i>The Known World</i>	2003	Winner of the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. About a black family that owned enslaved blacks in the antebellum south. Henry Townsend, a black farmer, bootmaker, and former slave, has a fondness for <i>Paradise Lost</i> and an unusual mentor -- William Robbins, perhaps the most powerful man in antebellum Virginia's Manchester County. Under Robbins's tutelage, Henry becomes proprietor of his own plantation -- as well as of his own slaves. When he dies, his widow, Caldonia, succumbs to profound grief, and things begin to fall apart at their plantation: slaves take to escaping under the cover of night, and families who had once found love beneath the weight of slavery begin to betray one another. Beyond the Townsend estate, the known world also unravels: low-paid white patrollers stand watch as slave "speculators" sell free black people into slavery, and rumors of slave rebellions set white families against slaves who have served them for years. Weaves together the lives of freed and enslaved blacks, whites, and Indians -- and allows us a deeper understanding of the enduring multidimensional world created by the institution of slavery.
Menakem, Resmaa	<i>My Grandmother's Hands</i>	2017, 2021	A NATIONAL BESTSELLER. "<i>My Grandmother's Hands</i> will change the direction of the movement for racial justice." — Robin DiAngelo, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>White Fragility</i>. In this groundbreaking book, therapist Menakem examines the damage caused by racism in America from the perspective of trauma and body-centered psychology. The body is where our instincts reside and where we fight, flee, or freeze, and it endures the trauma inflicted by the ills that plague society. Menakem argues this destruction will continue until Americans learn to heal the generational anguish of white supremacy, which is deeply embedded in all our bodies. Our collective agony doesn't just affect African Americans. White Americans suffer their own secondary trauma as well. So do blue Americans—our police. <i>My Grandmother's Hands</i> is a call to action for all of us to recognize that racism is not only about the head, but about the body, and introduces an alternative view of what we can do to grow beyond our entrenched racialized divide.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Paves the way for a new, body-centered understanding of white supremacy—how it is literally in our blood and our nervous system. ▪ Offers a step-by-step healing process based on the latest neuroscience and somatic healing methods, in addition to incisive social commentary. <p>Menakem, MSW, LICSW, SEP, is a leading voice in today’s conversation on racialized trauma and the creator of Cultural Somatics, which utilizes the body and its natural resilience as mechanisms for growth. As a therapist and the founder of Justice Leadership Solutions, a leadership consulting firm, Menakem dedicates his expertise to coaching leaders through civil unrest, organizational change, and community building.</p>
Morrison, Toni	<i>Beloved</i>	1987	Pulitzer Prize winner for fiction. Epic novel lyrically probes the aftereffects of enslavement on the minds and souls of black folk. Based on the true story of a Black slave woman, Margaret Garner, who in 1856 escaped from a Kentucky plantation with her husband, Robert, and their children. They sought refuge in Ohio, but their owner and law officers soon caught up with the family. Before their recapture, Margaret killed her young daughter to prevent her return to slavery. Sethe is also a passionately devoted mother, who flees with her children from an abusive owner known as “schoolteacher.” They are caught, and, in an act of supreme love and sacrifice, she too tries to kill her children to keep them from slavery. Only her two-year-old daughter dies, and the schoolteacher, believing that Sethe is crazy, decides not to take her back. Sethe later has “Beloved” inscribed on her daughter’s tombstone. Although she had intended for it to read “Dearly Beloved,” she did not have the energy to “pay” for two words (each word cost her 10 minutes of sex with the engraver).
Morrison, Toni	<i>Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination</i>	1992	A slim classic that brilliantly probes the white literary imagination and how it silences and distorts the dark agency from which it derives its meaning. Collection of three essays written concerning race in American literature. Explores the ways that literary whiteness and literary blackness are constructed in American literature as well as the ways in which this affects American literature as a whole. Explores the means by which the African presence is used in American literature by different authors.

B. Slavery is ensconced in POLITICS, INTERTWINED with the ECONOMY. The following are impressive works:

AUTHOR NAME	TITLE	YEAR PUBLISHED	BRIEF SYNOPSIS
Baptist, Edward E.	<i>The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism</i>	2014	A groundbreaking history demonstrating that America's economic supremacy was built on the backs of slaves. Americans tend to cast slavery as a pre-modern institution -- the nation's original sin, perhaps, but isolated in time and divorced from America's later success. But to do so robs the millions who suffered in bondage of their full legacy. As historian Edward E. Baptist reveals in <i>The Half Has Never Been Told</i> , the expansion of slavery in the first eight decades after American independence drove the evolution and modernization of the United States. In the span of a single lifetime, the South grew from a narrow coastal strip of worn-out tobacco plantations to a continental cotton empire, and the United States grew into a modern, industrial, and capitalist economy. Told through intimate slave narratives, plantation records, newspapers, and the words of politicians, entrepreneurs, and escaped slaves, <i>The Half Has Never Been Told</i> offers a radical new interpretation of American history.
Beckert, Sven	<i>Empire of Cotton: A Global History</i>	2017	PULITZER PRIZE FINALIST. Winner of the Alfred and Fay Chandler Book Award. The empire of cotton was, from the beginning, a fulcrum of constant global struggle between slaves and planters, merchants and statesmen, workers and factory owners. Sven Beckert makes clear how these forces ushered in the world of modern capitalism, including the vast wealth and disturbing inequalities that are with us today. In a remarkably brief period, European entrepreneurs and powerful politicians recast the world’s most significant manufacturing industry, combining imperial expansion and slave labor with new machines and wage workers to make and remake global capitalism. The result is a book as unsettling as it is enlightening: a book that brilliantly weaves together the story of cotton with how the present global world came to exist.

Blackstock, Uche, MD	<i>Legacy: A Black Physician Reckons with Racism in Medicine</i>	2024	AN INSTANT <i>NEW YORK TIMES</i> BESTSELLER. “This book is more than a memoir—it also serves as a call to action to create a more equitable healthcare system for patients of color, particularly Black women.” — <i>Essence</i> . One of NPR’s 11 Books to Look Forward to in 2024. One of <i>Good Morning America</i> ’s 15 New Books to Read for the New Year. “ <i>Legacy</i> is both a compelling memoir and an edifying analysis of the inequities in the way we deliver healthcare in America. Blackstock is a force of nature.” —Abraham Verghese, MD, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>The Covenant of Water</i> . “[An] extraordinary family story.” —Dr. Damon Tweedy, <i>The New York Times Book Review</i> . “This book should be required reading for all medical students.” —Gayle King, <i>CBS Mornings</i> . The rousing, captivating story of a Black physician, her career in medicine, and the deep inequities that still exist in the U.S. healthcare system. Growing up in Brooklyn, New York, it never occurred to Blackstock and her twin sister, Oni, that they would be anything <i>but</i> physicians. In the 1980s, their mother headed an organization of Black women physicians, and for years the girls watched these fiercely intelligent women in white coats tend to their patients and neighbors, host community health fairs, cure ills, and save lives. What Dr. Uché Blackstock did not understand as a child—or learn about at Harvard Medical School, where she and her sister had followed in their mother’s footsteps, making them the first Black mother-daughter legacies from the school—were the profound and long-standing systemic inequities that mean just 2 percent of all U.S. physicians today are Black women; the racist practices and policies that ensure Black Americans have far worse health outcomes than any other group in the country; and the flawed system that endangers the well-being of communities like theirs. As an ER physician, and later as a professor in academic medicine, Dr. Blackstock became profoundly aware of the systemic barriers that Black patients and physicians continue to face. <i>Legacy</i> is a journey through the critical intersection of racism and healthcare. At once a searing indictment of our healthcare system, a generational family memoir, and a call to action, <i>Legacy</i> is Dr. Blackstock’s odyssey from child to medical student to practicing physician—to finally seizing her own power as a health equity advocate against the backdrop of the pandemic and the Black Lives Matter movement.
Brown, Vincent	<i>The Reaper’s Garden</i>	2010	Offer’s a haunting glimpse into what enslaved and enslaving people in the Atlantic world made of death. A landmark study of life and death in colonial Jamaica at the zenith of the British slave empire. What did people make of death in the world of Atlantic slavery? In <i>The Reaper’s Garden</i> , Vincent Brown asks this question about Jamaica, the staggeringly profitable hub of the British Empire in America—and a human catastrophe. Popularly known as the grave of the Europeans, it was just as deadly for Africans and their descendants. Yet among the survivors, the dead remained both a vital presence and a social force. In this compelling and evocative story of a world in flux, Brown shows that death was as generative as it was destructive. From the eighteenth-century zenith of British colonial slavery to its demise in the 1830s, the Grim Reaper cultivated essential aspects of social life in Jamaica—belonging and status, dreams for the future, and commemorations of the past. Surveying a haunted landscape, Brown unfolds the letters of anxious colonists; listens in on wakes, eulogies, and solemn incantations; peers into crypts and coffins, and finds the very spirit of human struggle in slavery. Masters and enslaved, fortune seekers and spiritual healers, rebels and rulers, all summoned the dead to further their desires and ambitions. In this turbulent transatlantic world, Brown argues, “mortuary politics” played a consequential role in determining the course of history. Insightful and powerfully affecting, <i>The Reaper’s Garden</i> promises to enrich our understanding of the ways that death shaped political life in the world of Atlantic slavery and beyond.
Cox Richardson, Heather	<i>Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America</i>	SEPT 2023	New York Times Bestseller. “Engaging and highly accessible.”—Boston Globe. “A vibrant, and essential history of America’s unending, enraging and utterly compelling struggle since its founding to live up to its own best ideals... It’s both a cause for hope, and a call to arms.”--Jane Mayer, author Dark Money. From historian and author of the popular daily newsletter LETTERS FROM AN AMERICAN , a vital narrative that explains how America, once a beacon of democracy, now teeters on the brink of autocracy -- and how we can turn back. In the midst of the impeachment crisis of 2019, Heather Cox Richardson launched a daily Facebook essay providing the historical background of the daily torrent of news. It soon turned into a newsletter and its readership ballooned to more than 2 million dedicated readers who rely on her plainspoken and informed take on the present and past in America. In <i>Democracy Awakening</i> , Richardson crafts a compelling and original narrative, explaining how, over the decades, a small group of wealthy people have made war on American ideals. By weaponizing language and promoting false history they have led us into authoritarianism -- creating a disaffected population and then promising to recreate an imagined past where those people could feel

			<p>important again. She argues that taking our country back starts by remembering the elements of the nation's true history that marginalized Americans have always upheld. Their dedication to the principles on which this nation was founded has enabled us to renew and expand our commitment to democracy in the past. Richardson sees this history as a roadmap for the nation's future. Richardson's talent is to wrangle our giant, meandering, and confusing news feed into a coherent story that singles out what we should pay attention to, what the precedents are, and what possible paths lie ahead. In her trademark calm prose, she is realistic and optimistic about the future of democracy. Her command of history allows her to pivot effortlessly from the Founders to the abolitionists to Reconstruction to Goldwater to Mitch McConnell, highlighting the political legacies of the New Deal, the lingering fears of socialism, the death of the liberal consensus and birth of "movement conservatism." Many books tell us what has happened over the last five years. <i>Democracy Awakening</i> explains how we got to this perilous point, what our history really tells us about ourselves, and what the future of democracy can be.</p>
DiAngelo, Robin	<i>White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism</i>	2018	<p><i>New York Times</i> bestseller. Refers to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially by emotions such as anger, fear and guilt, and by behaviors including argumentation and silence. An in-depth examination of how white fragility develops, how it protects racial inequality and what to do to engage more constructively.</p>
DiAngelo, Robin	<i>Nice Racism: How Progressive White People Perpetuate Racial Harm</i>	2021	<p>NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER. Building on the groundwork laid in the <i>New York Times</i> bestseller <i>White Fragility</i>, Robin DiAngelo explores how a culture of niceness inadvertently promotes racism. In <i>White Fragility</i>, Robin DiAngelo explained how racism is a system into which all white people are socialized and challenged the belief that racism is a simple matter of good people versus bad. DiAngelo also made a provocative claim: white progressives cause the most daily harm to people of color. In <i>Nice Racism</i>, her follow-up work, she explains how they do so. Drawing on her background as a sociologist and over 25 years working as an anti-racist educator, she picks up where <i>White Fragility</i> left off and moves the conversation forward. Writing directly to white people as a white person, DiAngelo identifies many common white racial patterns and breaks down how well-intentioned white people unknowingly perpetuate racial harm. These patterns include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rushing to prove that we are "not racist" • downplaying white advantage • romanticizing Black, Indigenous and other peoples of color (BIPOC) • pretending white segregation "just happens" • expecting BIPOC people to teach us about racism • carefulness • and feeling immobilized by shame. <p>DiAngelo explains how spiritual white progressives seeking community by co-opting Indigenous and other groups' rituals create separation, not connection. She challenges the ideology of individualism and explains why it is OK to generalize about white people, and she demonstrates how white people who experience other oppressions still benefit from systemic racism. Writing candidly about her own missteps and struggles, she models a path forward, encouraging white readers to continually face their complicity and embrace courage, lifelong commitment, and accountability. <i>Nice Racism</i> is an essential work for any white person who recognizes the existence of systemic racism and white supremacy and wants to take steps to align their values with their actual practice. BIPOC readers may also find the "insiders" perspective useful for navigating whiteness.</p>
DiAngelo, Robin	<i>Summary and Review of DiAngelo's Nice Racism: How Progressive White People Perpetuate Racial Harm</i>	2021	<p>This book breaks down all the big ideas and pertinent facts in "Nice Racism" so they can be easily and quickly understood. There is also an Analysis & Action Plan Bonus included that will help you on your journey. Continue reading below to see all that you get. PLEASE NOTE: This is an unofficial and independent summary & analysis of Nice Racism and is meant to be read as a supplement, not a replacement. Nice Racism by Robin DiAngelo challenges the white created society that we all find ourselves in. It shines a light on all the ways that those who feel they are helping are actually causing more racism. A must read for any white person that sees racial inequality and would like to do something about it. Yet even BIPOC can gain knowledge by getting a look at the ways white people don't even realize they are being racist.</p> <p>Inside this book you can expect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time saving chapter summaries • Important facts recap for each chapter's summary

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our overall analysis of the subject book • Discussion questions to get you thinking • An action plan to get you started fast • A notes section for you to write down things you deem important
Dyson, Michael Eric	<i>Entertaining Race: Performing Blackness in America</i>	NOV 2021	For more than thirty years, Michael Eric Dyson has played a prominent role in the nation as a public intellectual, university professor, cultural critic, social activist and ordained Baptist minister. He has presented a rich and resourceful set of ideas about American history and culture. Now for the first time he brings together the various components of his multihued identity and eclectic pursuits. <i>Entertaining Race</i> is a testament to Dyson's consistent celebration of the outsized impact of African American culture and politics on this country. 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, and in these pages, ranging from 1991 to the present, he entertains race with his pen, voice and body, and occasionally, alongside luminaries like Cornel West, David Blight, Ibram X. Kendi, Master P, MC Lyte, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Alicia Garza, John McWhorter, and Jordan Peterson. Most of this work will be new to readers, a fresh light for many of his long-time fans and an inspiring introduction for newcomers. <i>Entertaining Race</i> offers a compelling vision from the mind and heart of one of America's most important and enduring voices.
Dyson, Michael Eric	<i>Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America</i>	2021 2017	New York Times bestseller. Provocative and deeply personal call for change. Dyson 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 and discounted.
Dyson, Michael Eric	<i>What Truth Sounds Like: Robert F. Kennedy, James Baldwin, and Our Unfinished Conversation About Race in America</i>	2018	New York Times bestseller. Short and passionately written. Dyson revisits a turning point in Kennedy's moral and intellectual odyssey on the issue of race. The year was 1963, and he and his brother had finally begun to give more than lip service to civil rights. Bobby had sent federal troops to guard James Meredith when he enrolled as the first black student at the University of Mississippi, and he had authorized his Justice Department aide, Burke Marshall, to work behind the scenes to free King and hundreds of young protesters from jail in Birmingham, Ala. Now Kennedy was searching for ideas about what the administration should do as the racial battle shifted to the North. After encountering James Baldwin at a White House reception and inviting the author to breakfast at his Hickory Hill estate, Kennedy suggested that Baldwin assemble a group of thoughtful African Americans to meet with him in New York, at the Kennedy family apartment near Central Park.
Dyson, Michael Eric	<i>Long Time Coming: Reckoning with Race in America</i>	2020	New York Times bestseller. Grapples with the cultural and social forces that have shaped our nation in the brutal crucible of race. In five chapters—each addressed to a black martyr from Breonna Taylor to Rev. Clementa Pinckney—Dyson traces the genealogy of anti-blackness from the slave ship to the street corner where Floyd lost his life—and where America gained its will to confront the ugly truth of systemic racism. Ending with a poignant plea for hope, Dyson points the way to social redemption. A necessary guide to help America finally reckon with race.
Dyson, Michael Eric	<i>JAY-Z: Made in America</i>	2019	New York Times bestseller. Using extensive passages from Jay-Z's lyrics, 'Made in America' examines the rapper's role as a poet, an aesthete, an advocate for racial justice and a business, man, but devotes much of its energy to Hova the Hustler." Wrestles with the biggest themes of JAY-Z's career, including hustling, and it recognizes the way that he's always weaved politics into his music, making important statements about race, criminal justice, black wealth, and social injustice.
Faust, Drew Gilpin	<i>This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War</i>	2008	This book does for the Civil War what Vincent Brown does for slavery. More than 600,000 soldiers lost their lives in the American Civil War. An equivalent proportion of today's population would be six million. In <i>This Republic of Suffering</i> , Faust reveals the ways that death on such a scale changed not only individual lives but the life of the nation, describing how the survivors managed on a practical level and how a deeply religious culture struggled to reconcile the unprecedented carnage with its belief in a benevolent God. Throughout, the voices of soldiers and their families, of statesmen, generals, preachers, poets, surgeons, nurses, northerners and southerners come together to give us a vivid understanding of the Civil War's most fundamental and widely shared reality.

Hahn, Steven	<i>A Nation Under Our Feet: Black Political Struggles in the Rural South from Slavery to the Great Migration</i>	2005	This is the epic story of how African-Americans, in the six decades following slavery, transformed themselves into a political people—an embryonic black nation. As Hahn demonstrates, rural African-Americans were central political actors in the great events of disunion, emancipation, and nation-building. At the same time, Hahn asks us to think in more expansive ways about the nature and boundaries of politics and political practice. Emphasizing the importance of kinship, labor, and networks of communication, <i>A Nation Under Our Feet</i> explores the political relations and sensibilities that developed under slavery and shows how they set the stage for grassroots mobilization. Hahn introduces us to local leaders, and shows how political communities were built, defended, and rebuilt. He also identifies the quest for self-governance as an essential goal of black politics across the rural South, from contests for local power during Reconstruction, to emigrationism, biracial electoral alliances, social separatism, and, eventually, migration. Hahn suggests that Garveyism and other popular forms of black nationalism absorbed and elaborated these earlier struggles, thus linking the first generation of migrants to the urban North with those who remained in the South. He offers a new framework—looking out from slavery—to understand twentieth-century forms of black political consciousness as well as emerging battles for civil rights. It is a powerful story, told here for the first time, and one that presents both an inspiring and a troubling perspective on American democracy.
Johnson, Walter	<i>Soul by Soul: Life Inside the Antebellum Slave Market</i>	1999	<i>Soul by Soul</i> tells the story of slavery in antebellum America by moving away from the cotton plantations and into the slave market itself, the heart of the domestic slave trade. Taking us inside the New Orleans slave market, the largest in the nation, where 100,000 men, women, and children were packaged, priced, and sold, Johnson transforms the statistics of this chilling trade into the human drama of traders, buyers, and slaves, negotiating sales that would alter the life of each. What emerges is not only the brutal economics of trading but the vast and surprising interdependencies among the actors involved. Using recently discovered court records, slaveholders' letters, nineteenth-century narratives of former slaves, and the financial documentation of the trade itself, Johnson reveals the tenuous shifts of power that occurred in the market's slave coffles and showrooms. Traders packaged their slaves by "feeding them up," dressing them well, and oiling their bodies, but they ultimately relied on the slaves to play their part as valuable commodities. Slave buyers stripped the slaves and questioned their pasts, seeking more honest answers than they could get from the traders. In turn, these examinations provided information that the slaves could utilize, sometimes even shaping a sale to their own advantage. Johnson depicts the subtle interrelation of capitalism, paternalism, class consciousness, racism, and resistance in the slave market, to help us understand the centrality of the "peculiar institution" in the lives of slaves and slaveholders alike. His pioneering history is in no small measure the story of antebellum slavery.
Johnson, Walter	<i>River of Dark Dreams: Slavery and Empire in the Cotton Kingdom</i>	2017	Winner of the SHEAR Book Prize. Honorable Mention, Avery O. Craven Award. "An important, arguably seminal, book...Always trenchant and learned." —Wall Street Journal. When Jefferson acquired the Louisiana Territory, he envisioned an "empire for liberty" populated by self-sufficient white farmers. Cleared of Native Americans and the remnants of European empires by Andrew Jackson, the Mississippi Valley was transformed instead into a booming capitalist economy commanded by wealthy planters, powered by steam engines, and dependent on the coerced labor of slaves. <i>River of Dark Dreams</i> places the Cotton Kingdom at the center of worldwide webs of exchange and exploitation that extended across oceans and drove an insatiable hunger for new lands. This bold reconsideration dramatically alters our understanding of American slavery and its role in U.S. expansionism, global capitalism, and the upcoming Civil War. Johnson deftly traces the connections between the planters' pro-slavery ideology, Atlantic commodity markets, and Southern schemes for global ascendancy. Using slave narratives, popular literature, legal records, and personal correspondence, he recreates the harrowing details of daily life under cotton's dark dominion. We meet the confidence men and gamblers who made the Valley shimmer with promise, the slave dealers, steamboat captains, and merchants who supplied the markets, the planters who wrung their civilization out of the minds and bodies of their human property, and the true believers who threatened the Union by trying to expand the Cotton Kingdom on a global scale. But at the center of the story are the enslaved people who pulled down the forests, planted the fields, picked the cotton—who labored, suffered, and resisted on the dark underside of the American dream. "Shows how the Cotton Kingdom of the 19th-century Deep South, far from being a backward outpost of feudalism, was a dynamic engine of capitalist expansion built on enslaved labor." —A. O. Scott, <i>New York Times</i>

