

Black History and Culture

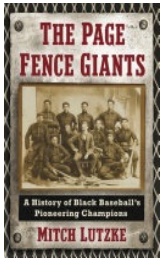
Black History is more than a month. Explore African-American history and culture with these amazing non-fiction reads, biographies, and memoirs.



Soul Food Love

By Alice Randall, Caroline Randall Williams

A mother-daughter duo reclaims and redefines soul food by mining the traditions of four generations of black women and creating 80 healthy recipes to help everyone live longer and stronger.



The Page Fence Giants

By Mitch Lutzke

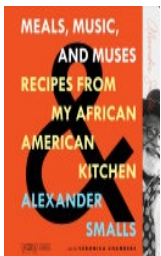
The Page Fence Giants, an all-star black baseball club sponsored by a woven-wire fence company in Adrian, Michigan, graced the diamond in the 1890s. Formed through a partnership between black and white boosters, the team's respectable four-year run was an early integration success—before integration was phased out decades ahead of Jackie Robinson's 1947 debut, and the growing Jim Crow sentiment blocked the Page Fence Giant's best talent from the major leagues.



Black Men Built the Capitol

By Jesse Holland

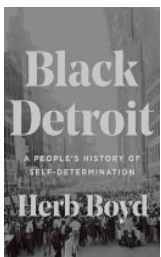
Millions of people visit the National Mall, the White House, and the U.S. Capitol each year. If they only hear the standard story, a big question remains: "Where's the black history?"



Meals, Music, and Muses

By Alexander Smalls, Veronica Chambers

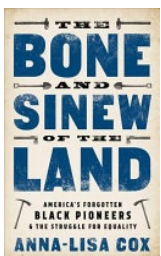
Iconic chef and world-renowned opera singer Alexander Smalls marries two of his greatest passions—food and music—in *Meals, Music, and Muses*. More than just a cookbook, Smalls takes readers on a delicious journey through the South to examine the food that has shaped the region. Each chapter is named for a type of music to help readers understand the spirit that animates these recipes.



Black Detroit

By Herb Boyd

The author of Baldwin's Harlem looks at the evolving culture, politics, economics, and spiritual life of Detroit—a blend of memoir, love letter, history, and clear-eyed reportage that explores the city's past, present, and future.



The Bone and Sinew of the Land

By Anna-Lisa Cox

The long-hidden stories of America's black pioneers, the frontier they settled, and their fight for the heart of the nation.

Named one of Smithsonian's Best History Books of 2018

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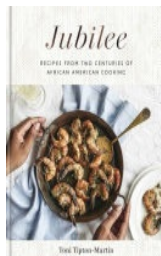
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Defining Moments in Black History

By Dick Gregory

Dick Gregory was a provocative cultural force for more than fifty years. In this collection of essays, Gregory charts the complex and often obscured history of the African American experience.



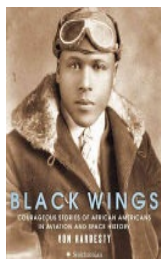
Jubilee

By Toni Tipton-Martin

Adapted from historical texts and rare African-American cookbooks, the 125 recipes of *Jubilee* paint a rich, varied picture of the true history of African-American cooking: a cuisine far beyond soul food.

NAMED ONE OF FALL'S BEST COOKBOOKS BY THE NEW YORK TIMES

Toni Tipton-Martin, the first African-American food editor of a daily American newspaper, is the author of the James Beard Award-winning *The Jemima Code*, a history of African-American cooking found in--and between--the lines of three centuries' worth of African-American cookbooks.



Black Wings

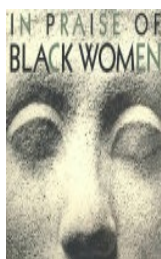
By Von Hardesty

The invention of the airplane in the first decade of the twentieth century sparked a revolution in modern technology. Aviation in the popular mind became associated with adventure and heroism. For African Americans, however, this new realm of human flight remained off-limits, a consequence of racial discrimination. Many African Americans displayed a keen interest in the new air age, but found themselves routinely barred from gaining training as pilots or mechanics. Beginning in the 1920s, a small and widely scattered group of black air enthusiasts challenged this prevailing pattern of racial discrimination.

Hidden Figures

By Margot Lee Shetterly

Before Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as "human computers" used pencils, slide rules and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space. Among these problem-solvers were a group of exceptionally talented African American women, some of the brightest minds of their generation. Originally relegated to teaching math in the South's segregated public schools, they were called into service during the labor shortages of World War II, when America's aeronautics industry was in dire need of anyone who had the right stuff.



