

Title	Author	Synopsis
The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness	Alexander, Michelle	A stunning account of the rebirth of a caste-like system in the United States, one that has resulted in millions of African Americans locked behind bars and then relegated to a permanent second-class status
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings	Angelou, Maya	A 1969 autobiography that is a coming-of-age story that illustrates how strength of character and a love of literature can help overcome racism and trauma.
Raising Our Hands: How White Women Can Stop Avoiding Hard Conversations, Start Accepting Responsibility, and Find Our Place on the New Frontlines	Arnold, Jenna	The reckoning cry for white women. It asks us to step up and join the new frontlines of the fight against complacency—in our homes, in our behaviors, and in our own minds.
The Fire Next Time	Baldwin, James	A disturbing examination of the consequences of racial injustice, the book is an intensely personal and provocative document. It consists of two “letters,” written on the occasion of the centennial of the Emancipation Proclamation, that exhort Americans, both black and white, to attack the terrible legacy of racism.
The Third Reconstruction: How a Moral Movement is Overcoming the Politics of Division and Fear	Barber, William	A modern-day civil rights champion tells the stirring story of how he helped start a movement to bridge America’s racial divide.
Birth of a White Nation: The Invention of White People and It's relevance Today	Battalora, Jacqueline	Begins with an exploration of the moment in time when "white people," as a separate and distinct group of humanity, were invented through legislation and the enactment of laws. Explains how the creation of this distinction divided laborers and ultimately served the interests of the elite.Examines how foundational law and policy in the U.S. were used to institutionalize the practice of "white people" holding positions of power. Demonstrates how the social construction and legal enactment of "white people" has ultimately compromised the humanity of those so labeled.
The Next American Revolution: Sustainable Activism for the Twenty-First Century	Bogs, Grace Lee	Shrewdly assesses the current crisis--political, economical, and environmental--and shows how to create the radical social change we need to confront new realities.
I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in an World Made for Whiteness	Brown, Austin Channing	An eye-opening account of growing up Black, Christian, and female that exposes how white America’s love affair with “diversity” so often falls short of its ideals.

The Beautiful Struggle:	Coates, Ta-Nehisi	A father-son story from the National Book Award-winning author of <i>Between the World and Me</i> about the reality that tests us, the myths that sustain us, and the love that saves us.
<i>Between the World and Me</i>	Coates, Ta-Nehisi	A nonfiction book written as a letter to the author's teenage son about the feelings, symbolism, and realities associated with being Black in the United States.
<i>We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy</i>	Coates, Ta-Nehisi	A collection of essays by Ta-Nehisi Coates originally from <i>The Atlantic</i> magazine between 2008 and 2016 over the course of the American Barack Obama administration.
<i>Black Feminist Thought</i>	Collins, Patricia Hill	provides a synthesis of a body of knowledge that is crucial to putting in perspective the situation of Black Women and their place in the overall struggle to reduce and eliminate gender, race, and class inequalities.
<i>Eloquent Rage: A Black Feminist Discovers Her Superpower</i>	Cooper, Dr. Brittney	A memoir that combines cultural criticism and personal reflections to explore how she, and the Black women she's encountered, use rage (and joy) to carve unique spaces for themselves.
<i>White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White Americans to Talk About Racism</i>	DiAngelo, Robin, PhD	White fragility is the phenomenon by which white people become angry, defensive, or hostile when confronted with the idea that they are complicit in systemic racism. In <i>White Fragility</i> , author Robin DiAngelo examines its origins in the failure of white society to understand the structural nature of racism, explores the history of the existing racial hierarchy, and makes a powerful case for why it is incumbent upon white people to accept their individual and collective responsibility for white supremacy—and to do the difficult work of challenging it.
<i>Never Caught: The Washingtons' Relentless Pursuit of Their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge</i>	Dunbar, Erica Armstrong	Sheds new light both on the father of our country and on the intersections of slavery and freedom.
<i>An Indigenous People's History of the United States</i>	Dunbar-Ortiz, Roxanne	Challenges the founding myth of the United States and shows how policy against the Indigenous peoples was colonialist and designed to seize the territories of the original inhabitants, displacing or eliminating them.

Tears We Cannot Stop	Dyson, Michael Eric	Grapples with the social construct of "whiteness" and challenges the readers to "reject the willful denial of history and to live fully in the complicated present with all of the discomfort it brings."
The Painted Drum	Erdrich, Louise	A novel about Faye Travers, who steals a painted drum from an estate she's appraising and decides to return it to the Ojibwa.
Democracy in Black: How Race Still Enslaves the American Soul	Glaude, Jr., Eddie S.	A powerful polemic on the state of black America that savages the idea of a post-racial society.
A Colony in a Nation	Hayes, Chris	Journalist Chris Hayes argues that some US politicians and law enforcement officials act as if whole areas of America constitute a separate realm of less value where different rules apply.
Their Eyes Were Watching God	Hurston, Zora Neale	An enduring Southern love story sparkling with wit, beauty, and heartfelt wisdom. Told in the captivating voice of a woman who refuses to live in sorrow, bitterness, fear, or foolish romantic dreams, it is the story of fair-skinned, fiercely independent Janie Crawford, and her evolving selfhood through three marriages and a life marked by poverty, trials, and purpose.
Waking Up White: And Finding Myself in the Story of Race	Irving, Debby	A 2014 non-fiction book about the subject of white privilege
The Longest Trail: Writings of an American Indian History, Culture and Politics	Josephy, Alvin M.	Groundbreaking, popular books and essays that advocated for a fair and true historical assessment of Native Americans, and set the course for modern Native American studies.
When Affirmative Action Was White: An Untold Story of Racial Inequality in Twenty-First Century America	Katznelson, Ira	Analyzes the issue of affirmative action. The book is held together by one overarching theme. As New Deal politicians began constructing government programs to deal with welfare, work, and war in the 1930s and 1940s, they deliberately excluded or treated differently the vast majority of African Americans.
How to Be an Antiracist	Kendi, Dr. Ibram X.	A 2019 non-fiction book that discusses concepts of racism and Kendi's proposals for <b>anti-racist</b> individual actions and systemic changes.
Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Teachings, Scientific Knowledge & the Teachings of Plants.	Kimmerer, Robin Wall	botanist and professor of plant ecology encourages readers to consider the ways that our lives and language weave through the natural world.