			“River of Dark Dreams delivers spectacularly on the long-standing mission to write ‘history from the bottom up.’” —Maya Jasanoff, <i>New York Review of Books</i> .
Mayer, Jane	<i>Dark Money</i>	January 2017	NATIONAL BESTSELLER. ONE OF THE <i>NEW YORK TIMES</i> 10 BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR. Who are the immensely wealthy right-wing ideologues shaping the fate of America today? From the bestselling author of <i>The Dark Side</i> , an electrifying work of investigative journalism that uncovers the agenda of this powerful group. In her new preface, Mayer discusses the results of the most recent election and Donald Trump’s victory, and how, despite much discussion to the contrary, this was a huge victory for the billionaires who have been pouring money in the American political system. Why is America living in an age of profound and widening economic inequality? Why have even modest attempts to address climate change been defeated again and again? Why do hedge-fund billionaires pay a far lower tax rate than middle-class workers? In a riveting and indelible feat of reporting, Mayer illuminates the history of an elite cadre of plutocrats—headed by the Kochs, the Scafes, the Olins, and the Bradleys—who have bankrolled a systematic plan to fundamentally alter the American political system. Mayer traces a byzantine trail of billions of dollars spent by the network, revealing a staggering conglomeration of think tanks, academic institutions, media groups, courthouses, and government allies that have fallen under their sphere of influence. Drawing from hundreds of exclusive interviews, as well as extensive scrutiny of public records, private papers, and court proceedings, Mayer provides vivid portraits of the secretive figures behind the new American oligarchy and a searing look at the carefully concealed agendas steering the nation. <i>Dark Money</i> is an essential book for anyone who cares about the future of American democracy.
Mehta, Samira K.	<i>The Racism of People Who Love You: Essays on Mixed Race Belonging</i>	2023	An unflinching look at the challenges and misunderstandings mixed-race people face in family spaces and intimate relationships across their varying cultural backgrounds. In this emotionally powerful and intellectually provocative blend of memoir, cultural criticism, and theory, scholar and essayist Mehta reflects on many facets of being multiracial. Born to a white American and a South Asian immigrant, Mehta grew up feeling more comfortable with her mother’s family than her father’s—they never carried on conversations in languages she couldn’t understand or blamed her for finding the food was too spicy. In adulthood, she realized that some of her Indian family’s assumptions about the world had become an indelible part of her—and that her well-intentioned parents had not known how to prepare her for a world that would see her as a person of color. Popular belief assumes that mixedness gives you the ability to feel at home in more than one culture, but the flipside shows you can feel just as alienated in those spaces. In 7 essays that dissect her own experiences with a frankness tempered by generosity, Mehta confronts questions about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● authenticity and belonging; ● conscious and unconscious cultural inheritance; ● appropriate mentorship; ● the racism of people who love you. <i>The Racism of People Who Love You</i> invites people of mixed race into the conversation on race in America and the melding of found and inherited cultures of hybrid identity.
Sinha, Manisha	<i>The Counterrevolution of Slavery: Politics and Ideology in Antebellum South Carolina</i>	2000	In this comprehensive analysis of politics and ideology in antebellum South Carolina, Sinha offers a provocative new look at the roots of southern separatism and the causes of the Civil War. Challenging works that portray secession as a fight for white liberty, she argues instead that it was a conservative, antidemocratic movement to protect and perpetuate racial slavery. Sinha discusses some of the major sectional crises of the antebellum era—including nullification, the conflict over the expansion of slavery into western territories, and secession—and offers an important reevaluation of the movement to reopen the African slave trade in the 1850s. In the process she reveals the central role played by South Carolina planter politicians in developing proslavery ideology and the use of states’ rights and constitutional theory for the defense of slavery. Sinha’s work underscores the necessity of integrating the history of slavery with the traditional narrative of southern politics. Only by taking into account the political importance of slavery, she insists, can we arrive at a complete understanding of southern politics and the enormity of the issues confronting both northerners and southerners on the eve of the Civil War.
Williams, Eric	<i>Capitalism and Slavery, 3rd edition</i>	1944, 1972, 1994, 2021	Slavery helped finance the Industrial Revolution in England. Plantation owners, shipbuilders, and merchants connected with the slave trade accumulated vast fortunes that established banks and heavy industry in Europe

			and expanded the reach of capitalism worldwide. Eric Williams advanced these powerful ideas in <i>Capitalism and Slavery</i> , published in 1944. Years ahead of its time, his profound critique became the foundation for studies of imperialism and economic development. Binding an economic view of history with strong moral argument, Williams's study of the role of slavery in financing the Industrial Revolution refuted traditional ideas of economic and moral progress and firmly established the centrality of the African slave trade in European economic development. He also showed that mature industrial capitalism in turn helped destroy the slave system. Establishing the exploitation of commercial capitalism and its link to racial attitudes, Williams employed a historicist vision that set the tone for future studies. William A. Darity Jr.'s new foreword highlights Williams's insights for a new generation of readers, and Colin Palmer's introduction assesses the lasting impact of Williams's groundbreaking work and analyzes the heated scholarly debates it generated when it first appeared.
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C. The CIVIL WAR, RACISM and its AFTERMATH. The Civil War was centrally, the infernal contest of white regions over black flesh and its future in America. Reconstruction, the Jim Crow era and black migration north was the aftermath. Wilkerson teaches us about the Great Migration and American Caste system.

AUTHOR NAME	TITLE	YEAR PUBLISHED	BRIEF SYNOPSIS
Du Bois, W.E.B.	<i>The Souls of Black Folk</i>	1903	The Souls of Black Folk is a 1903 work of American literature by W. E. B. Du Bois. It is a seminal work in the history of sociology and a cornerstone of African-American literature. The book contains several essays on race, some of which the magazine Atlantic Monthly had previously published. To develop this work, Du Bois drew from his own experiences as an African American in American society. Outside of its notable relevance in African-American history, <i>The Souls of Black Folk</i> also holds an important place in social science as one of the early works in the field of sociology. In <i>The Souls of Black Folk</i> , Du Bois used the term "double consciousness", perhaps taken from Ralph Waldo Emerson ("The Transcendentalist" and "Fate"), applying it to the idea that black people must have two fields of vision at all times. They must be conscious of how they view themselves, as well as being conscious of how the world views them.
Du Bois, W.E.B.	<i>Black Reconstruction in America</i>	1935	Pioneering work was the first full-length study of the role black Americans played in the crucial period after the Civil War, when the slaves had been freed and the attempt was made to reconstruct American society. Hailed at the time, <i>Black Reconstruction in America 1860–1880</i> has justly been called a classic. Tells and interprets the story of the 20 years of Reconstruction from the point of view of newly liberated African Americans. Though lambasted by critics at the time of its publication in 1935, <i>Black Reconstruction</i> has only grown in historical and literary importance. In the 1960s, it joined the canon of the most influential revisionist historical works. Its greatest achievement is weaving a credible, lyrical historical narrative of the hostile and politically fraught years of 1860-1880 with a powerful critical analysis of the harmful effects of democracy, including Jim Crow laws and other injustices.
Foner, Eric	<i>Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution 1863-1877</i>	1988	A classic. The period following the Civil War was one of the most controversial eras in American history. This comprehensive account of the period captures the drama of those turbulent years that played such an important role in shaping modern America. Eric Foner brilliantly chronicles how Americans, black and white, responded to the unprecedented changes unleashed by the Civil War and the end of slavery. He provides fresh insights on a host of other issues, including, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ways in which the emancipated slave's quest for economic autonomy and equal citizenship shaped the political agenda of Reconstruction; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The remodeling of Southern society and the place of planters, merchants, and small farmers within it; • The evolution of racial attitudes and patterns of race relations; • Abraham Lincoln's attitude toward Reconstruction; • The role of "carpet-baggers" and "scalawags;" and

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of violence in the period. <p>This “smart book of enormous strengths” (<i>Boston Globe</i>) has become the classic work on the wrenching post-Civil War period, an era whose legacy reverberates in the United States to this day.</p>
McPherson, James	<i>Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era</i>	1988	Fiercely elegant. McPherson's fast-paced narrative fully integrates the political, social, and military events that crowded the two decades from the outbreak of one war in Mexico to the ending of another at Appomattox. Packed with drama and analytical insight, the book vividly recounts the momentous episodes that preceded the Civil War--the Dred Scott decision, the Lincoln-Douglas debates, John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry--and then moves into a masterful chronicle of the war itself--the battles, the strategic maneuvering on both sides, the politics, and the personalities. Particularly notable are McPherson's new views on such matters as the slavery expansion issue in the 1850s, the origins of the Republican Party, the causes of secession, internal dissent and anti-war opposition in the North and the South, and the reasons for the Union's victory. The book's title refers to the sentiments that informed both the Northern and Southern views of the conflict: the South seceded in the name of that freedom of self-determination and self-government for which their fathers had fought in 1776, while the North stood fast in defense of the Union founded by those fathers as the bulwark of American liberty. Eventually, the North had to grapple with the underlying cause of the war--slavery--and adopt a policy of emancipation as a second war aim. This "new birth of freedom," as Lincoln called it, constitutes the proudest legacy of America's bloodiest conflict.
Wilkerson, Isabel	<i>The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration</i>	2010	Brilliant. National bestseller; winner of the Pulitzer Prize. Chronicles the untold story of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern & western cities in search of better life. From 19-15-1970, this exodus of almost 6 million people changed the face of America and altered the U.S.
Wilkerson, Isabel	<i>Caste: The Origins of Our Discontent</i>	2020	Adds to <i>The Warmth of Other Suns</i> . Brilliant explanations of the caste system in America. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize. Oprah's Book Club 2020. The unseen phenomenon in how America's been shaped by a hidden caste system. An Immersive, deeply researched narrative and stories. Links the caste system of America, India, and Nazi Germany. Explores 8 pillars that underlie caste systems across civilizations. Shows how the insidious undertow of caste is experienced every day.

D. The MODERN CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

AUTHOR NAME	TITLE	YEAR PUBLISHED	BRIEF SYNOPSIS
Branch, Taylor	<i>Parting the Waters: America in King's Years 1954-1963</i>	1989	<p>Pulitzer Prize winner. Volume one of the Trilogy on Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Civil Rights movement. In <i>Parting the Waters</i>, the first volume of his essential America in the King Years series, Pulitzer Prize winner Taylor Branch gives a “compelling...masterfully told” (<i>The Wall Street Journal</i>) account of Martin Luther King’s early years and rise to greatness. Hailed as the most masterful story ever told of the American Civil Rights Movement.</p> <p>Moving from the fiery political baptism of Martin Luther King, Jr., to the corridors of Camelot where the Kennedy brothers weighed demands for justice against the deceptions of J. Edgar Hoover, here is a vivid tapestry of America, torn and finally transformed by a revolutionary struggle unequalled since the Civil War. Branch provides an unsurpassed portrait of King's rise to greatness and illuminates the stunning courage and private conflict, the deals, maneuvers, betrayals, and rivalries that determined history behind closed doors, at boycotts and sit-ins, on bloody freedom rides, and through siege and murder. Epic in scope and impact, Branch's chronicle definitively captures one of the nation's most crucial passages. <i>Parting the Waters</i>, won the Pulitzer Prize for History</p>
Branch, Taylor	<i>"Pillar of Fire: America in the King Years 1963-65"</i>	1998	<p>Pulitzer Prize winner. The second volume of America in the King Years trilogy, Branch portrays the civil rights era at its zenith. By 1963, America is a nation in growing turmoil. Segregation of the races is still the law of the Deep South, and an unwritten code in much of the rest of the country. African Americans are deprived of basic rights in all aspects of their lives. They can't vote, and they are denied access to equal opportunities for employment, education, housing, economic advancement, and the use of public facilities. There is a rising tide of discontent among African Americans; they are becoming less willing to remain silent in their demands for</p>

			<p>equality, and more willing to fight... During the two-year period covered in "Pillar of Fire," some of the most important battles for equal rights are fought at Birmingham, Alabama; Greenwood, Mississippi; St. Augustine, Florida; and other places throughout the United States. Branch points out that by this time, Martin Luther King, Jr. has become the de facto leader of America's civil rights movement. Although he holds no "official" leadership position, he is, in effect, the voice and face of equal rights for all people of color. This is mainly due to his courage in speaking out, his commitment to non-violent confrontation to achieve equal rights, and his willingness to endure physical dangers and hardships along with those who march for freedom and equality. King is once again presented as the flawed but noble hero at the center of the epic battle for civil rights. Like its predecessor, "Parting the Waters," this book is a fabulously written, highly detailed account of a man and an era. It's a perfect combination of a brilliant biography and a penetrating study of one the most disturbing but important periods of twentieth century American history.</p>
Branch, Taylor	<i>America in King's Years: At Canaan's Edge</i>	2007	<p>Pulitzer Prize winner. The final volume of Taylor Branch's monumental, much honored, and definitive history of the Civil Rights Movement (America in the King Years), <i>At Canaan's Edge</i> covers the final years of King's struggle to hold his non-violent movement together in the face of factionalism within the Movement, hostility and harassment of the Johnson Administration, the country torn apart by Vietnam, and his own attempt (and failure) to take the Freedom Movement north. <i>At Canaan's Edge</i> traces a seminal era in our defining national story, freedom. The narrative resumes in Selma, crucible of the voting rights struggle for black people across the South. The time is early 1965, when the modern Civil Rights Movement enters its second decade since the Supreme Court's Brown decision declared segregation by race a violation of the Constitution. From Selma, King's non-violent Movement is under threat from competing forces inside and outside. Branch chronicles the dramatic voting rights drives in Mississippi and Alabama, Meredith's murder, the challenge to King from the Johnson Administration and the FBI and other enemies. When King tries to bring his Movement north (to Chicago), he falters. Finally, we reach Memphis, the garbage strike, King's assassination. Branch's magnificent trilogy makes clear why the Civil Rights Movement, and indeed King's leadership, are among the nation's enduring achievements.</p>
Branch, Taylor	<i>King's Years: Historic Moments in the Civil Rights Movement</i>	2013	<p>Pulitzer Prize winner. Single volume summary of the trilogy. Branch identified eighteen essential moments from the Civil Rights Movement, and provides selections from his trilogy, placing each moment in historical context with a newly written introduction. The captivating result is a slender but comprehensive view of America in the turbulent, transformative 1960s, by our nation's foremost authoritative voice on the subject. Branch presents selections from his monumental work that recount the essential moments of the civil rights movement. A masterpiece of storytelling on race and democracy, violence and nonviolence; the full sweep of an era that transformed America and continues to offer crucial lessons for today's world</p>
Carson, Clayborne	<i>In Struggle: SNCC and the Black Awakenings of the 1960's</i>	1995	<p>Compelling study of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. With its radical ideology and effective tactics, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) was the cutting edge of the civil rights movement during the 1960s. This sympathetic yet evenhanded book records for the first time the complete story of SNCC's evolution, of its successes and its difficulties in the ongoing struggle to end white oppression. At its birth, SNCC was composed of black college students who shared an ideology of moral radicalism. This ideology, with its emphasis on nonviolence, challenged Southern segregation. SNCC students were the earliest civil rights fighters of the Second Reconstruction. They conducted sit-ins at lunch counters, spearheaded the freedom rides, and organized voter registration, which shook white complacency and awakened black political consciousness. In the process, Clayborne Carson shows, SNCC changed from a group that endorsed white middle-class values to one that questioned the basic assumptions of liberal ideology and raised the fist for black power. Indeed, SNCC's radical and penetrating analysis of the American power structure reached beyond the black community to help spark wider social protests of the 1960s, such as the anti-Vietnam War movement. Carson's history of SNCC goes behind the scene to determine why the group's ideological evolution was accompanied by bitter power struggles within the organization. Using interviews, transcripts of meetings, unpublished position papers, and recently released FBI documents, he reveals how a radical group is subject to enormous, often divisive pressures as it fights the difficult battle for social change.</p>

Garrow, David	<i>Bearing the Cross: Martin Luther King, JR. and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference</i>	2004	Exhaustive and illuminating study of Martin Luther King. Winner of the 1987 Pulitzer Prize for Biography and the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award, this is the most comprehensive book ever written about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Based on more than seven hundred interviews, access to King's personal papers, and thousands of FBI documents. <i>Bearing the Cross</i> traces King's metamorphosis from a young, earnest pastor into the foremost spokesperson of the black freedom struggle. At the book's heart is King's growing awareness of the symbolic meaning of the cross as he gradually accepts a life that will demand the ultimate in self-sacrifice. This is a towering portrait of a man at the epicenter of one of the most dramatic periods in our history.
Hampton, Henry and Fayer, Steve	<i>Voices of Freedom: An Oral History of the Civil Rights Movement from the 1950s Through the 1980s</i>	1991	The book based on Hampton's monumental documentary television series, <i>Eyes on the Prize</i> (which every effort should be made to see). A monumental volume drawing upon nearly one thousand interviews with civil rights activists, politicians, reporters, Justice Department officials, and others, weaving a fascinating narrative of the civil rights movement told by the people who lived it. Brave and terrified youngsters walk through a jeering mob and up the steps of Central High School in Little Rock. Vivid voices of ordinary people who manned the barricades, the laborers, the students, the housewives without whom there would have been no civil rights movements at all. In this remarkable oral history, Henry Hampton, creator and executive producer of the acclaimed PBS series <i>Eyes on the Prize</i> , and Steve Fayer, series writer, bring to life the country's great struggle for civil rights as no conventional narrative can. Hear the voices of those who defied the blackjacks, who went to jail, who witnessed and policed the movement; of those who stood for and against it—voices from the heart of America.
King, Gilbert	<i>Devil in the Grove: Thurgood Marshall, the Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America</i>	2013	Winner of the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for General Nonfiction. Shines a (heartbreaking) light on Jim Crow as King probes the case of four young black men accused of raping a 17-year old white girl in Florida and the valiant defense they got from future Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. In 1949, Florida's orange industry was booming, and citrus barons got rich on the backs of cheap Jim Crow labor. To maintain order and profits, they turned to Willis V. McCall, a violent sheriff who ruled Lake County with murderous resolve. When a white seventeen-year-old Groveland girl cried rape, McCall was fast on the trail of four young blacks who dared to envision a future for themselves beyond the citrus groves. By day's end, the Ku Klux Klan had rolled into town, burning the homes of blacks to the ground and chasing hundreds into the swamps, hell-bent on lynching the young men who came to be known as "the Groveland Boys." And so began the chain of events that would bring Thurgood Marshall, the man known as "Mr. Civil Rights," and the most important American lawyer of the twentieth century, into the deadly fray. Associates thought it was suicidal for him to wade into the "Florida Terror" at a time when he was irreplaceable to the burgeoning civil rights movement, but the lawyer would not shrink from the fight--not after the Klan had murdered one of Marshall's NAACP associates involved with the case and Marshall had endured continual threats that he would be next. Drawing on a wealth of never-before-published material, including the FBI's unredacted Groveland case files, as well as unprecedented access to the NAACP's Legal Defense Fund files, King shines new light on this remarkable civil rights crusader, setting his rich and driving narrative against the heroic backdrop of a case that U.S. Supreme Court justice Robert Jackson decried as "one of the best examples of one of the worst menaces to American justice.
Lewis, John	<i>Walking with the Wind: A Memoir of the Movement</i>	1998	(at the time: 1998), Lewis was the highest black elected official in America, the congressman looks back on his life from his childhood on a Alabama cotton farm to his fight for civil rights, to his enduring commitment to the ideals of Martin Luther King, Jr.
Lewis, John	<i>Across That Bridge: A Vision for Change and the Future of America</i>	2017	Winner of the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work/Biography. Congressman John Lewis draws from his experience as a prominent leader of the Civil Rights Movement to offer timeless wisdom, poignant recollections, and powerful principles for anyone interested in challenging injustices and inspiring real change toward a freer, more peaceful society. The Civil Rights Movement gave rise to the protest culture we know today, and the experiences of leaders like Congressman Lewis, a close confidant to Martin Luther King, Jr., have never been more relevant. Despite more than forty arrests, physical attacks, and serious injuries, Lewis remained a devoted advocate of the discipline and philosophy of nonviolence. Now, in an era in which the protest culture he helped forge has resurfaced as a force for change, Lewis' insights have never been more relevant. In this heartfelt book, Lewis explores the contributions that each generation must make to achieve change.

Lewis, John	<i>Carry On: Reflections for a New Generation</i>	2021	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. Congressman John Lewis was a paragon of the Civil Rights Movement and political leadership for decades. A hero we won't soon forget, Lewis was a beacon of hope and a model of humility whose invocation to "good trouble" continues to inspire millions across our nation. In his last months on earth, even while battling cancer, he dedicated time to share his memories, beliefs, and advice -as a message to the generations to come. Organized by topics ranging from justice, courage, faith, mentorship, and forgiveness to the protests and the pandemic, and many more besides, <i>Carry On</i> collects the late Congressman's thoughts for readers to draw on whenever they are in need of guidance. John Lewis had great confidence in our future, even as he died in the midst of one of our country's most challenging years to date. With this book, he performs that crucial passing of the baton, empowering us to live up to the legacy he has left us with his perseverance, dedication, profound insight, and unwavering ability to see the good in life.
McWhorter, Diane	<i>Carry Me Home: Birmingham, Alabama: The Climactic Battle of the Civil Rights Revolution</i>	2013	Riveting account of the civil rights movement's impact on white families in Birmingham, AL (including her personal impact). The Pulitzer Prize-winning dramatic account of the Civil Rights Era's climactic battle in Birmingham as the movement, led by Martin Luther King, Jr., brought down the institutions of segregation. "The Year of Birmingham," 1963, was a cataclysmic turning point in America's long civil rights struggle. Child demonstrators faced down police dogs and fire hoses in huge nonviolent marches against segregation. Ku Klux Klansmen retaliated by bombing the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, killing four young black girls. McWhorter, daughter of a prominent Birmingham family, weaves together police and FBI records, archival documents, interviews with black activists and Klansmen, and personal memories into an extraordinary narrative of the personalities and events that brought about America's second emancipation. In a new afterword—reporting last encounters with hero Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth and describing the current drastic anti-immigration laws in Alabama—the author demonstrates that Alabama remains a civil rights crucible.
Mills, Kay	<i>This Little Light of Mine: The Life of Fannie Lou Hamer (Civil Rights and Struggle)</i>	2007	Engrossing study of freedom fighter Fannie Lou Hamer. The award-winning biography of black civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer. Provides a history that helps us to understand the choices made by so many black men and women of Hamer's generation, who somehow found the courage to join a movement in which they risked everything. Forces the reader to pause and consider that this black daughter of the Old South might have been braver than King and Malcolm. An epic that nurtures us as we confront today's challenges and helps us Keep Hope Alive. "Not only does <i>This Little Light of Mine</i> recount a vital part of America's history, but it lights our future as readers are inspired anew by Mrs. Hamer's spirit, courage, and commitment." —Marian Wright Edelman ""This book is the essence of raw courage. It must be read."" —Rep. John Lewis
Morris, Alden	<i>Origins of the Civil Rights Movement: Black Communities Organizing for Change</i>	1986	Stellar work. On December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, Mrs. Rosa Parks, weary after a long day at work, refused to give up her bus seat to a white man...and ignited the explosion that was the civil rights movement in America. In this powerful saga, Morris tells the complete story behind the ten years that transformed America, tracing the essential role of the black community organizations that was the real power behind the civil rights movement. Drawing on interviews with more than fifty key leaders, original documents, and other moving firsthand material, he brings to life the people behind the scenes who led the fight to end segregation, providing a critical new understanding of the dynamics of social change. A "valuable, eye-opening work" (<i>The Boston Globe</i>) about the civil rights struggles of the 1950s and 1960s. "An important addition to our knowledge of the strategies of social change for all oppressed peoples." —Reverend Jesse Jackson. "A benchmark study...setting the historical record straight." — <i>The New York Times Book Review</i>
Ransby, Barbara	<i>Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement: A Radical Democratic Vision</i>	2010	Moving account of the great organizer and activist. From her birth in Norfolk, VA, to her radicalism as a Harlem intellectual in the 1930s, Ella Jo Baker (1903-86) learned to hold fast to her roots and grab the belly of the beasts of racism and classism while fending off the confining clutches of sexism. So argues African American studies historian Ransby (Univ. of Illinois, Chicago). Baker had to fight to be heard in her work in the NAACP in the 1940s, in New York City local politics in the 1950s, and in the civil rights struggles of the 1960s and 1970s. Ever the teacher of community and individual empowerment, Baker toiled at helping people help themselves in a personal and organizational challenge she carried to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (of which she was a founder), Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. Shunning reductive summary, Ransby offers the grit and gleam of Baker's practical humanist

			vision of participatory democracy aimed at the collective, transformative work of dismantling race, gender, and class privilege. Ransby's is a remarkable biography worthy of her remarkable subject.
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E. BLACK FREEDOM STRUGGLES and the IMPACT of BLACK NATIONILSM and THEIR LEADERS.