In Praise of Black Women: Ancient African queens

By Simone Schwarz-Bart, André Schwarz-Bart

In Praise of Black Women is a magnificent tribute to women in Africa and the African diaspora from the ancient past to the present.



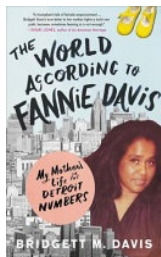
More Than Enough

By Elaine Welteroth

Throughout her life, Elaine Welteroth has climbed the ranks of media and fashion, shattering ceilings along the way. In this riveting and timely memoir, the groundbreaking journalist unpacks lessons on race, identity, and success through her own journey, from navigating her way as the unstoppable child of an unlikely interracial marriage in small-town California to finding herself on the frontlines of a modern movement for the next generation of change-makers.

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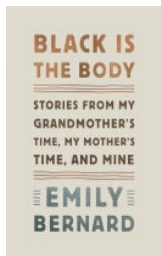


The World According to Fannie Davis

By Bridgett M. Davis

As seen on the *Today Show*: This true story of an unforgettable mother, her devoted daughter, and their life in the Detroit numbers of the 1960s and 1970s highlights "the outstanding humanity of black America" (James McBride).

In 1958, the very same year that an unknown songwriter named Berry Gordy borrowed \$800 to found Motown Records, a pretty young mother from Nashville, Tennessee, borrowed \$100 from her brother to run a numbers racket out of her home. That woman was Fannie Davis. Bridgett M. Davis's mother.



Black Is the Body

By Emily Bernard

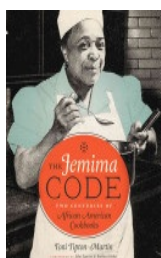
An extraordinary, exquisitely written memoir (of sorts) that looks at race—in a fearless, penetrating, honest, true way—in twelve telltale, connected, deeply personal essays that explore, up-close, the complexities and paradoxes, the haunting memories and ambushing realities of growing up black in the South with a family name inherited from a white man, of getting a PhD from Yale, of marrying a white man from the North, of adopting two babies from Ethiopia, of teaching at a white college and living in America's New England today.



The Truths We Hold

By Kamala Harris

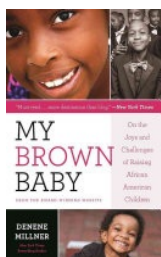
From one of America's most inspiring political leaders, a book about the core truths that unite us, and the long struggle to discern what those truths are and how best to act upon them, in her own life and across the life of our country.



The Jemima Code

By Toni Tipton-Martin

To discover the true role of black women in the creation of American, and especially southern, cuisine, Toni Tipton-Martin spent years amassing cookbooks published by African American authors, looking for evidence of their impact on American food, families, and communities and for ways we might use that knowledge to inspire community wellness of every kind. Now she shares that knowledge with the world.

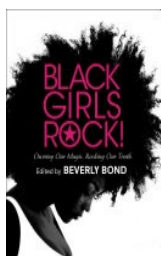


My Brown Baby

By Denene Millner

"The best site for thoughtful, fierce advice about parenting from a Black perspective" -- *Ebony*

For almost a decade, national parenting expert and bestselling author Denene Millner has published thought-provoking, insightful, sometimes wickedly funny commentary about motherhood on her critically acclaimed website MyBrownBaby.com. The site, hailed as a "must-read" by the New York Times, speaks to the experiences, joys, fears, sorrows, and triumphs of African American motherhood, from pregnancy and child-rearing to relationships and the politics of parenting black children.



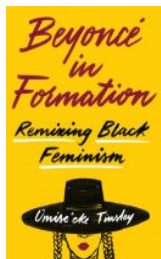
Black Girls Rock!

By Beverly Bond

From the award-winning entrepreneur, culture leader, and creator of the movement, comes an inspiring and beautifully designed book that pays tribute to the achievements of black women around the world.

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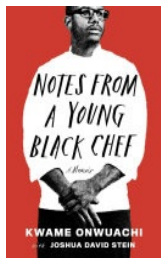
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Beyoncé in Formation

By Omise'eke Natasha Tinsley

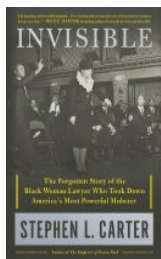
Making headlines when it was launched in 2015, Omise'eke Tinsley's undergraduate course "Beyoncé Feminism, Rihanna Womanism" has inspired students from all walks of life. In *Beyoncé in Formation*, Tinsley now takes her rich observations beyond the classroom, using the blockbuster album and video *Lemonade* as a soundtrack for vital new-millennium narratives.



