



# More Than a MONTH

Reading Challenge: February 1- September 30, 2021

What is **More Than a Month**? This is a series of events designed to help us learn how to recognize issues of systemic oppression and find opportunities to grow into a more equitable and inclusive community. Each year of the series will highlight a group whose experiences in and contributions to our society may have primarily been recognized only during an official heritage or awareness month. The first year of this series (September 2020-2021) will focus on Black history and experiences in American society.

**What has More Than a Month included so far?** The Library has hosted book, graphic novel, and documentary discussions, as well as a speaker from College of DuPage.

**What are the goals of this series?** One of the primary goals for this series is for our community to engage and learn from each other in a safe and welcoming environment. With this goal in mind, the Library is introducing the More Than a Month Reading Challenge.

**How does the Reading Challenge work?** Read and review your choice of (at least) 3 books off of our recommended reading list between February 1-September 30, 2021 to receive a Certificate of Participation in the More Than a Month Reading Challenge.

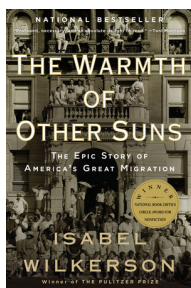
[carolstream.librarycalendar.com/events/adults-more-month-reading-challenge-online](http://carolstream.librarycalendar.com/events/adults-more-month-reading-challenge-online)

## Adults: Recommended Reading List

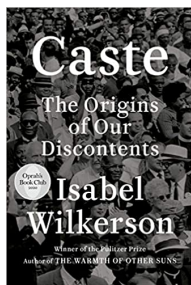
Click the title or visit [cslibrary.org](http://cslibrary.org) to find a copy of the book in the catalog, or contact us for assistance! (630)653-0755, [cstream@cslibrary.org](mailto:cstream@cslibrary.org)

### Non-Fiction

Based on facts, real life, and research.



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



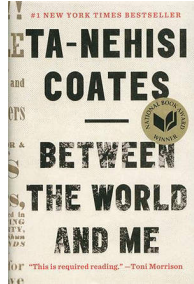
**Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson (2020)**

# Recommended Reading List

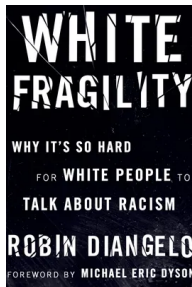
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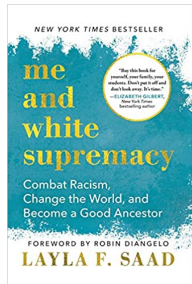
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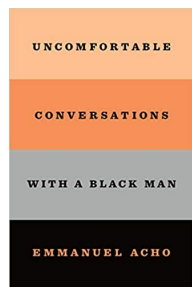
[Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates \(2015\)](#)



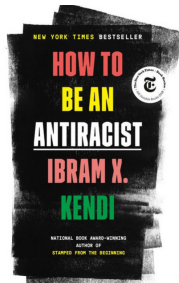
[White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism by Robin DiAngelo \(2018\)](#)



[Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor by Layla F. Saad \(2020\)](#)



[Uncomfortable Conversations With a Black Man by Emmanuel Acho \(2020\)](#)



[How to be an Antiracist by Ibram Kendi \(2019\)](#)



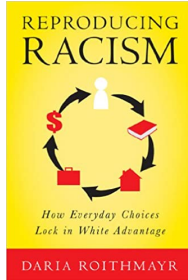
[So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo \(2019\)](#)

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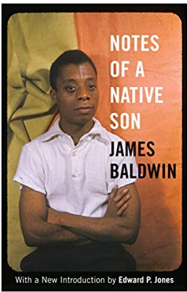
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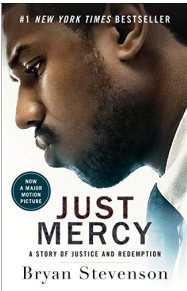
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Reproducing Racism: How Everyday Choices Lock in White Advantage by Daria Roithmayr (2014).



Notes of a Native Son by James Baldwin (1955).



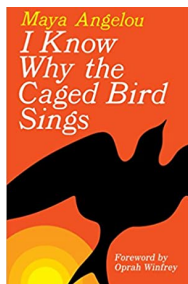
Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson (2014).



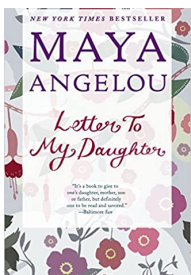
Hustle Harder, Hustle Smarter by Curtis Jackson (2020).