AUTHOR NAME	TITLE	YEAR PUBLISHED	BRIEF SYNOPSIS
Bell, Derrick	<i>Faces at the Bottom of the Well</i>	2018	<i>New York Times</i> Bestseller. In <i>Faces at the Bottom of the Well</i> , civil rights activist and legal scholar Derrick Bell uses allegory and historical example—including the classic story "The Space Traders"—to argue that racism is an integral and permanent part of American society. African American struggles for equality are doomed to fail, he writes, so long as the majority of whites do not see their own well-being threatened by the status quo. Bell calls on African Americans to face up to this unhappy truth and abandon a misplaced faith in inevitable progress. Only then will blacks, and those whites who join with them, be in a position to create viable strategies to alleviate the burdens of racism. Now with a new foreword by Michelle Alexander, author of <i>The New Jim Crow</i> , this classic book was a pioneering contribution to critical race theory scholarship, and it remains urgent and essential reading on the problem of racism in America.
Bloom, Joshua, and Martin, Jr., Waldo E.	<i>Black Against Empire</i>	2016	An understanding of how the issue of police brutality inspired social revolution in the 70's, a comprehensive study of the history and politics of the Black Panthers. Winner of the American Book Award. This is the story of Huey Newton, Bobby Seale, Kathleen Cleaver, Fred Hampton, Ericka Huggins, Angela Davis, George Jackson, Assata Shakur, Bunchy Carter, Elaine Brown, George Murray, Geronimo Pratt, and the Black Panthers who put their lives on the line for revolution. This is the history of their struggle against racism and American imperialism, how they built power from below, the war waged against them by the U.S. government, and the eventual unravelling of their movement. Notice: The California Department of Corrections has designated this book dangerous contraband. All CA prisoners are prohibited from purchasing or reading this book. In Oakland, California, in 1966, Bobby Seale and Huey Newton armed themselves, began patrolling the police, and promised to prevent police brutality. Unlike the Civil Rights Movement that called for full citizenship rights for blacks within the U.S., the Black Panther Party rejected the legitimacy of the U.S. government and positioned itself as part of a global struggle against American imperialism. In the face of intense repression, the Party flourished, becoming the center of a revolutionary movement with offices in 68 U.S. cities and powerful allies around the world. <i>Black against Empire</i> cuts through the mythology and obfuscation, revealing the political dynamics that drove the explosive growth of this revolutionary movement, and its bitter unraveling. Informed by twelve years of meticulous archival research, as well as familiarity with most of the former Party leadership and many rank-and-file members, this book is the definitive history of one of the greatest challenges ever posed to American state power.
Collins', Patricia Hill	<i>Black Feminist Thought: Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment</i>	1999	In spite of the double burden of racial and gender discrimination, African-American women have developed a rich intellectual tradition that is not widely known. In <i>Black Feminist Thought</i> , originally published in 1990, Patricia Hill Collins set out to explore the words and ideas of Black feminist intellectuals and writers, both within the academy and without. Here Collins provides an interpretive framework for the work of such prominent Black feminist thinkers as Angela Davis, bell hooks, Alice Walker, and Audre Lorde. Drawing from fiction, poetry, music and oral history, the result is a superbly crafted and revolutionary book that provided the first synthetic overview of Black feminist thought and its canon.
Crenshaw, Kimberle	<i>Critical Race Theory (3rd edition)</i>	2017	Updated to include the Black Lives Matter movement, the presidency of Barack Obama, the rise of hate speech on the Internet, and more. Since the publication of the first edition of <i>Critical Race Theory</i> in 2001, the United States has lived through two economic downturns, an outbreak of terrorism, and the onset of an epidemic of hate directed against immigrants, especially undocumented Latinos and Middle Eastern people. On a more hopeful note, the country elected and re-elected its first black president and has witnessed the impressive advance of gay rights. As a field, critical race theory has taken note of all these developments, and this primer does so as well. It not only covers a range of emerging new topics and events, it also addresses the

			rise of a fierce wave of criticism from right-wing websites, think tanks, and foundations, some of which insist that America is now colorblind and has little use for racial analysis and study. <i>Critical Race Theory</i> is essential for understanding developments in this burgeoning field, which has spread to other disciplines and countries. The new edition also covers the ways in which other societies and disciplines adapt its teachings and, for readers wanting to advance a progressive race agenda, includes new questions for discussion, aimed at outlining practical steps to achieve this objective.
Crenshaw, Kimberle, and Ritchie, Andrea; et. al.	<i>Say Her Name: Resisting Police Brutality Against Black Women</i>	2016	To continue to call attention to police violence against Black women in the U.S., the African American Policy Forum, the Center for Intersectionality and Social Policy Studies at Columbia Law School, and Andrea Ritchie, Soros Justice Fellow and expert on policing of women and LGBT people of color, have put forth " <i>Say Her Name: Resisting Police Brutality Against Black Women</i> ." The document is intended to serve as a resource for the media, organizers, researchers, policy makers, and other stakeholders to better understand and address Black women's experiences of profiling and policing. In addition to stories of Black women who have been killed by police and who have experienced gender-specific forms of police violence, <i>Say Her Name</i> provides some analytical frames for understanding their experiences and broadens dominant conceptions of who experiences state violence and what it looks like. <i>Say Her Name</i> responds to increasing calls for attention to police violence against Black women by offering a resource to help ensure that Black women's stories are integrated into demands for justice, policy responses to police violence, and media representations of victims and survivors of police brutality.
hooks, bell	<i>Ain't I A Woman?</i>	1981	<i>Ain't I a Woman</i> is named after an 1851 speech by black women's rights activist Sojourner Truth. Though named after a nineteenth century speech and published in 1981, bell hooks' work is as relevant today as it has ever been. Hooks examines how a combination of racism and sexism throughout history has left black women at the very bottom of the social pecking order. By understanding how black women came to be so oppressed, hooks puts forward theories about how that oppression may be overcome. White men, white women, black men and black women have all contributed to the problem. The good news? We all have a part to play in the solution. Even if you're not already familiar with issues surrounding race and gender and are looking for an introduction, hooks' comprehensive look at the problems facing women of color is a great place to start. You'll learn: 1). how racism won white women the vote; 2). that the women's rights movement did black women more harm than good; and 3). why Rosa Parks took a back seat to Martin Luther King Jr.
Joseph, Peniel. E.	<i>Waiting 'Til the Midnight Hour: A Narrative History of the Black Power Movement</i>	2007	An invitation to understand the rich sweep of the black power movement. Scholar Joseph's provides such a rich history and analysis that anyone reading it will immediately want to challenge the traditional curriculum that portrays the Black Power Movement as the evil twin of the Civil Rights Movement while oversimplifying the Civil Rights Movement and treating the Black Power Movement as "too hot to touch." Joseph provides a complex and engaging picture of both movements, and the inseparable relationship between the two. He shatters many of the assumptions about the Black Power Movement, including when it began, its relationship to electoral politics, the range of key figures, and international relations. Joseph's critiques how textbooks typically invite students to contrast Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X as if they were polar opposites. Covering the years 1955-1975, <i>Waiting Till the Midnight Hour</i> is a sweeping reinterpretation of the Black Power Movement. On virtually every single page, the narrative uncovers buried intimacies of a tumultuous era. Follow Malcolm X from urban street corners to Ghanaian Universities and back. Malcolm's relationship with local activists introduces us to a world where black militants waged political war in urban settings far from the national spotlight. A detailed narrative of the Meredith March uncovers historically obscured connections between Martin Luther King and Stokely Carmichael, while its aftermath reveals a federal intelligence bureaucracy intent on neutralizing the Black Power Movement's most charismatic spokesman. Witness massive race riots in 1967 juxtaposed against Stokely Carmichael's remarkable international speaking tour. Experience domestic and international shockwaves of 1968 through the buildup to Huey P. Newton's murder trial and the Black Panther Party's short-lived alliance with SNCC. Witness Black Power's high point during the early 1970s, through parallel narratives that focus on Black Panther co-founder Huey P. Newton and black nationalist poet turned activist, Amiri Baraka. Along the way the Black Power Movement is placed in its appropriately rich and historic context: The struggles to redefine black identity through art and culture; Political movements for self-defense and community control; Pan-Africanist impulses that connected domestic freedom to African decolonization

			movements; and tactical alliances between black nationalists and elected officials. A number of diverse, indelible, portraits emerge; Attorney General Ramsey Clark's efforts to hold the line against FBI and White House fueled prosecutions against militants; Lyndon Johnson's private vendetta against Stokely Carmichael; The Black Panther Party's extraordinary ascent and tragic decline; Angela Davis' political struggles during the early 1970s; the rise of Amiri Baraka and how his fall from grace parallels Black Power's declining fortunes. This deeply researched and luminously written narrative history offers a bold and brilliant new perspective.
Joseph, Peniel E.	<i>Stokely: A Life</i>	2016	A penetrating study of the biography of Stokely Carmichael. Carmichael, the charismatic and controversial black activist, stepped onto the pages of history when he called for "Black Power" during a speech one Mississippi night in 1966. A firebrand who straddled both the American civil rights and Black Power movements, Carmichael would stand for the rest of his life at the center of the storm he had unleashed that night. In <i>Stokely</i> , preeminent civil rights scholar Josephs' presents a groundbreaking biography of Carmichael, using his life as a prism through which to view the transformative African American freedom struggles of the twentieth century. During the heroic early years of the civil rights movement, Carmichael and other civil rights activists advocated nonviolent measures, leading sit-ins, demonstrations, and voter registration efforts in the South that culminated with the passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965. Still, Carmichael chafed at the slow progress of the civil rights movement and responded with Black Power, a movement that urged blacks to turn the rhetoric of freedom into a reality through whatever means necessary. Marked by the assassinations of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr., a wave of urban race riots, and the rise of the anti-war movement, the late 1960s heralded a dramatic shift in the tone of civil rights. Carmichael became the revolutionary icon for this new racial and political landscape, helping to organize the original Black Panther Party in Alabama and joining the iconic Black Panther Party for Self Defense that would galvanize frustrated African Americans and ignite a backlash among white Americans and the mainstream media. Yet at the age of twenty-seven, Carmichael made the abrupt decision to leave the United States, embracing a pan-African ideology and adopting the name of Kwame Ture, a move that baffled his supporters and made him something of an enigma until his death in 1998. A nuanced and authoritative portrait, <i>Stokely</i> captures the life of the man whose uncompromising vision defined political radicalism and provoked a national reckoning on race and democracy.
Kelley, Robin	<i>Race Rebels: Culture, Politics, and the Black Working Class</i>	1996	Landmark book describing the struggle of the black working class is captured. Many black strategies of daily resistance have been obscured--until now. Race rebels, argues Kelley, have created strategies of resistance, movements, and entire subcultures. Here, for the first time, everyday race rebels are given the historiographical attention they deserve, from the Jim Crow era to the present.
Lorde, Audre	<i>Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches</i>	1986	The effort to embrace the intersections of gender, class, sexuality, and feminist politics is portrayed. A collection of fifteen essays written between 1976 and 1984 gives clear voice to Lorde's literary and philosophical personae. These essays explore and illuminate the roots of Lorde's intellectual development and her deep-seated and longstanding concerns about ways of increasing empowerment among minority women writers and the absolute necessity to explicate the concept of difference—difference according to sex, race, and economic status. The title <i>Sister Outsider</i> finds its source in her poetry collection <i>The Black Unicorn</i> (1978). These poems and the essays in <i>Sister Outsider</i> stress Lorde's oft-stated theme of continuity, particularly of the geographical and intellectual link between Dahomey, Africa, and her emerging self.
Marable, Manning	<i>Malcolm X: A Life of Reinvention</i>	2011	A magnum opus. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for History and a <i>New York Times</i> bestseller. The definitive biography of Malcolm X. Hailed as "a masterpiece" (<i>San Francisco Chronicle</i>), Marable's acclaimed biography of Malcolm X finally does justice to one of the most influential and controversial figures of twentieth-century American history. Filled with startling new information and shocking revelations, <i>Malcolm X</i> unfolds a sweeping story of race and class in America. Reaching into Malcolm's troubled youth, it traces a path from his parents' activism as followers of Marcus Garvey through his own work with the Nation of Islam and rise in the world of black nationalism, and culminates in the never-before-told true story of his assassination. <i>Malcolm X</i> is a stunning achievement, the definitive work on one of our greatest advocates for social change.
Smith, Barbara	<i>The Truth That Never Hurts: Writings on Race, Gender and Freedom</i>	2000	Brings together more than two decades of literary criticism and political thought about gender, race, sexuality, power, and social change. As one of the first writers in the United States to claim black feminism for black women, Smith has done groundbreaking work in defining black women's literary traditions and in making connections between race, class, sexuality, and gender. Smith's essay "Toward a Black Feminist Criticism," is often cited as a major catalyst in opening the field of black women's literature. Pieces about racism in the

			women’s movement, black and Jewish relations, and homophobia in the Black community have ignited dialogue about topics that few other writers address. The collection also brings together topical political commentaries on the 1968 Chicago convention demonstrations; attacks on the NEA; the Anita Hill–Clarence Thomas Senate hearings; and police brutality against Rodney King and Abner Louima. It also includes a never-before-published personal essay on racial violence and the bonds between black women that make it possible to survive.
Wallace, Michele	<i>Black Macho and the Myth of the Superwoman</i>	1978	Originally published in 1978, <i>Black Macho and the Myth of the Superwoman</i> caused a storm of controversy. Wallace blasted the masculine biases of the black politics that emerged from the sixties. She described how women remained marginalized by the patriarchal culture of Black Power, demonstrating the ways in which a genuine female subjectivity was blocked by the traditional myths of black womanhood. With a foreword that examines the debate the book has sparked between intellectuals and political leaders, as well as what has—and, crucially, has not—changed over the last four decades, <i>Black Macho and the Myth of the Superwoman</i> continues to be deeply relevant to current feminist debates and black theory today.

F. OTHER CLASSICS: Important reads

AUTHOR NAME	TITLE	YEAR PUBLISHED	BRIEF SYNOPSIS
Alexander, Michelle	<i>The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Color Blindness</i>	2010 2020	A tenth-anniversary edition of the iconic bestseller—“one of the most influential books of the past 20 years.” according to the <i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i> —with a new preface by the author. “It is in no small part thanks to Alexander’s account that civil rights organizations such as Black Lives Matter have focused so much of their energy on the criminal justice system.” Seldom does a book have the impact of Alexander’s <i>The New Jim Crow</i> . Since it was first published in 2010, it has been cited in judicial decisions and has been adopted in campus-wide and community-wide reads; it helped inspire the creation of the Marshall Project and the new \$100 million Art for Justice Fund; it has been the winner of numerous prizes, including the prestigious NAACP Image Award; and it has spent nearly 250 weeks on the <i>New York Times</i> bestseller list. Most important of all, it has spawned a whole generation of criminal justice reform activists and organizations motivated by Alexander’s unforgettable argument that “we have not ended racial caste in America; we have merely redesigned it.” Now, ten years after it was first published, the tenth-anniversary edition with a new preface by Alexander discussing the impact the book has had and the state of the criminal justice reform movement today.
Angelou, Maya	<i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i>	2009	Both joyous and painful, as mysterious and memorable, as childhood itself. <i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i> captures the longing of lonely children, the brute insult of bigotry, and the wonder of words that can make the world right. Angelou’s debut memoir is a modern American classic beloved worldwide. Sent by their mother to live with their devout, self-sufficient grandmother in a small Southern town, Maya and her brother, Bailey, endure the ache of abandonment and the prejudice of the local “po-white-trash.” At eight years old and back at her mother’s side in St. Louis, Maya is attacked by a man many times her age—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 (“I met and fell in love with William Shakespeare”) will allow her to be free instead of imprisoned. Poetic and powerful, <i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i> will touch hearts and change minds for as long as people read.
Butler, Anthea	<i>White Evangelical Racism: The Politics of Morality in America</i>	March 2021	The American political scene today is poisonously divided, and the vast majority of white evangelicals play a strikingly unified, powerful role in the disunion. These evangelicals raise a starkly consequential question for electoral politics: Why do they claim morality while supporting politicians who act immorally by most Christian measures? In this clear-eyed, hard-hitting chronicle of American religion and politics, Anthea Butler answers that racism is at the core of conservative evangelical activism and power. Butler reveals how evangelical racism, propelled by the benefits of whiteness, has since the nation’s founding played a provocative role in severely fracturing the electorate. During the buildup to the Civil War, white evangelicals used scripture to defend slavery and nurture the Confederacy. During Reconstruction, they used it to deny the vote to newly emancipated blacks. In the twentieth century, they sided with segregationists in avidly opposing movements for racial equality and

			civil rights. Most recently, evangelicals supported the Tea Party, a Muslim ban, and border policies allowing family separation. White evangelicals today, cloaked in a vision of Christian patriarchy and nationhood, form a staunch voting bloc in support of white leadership. Evangelicalism's racial history festers, splits America, and needs a reckoning now.
Davis, Angela	<i>Angela Davis: An Autobiography</i>	1972	Her own powerful story up to 1972, told with warmth, brilliance, humor and conviction.
Douglass, Frederick	<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i>	1845	Great black autobiography. Offers a peak into the struggles he endured. “You have seen how a man was made a slave; you shall see how a slave was made a man.” First Published in 1845. Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass is an 1845 memoir and treatise on abolition written by famous orator and former slave Frederick Douglass. It is generally held to be the most famous of a number of narratives written by former slaves during the same period. Born a slave circa 1818 (slaves weren't told when they were born) on a plantation in Maryland, Douglass taught himself to read and write. This book calmly but dramatically recounts the horrors and the accomplishments of his early years—the daily, casual brutality of the white masters; his painful efforts to educate himself; his decision to find freedom or die; and his harrowing but successful escape. An astonishing orator and a skillful writer, Douglass became a newspaper editor, a political activist, and an eloquent spokesperson for the civil rights of African Americans. He lived through the Civil War, the end of slavery, and the beginning of segregation. He was celebrated internationally as the leading black intellectual of his day, and his story still resonates in ours.
Du Bois, W.E.B.	<i>The Souls of Black Folk</i>	1903 3 rd edition: 2016	Ground breaking essays that limn the color line at the turn of the twentieth century. This landmark book is a founding work in the literature of black protest. W. E. B. 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, first published together in 1903, 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, then the most influential black leader in America, would only serve to perpetuate black oppression. Publication of <i>The Souls of Black Folk</i> was a dramatic event that helped to polarize black leaders into two groups: the more conservative followers of Washington and the more radical supporters of aggressive protest. Its influence cannot be overstated. It is essential reading for everyone interested in African-American history and the struggle for civil rights in America.
Ellison, Ralph	<i>Invisible Man</i>	1980	Wrestles with the perennial black problem of not being seen by the white world. Ellison's collected essays are masterpieces of elegance and erudition. Ellison's <i>Invisible Man</i> is a monumental novel, one that can well be called an epic of modern American Negro life. It is a strange story, in which many extraordinary things happen, some of them shocking and brutal, some of them pitiful and touching—yet always with elements of comedy and irony and burlesque the appear in unexpected places. It is a book that has a great deal to say.
Hurston, Zora Neale	<i>You Don't Know Us Negroes and Other Essays</i>	JAN, 2022	Introduction by <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author Henry Louis Gates Jr. Spanning more than 35 years of work, the first comprehensive collection of essays, criticism, and articles by the legendary author of the Harlem Renaissance, Zora Neale Hurston, showcasing the evolution of her distinctive style as an archivist and author. <i>You Don't Know Us Negroes</i> is the 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. Collectively, these essays showcase the roles enslavement and Jim Crow have played in intensifying Black people's inner lives and culture rather than destroying it. She argues that in the process of surviving, Black people re-interpreted every aspect of American culture—"modifying the language, mode of food preparation, practice of medicine, and most certainly religion." White supremacy prevents the world from seeing or completely recognizing Black people in their full humanity and Hurston made it her job to lift the veil and reveal the heart and soul of the race. These pages reflect Hurston as the controversial figure she was—someone who stated that feminism is a mirage and that the integration of schools did not necessarily improve the education of Black students. Also covered is the sensational trial of Ruby McCollum, a wealthy Black woman convicted in 1952 for killing her lover, a white doctor. Demonstrating the breadth of this revered and influential writer's work, <i>You Don't Know Us Negroes and Other Essays</i> is an invaluable chronicle of a writer's development and a window into her world and mind.