Notes from a Young Black Chef

By Kwame Onwuachi, Joshua David Stein

By the time he was twenty-seven years old, Kwame Onwuachi had opened--and closed--one of the most talked about restaurants in America. He had launched his own catering company with twenty thousand dollars that he made from selling candy on the subway, yet he'd been told he would never make it on television because his cooking wasn't "Southern" enough. In this inspiring memoir about the intersection of race, fame, and food, he shares the remarkable story of his culinary coming-of-age.



Invisible

By Stephen L. Carter

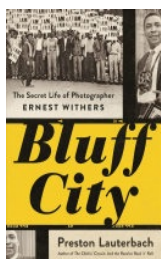
The bestselling author delves into his past and discovers the inspiring story of his grandmother's extraordinary life

She was black and a woman and a prosecutor, a graduate of Smith College and the granddaughter of slaves, as dazzlingly unlikely a combination as one could imagine in New York of the 1930s—and without the strategy she devised, Lucky Luciano, the most powerful Mafia boss in history, would never have been convicted.

Black Fortunes

By Shomari Wills

The astonishing untold history of America's first black millionaires--self-made entrepreneurs whose unknown success mirrored that of American business heroes such as Henry Ford and Thomas Edison.



Bluff City

By Preston Lauterbach

Who was Ernest Withers? Most Americans know his photographs. Withers took legendary images of the 1950s and '60s: Martin Luther King, Jr., riding a newly integrated bus in Montgomery, Alabama; Emmett Till's uncle pointing an accusatory finger across the courtroom at one of his nephew's killers; scores of African-American protestors, carrying a forest of signs reading "I am a man." But while he enjoyed unparalleled access to the civil rights movement, Withers was working as an informant for the FBI.



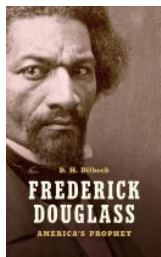
Sweet Home Café Cookbook

By NMAAHC

Since the 2016 opening of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, its Sweet Home Café has become a destination in its own right. Showcasing African American contributions to American cuisine, the café offers favorite dishes made with locally sourced ingredients, adding modern flavors and contemporary twists on classics.

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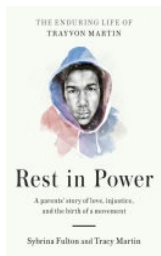
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Frederick Douglass

By D. H. Dilbeck

From his enslavement to freedom, Frederick Douglass was one of America's most extraordinary champions of liberty and equality. Throughout his long life, Douglass was also a man of profound religious conviction. In this concise and original biography, D. H. Dilbeck offers a provocative interpretation of Douglass's life through the lens of his faith. In an era when the role of religion in public life is as contentious as ever, Dilbeck provides essential new perspective on Douglass's place in American history.



Rest in Power

By Sybrina Fulton, Tracy Martin

Trayvon Martin's parents take readers beyond the news cycle with an account only they could give: the intimate story of a tragically foreshortened life and the rise of a movement.

Now a docuseries on the Paramount Network produced by Shawn Carter

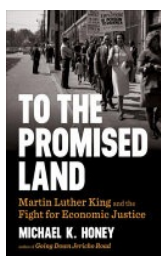
On a February evening in 2012, in a small town in central Florida, seventeen-year-old Trayvon Martin was walking home with candy and a can of juice in hand and talking on the phone with a friend when a fatal encounter with a gun-wielding neighborhood watchman ended his young life.



What Doesn't Kill You Makes You Blacker

By Damon Young

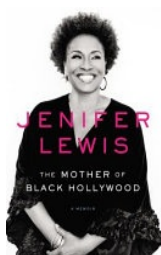
From the cofounder of VerySmartBrothas.com, and one of the most read writers on race and culture at work today, a provocative and humorous memoir-in-essays that explores the ever-shifting definitions of what it means to be Black (and male) in America



To the Promised Land

By Michael K. Honey

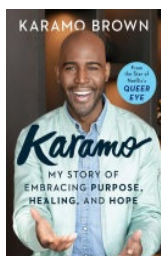
To the Promised Land goes beyond the iconic view of Martin Luther King Jr. as an advocate of racial harmony to explore his commitment to the poor and working class and his call for "nonviolent resistance" to all forms of oppression.



The Mother of Black Hollywood

By Jenifer Lewis

From her more than three hundred appearances for film and television, stage and cabaret, performing comedy or drama, as an unforgettable lead or a scene-stealing supporting character, Jenifer Lewis has established herself as one of the most respected, admired, talented, and versatile entertainers working today. This "Mega Diva" and costar of the hit sitcom *black-ish* bares her soul in this touching and poignant—and at times side-splittingly hilarious—memoir of a Midwestern girl with a dream, whose journey took her from poverty to the big screen, and along the way earned her many accolades.