## Biography

True accounts  
of individual  
lives.



I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou (1969).



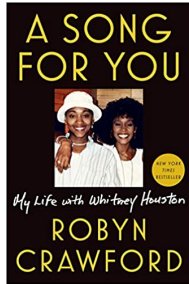
Letter to My Daughter by Maya Angelou (2008).

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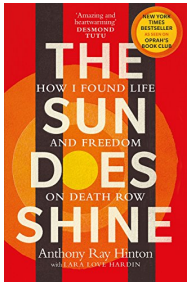
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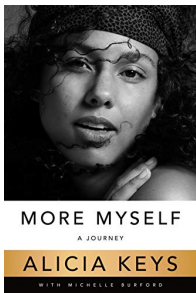
[A Song for You: My Life with Whitney Houston](#) by [Robyn Crawford](#) (2019)



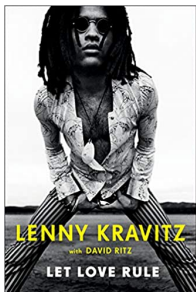
[Wild Thing: The Short, Spellbinding Life of Jimi Hendrix](#) by [Philip Norman](#) (2020)



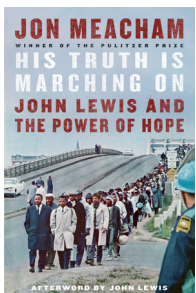
[Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life and Freedom on Death Row](#) by [Anthony Ray Hinton](#) (2018)



[More Myself: A Journey](#) by [Alicia Keys](#) (2020)



[Let Love Rule](#) by [Lenny Kravitz](#) (2020)



[His Truth is Marching On: John Lewis and the Power of Hope](#) by [Jon Meacham](#) (2020)

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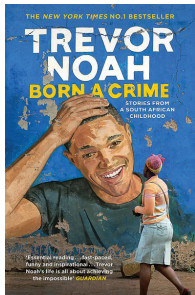
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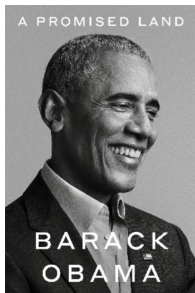
True accounts  
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**The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother by James McBride (1996)**



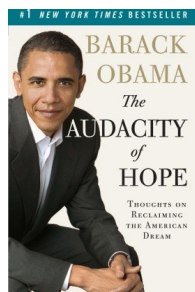
**Born a Crime by Trevor Noah (2016)**



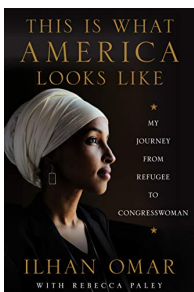
**A Promised Land by Barack Obama (2020)**



**Becoming by Michele Obama (2018)**



**The Audacity of Hope by Barack Obama (2006)**



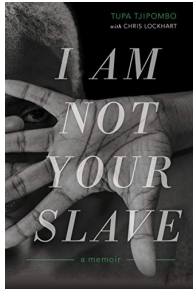
**This is What America Looks Like: My Journey from Refugee to Congresswoman by Ilhan Omar (2020)**

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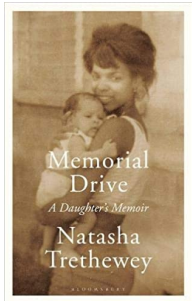
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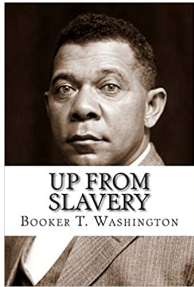
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**I Am Not Your Slave: A Memoir by Tupa Tjipombo (2020)**



**Memorial Drive: A Daughter's Memoir by Natasha Trethewey (2020)**



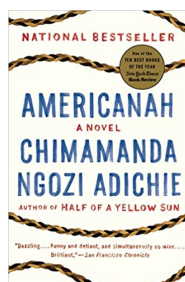
**Up From Slavery: An Autobiography by Booker T. Washington (1901)**



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

## Fiction

Literature,  
creative writing,  
and novels



**Americanah: A Novel by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (2014)**

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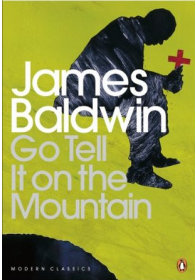
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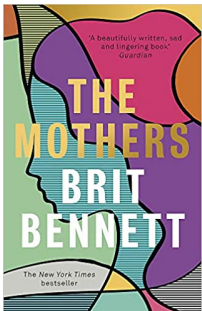
[If Beale Street Could Talk: A Novel by James Baldwin \(1974\)](#)