Jackson, Regina/Rao, Saira	<i>White Women: Everything You Already Know About Your Own Racism and How to Do</i>	NOV, 2022	An instant <i>New York Times</i> Bestseller. A no-holds-barred guidebook aimed at white women who want to stop being nice and start dismantling white supremacy from the team behind Race2Dinner and the documentary film, <i>Deconstructing Karen</i> . It's no secret that white women are conditioned to be "nice," but did you know that the desire to be perfect and to avoid conflict at all costs are characteristics of white supremacy culture? As the founders of Race2Dinner, an organization which facilitates conversations between white women about racism and white supremacy, Regina Jackson and Saira Rao have noticed white women's tendency to maintain a veneer of niceness, and strive for perfection, even at the expense of anti-racism work. In this book, Jackson and Rao pose these urgent questions: how has being "nice" helped Black women, Indigenous women and other women of color? How has being "nice" helped you in your quest to end sexism? Has being "nice" earned you economic parity with white men? Beginning with freeing white women from this oppressive need to be nice, they deconstruct and analyze nine aspects of traditional white woman behavior--from tone-policing to weaponizing tears--that uphold white supremacy society, and hurt all of us who are trying to live a freer, more equitable life. <i>White Women</i> is a call to action to those of you who are looking to take the next steps in dismantling white supremacy. Your white supremacy. If you are in fact doing real anti-racism work, you will find few reasons to be nice, as other white people want to limit your membership in the club. If you are not ticking white people off on a regular basis, you are not doing it right.
Jones, LeRoi/ Baraka, Amiri/ Jordan, June/	<i>Blues People: Negro Music in White America</i> <i>S O S: Poems 1961-2013</i>	1999 2016	Amiri Baraka, previously known as LeRoi Jones and Imamu Amear Baraka, was an American writer of poetry, drama, fiction, essays and music criticism. He was the author of numerous books of poetry and taught at several universities, including the University at Buffalo and Stony Brook University. Among his best-known works are the poetry collections " The Dead Lecturer " and " Transbluesency: The Selected Poetry of Amiri Baraka/LeRoi Jones, 1961-1995 "; the play " Dutchman "; and " Blues People: Negro Music in White America ," a highly regarded historical survey. " <i>The path the slave took to 'citizenship' is what I want to look at. And I make my analogy through the slave citizen's music—through the music that is most closely associated with him: blues and a later, but parallel development, jazz... [f] the Negro represents, or is symbolic of, something in and about the nature of American culture, this certainly should be revealed by his characteristic music.</i> " So says Amiri Baraka (previously known as LeRoi Jones) in the Introduction to <i>Blues People</i> , his classic work on the place of jazz and blues in American social, musical, economic, and cultural history. From the music of African slaves in the United States through the music scene of the 1960's, Baraka traces the influence of what he calls "negro music" on white America—not only in the context of music and pop culture but also in terms of the values and perspectives passed on through the music. In tracing the music, he brilliantly illuminates the influence of African Americans on American culture and history. Published after his death: Fusing the personal and the political in high-voltage verse, Amiri Baraka was one of the preeminent literary innovators of the past century. This volume comprises the fullest spectrum of his rousing, revolutionary poems, from his first collection to unpublished pieces composed during his final years. Throughout Baraka's career as a prolific writer in several genres (also published under the name LeRoi Jones), he was vehemently outspoken against oppression of African American citizens, and he radically altered the discourse surrounding racial inequality. His legacy in world literature is matched by his widespread influence as an activist and cultural leader. Praised for its lyricism and introspection, his early poetry emerged from the Beat generation, while his later writing is marked by the Black Arts Movement's intensely rebellious fervor and subversive ideology. All along, his primary focus was on how to live and love in the present moment despite the enduring difficulties of human history.
Katznelson, Ira	<i>When Affirmative Action Was White: An Untold History of Racial Inequality in Twentieth-Century America</i>	AUG 2006	A groundbreaking work that exposes the twisted origins of affirmative action. In this "penetrating new analysis" (<i>New York Times Book Review</i>) Ira Katznelson fundamentally recasts our understanding of twentieth-century American history and demonstrates that all the key programs passed during the New Deal and Fair Deal era of the 1930s and 1940s were created in a deeply discriminatory manner. Through mechanisms designed by Southern Democrats that specifically excluded maids and farm workers, the gap between blacks and whites actually widened despite postwar prosperity. In the words of noted historian Eric Foner,

			"Katznelson's incisive book should change the terms of debate about affirmative action, and about the last seventy years of American history."
Malcolm X	<i>The Autobiography of Malcolm X: As Told to Alex Haley</i>	1964	ONE OF TIME'S TEN MOST IMPORTANT NONFICTION BOOKS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY. In the searing pages of this classic autobiography, originally published in 1964, Malcolm X, the Muslim leader, firebrand, and anti-integrationist, tells the extraordinary story of his life and the growth of the Black Muslim movement. His fascinating perspective on the lies and limitations of the American Dream, and the inherent racism in a society that denies its nonwhite citizens the opportunity to dream, gives extraordinary insight into the most urgent issues of our own time. <i>The Autobiography of Malcolm X</i> stands as the definitive statement of a movement and a man whose work was never completed but whose message is timeless. It is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand America.
McGhee, Heather	The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together	FEB 2022	NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • LONGLISTED FOR THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD • One of today's most insightful and influential thinkers offers a powerful exploration of inequality and the lesson that generations of Americans have failed to learn: Racism has a cost for everyone—not just for people of color. WINNER OF THE PORCHLIGHT BUSINESS BOOK AWARD • ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: <i>Time, The Washington Post, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Ms. magazine, BookRiot, Library Journal.</i> Look for the author's podcast, <i>The Sum of Us</i>, based on this book! Heather McGhee's specialty is the American economy—and the mystery of why it so often fails the American public. From the financial crisis of 2008 to rising student debt to collapsing public infrastructure, she found a root problem: racism in our politics and policymaking. But not just in the most obvious indignities for people of color. Racism has costs for white people, too. It is the common denominator of our most vexing public problems, the core dysfunction of our democracy and constitutive of the spiritual and moral crises that grip us all. But how did this happen? And is there a way out? McGhee embarks on a deeply personal journey across the country from Maine to Mississippi to California, tallying what we lose when we buy into the zero-sum paradigm—the idea that progress for some of us must come at the expense of others. Along the way, she meets white people who confide in her about losing their homes, their dreams, and their shot at better jobs to the toxic mix of American racism and greed. This is the story of how public goods in this country—from parks and pools to functioning schools—have become private luxuries; of how unions collapsed, wages stagnated, and inequality increased; and of how this country, unique among the world's advanced economies, has thwarted universal healthcare. But in unlikely places of worship and work, McGhee finds proof of what she calls the Solidarity Dividend : the benefits we gain when people come together across race to accomplish what we simply can't do on our own. <i>The Sum of Us</i> is not only a brilliant analysis of how we arrived here but also a heartfelt message, delivered with startling empathy, from a black woman to a multiracial America. It leaves us with a new vision for a future in which we finally realize that life can be more than a zero-sum game.
Mehta, Samira K.	<i>The Racism of People Who Love You: Essays on Mixed Race Belonging</i>	JAN 2023	An unflinching look at the challenges and misunderstandings mixed-race people face in family spaces and intimate relationships across their varying cultural backgrounds. In this emotionally powerful and intellectually provocative blend of memoir, cultural criticism, and theory, scholar and essayist Samira Mehta reflects on many facets of being multiracial. Born to a white American and a South Asian immigrant, Mehta grew up feeling more comfortable with her mother's family than her father's—they never carried on conversations in languages she couldn't understand or blamed her for finding the food was too spicy. In adulthood, she realized that some of her Indian family's assumptions about the world had become an indelible part of her—and that her well-intentioned parents had not known how to prepare her for a world that would see her as a person of color. Popular belief assumes that mixedness gives you the ability to feel at home in more than one culture, but the flipside shows you can feel just as alienated in those spaces. In 7 essays that dissect her own experiences with a frankness tempered by generosity, Mehta confronts questions about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● authenticity and belonging; ● conscious and unconscious cultural inheritance; ● appropriate mentorship; ● the racism of people who love you.

			<i>The Racism of People Who Love You</i> invites people of mixed race into the conversation on race in America and the melding of found and inherited cultures of hybrid identity.
Noah, Trevor	<i>Born a Crime</i>	2016	A memoir. Comedian Trevor Noah recounts his childhood in South Africa under the apartheid government and the first few years of democratic rule by the nation's black majority. Born in 1984 to a black Xhosa mother and a white Swiss expatriate father, Noah is not merely an anomaly in apartheid South Africa; his existence is actually <i>illegal</i> because the regime outlawed relationships between people of different races. While the 18 chapters of <i>Born a Crime</i> generally trace Noah's childhood from his birth to the beginning of his comedy career after high school, they consist of vignettes rather than a linear story. Each chapter also begins with a short preface, generally about the social and historical context behind the events Noah recounts. The first part of <i>Born a Crime</i> (Chapters 1-8) offers a portrait of Noah's family under the apartheid regime. In the first chapter, he focuses on the role of religion in his childhood. Every Sunday, his mother, Patricia Nombuyiselo Noah, takes him and his baby brother, Andrew, to three churches: an integrated megachurch that seeks "to make Jesus cool," an austere white church whose pastor focuses on interpreting passages from the Bible, and an informal outdoor black church whose congregants spend hours praying for Jesus to alleviate their suffering. He shows how Christianity offers his mother a source of moral strength and discipline, which she seeks to pass onto her children. One day shortly after anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela is freed from prison, when their secondhand car fails to start, they take informal minibuses to church and nearly get attacked by an angry Zulu driver, emphasizing the danger and intergroup tension that continues to structure black South Africans' everyday lives in the wake of apartheid.
Obama, Barack	<i>Dreams from My Father</i>	2004	In this lyrical, sentimental, and compelling memoir, the son of a black African father and a white American mother searches for a workable meaning to his life as a black American. It begins in New York, where Barack Obama learns that his father—a figure he knows more as a myth than as a man—has been killed in a car accident. This sudden death inspires an emotional odyssey—first to a small town in Kansas, from which he retraces the migration of his mother's family to Hawaii, and then to Kenya, where he meets the African side of his family, confronts the bitter truth of his father's life, and at last reconciles his divided inheritance.
Obama, Barack	<i>The Audacity of Hope</i>	2006	#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER. Obama's lucid vision of America's place in the world and call for a new kind of politics that builds upon our shared understandings as Americans, based on his years in the Senate. In July 2004, four years before his presidency, Barack Obama electrified the Democratic National Convention with an address that spoke to Americans across the political spectrum. One phrase in particular anchored itself in listeners' minds, a reminder that for all the discord and struggle to be found in our history as a nation, we have always been guided by a dogged optimism in the future, or what Obama called "the audacity of hope." <i>The Audacity of Hope</i> is Barack Obama's call for a different brand of politics—a politics for those weary of bitter partisanship and alienated by the "endless clash of armies" we see in congress and on the campaign trail; a politics rooted in the faith, inclusiveness, and nobility of spirit at the heart of "our improbable experiment in democracy." He explores those forces—from the fear of losing to the perpetual need to raise money to the power of the media—that can stifle even the best-intentioned politician. He also writes, with surprising intimacy and self-deprecating humor, about settling in as a senator, seeking to balance the demands of public service and family life, and his own deepening religious commitment. At the heart of this book is Obama's vision of how we can move beyond our divisions to tackle concrete problems. He examines the growing economic insecurity of American families, the racial and religious tensions within the body politic, and the transnational threats—from terrorism to pandemic—that gather beyond our shores. And he grapples with the role that faith plays in a democracy—where it is vital and where it must never intrude. Underlying his stories is a vigorous search for connection: the foundation for a radically hopeful political consensus. Only by returning to the principles that gave birth to our Constitution, Obama says, can Americans repair a political process that is broken, and restore to working order a government that has fallen dangerously out of touch with millions of ordinary Americans. Those Americans are out there, he writes—"waiting for Republicans and Democrats to catch up with them."
Obama, Barack	<i>A Promised Land</i>	NOV 17, 2020	A riveting, deeply personal account of history in the making—from the president who inspired us to believe in the power of democracy. #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • NAACP IMAGE AWARD NOMINEE • NAMED ONE OF THE TEN BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW and the BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR BY The Washington Post. In the stirring, highly anticipated first volume of his presidential memoirs,

			Barack Obama tells the story of his improbable odyssey from young man searching for his identity to leader of the free world, describing in strikingly personal detail both his political education and the landmark moments of the first term of his historic presidency—a time of dramatic transformation and turmoil. Obama takes readers on a compelling journey from his earliest political aspirations to the pivotal Iowa caucus victory that demonstrated the power of grassroots activism to the watershed night of November 4, 2008, when he was elected 44th president of the United States, becoming the first African American to hold the nation’s highest office. Reflecting on the presidency, he offers a unique and thoughtful exploration of both the awesome reach and the limits of presidential power, as well as singular insights into the dynamics of U.S. partisan politics and international diplomacy. Obama brings readers inside the Oval Office and the White House Situation Room, and to Moscow, Cairo, Beijing, and points beyond. We are privy to his thoughts as he assembles his cabinet, wrestles with a global financial crisis, takes the measure of Vladimir Putin, overcomes seemingly insurmountable odds to secure passage of the Affordable Care Act, clashes with generals about U.S. strategy in Afghanistan, tackles Wall Street reform, responds to the devastating <i>Deepwater Horizon</i> blowout, and authorizes Operation Neptune’s Spear, which leads to the death of Osama bin Laden. <i>A Promised Land</i> is extraordinarily intimate and introspective—the story of one man’s bet with history, the faith of a community organizer tested on the world stage. Obama is candid about the balancing act of running for office as a Black American, bearing the expectations of a generation buoyed by messages of “hope and change,” and meeting the moral challenges of high-stakes decision-making. He is frank about the forces that opposed him at home and abroad, open about how living in the White House affected his wife and daughters, and unafraid to reveal self-doubt and disappointment. Yet he never wavers from his belief that inside the great, ongoing American experiment, progress is always possible. Captures Obama’s conviction that democracy is not a gift from on high but something founded on empathy and common understanding and built together, day by day.
Obama, Michelle	<i>Becoming</i>	2018	An intimate, powerful, and inspiring memoir by the former First Lady of the United States. #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • NAACP IMAGE AWARD WINNER • ONE OF ESSENCE’S 50 MOST IMPACTFUL BLACK BOOKS OF THE PAST 50 YEARS. In a life filled with meaning and accomplishment, Obama has emerged as one of the most iconic and compelling women of our era. As First Lady of the United States of America—the first African American to serve in that role—she helped create the most welcoming and inclusive White House in history, while also establishing herself as a powerful advocate for women and girls in the U.S. and around the world, dramatically changing the ways that families pursue healthier and more active lives, and standing with her husband as he led America through some of its most harrowing moments. Along the way, she showed us a few dance moves, crushed Carpool Karaoke, and raised two down-to-earth daughters under an unforgiving media glare. In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerizing storytelling, Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her—from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago to her years as an executive balancing the demands of motherhood and work, to her time spent at the world’s most famous address. With unerring honesty and lively wit, she describes her triumphs and her disappointments, both public and private, telling her full story as she has lived it. Warm, wise, and revelatory, <i>Becoming</i> is the deeply personal reckoning of a woman of soul and substance who has steadily defied expectations.
Walker, Alice	<i>The Color of Purple</i>	1992	Captivating novel about the struggles of black women for room to breathe and love in the south in the 1930’s. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. A powerful cultural touchstone of modern American literature, <i>The Color Purple</i> depicts the lives of African American women in early twentieth-century rural Georgia. Separated as girls, sisters Celie and Nettie sustain their loyalty to and hope in each other across time, distance and silence. Through a series of letters spanning twenty years, first from Celie to God, then the sisters to each other despite the unknown, the novel draws readers into its rich and memorable portrayals of Celie, Nettie, Shug Avery and Sofia and their experience. <i>The Color Purple</i> broke the silence around domestic and sexual abuse, narrating the lives of women through their pain and struggle, companionship and growth, resilience and bravery. Deeply compassionate and beautifully imagined, Walker’s epic carries readers on a spirit-affirming journey towards redemption and love.
Washington, Booker, T.	<i>Up From Slavery: An Autobiography</i>	1901	Born into slavery. First leader of the Tuskegee Institute. Political advisor to Presidents. This is his voice. This is his story. “I have begun everything with the idea that I could succeed, and I never had much patience with the

			multitudes of people who are always ready to explain why one cannot succeed,” states Washington. Read of his inspirational life in this unabridged, affordable printed volume.
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G. RACE and BLACK IDENTITY in the MEDIA. Gifted black voices – most have post-casts, include:

AUTHOR NAME	TITLE	YEAR PUBLISHED	BRIEF SYNOPSIS
Blain, Keisha	<i>Set the World on Fire: Black Nationalist Women and the Global Struggle for Freedom</i>	2018	Winner of the 2019 Darlene Clark Hine Award from the Organization of American Historians. In 1932, Mittie Maude Lena Gordon spoke to a crowd of black Chicagoans at the old Jack Johnson boxing ring, rallying their support for emigration to West Africa. In 1937, Celia Jane Allen traveled to Jim Crow Mississippi to organize rural black workers around black nationalist causes. In the late 1940s, from her home in Kingston, Jamaica, Amy Jacques Garvey launched an extensive letter-writing campaign to defend the Greater Liberia Bill, which would relocate 13 million black Americans to West Africa. Gordon, Allen, and Jacques Garvey—as well as Maymie De Mena, Ethel Collins, Amy Ashwood, and Ethel Waddell—are part of an overlooked and understudied group of black women who take center stage in <i>Set the World on Fire</i> , the first book to examine how black nationalist women engaged in national and global politics from the early twentieth century to the 1960s. Historians of the era generally portray the period between the Garvey movement of the 1920s and the Black Power movement of the 1960s as one of declining black nationalist activism, but Keisha N. Blain reframes the Great Depression, World War II, and the early Cold War as significant eras of black nationalist—and particularly, black nationalist women's—ferment. In Chicago, Harlem, and the Mississippi Delta, from Britain to Jamaica, these women built alliances with people of color around the globe, agitating for the rights and liberation of black people in the United States and across the African diaspora. As pragmatic activists, they employed multiple protest strategies and tactics, combined numerous religious and political ideologies, and forged unlikely alliances in their struggles for freedom. Drawing on a variety of previously untapped sources, including newspapers, government records, songs, and poetry, <i>Set the World on Fire</i> highlights the flexibility, adaptability, and experimentation of black women leaders who demanded equal recognition and participation in global civil society.
Bouie, Jamelle	<i>You Don't Know Us Negroes and Other Essays</i> A few recent Podcasts: a). <i>This Is Why It Took More Than 100 Years to Get an Anti-Lynching Bill</i> b). <i>Ginni Thomas is not an Outlier</i>	JAN, 2022 April 1, 2022 March 29, 2022	Based in Charlottesville, Virginia and Washington D.C., Jamelle Bouie is a columnist for the <i>New York Times</i> and political analyst for CBS News . He covers history and politics. Prior to the <i>Times</i> , Jamelle was chief political correspondent for <i>Slate</i> magazine. And before that, he was a staff writer at <i>The Daily Beast</i> and held fellowships at <i>The American Prospect</i> and <i>The Nation</i> magazine. He attended the University of Virginia, where he graduated with a degree in political and social thought, and government. Jamelle is also a photographer, documenting his surroundings using digital and analog tools. Visit his blog, follow him on Instagram or Twitter. a). Our political system was the primary obstacle to protecting the lives and livelihoods of its own citizens. b). There's very little distance between the fringes of the modern Republican Party and the elites who lead it.
Browne, Rembert	<i>Pod Casts and YouTube Videos: 112BK</i>	Ongoing	Browne grew up in Atlanta and attended The Paideia School, where his classmate was Jon Ossoff, now the senior U.S. senator from Georgia. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 2009 with a degree in sociology, public policy and geography. While attending Dartmouth, Browne wrote for <i>The Dartmouth</i> , the student newspaper. He later attended Columbia University in pursuit of a Master's degree in Urban Planning but left the program when he was offered a full-time position at Grantland. He currently lives in Los Angeles with his wife Andrea Gompf. Browne has drawn notice for his journalism on a wide variety of topics, including music, sports, and politics, interviewing President Obama on the 50th anniversary of the Selma March and serving as a

			<p>moderator of the Iowa Democratic Brown and Black Presidential Forum during the 2016 U.S. Presidential campaign. Browne covered the Republican and Democratic National Conventions for New York Magazine in 2016. In 2016, Forbes magazine named Browne to its 30 Under 30 list, citing his work on "everything from reporting on the ground in Ferguson, to interviewing President Obama on Air Force One, to covering pop culture." He was selected with four other journalists to fly with President Barack Obama to Selma, Alabama on March 7, 2015 to report on commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Selma to Montgomery Voting Rights March in March of 1965. The A.V. Club has called Browne, "a thoughtful critic who speaks with the voice of young America"^[15] and Brooklyn Magazine included him on its list of "100 Most Influential People in Brooklyn Culture," praising his "sharp-witted, playful and incisive voice."</p>
Coates, Ta-Nehisi	<i>Between the World and Me</i>	2015	<p>#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • NATIONAL BOOK AWARD WINNER • NAMED ONE OF TIME'S TEN BEST NONFICTION BOOKS OF THE DECADE • PULITZER PRIZE FINALIST • NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD FINALIST • ONE OF OPRAH'S "BOOKS THAT HELP ME THROUGH" • NOW AN HBO ORIGINAL SPECIAL EVENT</p> <p>A bold and personal literary exploration of America's racial history by "the most important essayist in a generation and a writer who changed the national political conversation about race" (<i>Rolling Stone</i>). NAMED ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL BOOKS OF THE DECADE BY CNN • NAMED ONE OF PASTE'S BEST MEMOIRS OF THE DECADE • NAMED ONE OF THE TEN BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY <i>The New York Times Book Review</i>. In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehisi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation's history and current crisis. Americans have built an empire on the idea of "race," a falsehood that damages us all but falls most heavily on the bodies of black women and men—bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden? Coates's attempt to answer these questions in a letter to his adolescent son. Coates shares with his son—and readers—the story of his awakening to the truth about his place in the world through a series of revelatory experiences, from Howard University to Civil War battlefields, from the South Side of Chicago to Paris, from his childhood home to the living rooms of mothers whose children's lives were taken as American plunder. Beautifully woven from personal narrative, reimagined history, and fresh, emotionally charged reportage, <i>Between the World and Me</i> clearly illuminates the past, bracingly confronts our present, and offers a transcendent vision for a way forward.</p>
Cobb, William Jelani	<i>The Matter of Black Lives</i>	2021	<p>A collection of <i>The New Yorker's</i> groundbreaking writing on race in America—including work by James Baldwin, Toni Morrison, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Hilton Als, Zadie Smith, and more—with a foreword by Jelani Cobb. This anthology from the pages of the <i>New Yorker</i> provides a bold and complex portrait of Black life in America, told through stories of private triumphs and national tragedies, political vision and artistic inspiration. It reaches back across a century, with Rebecca West's classic account of a 1947 lynching trial and James Baldwin's "Letter from a Region in My Mind" (which later formed the basis of <i>The Fire Next Time</i>), and yet it also explores our current moment, from the classroom to the prison cell and the upheavals of what Jelani Cobb calls "the American Spring." Bringing together reporting, profiles, memoir, and criticism from writers such as Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Elizabeth Alexander, Hilton Als, Vinson Cunningham, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Malcolm Gladwell, Jamaica Kincaid, Kelefa Sanneh, Doreen St. Félix, and others, the collection offers startling insights about this country's relationship with race. <i>The Matter of Black Lives</i> reveals the weight of a singular history, and challenges us to envision the future anew.</p>
	<i>The Substance of Hope: Barack Obama and The Paradox of Progress</i>	2010	<p>For acclaimed historian William Jelani Cobb, the historic election of Barack Obama to the presidency is not the most remarkable development of the 2008 election; even more so is the fact that Obama won some 90 percent of the black vote in the primaries across America, despite the fact that the established black leadership since the civil rights era—men like Jesse Jackson, John Lewis, Andrew Young, who paved the way for his candidacy—all openly supported Hillary Clinton. Clearly a sea change has occurred among black voters, ironically pushing the architects of the civil rights movement toward the periphery at the moment when their political dreams were most fully realized. How this has happened, and the powerful implications it holds for America's politics and social landscape, is the focus of <i>The Substance of Hope</i>, a deeply insightful, paradigm-</p>