Karamo

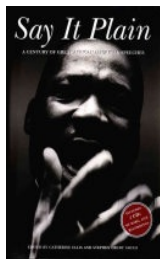
By Karamo Brown

An insightful, candid, and inspiring memoir from Karamo Brown—*Queer Eye*'s beloved culture expert—as he shares his story for the first time, exploring how the challenges in his own life have allowed him to forever transform the lives of those in need.

When Karamo Brown first auditioned for the casting directors of Netflix's *Queer Eye*, he knew he wouldn't win the role of culture expert by discussing art and theater. Instead he decided to redefine what "culture" could—and *should*—mean for the show. He took a risk and declared, "I am culture."

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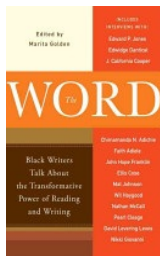
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Say it Plain

By Kate Ellis

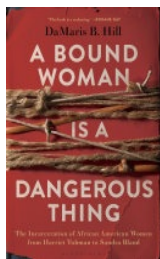
The only known recordings of speeches by Booker T. Washington (1903) and Marcus Garvey (1921). Mary McLeod Bethune answers the question, "What does democracy mean to me?" (1939). Many more voices make up this volume.



The Word

By Marita Golden

In these thirteen strikingly candid interviews, bestselling authors, winners of the Pulitzer Prize, and writers picked by Oprah's Book Club discuss how the acts of reading and writing have deeply affected their lives.

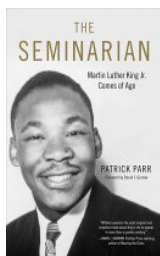


A Bound Woman Is a Dangerous Thing

By DaMaris Hill

Nominated for an NAACP Image Award

A revelatory work in the tradition of Claudia Rankine's *Citizen*, DaMaris Hill's searing and powerful narrative-in-verse bears witness to American women of color burdened by incarceration. "It is costly to stay free and appear / sane." From Harriet Tubman to Assata Shakur, Ida B. Wells to Sandra Bland and Black Lives Matter, black women freedom fighters have braved violence, scorn, despair, and isolation in order to lodge their protests.



The Seminarian

By Patrick Parr

Martin Luther King Jr. was a cautious nineteen-year-old rookie preacher when he left Atlanta, Georgia, to attend divinity school up north. At Crozer Theological Seminary, King, or "ML" back then, immediately found himself surrounded by a white staff and white professors. In his three years at Crozer between 1948 and 1951, King delivered dozens of sermons around the Philadelphia area, had a gun pointed at him (twice), played on the basketball team, and eventually became student body president. These experiences shaped him into a man ready to take on even greater challenges.

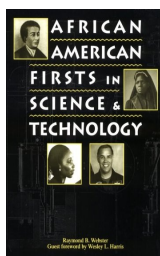


For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Politics

By Donna Brazile, Yolanda Caraway, Leah Daughtry, Minyon Moore, Veronica Chambers

The four most powerful African American women in politics share the story of their friendship and how it has changed politics in America.

The lives of black women in American politics are remarkably absent from the shelves of bookstores and libraries. *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Politics* is a sweeping view of American history from the vantage points of four women who have lived and worked behind the scenes in politics for over thirty years —Donna Brazile. Yolanda Caraway. Leah Daughtry. and Minyon Moore.



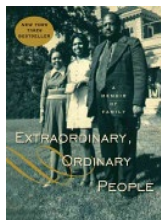
African American Firsts in Science & Technology

By Raymond B. Webster

There are several chronologies that survey African American contributions in general, but this one concentrates on African American pioneers in endeavors ranging from clock making to particle physics.

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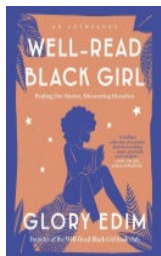


Condoleezza Rice

Extraordinary, Ordinary People

By Condoleezza Rice

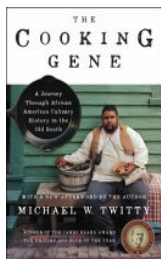
Condoleezza Rice has excelled as a diplomat, political scientist, and concert pianist. Her achievements run the gamut from helping to oversee the collapse of communism in Europe and the decline of the Soviet Union, to working to protect the country in the aftermath of 9-11, to becoming only the second woman - and the first black woman ever -- to serve as Secretary of State.