Heavy: An American Memoir	Laymon, Kiese	Explores what the weight of a lifetime of secrets, lies, and deception does to a black body, a black family, and a nation teetering on the brink of moral collapse.
Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches	Lorde, Audre	A collection of essential essays and speeches written by Audre Lorde, a woman who wrote from the particulars of her identity: Black woman, lesbian, poet, activist, cancer survivor, mother, and feminist writer.
The Mourning Road to Thanksgiving	Mann, Larry Spotted Crow	This riveting tale challenges the narrative and conceptions we have of American history and exposes the untold stories and lingering scars of our past.
Redefining Realness: My Path to Womanhood, Identity, Love & So Much More	Mock, Janet	Mock relays her experiences of growing up young, multiracial, poor, and trans in America, offering readers accessible language while imparting vital insight about the unique challenges and vulnerabilities of a marginalized and misunderstood population.
This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by a Radical Woman of Color	Moraga, Cherrie	Centers on the experiences of women of color and emphasizes the points of what is now called intersectionality within their multiple identities, challenging white feminists who made claims to solidarity based on sisterhood.
The Bluest Eye	Morrison, Toni	Debut <b>novel</b> by Nobel Prize-winning author Toni Morrison. Set in Morrison's hometown of Lorain, Ohio, in 1940–41, the <b>novel</b> tells the tragic story of Pecola Breedlove, an African American girl from an abusive home.
The Origin of Others	Morrison, Toni	Reflects on the themes that preoccupy her work and increasingly dominate national and world politics: race, fear, borders, the mass movement of peoples, the desire for belonging.
So You Want to Talk About Race	Oluo, Ijeoma	A hard-hitting but user-friendly examination of race in America
There, There	Orange, Tommy	Tells the story of twelve characters, each of whom have private reasons for traveling to the Big Oakland Powwow.
The Color of Law	Rothstein, Richard	Confronts how American governments in the twentieth century deliberately imposed residential racial segregation on metropolitan areas nationwide.

Me and White Supremacy	Saad, Layla F.	Challenges you to do the essential work of unpacking your biases, and helps white people take action and dismantle the privilege within themselves so that you can stop (often unconsciously) inflicting damage on people of color, and in turn, help other white people do better, too.
Black Portsmouth: Three Centuries of African-American Heritage	Sammons and Cunningham	Guides the reader through more than three centuries of New England and Portsmouth social, political, economic, and cultural history as well as scores of personal and site-specific stories.
Life on Mars	Smith, Tracy K.	A poetry collection that is an elegy for her father, a scientist who worked on the Hubble telescope.
All Eyes are Upon Us: Race and Politics from Boston to Brooklyn	Sokol, Jason	A revelatory account of the tumultuous modern history of race and politics in the Northeast. Presents the Northeast as a microcosm of America as a whole: outwardly democratic, inwardly conflicted, but always striving to live up to its highest ideals.
The Heavens Might Crack: The Death and Legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.	Sokol, Jason	Traces the diverse responses, both in America and throughout the world, to King's death. Whether celebrating or mourning, most agreed that the final flicker of hope for a multiracial America had been extinguished.
Just Mercy	Stevenson, Bryan	After graduating from Harvard, Bryan Stevenson heads to Alabama to defend those wrongly condemned or those not afforded proper representation. One of his first cases is that of Walter McMillian, who is sentenced to die in 1987 for the murder of an 18-year-old girl, despite evidence proving his innocence. In the years that follow, Stevenson encounters racism and legal and political maneuverings as he tirelessly fights for McMillian's life.
The Guilded Years	Tanabe, Karin	Historical novel based on the true story of Anita Hemmings, the first black student to attend Vassar, who successfully passed as white—until she let herself grow too attached to the wrong person.
Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?	Tatum, Beverly	Argues that straight talk about our racial identities is essential if we are serious about enabling communication across racial and ethnic divides.
Learning to be White	Thandeka	Personal stories, based on original interviews, introduce the problem of the shame that Euro-Americans feel when they are forced to become white.

The Hate U Give	Thomas, Angie	Novel about a teenage girl who grapples with racism, police brutality, and activism after witnessing her black friend murdered by the police.
Blood Done Sign My Name	Tyson, Timothy	Both history and memoir, The author explores the 1970 murder of Henry D. Marrow, a black man in Tyson's then home town of Oxford, North Carolina.
The Blood of Emmett Till	Tyson, Timothy	Takes on the nation's most infamous hate crime, one most of us think we already know: the brutal lynching of a Chicago boy who dared to flirt with a white woman in Jim Crow Mississippi.
A Colored Man in Exeter	Ward, Michael Cameron	Recounts some of Harold's experiences in the Exeter, NH area from 1959 until 1975. During this time, he often worked with people who had never spoken to or seen a "colored person" before.
Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents	Wilkerson, Isabel	A non-fiction work, an eye-opening story of people and history, and a reexamination of what lies under the surface of ordinary lives and of American life today.
The Warmth of Other Suns	Wilkerson, Isabel	Chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life.