	<i>To the Break of Dawn: A Freestyle on the Hip Hop Aesthetic</i>	2007	<p>shifting examination of a new generation of voters that has not been shaped by the raw memory of Jim Crow and has a different range of imperatives. Cobb sees Obama's ascendancy as "a reality that has been taking shape in tiny increments for the past four decades," and examines thorny issues such as the paradox and contradictions embodied in race and patriotism, identity and citizenship; how the civil rights leadership became a political machine; why the term "postracial" is as iniquitous as it is inaccurate; and whether our society has really changed with Obama's election. Elegantly written and powerfully argued, <i>The Substance of Hope</i> challenges conventional wisdom as it offers original insight into America's future.</p> <p>His articles and essays have appeared in <i>The Washington Post</i>, <i>The New Yorker</i>, <i>Essence</i>, <i>Vibe</i>, <i>Emerge</i>, <i>The Progressive</i>, <i>The Washington City Paper</i>, <i>One Magazine</i>, <i>Ebony</i> and <i>TheRoot.com</i>. He has also been a featured commentator on National Public Radio, CNN, Al-Jazeera, CBS News, and other national broadcast outlets. While doing research at the New York University library, Cobb stumbled upon a cache of previously unpublished writings by Harold Cruse, an influential scholar. Cobb tracked down Cruse at a retirement home in Ann Arbor, Michigan and obtained permission to organize and edit Cruse's writings and get them published in book form. The resulting book, <i>The Essential Harold Cruse: A Reader</i>, edited by Cobb with a foreword by Stanley Crouch, was published in 2002; it was listed as a 2002 Notable Book of The Year by <i>Black Issues Book Review</i>. It enhanced Cobb's stature among the African American Studies community nationwide.</p> <p>Cobb has authored several books, including a scholarly monograph based on his doctoral thesis, entitled <i>Antidote to Revolution: African American Anticommunism and the Struggle for Civil Rights, 1931–1957</i>. In 2003, Cobb wrote about the William Lynch speech, saying that "it is absolutely fake".</p>
Ewing, Eve	<i>Ghosts in the School Yard: Racism and School Closing on Chicago's South Side</i>	2018	<p>Winner, 2019 O.L. Davis Jr. Outstanding Book Award from the American Association for Teaching and Curriculum. In the spring of 2013, approximately 12,000 children in Chicago received notice that their last day of school would be not only the final day of the year, but also the final day of their school's very existence. The nation's third largest school district would eventually shutter 53 schools, citing budget limitations, building underutilization, and concerns about academic performance. Of the thousands of displaced students, 94% were low-income and 88% were African American, leading critics to accuse district CEO Barbara Byrd-Bennett and Mayor Rahm Emanuel of racism. "[The mayor] says that he wants to turn around the city of Chicago, make a new Chicago," one activist told a reporter. "Does that new Chicago mean no black folks? Where are people going to go?" <i>Ghosts in the Schoolyard</i> tells the story of these school closings, from their unfolding to their aftermath, in Bronzeville, a historically significant African American community on the South Side of Chicago. The book details the resistance efforts of the residents of Bronzeville, inspired by the legacy of a storied past and driven to fight back against the malfeasance and disregard of city political leaders. But at its core, this is a book about what schools really mean to Americans and to African Americans in particular, beyond the brick and mortar that compose them or the test scores and graduation rates that garner the most public attention. The book tells a story of love and loss, and the ongoing struggle of black people in America toward thriving livelihoods and self-determination.</p>
Kitwana, Bakari	<p>Hip-Hop Activism in the Obama Era</p> <p><i>The Hip Hop Generation: Young Blacks and the Crisis in African American Culture</i></p>	<p>2018</p> <p>2008</p>	<p>Kitwana sits down with leadership of the five major national hip-hop organizations, a larger part of the force that is driving the innovative marriage between hip-hop and civic engagement—The League of Young Voters, The Hip-Hop Congress, The National Hip-Hop Political Convention, The Hip-Hop Caucus and The Hip-Hop Summit Action Network. Hip Hop Activism in the Obama Era is a collection of interviews with activists and political organizers at the forefront of increasing youth involvement in electoral politics.</p> <p><i>The Hip Hop Generation</i> is an eloquent testament for black youth culture at the turn of the century. The only in-depth study of the first generation to grow up in post-segregation America, it combines culture and politics into a pivotal work in American studies. Bakari Kitwana, one of black America's sharpest young critics, offers a sobering look at this generation's disproportionate social and political troubles, and celebrates the activism and politics that may herald the beginning of a new phase of African American empowerment.</p>

Lemieux, Jamilah	<p>Writer (Magazines), culture critic, blogs, media</p> <p>BLOG: <i>The Beautiful Stranger</i></p>		<p>An American writer, cultural critic, and editor. She rose to prominence for her blog, <i>The Beautiful Struggler</i>. She has worked for <i>Ebony</i>, <i>Cassius Magazine</i>, and <i>Interactive One</i>, part of <i>Radio One, Inc.</i> Lemieux currently writes a parenting column for <i>Slate</i>, and co-hosts an accompanying podcast, <i>Mom & Dad Are Fighting</i>. Lemieux was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. Her father is David Lemieux, a former member of the Black Panther Party, who appeared in the 1973 film <i>The Spook Who Sat by the Door</i>. Her mother was active with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Lemieux received her bachelor's degree from Howard University. After graduating from Howard University, she began her writing career through blogging and mainstream media. Her blog, <i>The Beautiful Struggler</i>, primarily centered on the topics of race and romantic relationships. She is a three-time Black Weblog Awards winner. In 2011, Lemieux became the news and lifestyle editor for <i>Ebony.com</i>. She was promoted to senior editor in 2014. In late 2015, she became the senior editor for the print magazine. Lemieux's writing has appeared in publications such as <i>Mic</i>, <i>Essence</i>, <i>The Nation</i>, <i>The Washington Post</i>, <i>The New York Times</i>, and <i>The Guardian</i>. Her writing generally centers cultural issues from a feminist perspective. In 2009, she penned <i>An Open Letter to Tyler Perry</i> for NPR's <i>All Things Considered</i>. She also appears a TV commentator for networks such as CNN, MSNBC, NPR, and ABC, and she has been a guest on <i>Comedy Central's The Nightly Show</i>, <i>MTV2's Uncommon Sense</i>, <i>Vice's Desus & Mero</i>, as well as <i>Revolt/Power 105.1's The Breakfast Club</i>. She appeared as a commentator in the <i>Surviving R. Kelly</i> documentary series. In 2016, she became the vice president^[8] of news and men's programming for <i>Interactive One</i>, part of <i>Radio One, Inc.</i> As a part of her work there she developed <i>Cassius</i>, a digital magazine for millennials of color. Lemieux joined the Cynthia Nixon 2018 gubernatorial campaign as a communications advisor. In 2019, she worked as a consultant for Elizabeth Warren's presidential campaign.</p>
Lowery, Wesley	<p><i>They Can't Kill Us All: Ferguson, Baltimore, and a New Era in America's Racial Justice Movement</i></p>	2016	<p>A deeply reported book that brings alive the quest for justice in the deaths of Michael Brown, Tamir Rice, and Freddie Gray, offering both unparalleled insight into the reality of police violence in America and an intimate, moving portrait of those working to end it. Conducting hundreds of interviews during the course of over one year reporting on the ground, <i>Washington Post</i> writer Wesley Lowery traveled from Ferguson, Missouri, to Cleveland, Ohio; Charleston, South Carolina; and Baltimore, Maryland; and then back to Ferguson to uncover life inside the most heavily policed, if otherwise neglected, corners of America today. In an effort to grasp the magnitude of the repose to Michael Brown's death and understand the scale of the problem police violence represents, Lowery speaks to Brown's family and the families of other victims other victims' families as well as local activists. By posing the question, "What does the loss of any one life mean to the rest of the nation?" Lowery examines the cumulative effect of decades of racially biased policing in segregated neighborhoods with failing schools, crumbling infrastructure and too few jobs. Studded with moments of joy, and tragedy, <i>They Can't Kill Us All</i> offers a historically informed look at the standoff between the police and those they are sworn to protect, showing that civil unrest is just one tool of resistance in the broader struggle for justice. As Lowery brings vividly to life, the protests against police killings are also about the black community's long history on the receiving end of perceived and actual acts of injustice and discrimination. <i>They Can't Kill Us All</i> grapples with a persistent if also largely unexamined aspect of the otherwise transformative presidency of Barack Obama: the failure to deliver tangible security and opportunity to those Americans most in need of both.</p>
Newkirk, Vann	<p>"Growing Up in the Shadow of the Confederacy". <i>The Atlantic</i></p> <p><i>Challenging the Easy Narrative of MLK. The Atlantic" and The Daily Show</i></p> <p>The King Issue. <i>The Atlantic</i></p>	<p>2017</p> <p>2018</p> <p>2018</p>	<p>Vann is an American journalist and staff writer for <i>The Atlantic</i> who writes on politics, the environment, race, and healthcare policy. He graduated from Morehouse College in 2010 and UNC-Chapel Hill with a Masters' of Science in Public Health in Health Policy in 2012. Newkirk began his career as a policy analyst for the Kaiser Family Foundation, specializing in health policy issues. Newkirk was inspired to begin freelancing after the shooting of Michael Brown and subsequent unrest in Ferguson, Missouri in 2014, and has been a staff writer for <i>The Atlantic</i> magazine since 2016. In 2018, Newkirk helped produce a special commemorative issue of the magazine on Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy over the 50 years since King's assassination in 1968. As of 2019, Newkirk was working on a longform podcast, exploring the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Newkirk has appeared as a guest on various media outlets, including <i>The Daily Show</i> and shows on NPR, and has been a host or keynote speaker at a number of conferences on race and identity at universities throughout the United States. Newkirk also founded and is a contributing editor to <i>Seven Scribes</i>, a website dedicated to promoting writers and artists of color.</p>

Smith, Clint	<i>HOW THE WORD IS PASSED: A Reckoning with the History of Slavery Across America</i>	2021	Beginning in his hometown of New Orleans, 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. It is the story of the Monticello Plantation in Virginia, the estate where Thomas Jefferson wrote letters espousing the urgent need for liberty while enslaving more than four hundred people. It is the story of the Whitney Plantation, one of the only former plantations devoted to preserving the experience of the enslaved people whose lives and work sustained it. It is the story of Angola, a former plantation-turned–maximum-security prison in Louisiana that is filled with Black men who work across the 18,000-acre land for virtually no pay. And it is the story of Blandford Cemetery, the final resting place of tens of thousands of Confederate soldiers. A deeply researched and transporting exploration of the legacy of slavery and its imprint on centuries of American history, <i>How the Word Is Passed</i> illustrates how some of our country’s most essential stories are hidden in plain view—whether in places we might drive by on our way to work, holidays such as Juneteenth, or entire neighborhoods like downtown Manhattan, where the brutal history of the trade in enslaved men, women, and children has been deeply imprinted. Informed by scholarship and brought to life by the story of people living today, Smith’s debut work of nonfiction is a landmark of reflection and insight that offers a new understanding of the hopeful role that memory and history can play in making sense of our country and how it has come to be.
Smith, Mychal Denzel	<i>Stakes is High: Life After the American Dream</i> <i>Invisible Man, Got the Whole World Watching: A Young Black Man’s Education</i>	2020 2016	Smith is an American writer, television commentator and author. <i>Stakes is High</i> is the Winner of the 2020 Kirkus Prize for Nonfiction. The events of the past decade have forced us to reckon with who we are and who we want to be. We have been invested in a set of beliefs about our American identity: our exceptionalism, the inevitable rightness of our path, the promise that hard work and determination will carry us to freedom. But in <i>Stakes Is High</i> , Mychal Denzel Smith confronts the shortcomings of these stories -- and with the American Dream itself --and calls on us to live up to the principles we profess but fail to realize. In a series of incisive essays, Smith exposes the stark contradictions at the heart of American life, holding all of us, individually and as a nation, to account. We’ve gotten used to looking away, but the fissures and casual violence of institutional oppression are ever-present. There is a future that is not as grim as our past. In this profound work, Smith helps us envision it with care, honesty, and imagination. Brave, clear-eyed, and passionate, <i>Stakes Is High</i> is the book we need to guide us past crisis mode and through an uncertain future. <i>New York Times Best Seller.</i> How do you learn to be a black man in America? For young black men today, it means coming of age during the presidency of Barack Obama. It means witnessing the deaths of Oscar Grant, Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, Akai Gurley, and too many more. It means celebrating powerful moments of black self-determination for LeBron James, Dave Chappelle, and Frank Ocean. In <i>Invisible Man</i> , Smith chronicles his own personal and political education during these tumultuous years, describing his efforts to come into his own in a world that denied his humanity. Smith unapologetically upends reigning assumptions about black masculinity, rewriting the script for black manhood so that depression and anxiety aren’t considered taboo, and feminism and LGBTQ rights become part of the fight. The questions Smith asks in this book are urgent—for him, for the martyrs and the tokens, and for the Trayvons’ that could have been and are still waiting.
Young, Damon	<i>What Doesn’t Kill You Makes You Blacker: A Memoir in Essays</i>	2019	Damon Young is a contributing columnist to The Washington Post Magazine. He writes about the angst, anxieties and absurdities of American life – specifically culture, class, money, and race. <i>What Doesn’t Kill You</i> won the 2020 Thurber Prize for American Humor. He is also the co-founder of the culture blog Very Smart Brothas, was a contributing opinion writer for The New York Times, a columnist for GQ, and has written for The Atlantic, Esquire, NY Mag, The Undeclared, EBONY, and The Pittsburgh Post Gazette. Young is the creator and host of a forthcoming podcast with Crooked Media. Young co-founded a website called Very Smart Brothas (VSB) in 2008 with D. Marcellus Wright, who uses the pen name Panama Jackson. The website featured essays on pop culture, politics, and absurdist humor written for an African-American audience. He is also a columnist for GQ, and a contributing opinion writer for The New York Times. In February 2022 he joined <i>The Washington Post Magazine</i> as a contributing columnist with a weekly column. <i>What Doesn’t Kill You Makes You Blacker</i> is in equal parts a deeply introspective account of a life and an astute critique of the contours along which black people survive the limitations of historic and systemic racism. Readers who know Young’s work from the blog

he co-founded, Very Smart Brothas, will recognize his voice, his fondness for lists, his precise, comprehensive and spectacular references to pop culture, his wit, and his keen mind.

H. SOCIAL MEDIA. The miracle of social media is that it gives us greater accessibility than in the past to brilliant thinkers and scholars. These authors also host pod casts and other social media programs.

AUTHOR NAME	TITLE	YEAR PUBLISHED	BRIEF SYNOPSIS
Bobo, Lawrence D.	<i>Unequal</i>	PODCAST: Ongoing	Bobo is the Dean of Social Science at Harvard University. <i>“Unequal”</i> is a multipart series highlighting the work of Harvard faculty, staff, students, alumni, and researchers on issues of race and inequality across the U.S. The second part explores the experience of people of color with democracy in America. Bobo examines the decades-old beginnings of some of the 2020’s racial tumult.
Cooper, Brittany	<i>Eloquent Rage: A Black Feminist Discovers Her Superpower</i>	2018	So what if it’s true that Black women are mad as hell? They have the right to be. 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. Black women’s eloquent rage is what makes Serena Williams such a powerful tennis player. It’s what makes Beyoncé’s girl power anthems resonate so hard. It’s what makes Michelle Obama an icon. Eloquent rage keeps us all honest and accountable. It reminds women that they don’t have to settle for less. When Cooper learned of her grandmother’s eloquent rage about love, sex, and marriage in an epic and hilarious front-porch confrontation, her life was changed. And it took another intervention, this time staged by one of her homegirls, to turn Brittney into the fierce feminist she is today. In Cooper’s world, neither mean girls nor fuckboys ever win. Homegirls emerge as heroes. This book argues that ultimately feminism, friendship, and faith in one’s own superpowers are all we really need to turn things right side up again.
Davis, Thadious	<i>Southscapes: Geographies of Race, Region, and Literature (New Directions in Southern Studies)</i>	2011	Davis is the Geraldine R. Segal Professor of American Social Thought and Professor of English at the University of Pennsylvania. She received her Ph.D. from Boston University. Her teaching areas include African American literature and Southern literature with an emphasis on issue of race, region, and gender. Southscapes is an innovative approach to southern literary cultures that analyzes how black southern writers use their spatial location to articulate the vexed connections between society and environment, particularly under segregation and its legacies. Basing her analysis on texts by Ernest Gaines, Richard Wright, Alice Walker, Natasha Trethewey, Olympia Vernon, Brenda Marie Osbey, Sybil Kein, and others, Davis reveals how these writers reconstitute racial exclusion as creative black space, rather than a site of trauma and resistance. Utilizing the social and political separation epitomized by segregation to forge a spatial and racial vantage point, Davis argues, allows these writers to imagine and represent their own subject matter and aesthetic concerns. Focusing particularly on Louisiana and Mississippi, Davis deploys new geographical discourses of space to expand analyses of black writers’ relationship to the South and to consider the informing aspects of spatial narratives on their literary production. She argues that African American writers not only are central to the production of southern literature and new southern studies, but also are crucial to understanding the shift from modernism to postmodernism in southern letters. A paradigm-shifting work, <i>Southscapes</i> restores African American writers to their rightful place in the regional imagination, while calling for a more inclusive conception of region.
Day, Keri	<i>Religious Resistance to Neoliberalism: Womanist and Black Feminist Perspectives</i>	2015	<i>Religious Resistance to Neoliberalism</i> offers compelling and intersectional religious critiques of neoliberalism. Neoliberalism is the normative rationality of contemporary global capitalism that orders people to live by the generalized principle of competition in all social spheres of life. Keri Day asserts that neoliberalism and its moral orientations consequently breed radical distrust, lovelessness, disconnection, and alienation within society. She argues that engaging black feminist and womanist religious perspectives with Jewish and Christian discourses offers more robust critiques of a neoliberal economy. Employing womanist and black feminist

	<i>Unfinished Business: Black Women, the Black Church, and the Struggle to Thrive in America</i>	2012	<p>religious perspectives, this book provides six theoretical, theologically constructive arguments to challenge the moral fragmentation associated with global markets. It strives to envision a pragmatic politics of hope.</p> <p>Day presents a striking portrayal of poverty, with all its related problems, among black women in this country unemployment, underemployment, isolation, and lack of assets such as a car or home ownership. She turns to the black church as a potential agent of social change, indicating ways in which the black church can take up the equivalent of a Poor People's Campaign. She takes on the common stereotypes that castigate poor black women as morally problematic and dependent on the money of good tax-paying citizens, demonstrating their inaccuracy. A specific concern Day addresses throughout is how to aid black women to develop assets that will prevent long-term poverty and allow them to thrive. This book is a pioneering and path-blazing work in Christian ethics that combines a sophisticated class-based notion of thriving with an asset-building approach of public policy for prophetic Christian praxis. Keri Day makes Martin Luther King, Jr. and Fanny Lou Hamer smile from the grave!</p>
Floyd-Thomas, Stacy	<i>Religion, Race, and COVID-19: Confronting White Supremacy in the Pandemic</i>	2022	<p>Examines how the dynamics emerging from the pandemic affect our most vulnerable populations and shape a new religious landscape. The COVID-19 pandemic upset virtually every facet of society and, in many cases, exposed gross inequality and dysfunction. The particular dynamics emerging from the coronavirus pandemic have been felt most intensely by America's most vulnerable populations, who are disproportionately people of color and the working poor, the people whom the Bible refers to as "the least of these." This book makes the case that the pandemic was not just a medical phenomenon, or an economic or social one, but also a religious one. Religious practice has been altered in profound ways. Controversies around religious freedom have been re-ignited over debates concerning whether government can restrict church services. Christian white supremacists not only defied shelter in place orders, but found new ways to propagate racist attacks, with their White Christian identity fueling their reactions to the pandemic. Some religious leaders, including those in communities of color, saw the virus as an indicator of God's wrath, or as a divine test, and viewed altering their traditional practices to mitigate the virus's spread as a weakening of faith. This book argues that there is a religious hierarchy in US society that puts "the least of these" last while prioritizing those who benefit most from white privilege. Yet these vulnerable populations draw on theological and religious resources to contend with these existential threats. The book shows how social transformation occurs when faith is both formed and informed during crises, offering compelling insight into the saliency and lasting impact of religiosity within human culture.</p>
Gates, Henry Louis, Jr. Author, Documentary Film Director, MacArthur Genius Grant Award recipient	<i>Stony the Road: Reconstruction, White Supremacy, and the Rise of Jim Crow</i>	April 2020	<p>"Stony the Road presents a bracing alternative to Trump-era white nationalism. . . . In our current politics we recognize African-American history—the spot under our country's rug where the terrorism and injustices of white supremacy are habitually swept. Stony the Road lifts the rug." —Nell Irvin Painter, <i>New York Times Book Review</i>. A profound new rendering of the struggle by African-Americans for equality after the Civil War and the violent counter-revolution that re-subjugated them, by the bestselling author of <i>The Black Church</i>.</p> <p>The abolition of slavery in the aftermath of the Civil War is a familiar story, as is the civil rights revolution that transformed the nation after World War II. But the century in between remains a mystery: if emancipation sparked "a new birth of freedom" in Lincoln's America, why was it necessary to march in Martin Luther King, Jr.'s America? In this new book, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., one of our leading chroniclers of the African-American experience, seeks to answer that question in a history that moves from the Reconstruction Era to the "nadir" of the African-American experience under Jim Crow, through to World War I and the Harlem Renaissance. Through his close reading of the visual culture of this tragic era, Gates reveals the many faces of Jim Crow and how, together, they reinforced a stark color line between white and black Americans. Bringing a lifetime of wisdom to bear as a scholar, filmmaker, and public intellectual, Gates uncovers the roots of structural racism in our own time, while showing how African Americans after slavery combatted it by articulating a vision of a "New Negro" to force the nation to recognize their humanity and unique contributions to America as it hurtled toward the modern age. The story Gates tells begins with great hope, with the Emancipation Proclamation, Union victory, and the liberation of nearly 4 million enslaved African-Americans. Until 1877, the federal government, goaded by the activism of Frederick Douglass and many others, tried at various turns to sustain their new rights. But the terror unleashed by white paramilitary groups in the former Confederacy, combined with deteriorating economic conditions and a loss of Northern will, restored "home rule" to the South. The</p>