Well-Read Black Girl

By Glory Edim

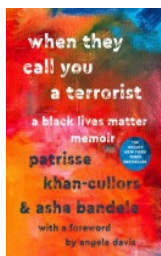
Glory Edim brings together original essays by some of our best black women writers to shine a light on how important it is that we all--regardless of gender, race, religion, or ability--have the opportunity to find ourselves in literature.



The Cooking Gene

By Michael W. Twitty

Southern food is integral to the American culinary tradition, yet the question of who "owns" it is one of the most provocative touch points in our ongoing struggles over race. In this unique memoir, culinary historian Michael W. Twitty takes readers to the white-hot center of this fight, tracing the roots of his own family and the charged politics surrounding the origins of soul food, barbecue, and all Southern cuisine.



When They Call You a Terrorist

By Patrisse Khan-Cullors, asha bandele

A poetic and powerful memoir about what it means to be a Black woman in America—and the co-founding of a movement that demands justice for all in the land of the free.

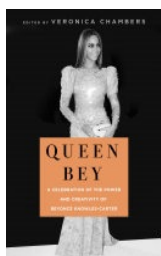


Becoming

By Michelle Obama

An intimate, powerful, and inspiring memoir by the former First Lady of the United States

In a life filled with meaning and accomplishment, Michelle 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.



Queen Bey

By Veronica Chambers

Beyoncé. Her name conjures more than music. It has come to be synonymous with beauty, glamour, power, creativity, love, and romance. Her performances are legendary. She is not even forty but she has already rewritten the Beyoncé playbook more than half a dozen times. She is consistently provocative, political and surprising. As a solo artist, she has sold more than 100 million records. She has won 22 Grammys and is the most-nominated woman artist in the history of Grammy awards. Artist, business woman, mother, daughter, sister, wife, black feminist, Queen Bey is endlessly fascinating.

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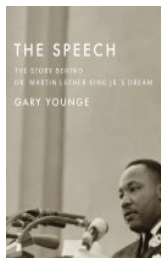
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Carla Hall's Soul Food

By Carla Hall, Genevieve Ko

Beloved TV chef (ABC's Emmy Award-winning *The Chew* and fan favorite on Bravo's *Top Chef*), Carla Hall takes us back to her own Nashville roots to offer a fresh, lip-smackin' look at America's favorite comfort cuisine.

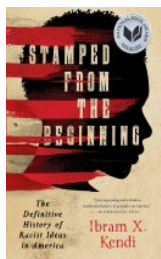


The Speech

By Gary Younge

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DELIVERED his powerful "I Have a Dream" speech on August 28, 1963. Fifty years later, the speech endures as a defining moment in the civil rights movement. It continues to be heralded as a beacon in the ongoing struggle for racial equality.

This gripping book is rooted in new and important interviews with Clarence Jones, a close friend of and draft speechwriter for Martin Luther King Jr., and Joan Baez, a singer at the march, as well as Angela Davis and other leading civil rights leaders.

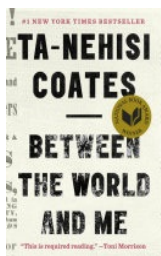


Stamped from the Beginning

By Ibram Kendi

The National Book Award winning history of how racist ideas were created, spread, and deeply rooted in American society.

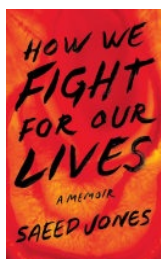
Some Americans insist that we're living in a post-racial society. But racist thought is not just alive and well in America—it is more sophisticated and more insidious than ever. And as award-winning historian Ibram X. Kendi argues, racist ideas have a long and lingering history, one in which nearly every great American thinker is complicit.



Between the World and Me

By Ta-Nehisi Coates

Hailed by Toni Morrison as "required reading," a bold and personal literary exploration of America's racial history by "the single best writer on the subject of race in the United States." 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.

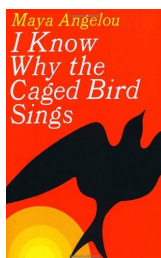


How We Fight for Our Lives

By Saeed Jones

"People don't just happen," writes Saeed Jones. "We sacrifice former versions of ourselves. We sacrifice the people who dared to raise us. The 'I' it seems doesn't exist until we are able to say, 'I am no longer yours.'"

Haunted and haunting, *How We Fight for Our Lives* is a stunning coming-of-age memoir. Jones tells the story of a young, black, gay man from the South as he fights to carve out a place for himself, within his family, within his country, within his own hopes, desires, and fears.



I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

By Maya Angelou

Here is a book as joyous and painful, as mysterious and memorable, as childhood itself. "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" captures the longing of lonely children, the brute insult of bigotry, and the wonder of words that can make the world right. Maya Angelou's debut memoir is a modern American classic beloved worldwide.