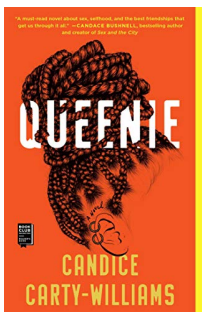
[Go Tell it on the Mountain by James Baldwin \(1953\)](#)



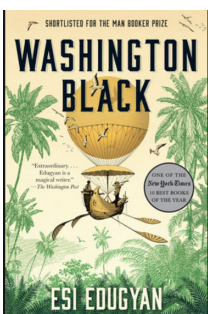
[The Vanishing Half: A Novel by Brit Bennett \(2020\)](#)



[The Mothers by Brit Bennett \(2016\)](#)



[Queenie by Candice Carty-Williams \(2019\)](#)



[Washington Black by Esi Edugyan \(2018\)](#)

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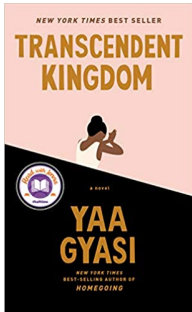
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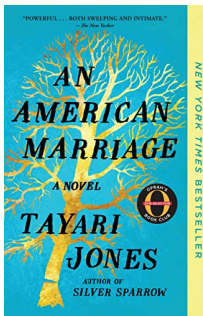
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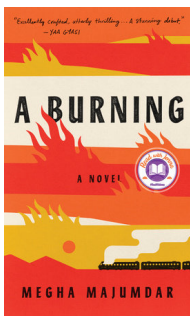
[Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison \(1952\)](#)



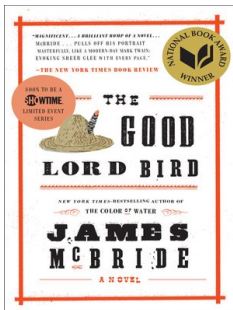
[Transcendent Kingdom by Yaa Gyasi \(2020\)](#)



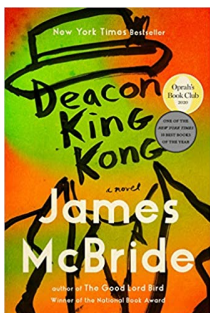
[An American Marriage by Tayari Jones \(2018\)](#)



[A Burning by Megha Majumdar \(2020\)](#)



[The Good Lord Bird by James McBride \(2013\)](#)



[Deacon King Kong by James McBride \(2020\)](#)

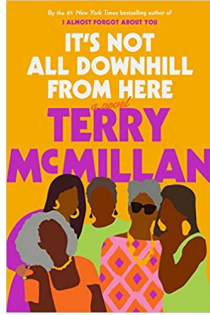


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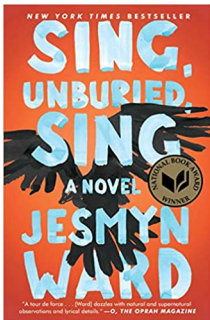
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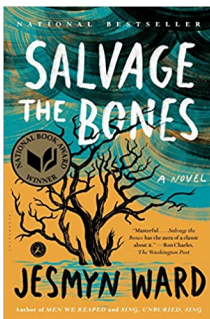
[It's Not All Downhill From Here by Terry McMillan \(2020\)](#)



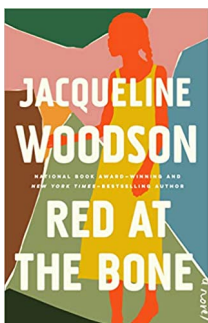
[Such a Fun Age by Kiley Reid \(2019\)](#)



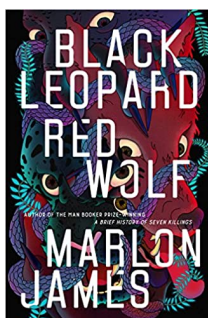
[Sing, Unburied, Sing by Jesmyn Ward \(2017\)](#)



[Salvage the Bones by Jesmyn Ward \(2011\)](#)



[Red at the Bone by Jacqueline Woodson \(2019\)](#)



[Black Leopard Red Wolf by Marlon James \(2019\)](#)