			retreat from Reconstruction was followed by one of the most violent periods in our history, with thousands of black people murdered or lynched and many more afflicted by the degrading impositions of Jim Crow segregation. An essential tour through one of America's fundamental historical tragedies, <i>Stony the Road</i> is also a story of heroic resistance, as figures such as W. E. B. Du Bois and Ida B. Wells fought to create a counter-narrative, and culture, inside the lion's mouth. As sobering as this tale is, it also has within it the inspiration that comes with encountering the hopes our ancestors advanced against the longest odds.
Griffin, Farah	<i>Read Until You Understand: The Profound Wisdom of Black Life and Literature</i>	Sept, 2021	A PBS NewsHour Best Book of the Year; and Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year in Nonfiction. Griffin is a scholar who imparts the lessons bequeathed by the Black community and its remarkable artists and thinkers. Griffin has taken to her heart the phrase "read until you understand," a line her father, who died when she was nine, wrote in a note to her. She has made it central to this book about love of the majestic power of words and love of the magnificence of Black life. Griffin has spent years rooted in the culture of Black genius and the legacy of books that her father left her. A beloved professor, she has devoted herself to passing these works and their wisdom on to generations of students. She shares a lifetime of discoveries: the ideas that inspired the stunning oratory of Frederick Douglass and Malcolm X, the soulful music of Marvin Gaye and Stevie Wonder, the daring literature of Phillis Wheatley and Toni Morrison, the inventive artistry of Romare Bearden, and many more. Exploring these works through such themes as justice, rage, self-determination, beauty, joy, and mercy allows her to move from her aunt's love of yellow roses to Gil Scott-Heron's "Winter in America." She entwines memoir, history, and art while she keeps her finger on the pulse of the present, asking us to grapple with the continuing struggle for Black freedom and the ongoing project that is American democracy. She challenges us to reckon with our commitment to all the nation's inhabitants and our responsibilities to all humanity.
Harris-Perry, Melissa	<i>Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes, and Black Women in America</i>	2013	Book from a highly respected thinker on race, gender, and American politics, a new consideration of black women and how distorted stereotypes affect their political beliefs. Jezebel's sexual lasciviousness, Mammy's devotion, and Sapphire's outspoken anger—these are among the most persistent stereotypes that black women encounter in contemporary American life. Hurtful and dishonest, such representations force African American women to navigate a virtual crooked room that shames them and shapes their experiences as citizens. Many respond by assuming a mantle of strength that may convince others, and even themselves, that they do not need help. But as a result, the unique political issues of black women are often ignored and marginalized. In this groundbreaking book, Harris-Perry uses multiple methods of inquiry, including literary analysis, political theory, focus groups, surveys, and experimental research, to understand more deeply black women's political and emotional responses to pervasive negative race and gender images. Not a traditional political science work concerned with office-seeking, voting, or ideology, <i>Sister Citizen</i> instead explores how African American women understand themselves as citizens and what they expect from political organizing. She shows that the shared struggle to preserve an authentic self and secure recognition as a citizen links together black women in America, from the anonymous survivors of Hurricane Katrina to the then current First Lady of the United States.
Hendricks, Obery, Jr.	<i>Christians Against Christianity: How Right-Wing Evangelicals Are Destroying Our Nation and Our Faith</i>	July, 2021	A timely and galvanizing work that examines how right-wing evangelical Christians have veered from an admirable faith to a pernicious, destructive ideology. Today's right-wing Evangelical Christianity stands as the very antithesis of the message of Jesus Christ. In his new book, best-selling author and religious scholar Obery M. Hendricks Jr. challenges right-wing evangelicals on the terrain of their own religious claims, exposing the falsehoods, contradictions, and misuses of the Bible that are embedded in their rabid homophobia, their poorly veiled racism and demonizing of immigrants and Muslims, and their ungodly alliance with big business against the interests of American workers. He scathingly indicts the religious leaders who helped facilitate the rise of the notoriously unchristian Donald Trump, likening them to the "court jesters" and hypocritical priestly sycophants of bygone eras who unquestioningly supported their sovereigns' every act, no matter how hateful or destructive to those they were supposed to serve. In the wake of the deadly insurrectionist attack on the US Capitol, <i>Christians Against Christianity</i> is a clarion call to stand up to the hypocrisy of the evangelical Right, as well as a guide for Christians to return their faith to the life-affirming message that Jesus brought and died for.

			What Hendricks offers is a provocative diagnosis, an urgent warning that right-wing evangelicals' aspirations for Christian nationalist supremacy are a looming threat, not only to Christian decency but to democracy itself. What they offer to America is anything but good news.
Hill, Marc Lamont, and Todd Brewster	<i>Seen and Unseen: Technology, Social Media, and the Fight for Racial Justice</i>	MAY, 2022	A riveting exploration of how the power of visual media over the last few years has shifted the narrative on race and reignited the push towards justice. Hill has also authored <i>Nobody</i> . With his signature "clear and courageous" voice, Hill and <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author Todd Brewster weave some of the most pivotal recent moments in the country's racial divide—the killings of George Floyd and Ahmaud Arbery and the harassment of Christian Cooper—into their historical context. In doing so, they reveal the common thread between these harrowing incidents: video recordings and the immediacy of technology has irrevocably changed our conversations about race and in many instances tipped the levers of power in favor of the historically disadvantaged. Drawing on the powerful role of technology as a driver of history, identity, and racial consciousness, <i>Seen and Unseen</i> asks why, after so much video confirmation of police violence on people of color, it took the footage of George Floyd to trigger an overwhelming response of sympathy and outrage? In the vein of <i>The New Jim Crow</i> and <i>Caste</i> , <i>Seen and Unseen</i> incisively explores what connects our moment to the history of race in America but also what makes today different from the civil rights movements of the past and what it will ultimately take to push social justice forward.
Hill, Marc Lamont	<i>We Still Here: Pandemic, Policing, Protest, and Possibility</i>	NOV, 2020	In the midst of loss and death and suffering, our charge is to figure out what freedom really means—and how we take steps to get there. "In the United States, being poor and Black makes you more likely to get sick. Being poor, Black, and sick makes you more likely to die. Your proximity to death makes you disposable." The uprising of 2020 marked a new phase in the unfolding Movement for Black Lives. The brutal killings of Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, and Breonna Taylor, and countless other injustices large and small, were the match that lit the spark of the largest protest movement in US history, a historic uprising against racism and the politics of disposability that the Covid-19 pandemic lays bare. In this urgent and incisive collection of new interviews bookended by two new essays, Marc Lamont Hill critically examines the "pre-existing conditions" that have led us to this moment of crisis and upheaval, guiding us through both the perils and possibilities, and helping us imagine an abolitionist future.
	<i>Nobody: Casualties of America's War on the Vulnerable, from Ferguson to Flint and Beyond</i>	MAY, 2017	Named a Best Book of the Year by <i>Kirkus Reviews</i> ; A <i>New York Times</i> Editor's Choice; and Nautilus Award Winner. From one of the leading voices on civil rights in America, a thoughtful and urgent analysis of recent headline-making police brutality cases and the systems and policies that enabled them. In this "thought-provoking and important" (<i>Library Journal</i>) analysis of state-sanctioned violence, Hill carefully considers a string of high-profile deaths in America—Sandra Bland, Freddie Gray, Michael Brown, Eric Garner, Trayvon Martin, and others—and incidents of gross negligence by government, such as the water crisis in Flint, Michigan. He digs underneath these events to uncover patterns and policies of authority that allow some citizens to become disempowered, disenfranchised, poor, uneducated, exploited, vulnerable, and disposable. To help us understand the plight of vulnerable communities, he examines the effects of unfettered capitalism, mass incarceration, and political power while urging us to consider a new world in which everyone has a chance to become somebody. Heralded as an essential text for our times, Hill's galvanizing work embodies the best traditions of scholarship, journalism, and storytelling to lift unheard voices and to address the necessary question, "how did we get here?"
Hinton, Elizabeth	<i>America on Fire: The Untold History of Police Violence and Black Rebellion Since the 1960s</i>	May, 2021	A <i>New York Times</i> Notable Book. Best Books of 2021: <i>TIME</i>, <i>Smithsonian</i>. <i>New York Times Book Review</i> • Editors' Choice. From one of our top historians, a groundbreaking story of policing and "riots" that shatters our understanding of the post-civil rights era. What began in spring 2020 as local protests in response to the killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police quickly exploded into a massive nationwide movement. Millions of mostly young people defiantly flooded into the nation's streets, demanding an end to police brutality and to the broader, systemic repression of Black people and other people of color. To many observers, the protests appeared to be without precedent in their scale and persistence. Yet, as the acclaimed historian Elizabeth Hinton demonstrates in <i>America on Fire</i> , the events of 2020 had clear precursors—and any attempt to understand our current crisis requires a reckoning with the recent past. Even in the aftermath of Donald

	<i>From the War on Poverty to the War on Crime: The Making of Mass Incarceration in America</i>	SEPT, 2017	<p>Trump, many Americans consider the decades since the civil rights movement in the mid-1960s as a story of progress toward greater inclusiveness and equality. Hinton’s sweeping narrative uncovers an altogether different history, taking us on a troubling journey from Detroit in 1967 and Miami in 1980 to Los Angeles in 1992 and beyond to chart the persistence of structural racism and one of its primary consequences, the so-called urban riot. Hinton offers a critical corrective: the word <i>riot</i> was nothing less than a racist trope applied to events that can only be properly understood as <i>rebellions</i>—explosions of collective resistance to an unequal and violent order. As she suggests, if rebellion and the conditions that precipitated it never disappeared, the optimistic story of a post-Jim Crow United States no longer holds. As black rebellion, <i>America on Fire</i> powerfully illustrates, was born in response to poverty and exclusion, but most immediately in reaction to police violence. In 1968, President Lyndon Johnson launched the “War on Crime,” sending militarized police forces into impoverished Black neighborhoods. Facing increasing surveillance and brutality, residents threw rocks and Molotov cocktails at officers, plundered local businesses, and vandalized exploitative institutions. Hinton draws on exclusive sources to uncover a previously hidden geography of violence in smaller American cities, from York, Pennsylvania, to Cairo, Illinois, to Stockton, California. The central lesson from these eruptions—that police violence invariably leads to community violence—continues to escape policymakers, who respond by further criminalizing entire groups instead of addressing underlying socioeconomic causes. The results are the hugely expanded policing and prison regimes that shape the lives of so many Americans today. Presenting a new framework for understanding our nation’s enduring strife, <i>America on Fire</i> is also a warning: rebellions will surely continue unless police are no longer called on to manage the consequences of dismal conditions beyond their control, and until an oppressive system is finally remade on the principles of justice and equality.</p> <p>Co-Winner of the Thomas J. Wilson Memorial Prize. A <i>New York Times</i> Notable Book of the Year. A <i>New York Times</i> Book Review Editors’ Choice. A <i>Wall Street Journal</i> Favorite Book of the Year. A <i>Choice</i> Outstanding Academic Title of the Year; and A <i>Publishers Weekly</i> Favorite Book of the Year. In the United States today, one in every thirty-one adults is under some form of penal control, including one in eleven African American men. How did the “land of the free” become the home of the world’s largest prison system? Challenging the belief that America’s prison problem originated with the Reagan administration’s War on Drugs, Hinton traces the rise of mass incarceration to an ironic source: the social welfare programs of Lyndon Johnson’s Great Society at the height of the civil rights era. Hinton’s book is more than an argument; it is a revelation...There are moments that will make your skin crawl...This is history, but the implications for today are striking. Readers will learn how the militarization of the police that we’ve witnessed in Ferguson and elsewhere had roots in the 1960s.</p>
Laymon, Kiese	<i>Heavy: An American Memoir</i>	2018	<p>Laymon is a PODchaser and xxx. Laymon writes eloquently and honestly about growing up a hard-headed black son to a complicated and brilliant black mother in Jackson, Mississippi. From his early experiences of sexual violence, to his trek to New York as a young college professor, Laymon 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. A personal narrative that illuminates national failures, <i>Heavy</i> is defiant yet vulnerable, an insightful, often comical exploration of weight, identity, art, friendship, and family that begins with a confusing childhood -and continues through twenty-five years of haunting implosions and long reverberations.</p>
Lindsey, Treva	<i>America, Goddam: Violence, Black Women, and the Struggle for Justice</i>	April, 2022	<p>A powerful account of violence against Black women and girls in the United States and their fight for liberation. Echoing the energy of Nina Simone’s searing protest song that inspired the title, this book is a call to action in our collective journey toward just futures. <i>America, Goddam</i> explores the combined force of anti-Blackness, misogyny, patriarchy, and capitalism in the lives of Black women and girls in the United States today. Through personal accounts and hard-hitting analysis, Black feminist historian Treva B. Lindsey starkly assesses the forms and legacies of violence against Black women and girls, as well as their demands for justice for themselves and their communities. Combining history, theory, and memoir, this book renders visible the</p>

			<p>gender dynamics of anti-Black violence. Black women and girls occupy a unique status of vulnerability to harm and death, while the circumstances and traumas of this violence go underreported and understudied. <i>America, Goddam</i> allows readers to understand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How Black women—who have been both victims of anti-Black violence as well as frontline participants—are rarely the focus of Black freedom movements. • How Black women have led movements demanding justice for Breonna Taylor, Sandra Bland, Toyin Salau, Riah Milton, Aiyana Stanley-Jones, and countless other Black women and girls whose lives have been curtailed by numerous forms of violence. • How across generations and centuries, their refusal to remain silent about violence against them led to Black liberation through organizing and radical politics. <p><i>America, Goddam</i> powerfully demonstrates that the struggle for justice begins with reckoning with the pervasiveness of violence against Black women and girls in the United States</p>
Morgan, Marcyliena	<i>Video: If I Ruled the World; Imagine That</i>	2013	<p>Morgan is the Ernest E. Monrad Professor of the Social Sciences at Harvard University; and the Founding Director of The Hip hop Archive and Research Institute (HARI) at the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research. She earned both her B.A. and her M.A. degrees at the University of Illinois in Chicago. She obtained an additional M.A. in linguistics at the University of Essex, England and her PhD through the Graduate School of Education at the University of Pennsylvania. She has written extensively on language and identity, education, linguistic philosophy, gender, feminism and sexuality and hip hop culture. She is the author of many works that focus on youth, gender, racism, language, culture, linguistic philosophy, identity, sociolinguistics, discourse and interaction.</p>
Neal, Mark Anthony	<i>Black Ephemera: The Crisis and Challenge of the Musical Archive</i>	March, 2022	<p>A framework for understanding the deep archive of Black performance in the digital era. In an era of Big Data and algorithms, our easy access to the archive of contemporary and historical Blackness is unprecedented. That iterations of Black visual art, such as Bert Williams’s 1916 silent film short “A Natural Born Gambler” or the performances of Josephine Baker from the 1920s, are merely a quick YouTube search away has transformed how scholars teach and research Black performance. While <i>Black Ephemera</i> celebrates this new access, it also questions the crisis and the challenge of the Black musical archive in a moment when Black American culture has become a global export. Using music and sound as its primary texts, <i>Black Ephemera</i> argues that the cultural DNA of Black America has become obscured in the transformation from analog to digital. Through a cross-reading of the relationship between the digital era and culture produced in the pre-digital era, Neal argues that Black music has itself been reduced to ephemera, at best, and at worst to the background sounds of the continued exploitation and commodification of Black culture. The crisis and challenges of Black archives are not simply questions of knowledge, but of how knowledge moves and manifests itself within Blackness that is obscure, ephemeral, fugitive, precarious, fluid, and increasingly digital. <i>Black Ephemera</i> is a reminder that for every great leap forward there is a necessary return to the archive. Through this work, Neal offers a new framework for thinking about Black culture in the digital world.</p>
Nelson, Alondra	<i>Body and Soul: The Black Panther Party and the Fight against Medical Discrimination</i>	Sept, 2013	<p>2013 MIRRA KOMAROVSKY AWARD. 2012 LETITIA WOODS BROWN MEMORIAL AWARD. 2012 ASSOCIATION FOR HUMANIST SOCIOLOGY AWARD. 2012 DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOLARSHIP AWARD, ASA 2012 C. WRIGHT MILLS AWARD (FINALIST). Between its founding in 1966 and its formal end in 1980, the Black Panther Party blazed a distinctive trail in American political culture. The Black Panthers are most often remembered for their revolutionary rhetoric and militant action. Here Alondra Nelson deftly recovers an indispensable but lesser-known aspect of the organization’s broader struggle for social justice: health care. The Black Panther Party’s health activism—its network of free health clinics, its campaign to raise awareness about genetic disease, and its challenges to medical discrimination—was an expression of its founding political philosophy and also a recognition that poor blacks were both underserved by mainstream medicine and overexposed to its harms. Drawing on extensive historical research as well as interviews with former members of the Black Panther Party, Nelson argues that the Party’s focus on health care was both practical and ideological. Building on a long tradition of medical self-sufficiency among African Americans, the Panthers’ People’s Free Medical Clinics administered basic preventive care, tested for lead poisoning and hypertension, and helped with housing, employment, and social services. In 1971, the party launched a campaign to address sickle-cell anemia. In addition to establishing screening programs and educational outreach efforts, it exposed</p>

			the racial biases of the medical system that had largely ignored sickle-cell anemia, a disease that predominantly affected people of African descent. The Black Panther Party's understanding of health as a basic human right and its engagement with the social implications of genetics anticipated current debates about the politics of health and race. That legacy--and that struggle--continues today in the commitment of health activists and the fight for universal health care.
Painter, Nell, Irvin	Sojourner Truth: A Life, A Symbol	1997	Sojourner Truth first gained prominence at an 1851 Akron, Ohio, women's rights conference, saying, "Dat man over dar say dat woman needs to be helped into carriages, and lifted over ditches. . . . Nobody eber helps me into carriages, or ober mud-puddles . . . and ar'n't I a woman?" Sojourner Truth: ex-slave and fiery abolitionist, figure of imposing physique, riveting preacher and spellbinding singer who dazzled listeners with her wit and originality. Straight-talking and unsentimental, Truth became a national symbol for strong black women--indeed, for all strong women. Like Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass, she is regarded as a radical of immense and enduring influence; yet, unlike them, what is remembered of her consists more of myth than of personality. Now, in a masterful blend of scholarship and sympathetic understanding, eminent black historian Nell Irvin Painter goes beyond the myths, words, and photographs to uncover the life of a complex woman who was born into slavery and died a legend. Inspired by religion, Truth transformed herself from a domestic servant named Isabella into an itinerant Pentecostal preacher; her words of empowerment have inspired black women and poor people the world over to this day. As an abolitionist and a feminist, Truth defied the notion that slaves were male and women were white, expounding a fact that still bears repeating among blacks there are women; among women, there are blacks. No one who heard her speak ever forgot Sojourner Truth, the power and pathos of her voice, and the intelligence of her message. No one who reads Painter's groundbreaking biography will forget this landmark figure and the story of her courageous life.
Patton, Stacey	Spare the Kids: Why Whipping Children Won't Save Black America	March, 2017	A challenge to the cultural tradition of corporal punishment in Black homes and its connections to racial violence in America. Why do so many African Americans have such a special attachment to whipping children? Studies show that nearly 80 percent of black parents see spanking, popping, pinching, and beating as reasonable, effective ways to teach respect and to protect black children from the streets, incarceration, encounters with racism, or worse. However, the consequences of this widely accepted approach to child-rearing are far-reaching and seldom discussed. Dr. Stacey Patton's extensive research suggests that corporal punishment is a crucial factor in explaining why black folks are subject to disproportionately higher rates of school suspensions and expulsions, criminal prosecutions, improper mental health diagnoses, child abuse cases, and foster care placements, which too often funnel abused and traumatized children into the prison system. Weaving together race, religion, history, popular culture, science, policing, psychology, and personal testimonies, Dr. Patton connects what happens at home to what happens in the streets in a way that is thought-provoking, unforgettable, and deeply sobering. <i>Spare the Kids</i> is not just a book. It is part of a growing national movement to provide positive, nonviolent discipline practices to those rearing, teaching, and caring for children of color.
Peterson, James Braxton	Prison Industrial Complex For Beginners	SEPT, 2016	<i>Prison Industrial Complex For Beginners</i> is a graphic narrative project that attempts to distill the fundamental components of what scholars, activists, and artists have identified as the Mass Incarceration movement in the United States. Since the early 1990s, activist critics of the US prison system have marked its emergence as a "complex" in a manner comparable to how President Eisenhower described the Military Industrial Complex. Like its institutional "cousin," the Prison Industrial Complex features a critical combination of political ideology, far-reaching federal policy, and the neo-liberal directive to privatize institutions traditionally within the purview of the government. The result is that corporations have capital incentives to capture and contain human bodies. The Prison Industrial Complex relies on the "law and order" ideology fomented by President Nixon and developed at least partially in response to the unrest generated through the Civil Rights Movement. It is (and has been) enhanced and emboldened via the US "war on drugs," a slate of policies that by any account have failed to do anything except normalize the warehousing of nonviolent substance abusers in jails and prisons that serve more as criminal training centers than as redemptive spaces for citizens who might re-enter society successfully. <i>Prison Industrial Complex For Beginners</i> is a primer for how these issues emerged and how our awareness of the systems at work in mass incarceration might be the very first step in reforming an institution responsible for some of our most egregious contemporary civil rights violations.

	<p><i>The Hip-Hop Underground and African American Culture: Beneath the Surface</i></p> <p><i>In Media Res: Race, Identity, and Pop Culture in the Twenty-First Century</i></p>	<p>SEPT, 2014</p> <p>DEC, 2014</p>	<p>The underground is a multi-faceted concept in African American culture. Peterson uses Richard Wright, KRS-One, Thelonus Monk, and the tradition of the Underground Railroad to explore the manifestations and the attributes of the underground within the context of a more panoramic picture of African American expressivity within hip-hop.</p> <p>Media Res is a manifold collection that reflects the intersectional qualities of university programming in the twenty-first century. Taking race, gender, and popular culture as its central thematic subjects, the volume collects academic essays, speeches, poems, and creative works that critically engage a wide range of issues, including American imperialism, racial and gender discrimination, the globalization of culture, and the limitations of our new multimedia world. This diverse assortment of works by scholars, activists, and artists models the complex ways that we must engage university students, faculty, staff, and administration in a moment where so many of us are confounded by the “in medias res” nature of our interface with the world in the current moment. Featuring contributions from Imani Perry, Michael Eric Dyson, Suheir Hammad, John Jennings, and Adam Mansbach, In Media Res is a primer for academic inquiry into popular culture; American studies; critical media literacy; women, gender, and sexuality studies; and Africana studies.</p>
Rigueur, Leah Wright	<p><i>The Loneliness of the Black Republican: Pragmatic Politics and the Pursuit of Power (Politics and Society in Modern America, 110)</i></p>	AUG, 2016	<p>The story of black conservatives in the Republican Party from the New Deal to Ronald Reagan. Covering more than four decades of American social and political history, <i>The Loneliness of the Black Republican</i> examines the ideas and actions of black Republican activists, officials, and politicians, from the era of the New Deal to Ronald Reagan’s presidential ascent in 1980. Their unique stories reveal African Americans fighting for an alternative economic and civil rights movement—even as the Republican Party appeared increasingly hostile to that very idea. Black party members attempted to influence the direction of conservatism—not to destroy it, but rather to expand the ideology to include black needs and interests. As racial minorities in their political party and as political minorities within their community, black Republicans occupied an irreconcilable position—they were shunned by African American communities and subordinated by the GOP. In response, black Republicans vocally, and at times viciously, critiqued members of their race and party, in an effort to shape the attitudes and public images of black citizens and the GOP. And yet, there was also a measure of irony to black Republicans’ “loneliness”: at various points, factions of the Republican Party, such as the Nixon administration, instituted some of the policies and programs offered by black party members. What’s more, black Republican initiatives, such as the fair housing legislation of senator Edward Brooke, sometimes garnered support from outside the Republican Party, especially among the black press, Democratic officials, and constituents of all races. Moving beyond traditional liberalism and conservatism, black Republicans sought to address African American racial experiences in a distinctly Republican way. <i>The Loneliness of the Black Republican</i> provides a new understanding of the interaction between African Americans and the Republican Party, and the seemingly incongruous intersection of civil rights and American conservatism.</p>
Sharpley-Whiting, Tracy, Denean	<p><i>YouTube Videos:</i></p> <p>a). <i>The Other Americans</i></p> <p>b). <i>YouTube: From Slavery to Freedom</i></p> <p>c). <i>African-Americans in Paris</i></p>		<p>Tracy Denean Sharpley-Whiting is a feminist scholar and Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Distinguished Professor of French in the Department of French and Italian at Vanderbilt University where she serves as Associate Provost for Academic Advancement.</p>
Tillet, Salamishah Margaret	<p><i>In Search of the Color Purple: The Story of an American Masterpiece</i></p>	JAN, 2021	<p>Tillet is a feminist activist, scholar, and writer. She is currently the Henry Rutgers Professor of African American Studies and Creative Writing, the founding director of the New Arts Justice Initiative housed in Express Newark, and the associate director of the Clement A. Price Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience at Rutgers University–Newark. In 2003, Salamishah and her sister Scheherazade Tillet co-founded A Long Walk Home, a Chicago-based national non-profit that uses art to empower young people to end violence against girls and women. Mixing cultural criticism, literary history, biography, and memoir, an exploration of Alice</p>

	<p><i>Sites of Slavery: Citizenship and Racial Democracy in the Post-Civil Rights Imagination</i></p>	<p>JULY, 2012</p>	<p>Walker’s critically acclaimed and controversial novel, <i>The Color Purple</i>. Alice Walker made history in 1983 when she became the first black woman to win the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award for <i>The Color Purple</i>. Published in the Reagan era amid a severe backlash to civil rights, the Jazz Age novel tells the story of racial and gender inequality through the life of a 14-year-old girl from Georgia who is haunted by domestic and sexual violence. Prominent academic and activist Salamishah 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. <i>The Color Purple</i> received both praise and criticism upon publication, and the conversation it sparked around race and gender still continues today. It has been adapted for an Oscar-nominated film and a hit Broadway musical.</p> <p>Through archival research and interviews with Walker, Oprah Winfrey, and Quincy Jones (among others), Tillet studies Walker’s life and how themes of violence emerged in her earlier work. Reading <i>The Color Purple</i> at age 15 was a groundbreaking experience for Tillet. It continues to resonate with her—as a sexual violence survivor, as a teacher of the novel, and as an accomplished academic. Provocative and personal, <i>In Search of The Color Purple</i> is a bold work from an important public intellectual, and captures Alice Walker’s seminal role in rethinking sexuality, intersectional feminism, and racial and gender politics.</p> <p>More than forty years after the major victories of the civil rights movement, African Americans have a vexed relation to the civic myth of the United States as the land of equal opportunity and justice for all. In <i>Sites of Slavery</i> Tillet examines how contemporary African American artists and intellectuals—including Annette Gordon-Reed, Barbara Chase-Riboud, Bill T. Jones, Carrie Mae Weems, and Kara Walker—turn to the subject of slavery in order to understand and challenge the ongoing exclusion of African Americans from the founding narratives of the United States. She explains how they reconstruct "sites of slavery"—contested figures, events, memories, locations, and experiences related to chattel slavery—such as the allegations of a sexual relationship between Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings, the characters Uncle Tom and Topsy in Harriet Beecher Stowe’s novel <i>Uncle Tom’s Cabin</i>, African American tourism to slave forts in Ghana and Senegal, and the legal challenges posed by reparations movements. By claiming and recasting these sites of slavery, contemporary artists and intellectuals provide slaves with an interiority and subjectivity denied them in American history, register the civic estrangement experienced by African Americans in the post-civil rights era, and envision a more fully realized American democracy.</p>
<p>Turman, Eboni Marshall</p>	<p><i>You Tube Videos:</i> 1). <i>Pressing Toward the Beloved Community Rev. Dr. Eboni Marshall Turman</i> 2). <i>Hagar's Tears</i></p> <p><i>Book: Toward a Womanist Ethic of Incarnation: Black Bodies, the Black Church, and the Council of Chalcedon (Black Religion/Womanist Thought/Social Justice)</i></p>	<p>OCT 14, 2018</p> <p>NOV 28, 2018</p> <p>DEC, 2013</p>	<p>The Black Church is an institution that emerged in rebellion against injustice perpetrated upon black bodies. How is it, then, that black women's oppression persists in black churches? This book engages the Chalcedonian Definition as the starting point for exploring the body as a moral dilemma.</p>

I. WHITE AMBASSADORS OF THE TRUTH. Recent publications include:

AUTHOR NAME	TITLE	YEAR PUBLISHED	BRIEF SYNOPSIS
Allen, Theodore, W.	<i>The Invention of the White Race, Volume 1: Racial Oppression and Social Control</i>	2012	When the first Africans arrived in Virginia in 1619, there were no “white” people there. Nor, according to colonial records, would there be for another sixty years. In this seminal two-volume work, <i>The Invention of the White Race</i> , Allen tells the story of how America’s ruling classes created the category of the “white race” as a means of social control. Since that early invention, white privileges have enforced the myth of racial superiority, and that fact has been central to maintaining ruling-class domination over ordinary working people of all colors throughout American history. Volume I draws lessons from Irish history, comparing British rule in Ireland with the “white” oppression of Native Americans and African Americans. Allen details how Irish immigrants fleeing persecution learned to spread racial oppression in their adoptive country as part of white America. Since publication in the mid-nineties, <i>The Invention of the White Race</i> has become indispensable in debates on the origins of racial oppression in America. In this updated edition, scholar Jeffrey B. Perry provides a new introduction, a short biography of the author and a study guide.
Allen, Theodore, W.	<i>The Invention of the White Race, Volume 2: The Origin of Racial Oppression in Anglo-America</i>	2012	On the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1963, Martin Luther King outlined a dream of an America where people would not be judged by the color of their skin. That dream has yet to be realized, but some three centuries ago it was a reality. Back then, neither social practice nor law recognized any special privileges in connection with being white. But by the early decades of the eighteenth century, that had all changed. Racial oppression became the norm in the plantation colonies, and African Americans suffered under its yoke for more than two hundred years. In Volume II of <i>The Invention of the White Race</i> , Allen explores the transformation that turned African bond-laborers into slaves and segregated them from their fellow proletarians of European origin. In response to labor unrest, where solidarities were not determined by skin color, the plantation bourgeoisie sought to construct a buffer of poor whites, whose new racial identity would protect them from the enslavement visited upon African Americans. This was the invention of the white race, an act of cruel ingenuity that haunts America to this day. Allen’s acclaimed study has become indispensable in debates on the origins of racial oppression in America. In this updated edition, scholar Jeffrey B. Perry provides a new introduction, a select bibliography and a study guide.
Andrus, Marc	<i>Brothers in the Beloved Community: The Friendship of Thich Nhat Hanh and Martin Luther King Jr</i>	NOV, 2021	The never-before-told story of the friendship between Martin Luther King Jr. and Thich Nhat Hanh—icons who changed each other and the world. The day after Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in 1968, Thich Nhat Hanh wrote a heartbroken letter to their mutual friend Raphael Gould. He said: "I did not sleep last night. . . . They killed Martin Luther King. They killed us. I am afraid the root of violence is so deep in the heart and mind and manner of this society. They killed him. They killed my hope. I do not know what to say. . . . He made so great an impression in me. This morning I have the impression that I cannot bear the loss." Only a few years earlier, Thich Nhat Hanh wrote an open letter to Martin Luther King Jr. as part of his effort to raise awareness and bring peace in Vietnam. There was an unexpected outcome of Nhat Hanh's letter to King: The two men met in 1966 and 1967 and became not only allies in the peace movement, but friends. This friendship between two prophetic figures from different religions and cultures, from countries at war with one another, reached a great depth in a short period of time. Dr. King nominated Thich Nhat Hanh for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1967. He wrote: "Thich Nhat Hanh is a holy man, for he is humble and devout. He is a scholar of immense intellectual capacity. His ideas for peace, if applied, would build a monument to ecumenism, to world brotherhood, to humanity." The two men bonded over a vision of the Beloved Community: a vision described recently by Congressman John Lewis as "a nation and world society at peace with itself." It was a concept each knew of because of their membership within the Fellowship of Reconciliation, an international peace organization, and that Martin Luther King Jr. had been popularizing through his work for some time. Thich Nhat Hanh, Andrus shows, took the lineage of the Beloved Community from King and carried it on after his death. In <i>Brothers in the Beloved Community</i> , Marc Andrus tells the little-known story of a friendship between two giants of our time.
Boyle, Gregory	<i>Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion</i>	2010	<i>New York Times</i> bestseller. Jesuit priest Boyle recounts his two decades of working with homies in Los Angeles County, which contains 1,100 gangs with nearly 86,000 members. A series of essays about universal

			kinship and redemption. Examples of the power of unconditional love and the importance of fighting despair.
Clay, Shannon, Lady/Schwartz, Kristin/Staudemaier, Michael	<i>We Go Where They Go: The Story of Anti-Racist Action (Working Class History)</i>	JAN 2023	What does it mean to risk all for your beliefs? How do you fight an enemy in your midst? <i>We Go Where They Go</i> recounts the thrilling story of a massive forgotten youth movement that set the stage for today's anti-fascist organizing in North America. When skinheads and punks in the late 1980s found their communities invaded by white supremacists and neo-nazis, they fought back. Influenced by anarchism, feminism, Black liberation, and Indigenous sovereignty, they created Anti-Racist Action. At ARA's height in the 1990s, thousands of dedicated activists in hundreds of chapters joined the fights—political and sometimes physical—against nazis, the Ku Klux Klan, anti-abortion fundamentalists, and racist police. Before media pundits, cynical politicians, and your uncle discovered “antifa,” Anti-Racist Action was bringing it to the streets. Based on extensive interviews with dozens of ARA participants, <i>We Go Where They Go</i> tells ARA's story from within, giving voice to those who risked their safety in their own defense and in solidarity with others. In reproducing the posters, zines, propaganda and photos of the movement itself, this essential work of radical history illustrates how cultural scenes can become powerful forces for change. Here at last is the story of an organic yet highly organized movement, exploring both its triumphs and failures, and offering valuable lessons for today's generation of activists and rabble-rousers. <i>We Go Where They Go</i> is a page-turning history of grassroots anti-racism. More than just inspiration, it's a roadmap.
Kimberle Crenshaw (Editor), Neil Gotanda (Editor), Gary Peller (Editor), Kendall Thomas (Editor)	<i>Critical Race Theory: The Key Writings That Formed the Movement</i>	MAY 1 1996	What is Critical Race Theory and why is it under fire from the political right? This foundational essay collection, which defines key terms and includes case studies, is the essential work to understand the intellectual movement. Why did the president of the United States, in the midst of a pandemic and an economic crisis, take it upon himself to attack Critical Race Theory? Perhaps Donald Trump appreciated the power of this groundbreaking intellectual movement to change the world. In recent years, Critical Race Theory has vaulted out of the academy and into courtrooms, newsrooms, and onto the streets. And no wonder: as intersectionality theorist Kimberlé Crenshaw recently told <i>Time</i> magazine, "It's an approach to grappling with a history of white supremacy that rejects the belief that what's in the past is in the past, and that the laws and systems that grow from that past are detached from it." The panicked denunciations from the right notwithstanding, CRT has changed the way millions of people interpret our troubled world. Edited by its principal founders and leading theoreticians, <i>Critical Race Theory</i> was the first book to gather the movement's most important essays. This groundbreaking book includes contributions from scholars including Derrick Bell, Kimberlé Crenshaw, Patricia Williams, Dorothy Roberts, Lani Guinier, Duncan Kennedy, and many others. It is essential reading in an age of acute racial injustice.
DiAngelo, Robin (author) & Sensory, Ozlem (Author). Banks, James A. (series Editor)	<i>Is Everyone Really Equal?: An Introduction to Key Concepts in Social Justice Education (Multicultural Education Series) 2nd Edition</i>	July 28, 2017	This is the new edition of the award-winning guide to social justice education. Based on the authors' extensive experience in a range of settings in the United States and Canada, the book addresses the most common stumbling blocks to understanding social justice. This comprehensive resource includes new features such as a chapter on intersectionality and classism; discussion of contemporary activism (Black Lives Matter, Occupy, and Idle No More); material on White Settler societies and colonialism; pedagogical supports related to “common social patterns” and “vocabulary to practice using”; and extensive updates throughout. Accessible to students from high school through graduate school, <i>Is Everyone Really Equal?</i> is a detailed and engaging textbook and professional development resource presenting the key concepts in social justice education. The text includes many user-friendly features, examples, and vignettes to not just define but illustrate the concepts. Book Features: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Definition Boxes that define key terms. ● Stop Boxes to remind readers of previously explained ideas. ● Perspective Check Boxes to draw attention to alternative standpoints. ● Discussion Questions and Extension Activities for using the book in a class, workshop, or study group. ● A Glossary of terms and guide to language use.

Dudziak, Mary,L.	<i>Cold War Civil Rights: Race and the Image of American Democracy (Politics and Society in Modern America, 73)</i>	July 2011	In 1958, an African-American handyman named Jimmy Wilson was sentenced to die in Alabama for stealing two dollars. Shocking as this sentence was, it was overturned only after intense international attention and the interference of an embarrassed John Foster Dulles. Soon after the United States' segregated military defeated a racist regime in World War II, American racism was a major concern of U.S. allies, a chief Soviet propaganda theme, and an obstacle to American Cold War goals throughout Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Each lynching harmed foreign relations, and "the Negro problem" became a central issue in every administration from Truman to Johnson. In what may be the best analysis of how international relations affected any domestic issue, Dudziak interprets postwar civil rights as a Cold War feature. She argues that the Cold War helped facilitate key social reforms, including desegregation. Civil rights activists gained tremendous advantage as the government sought to polish its international image. But improving the nation's reputation did not always require real change. This focus on image rather than substance--combined with constraints on McCarthy-era political activism and the triumph of law-and-order rhetoric--limited the nature and extent of progress. Archival information, much of it newly available, supports Dudziak's argument that civil rights was Cold War policy. But the story is also one of people: an African-American veteran of World War II lynched in Georgia; an attorney general flooded by civil rights petitions from abroad; the teenagers who desegregated Little Rock's Central High; African diplomats denied restaurant service; black artists living in Europe and supporting the civil rights movement from overseas; conservative politicians viewing desegregation as a communist plot; and civil rights leaders who saw their struggle eclipsed by Vietnam. Never before has any scholar so directly connected civil rights and the Cold War. Contributing mightily to our understanding of both, Dudziak advances--in clear and lively prose--a new wave of scholarship that corrects isolationist tendencies in American history by applying an international perspective to domestic affairs. In her new preface, Dudziak discusses the way the Cold War figures into civil rights history, and details this book's origins, as one question about civil rights could not be answered without broadening her research from domestic to international influences on American history.
Feagin, Joe/Duley, Kimberley	<i>Racist America: Roots, Current Realities, and Future Reparations 4th Edition</i>	OCT 2018	This fourth edition of <i>Racist America</i> is significantly revised and updated, with an eye toward racism issues arising regularly in our contemporary era. This edition incorporates many recent research studies and reports on U.S. racial issues that update and enhance the last edition's chapters. It expands the discussion and data on social science concepts such as intersectionality and gendered racism, as well as the concepts of the white racial frame, systemic racism, and the elite-white-male dominance system from research studies by Joe Feagin and his colleagues. The authors have further polished the book and added more examples, anecdotes, and narratives about contemporary racism to make it yet more readable for undergraduates.
Grann, David	<i>Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI</i>	April, 2014	In the 1920s, the richest people per capita in the world were members of the Osage Nation in Oklahoma. After oil was discovered beneath their land, the Osage rode in chauffeured automobiles, built mansions, and sent their children to study in Europe. Then, one by one, the Osage began to be killed off. The family of an Osage woman, Mollie Burkhart, became a prime target. One of her relatives was shot. Another was poisoned. And it was just the beginning, as more and more Osage were dying under mysterious circumstances, and many of those who dared to investigate the killings were themselves murdered. As the death toll rose, the newly created FBI took up the case, and the young director, J. Edgar Hoover, turned to a former Texas Ranger named Tom White to try to unravel the mystery. White put together an undercover team, including a Native American agent who infiltrated the region, and together with the Osage began to expose one of the most chilling conspiracies in American history.
Irving, Debby	<i>Waking up White: And Finding Myself in the Story of Race</i>	2014	A wake-up call for white people who want to consciously contribute to racial justice rather than unconsciously perpetuate patterns of racism. Learn about the realities of racism and the unintentional impacts of white privilege. Good read for self-reflection.
Isenberg, Nancy	<i>White Trash: the 400-Year Untold History of Class in America</i>	2016	<i>The New York Times</i> bestseller. A <i>New York Times</i> Notable and Critics' Top Book of 2016. Longlisted for the PEN/John Kenneth Galbraith Award for Nonfiction. One of NPR's 10 Best Books Of 2016 Faced Tough Topics Head On. NPR's Book Concierge Guide To 2016's Great Reads. San Francisco Chronicle's Best of 2016: 100 recommended books. A <i>Washington Post</i> Notable Nonfiction Book of 2016. <i>Globe & Mail</i> 100 Best of 2016 In her groundbreaking bestselling history of the class system in America, Isenberg upends history as we know it by taking on our comforting myths about equality and uncovering the crucial legacy of the ever-

			<p>present, always embarrassing—if occasionally entertaining—poor white trash. “When you turn an election into a three-ring circus, there’s always a chance that the dancing bear will win,” says Isenberg of the political climate surrounding Sarah Palin. And we recognize how right she is today. Yet the voters who boosted Trump all the way to the White House have been a permanent part of our American fabric, argues Isenberg. The wretched and landless poor have existed from the time of the earliest British colonial settlement to today’s hillbillies. They were alternately known as “waste people,” “offals,” “rubbish,” “lazy lubbers,” and “crackers.” By the 1850s, the downtrodden included so-called “clay eaters” and “sandhillers,” known for prematurely aged children distinguished by their yellowish skin, ragged clothing, and listless minds. Surveying political rhetoric and policy, popular literature and scientific theories over four hundred years, Isenberg upends assumptions about America’s supposedly class-free society—where liberty and hard work were meant to ensure real social mobility. Poor whites were central to the rise of the Republican Party in the early nineteenth century, and the Civil War itself was fought over class issues nearly as much as it was fought over slavery. Reconstruction pitted poor white trash against newly freed slaves, which factored in the rise of eugenics—a widely popular movement embraced by Theodore Roosevelt that targeted poor whites for sterilization. These poor were at the heart of New Deal reforms and LBJ’s Great Society; they haunt us in reality TV shows like <i>Here Comes Honey Boo Boo</i> and <i>Duck Dynasty</i>. Marginalized as a class, white trash have always been at or near the center of major political debates over the character of the American identity. We acknowledge racial injustice as an ugly stain on our nation’s history. With Isenberg’s landmark book, we will have to face the truth about the enduring, malevolent nature of class as well.</p>
Larson, Edward J.	<i>American Inheritance: Liberty and Slavery in the Birth of a Nation, 1765-1795</i>	JAN, 2023	<p>A <i>New York Times</i> Book Review Editors' Choice. From a Pulitzer Prize winner, a powerful history that reveals how the twin strands of liberty and slavery were joined in the nation's founding. New attention from historians and journalists is raising pointed questions about the founding period: was the American revolution waged to preserve slavery, and was the Constitution a pact with slavery or a landmark in the antislavery movement? Leaders of the founding who called for American liberty are scrutinized for enslaving Black people themselves: George Washington consistently refused to recognize the freedom of those who escaped his Mount Vernon plantation. And we have long needed a history of the founding that fully includes Black Americans in the Revolutionary protests, the war, and the debates over slavery and freedom that followed. We now have that history in Edward J. Larson’s insightful synthesis of the founding. With slavery thriving in Britain’s Caribbean empire and practiced in all of the American colonies, the independence movement’s calls for liberty proved narrow, though some Black observers and others made their full implications clear. In the war, both sides employed strategies to draw needed support from free and enslaved Blacks, whose responses varied by local conditions. By the time of the Constitutional Convention, a widening sectional divide shaped the fateful compromises over slavery that would prove disastrous in the coming decades. Larson’s narrative delivers poignant moments that deepen our understanding: we witness New York’s tumultuous welcome of Washington as liberator through the eyes of Daniel Payne, a Black man who had escaped enslavement at Mount Vernon two years before. Indeed, throughout Larson’s brilliant history it is the voices of Black Americans that prove the most convincing of all on the urgency of liberty.</p>
Lear, Dick	<i>White Hot Hate: A True Story of Domestic Terrorism in America’s Heartland</i>	NOV, 2021	<p>In the spring of 2016, as immigration debates rocked the United States, three men in a militia group known as the Crusaders grew aggravated over one Kansas town’s growing Somali community. They decided that complaining about their new neighbors and threatening them directly wasn’t enough. The men plotted to bomb a mosque, aiming to kill hundreds and inspire other attacks against Muslims in America. But they would wait until after the presidential election, so that their actions wouldn’t hurt Donald Trump’s chances of winning. An FBI informant befriended the three men, acting as law enforcement’s eyes and ears for eight months. His secretly taped conversations with the militia were pivotal in obstructing their plans and were a lynchpin in the resulting trial and convictions for conspiracy to use a weapon of mass destruction. <i>White Hot Hate</i> will tell the riveting true story of an averted case of domestic terrorism in one of the most remote towns in the US, not far from the infamous town where Capote’s <i>In Cold Blood</i> was set. In the gripping details of this foiled scheme, we see in intimate focus the chilling, immediate threat of domestic terrorism—and racist anxiety in America writ large.</p>

McIntosh, Peggy	<i>On Privilege, Fraudulence, and Teaching As Learning: Selected Essays 1981--2019</i>	2020	From one of the world's leading voices on white privilege and anti-racism work comes this collection of essays on complexities of privilege and power. Each of the four parts illustrates McIntosh's practice of combining personal and systemic understandings to focus on power in unusual ways. Part I includes McIntosh's classic and influential essays on privilege, or systems of unearned advantage that correspond to systems of oppression. Part II helps readers to understand that feelings of fraudulence may be imposed by our hierarchical cultures rather than by any actual weakness or personal shortcomings. Part III presents McIntosh's Interactive Phase Theory, highlighting five different world views, or attitudes about power, that affect school curriculum, cultural values, and decisions on taking action. The book concludes with powerful insights from SEED, a peer-led teacher development project that enables individuals and institutions to work collectively toward equity and social justice. This book is the culmination of forty years of McIntosh's intellectual and organizational work.
Ray, Victor	<i>On Critical Race Theory: Why It Matters & Why You Should Care</i>	AUG 2, 2022	What exactly is critical race theory? This concise and accessible exploration demystifies a crucial framework for understanding and fighting racial injustice in the United States. "A clear-eyed, expert field guide." —Dr. Tressie McMillan Cottom, author of <i>Thick</i> . From renowned scholar Dr. Victor Ray, <i>On Critical Race Theory</i> explains the centrality of race in American history and politics, and how the often mischaracterized intellectual movement became a political necessity. Ray draws upon the radical thinking of giants such as Ida B. Wells, W.E.B. Du Bois, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to clearly trace the foundations of critical race theory in the Black intellectual traditions of emancipation and the civil rights movement. From these foundations, Ray explores the many facets of our society that critical race theory interrogates, from deeply embedded structural racism to the historical connection between whiteness and property, ownership, and more. In succinct, thoughtful essays, Ray presents, analyzes, and breaks down the scholarship and concepts that constitute this often misconstrued term. He explores how the conversation on critical race theory has expanded into the contemporary popular conscience, showing why critical race theory matters and why we should all care.
Roediger, David	<i>How Race Survived US History: From Settlement and Slavery to the Eclipse of Post-racialism</i>	2019	The Obama era produced countless articles arguing that America's race problems were over. The election of Donald Trump has proved those hasty pronouncements wrong. Race has always played a central role in US society and culture. Surveying a period from the late seventeenth century—the era in which W.E.B. Du Bois located the emergence of “whiteness”—through the American Revolution and the Civil War to the civil rights movement and the emergence of the American empire, <i>How Race Survived US History</i> reveals how race did far more than persist as an exception in a progressive national history. This masterful account shows how race has remained at the heart of American life well into the twenty-first century.
Roediger, David	<i>The Wages of Whiteness: Race and the Making of the American Working Class</i>	NOV, 2022	Combining classical Marxism, psychoanalysis, and the new labor history pioneered by E. P. Thompson and Herbert Gutman, David Roediger's widely acclaimed book provides an original study of the formative years of working-class racism in the United States. This, he argues, cannot be explained simply with reference to economic advantage; rather, white working-class racism is underpinned by a complex series of psychological and ideological mechanisms that reinforce racial stereotypes, and thus help to forge the identities of white workers in opposition to Blacks.
Rothstein, Richard	<i>The Color of Law: : A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America</i>	May 2018	New York Times Bestseller • Notable Book of the Year • Editors' Choice Selection • One of Bill Gates' "Amazing Books" of the Year • One of Publishers Weekly's 10 Best Books of the Year. • Longlisted for the National Book Award for Nonfiction. • An NPR Best Book of the Year. • Winner of the Hillman Prize for Nonfiction. • Gold Winner • California Book Award (Nonfiction). • Finalist Los Angeles Times Book Prize (History). • Finalist, Brooklyn Public Library Literary Prize. This “powerful and disturbing history” exposes how American governments deliberately imposed racial segregation on metropolitan areas nationwide (<i>New York Times Book Review</i>). Widely heralded as a “masterful” (<i>Washington Post</i>) and “essential” (<i>Slate</i>) history of the modern American metropolis, Richard Rothstein's <i>The Color of Law</i> offers “the most forceful argument ever published on how federal, state, and local governments gave rise to and reinforced neighborhood segregation” (William Julius Wilson). Exploding the myth of de facto segregation arising from private prejudice or the unintended consequences of economic forces, Rothstein describes how the American government systematically imposed residential segregation: with undisguised racial zoning; public housing that purposefully segregated previously mixed communities; subsidies for builders to create whites-only suburbs; tax exemptions for institutions that enforced segregation; and support for violent resistance to

			African Americans in white neighborhoods. A groundbreaking, “virtually indispensable” study that has already transformed our understanding of twentieth-century urban history (<i>Chicago Daily Observer</i>), <i>The Color of Law</i> forces us to face the obligation to remedy our unconstitutional past. 13 illustrations.
Rothstein, Richard Rothstein, Leah	<i>Just Action: How to Challenge Segregation Enacted Under the Color of Law</i>	June, 2023	<i>The Color of Law</i> brilliantly recounted how government at all levels created segregation. <i>Just Action</i> describes how we can begin to undo it. In his best-selling book <i>The Color of Law</i> , Richard Rothstein demolished the de facto segregation myth that black and white Americans live separately by choice, providing “the most forceful argument ever published on how federal, state, and local governments gave rise to the reinforced neighborhood segregation” (William Julius Wilson). This landmark work—through its nearly one million copies sold—has helped to define the fractious age in which we live. <i>The Color of Law</i> ’s unrefuted account has become conventional wisdom. But how can we begin to undo segregation’s damage? “It’s rare for a writer to feel obligated to be so clear on solutions to the problems outlined in a previous book,” writes E. J. Dionne, yet Richard Rothstein—aware that twenty-first-century segregation continues to promote entrenched inequality—has done just that, teaming with housing policy expert Leah Rothstein to write <i>Just Action</i> , a blueprint for concerned citizens and community leaders. As recent headlines informed us, twenty million Americans participated in racial justice demonstrations in 2020. Although many displayed “Black Lives Matter” window and lawn signs, few considered what could be done to redress inequality in their own communities. Page by page, <i>Just Action</i> offers programs that activists and their supporters can undertake in their own communities to address historical inequities, providing bona fide answers, based on decades of study and experience, in a nation awash with memes and internet theories. Often forced to respond to social and political outrage, banks, real estate agencies, and developers, among other institutions, have apologized for past actions. But their pledges—some of them real, others thoroughly hollow—to improve cannot compensate for existing damage. <i>Just Action</i> shows how community groups can press firms that imposed segregation to finally take responsibility for reversing the harm, creating victories that might finally challenge residential segregation and help remedy America’s profoundly unconstitutional past. 15 black-and-white illustrations.
Segrest, Mab	<i>Memoir of a Race Traitor: Fighting Racism in the American South</i>	2019	In 1994, Segrest first explained how she “had become a woman haunted by the dead.” Against a backdrop of nine generations of her family’s history, Segrest explored her experiences in the 1980s as a white lesbian organizing against a virulent far-right movement in North Carolina. <i>Memoir of a Race Traitor</i> became a classic text of white antiracist practice. bell hooks called it a “courageous and daring [example of] the reality that political solidarity, forged in struggle, can exist across differences.” Adrienne Rich wrote that it was “a unique document and thoroughly fascinating.” Juxtaposing childhood memories with contemporary events, Segrest described her journey into the heart of her culture, finally veering from its trajectory of violence toward hope and renewal. Now, amid our current national crisis driven by an increasingly apocalyptic white supremacist movement, Segrest returns with an updated edition of her classic book. With a new introduction and afterword that explore what has transpired with the far right since its publication, the book brings us into the age of Trump—and to what can and must be done. Called “a true delight” and a “must-read” (<i>Minnesota Review</i>), <i>Memoir of a Race Traitor</i> is an inspiring and politically potent book. With brand-new power and relevance in 2019, this is a book that far transcends its genre.
Segrest, Mab	<i>Administrations of Lunacy: Racism and the Haunting of American Psychiatry at the Milledgeville Asylum</i>	2020	A scathing and original look at the racist origins of psychiatry, through the story of the largest mental institution in the world. Today, 90 percent of psychiatric beds are located in jails and prisons across the United States, institutions that confine disproportionate numbers of African Americans. After more than a decade of research, the celebrated scholar and activist Mab Segrest locates the deep historical roots of this startling fact, turning her sights on a long-forgotten cauldron of racial ideology: the state mental asylum system in which psychiatry was born and whose influences extend into our troubled present. In December 1841, the Georgia State Lunatic, Idiot, and Epileptic Asylum was founded. A hundred years later, it had become the largest insane asylum in the world with over ten thousand patients. <i>Administrations of Lunacy</i> tells the story of this iconic and infamous southern institution, a history that was all but erased from popular memory and within the psychiatric profession. Through riveting accounts of historical characters, Segrest reveals how modern psychiatric practice was forged in the traumas of slavery, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and Jim Crow. Deftly connecting this history to the modern era, Segrest then shows how a

			single asylum helped set the stage for the eugenics theories of the twentieth century and the persistent racial ideologies of our own times. She also traces the connections to today's dissident psychiatric practices that offer sanity and create justice. A landmark of scholarship, <i>Administrations of Lunacy</i> restores a vital thread between past and present, revealing the tangled racial roots of psychiatry in America.
Segrest, Mab	<i>Born to Belonging: Writings on Spirit and Justice</i>	2020	Veteran activist Mab Segrest takes readers along on her travels to view a world experiencing extraordinary change. As she moves from place to place, she speculates on the effects of globalization and urban development on individuals, examines the struggles for racial, economic, and sexual equality, and narrates her own history as a lesbian in the American South. From the principle that we all belong to the human community, Segrest uses her personal experience as a filter for larger political and cultural issues. Her writings bring together such groups as the Ku Klux Klan in North Carolina, fledging gay rights activists in Zimbabwe, and resistance fighters in El Salvador. Segrest expertly plumbs her own personal experiences for organizing principles and maxims to combat racism, homophobia, sexism, and economic exploitation.
Spellers, Stephanie	<i>The Church Cracked Open: Disruption, Decline, and New Hope for Beloved Community</i>	2021	How-to steps for a denomination, historically connected to establishment and empire to become a church that loves Jesus, lives in solidarity with the oppressed, and seeks for all of God's children to flourish.
Stockett, Kathryn	<i>The Help</i>	2009	<i>New York Times</i> bestseller. Set in the rural South of the 1960s. A portrait of the intertwined lives of women on opposite sides of the racial divide. Evokes a time and place when black women were expected to help raise white babies, and yet could not use the same bathroom as their employers.
Vance, J.D.	<i>Hill Billy Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis</i>	July 2016	From a former marine and Yale Law School graduate, a powerful account of growing up in a poor Rust Belt town that offers a broader, probing look at the struggles of America's white working class. <i>Hillbilly Elegy</i> is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis—that of white working-class Americans. The decline of this group, a demographic of our country that has been slowly disintegrating over forty years, has been reported on with growing frequency and alarm, but has never before been written about as searingly from the inside. J. D. Vance tells the true story of what a social, regional, and class decline feels like when you were born with it hung around your neck. The Vance family story begins hopefully in postwar America. J. D.'s grandparents were "dirt poor and in love," and moved north from Kentucky's Appalachia region to Ohio in the hopes of escaping the dreadful poverty around them. They raised a middle-class family, and eventually their grandchild (the author) would graduate from Yale Law School, a conventional marker of their success in achieving generational upward mobility. But as the family saga of <i>Hillbilly Elegy</i> plays out, we learn that this is only the short, superficial version. Vance's grandparents, aunt, uncle, sister, and, most of all, his mother, struggled profoundly with the demands of their new middle-class life, and were never able to fully escape the legacy of abuse, alcoholism, poverty, and trauma so characteristic of their part of America. Vance piercingly shows how he himself still carries around the demons of their chaotic family history. A deeply moving memoir with its share of humor and vividly colorful figures, <i>Hillbilly Elegy</i> is the story of how upward mobility really feels. And it is an urgent and troubling meditation on the loss of the American dream for a large segment of this country.
Wise, Tim	<i>White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son</i>	2008 2011	The inspiration for the acclaimed documentary film, this deeply personal polemic reveals how racial privilege shapes the daily lives of white Americans in every realm: employment, education, housing, criminal justice, and elsewhere. Using stories from his own life, Wise examines what it really means to be white in a nation created to benefit people who are "white like him." This inherent racism is not only real, but disproportionately burdens people of color and makes progressive social change less likely to occur. Explaining in clear and convincing language why it is in everyone's best interest to fight racial inequality, Wise offers ways in which white people can challenge these unjust privileges, resist white supremacy and racism, and ultimately help to ensure the country's personal and collective well-being.
Wise, Tim	<i>Speaking Treason Fluently: Anti-Racist Reflections From an Angry White Male</i>	2008	The highly anticipated follow-up to <i>White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son</i> , activist Wise examines the way in which institutional racism continues to shape the contours of daily life in the United States, and the ways in which white Americans reap enormous privileges from it. The essays included in this collection span the last ten years of Wise's writing and cover all the hottest racial topics of the past decade: affirmative action, Hurricane Katrina, racial tension in the wake of the Duke lacrosse scandal, white school

			shootings, racial profiling, phony racial unity in the wake of 9/11, and the political rise of Barack Obama. Wise's commentaries make forceful yet accessible arguments that serve to counter both white denial and complacency—two of the main obstacles to creating a more racially equitable and just society. <i>Speaking Treason Fluently</i> is a superbly crafted collection of Wise's best work, which reveals the ongoing salience of race in America today and demonstrates that racial privilege is not only a real and persistent problem, but one that ultimately threatens the health and well-being of the entire society.
Wise, Tim	<i>Between Barack and a Hard Place: Racism and White Denial in the Age of Obama</i>	2009	Race is, and always has been, an explosive issue in the United States. Wise explores how Barack Obama's emergence as a political force is taking the race debate to new levels. According to Wise, for many white people, Obama's rise signifies the end of racism as a pervasive social force; they point to Obama not only as a validation of the American ideology that anyone can make it if they work hard, but also as an example of how institutional barriers against people of color have all but vanished. But is this true? And does a reinforced white belief in color-blind meritocracy potentially make it harder to address ongoing institutional racism? After all, in housing, employment, the justice system, and education, the evidence is clear: white privilege and discrimination against people of color are still operative and actively thwarting opportunities, despite the success of individuals like Obama. Is black success making it harder for whites to see the problem of racism, thereby further straining race relations, or will it challenge anti-black stereotypes to such an extent that racism will diminish and race relations improve? Will blacks in power continue to be seen as an "exception" in white eyes? Is Obama "acceptable" because he seems "different from most blacks," who are still viewed too often as the dangerous and inferior "other"?
Wise, Tim	<i>Color Blindness: The Rise of Post-Racial Politics and the Retreat from Racial Equity</i>	2010	How "colorblindness" in policy and personal practice perpetuate racial inequity in the United States today. Following the civil rights movement, race relations in the United States entered a new era. Legal gains were interpreted by some as ensuring equal treatment for all and that "colorblind" policies and programs would be the best way forward. Since then, many voices have called for an end to affirmative action and other color-conscious policies and programs, and even for a retreat from public discussion of racism itself. Bolstered by the election of Barack Obama, proponents of colorblindness argue that the obstacles faced by blacks and people of color in the United States can no longer be attributed to racism but instead result from economic forces. Thus, they contend, programs meant to uplift working-class and poor people are the best means for overcoming any racial inequalities that might still persist. In <i>Colorblind</i> , Wise refutes these assertions and advocates that the best way forward is to become more, not less, conscious of race and its impact on equal opportunity. Focusing on disparities in employment, housing, education and healthcare, Wise argues that racism is indeed still an acute problem in the United States today, and that colorblind policies actually worsen the problem of racial injustice. <i>Colorblind</i> presents a timely and provocative look at contemporary racism and offers fresh ideas on what can be done to achieve true social justice and economic equality.
Wise, Tim	<i>Dear White America: Letter to a New Minority</i>	2012	White Americans have long been comfortable in the assumption that they are the cultural norm. Now that notion is being challenged, as white people wrestle with what it means to be part of a fast-changing, truly multicultural nation. Facing chronic economic insecurity, a popular culture that reflects the nation's diverse cultural reality, a future in which they will no longer constitute the majority of the population, and with a black president in the White House, whites are growing anxious. This anxiety has helped to create the Tea Party movement, with its call to "take our country back." By means of a racialized nostalgia for a mythological past, the Right is enlisting fearful whites into its campaign for reactionary social and economic policies. In urgent response, Wise has penned his most pointed and provocative work to date. Employing the form of direct personal address, he points a finger at whites' race-based self-delusion, explaining how such an agenda will only do harm to the nation's people, including most whites. In no uncertain terms, he argues that the hope for survival of American democracy lies in the embrace of our multicultural past, present and future.
Wise, Tim	<i>Under the Affluence: Shaming the Poor, Praising the Rich and</i>	2015	In <i>Under the Affluence</i>, Wise discusses a related issue: economic inequality and the demonization of those in need. He reminds us that there was a time when the hardship of fellow Americans stirred feelings of sympathy, solidarity for struggling families, and support for policies and programs meant to alleviate

	Sacrificing the Future of America		poverty. Today, however, mainstream discourse blames people with low income for their own situation, and the notion of an intractable "culture of poverty" has pushed our country in an especially ugly direction. Wise argues that far from any culture of poverty, it is the culture of predatory affluence that deserves the blame for America's simmering economic and social crises. He documents the increasing contempt for the nation's poor, and reveals the forces at work to create and perpetuate it. With clarity, passion and eloquence, he demonstrates how America's myth of personal entitlement based on merit is inextricably linked to pernicious racial bigotry, and he points the way to greater compassion, fairness, and economic justice.
Wise, Tim	<i>Dispatches from the Race War</i>	2020	Essays on racial flashpoints, white denial, violence, and the manipulation of fear in America today. In this collection of essays, renowned social-justice advocate Wise confronts racism in contemporary America. Seen through the lens of major flashpoints during the Obama and Trump years, <i>Dispatches from the Race War</i> faces the consequences of white supremacy in all its forms. This includes a discussion of the bigoted undertones of the Tea Party's backlash, the killing of Trayvon Martin, current day anti-immigrant hysteria, the rise of openly avowed white nationalism, the violent policing of African Americans, and more. Wise devotes a substantial portion of the book to explore the racial ramifications of COVID-19, and the widespread protests which followed the police murder of George Floyd. Concise, accessible chapters, most written in first-person, offer an excellent source for those engaged in the anti-racism struggle. Wise's proactive approach asks white allies to contend with—and take responsibility for—their own role in perpetuating racism against Blacks and people of color. <i>Dispatches from the Race War</i> reminds us that the story of our country is the history of racial conflict, and that our future may depend on how—or if—we can resolve it. "To accept racism is quintessentially American," writes Wise, "to rebel against it is human. Be human." "What Tim Wise has brilliantly done is to challenge white folks' truth to see that they have a responsibility to do more than sit back and watch, but to recognize their own role in co-creating a fair, inclusive, truly democratic society.

J. DOCUMENTARIES

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR	TITLE	YEAR PUBLISHED	BRIEF SYNOPSIS
Producer/Director: Brown, Katrina C. Co-Directors: Alla Kovgan, Jude Ray Co-Producers: Elizabeth Delude-Dix, Juanita Capri Brown.	<i>Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North</i>	2008	In the feature documentary Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North , filmmaker Katrina Browne discovers that her New England ancestors were the largest slave-trading family in U.S. history. She and nine cousins retrace the Triangle Trade and gain powerful new perspectives on the black/white divide. Tells the story of her forefathers, the largest slave-trading family in U.S. history. Given the myth that the South is solely responsible for slavery, viewers will be surprised to learn that Browne's ancestors were Northerners. The film follows Browne and nine fellow family members on a remarkable journey which brings them face-to-face with the history and legacy of New England's hidden enterprise. From 1769 to 1820, DeWolf fathers, sons and grandsons trafficked in human beings. They sailed their ships from Bristol, Rhode Island to West Africa with rum to trade for African men, women and children. Captives were taken to plantations that the DeWolfs owned in Cuba or were sold at auction in such ports as Havana and Charleston. Sugar and molasses were then brought from Cuba to the family-owned rum distilleries in Bristol. Over the generations, the family transported more than ten thousand enslaved Africans across the Middle Passage. They amassed an enormous fortune. By the end of his life, James DeWolf had been a U.S. Senator and was reportedly the second richest man in the United States. The enslavement of Africans was business for more than just the DeWolf family. It was a cornerstone of Northern commercial life. The Triangle Trade drove the economy of many port cities (Rhode Island had the largest share in the trade of any state), and slavery itself existed in the North for over 200 years. Northern textile mills used slave-picked cotton from the South to fuel the Industrial Revolution, while banks and insurance companies played a key role throughout the period. While the DeWolfs were one of only a few "slaving" dynasties, the network of commercial activities that they were tied to involved an enormous portion of the Northern population. Many citizens, for example, would buy shares in slave ships in order to make a profit. The film

			follows ten DeWolf descendants (ages 32-71, ranging from sisters to seventh cousins) as they retrace the steps of the Triangle Trade, visiting the DeWolf hometown of Bristol, Rhode Island, slave forts on the coast of Ghana, and the ruins of a family plantation in Cuba. Back home, the family confronts the thorny topic of what to do now. In the context of growing calls for reparations for slavery, family members struggle with the question of how to think about and contribute to “repair.” Meanwhile, Browne and her family come closer to the core: their love/hate relationship with their own Yankee culture and privileges; the healing and transformation needed not only “out there,” but inside themselves. The issues the DeWolf descendants are confronted with dramatize questions that apply to the nation as a whole: What, concretely, is the legacy of slavery—for diverse whites, for diverse blacks, for diverse others? Who owes who what for the sins of the fathers of this country? What history do we inherit as individuals and as citizens? How does Northern complicity change the equation? What would repair—spiritual and material—really look like and what would it take?
Director: Rutenbeck, James Producers: Ghandler, Carl/Dixon, Kafi/ & Rutenbeck, James	<i>A Reckoning in Boston</i>	2021	Kafi Dixon and Carl Chandler enrolled in a rigorous night course in the humanities at a community center in their Boston neighborhood of Dorchester. Kafi, 44, sharp, witty and restless, dropped out of school at 15. She had her first baby a year later and two more soon after. Carl, 65, who lives on a small pension and disability payment in one of Boston’s most dangerous neighborhoods, began the class with a keen interest in learning but little faith in educational institutions. White suburban filmmaker James Rutenbeck came to Dorchester to document the students’ engagement with the Clemente Course in the Humanities. The Clemente Course is taught in 34 sites across the U.S.--to those who have experienced homelessness, transitioned out of incarceration or faced barriers to a college education. The Clemente mission is to foster critical thinking through deep engagement with history, literature, philosophy and art history. Clemente students, its proponents assert, become fuller and freer citizens. But over time James is forced to come to terms with a flawed film premise and his own complicity in racist structures. As he spends time with Carl and Kafi, he’s awakened to the violence, racism and gentrification that threaten their very place in the city. Troubled by his failure to bring the film together, he spends more time listening than filming and enlists Kafi and Carl as collaborators/ producers with a share in the film revenues. Five years on, despite many obstacles, Kafi and Carl arrive at surprising new places in their lives, and following their lead, James does too.
(National) Episcopal Church	<i>The Color of Love</i>	2023	2-hour film. Not yet released for public viewing. Four (4) from Ascension viewed the film on January 23 rd and are trying to get it streamed to Ascension. It’s excellent.

Prepared for: **Becoming Beloved Community**
Ascension Memorial Church, Ipswich MA
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Updated: **March 4, 2024**