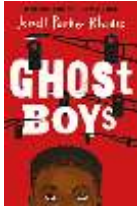


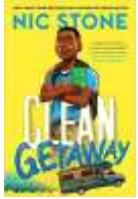
# Fighting Racism: Black and other ethnic minority writers

## Children's and younger teen fiction books (10 – 12 years old)



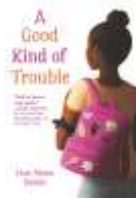
### Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Jerome is shot by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real threat. As a ghost, he sees the devastation that's been unleashed on his family and community in the wake of his brutal killing.



### Clean Getaway by Nic Stone

11-year-old William sets off across the South of the USA with his grandma and learns about race relations past and present and finds out previously unknown things about his travelling companion.



### A Good Kind of Trouble by Lisa Moore Ramée

After experiencing a powerful protest, Shay decides some rules are worth breaking, and shows support for Black Lives Matter.



### Ghost by Jason Reynolds

A boy from a rough background is given a chance to turn his life around when the Run Club coach recognises his talent for running...



### Look Both Ways by Jason Reynolds

Follows the home journey of four middle school friends as they walk back home after a day at school. From hilarious escapades to brave challenges, join the walkers for one journey and many, many detours.



### The boxer by Nikesh Shukla

A teenage boy takes up boxing after being the victim of an unprovoked racist attack... A powerful indictment of racism that does an admirable job of confronting prejudice.



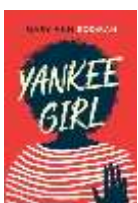
### The skin I'm in by Sharon Flake

Maleeka has to endure the taunts of her classmates mainly because of the colour of her skin, but when a new teacher with skin blemishes arrives Maleeka learns to be proud of her own skin.



### Coming to England by Floella Benjamin

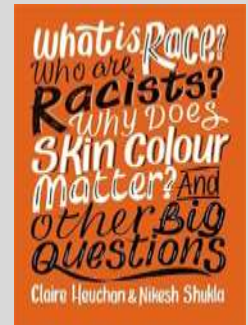
Floella Benjamin recalls her early life in Trinidad, and later when her family moved to England...



### Yankee Girl by Mary Ann Rodman

Follows a girl's experiences at school in Mississippi when the policy of racial integration was applied in the 1960s. Yankee Girl is a truly resonant story about racism and doing the right thing.

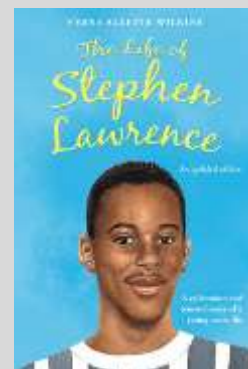
## Non-fiction books



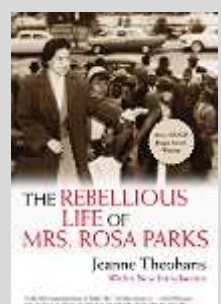
What is race? Who are racists? Why does skin colour matter? And other big questions



This book is anti-racist by T. Jewell



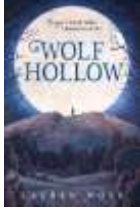
The life of Stephen Lawrence





### King and the Dragonflies by Kacen Callender

In a small but turbulent Louisiana town, King lost his older brother. To move on, he must find himself. King is convinced his brother isn't dead, that he has instead turned into a dragonfly, and he searches for Khalid down by the bayou. Khalid visits him in turn, in King's dreams. King must keep these secrets to himself as he watches grief transform his family.



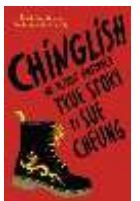
### Wolf Hollow by Lauren Wolk

A stunning novel about prejudice, bullying, friendship and justice. Annabelle has lived a mostly quiet, steady life in her small Pennsylvania town. Until the day new student Betty Glengarry walks into her class. Betty quickly reveals herself to be cruel and manipulative. Toby, a reclusive World War I veteran, soon becomes the target of Betty's attacks.



### Out of Heart by Irfan Master

A teen boy struggling to cope with family problems befriends the recipient of his grandfather's heart. A powerful tale of love and strength in adversity. For fans of Pig-heart boy by Malorie Blackman.



### Chinglish: an almost true story by Sue Cheung

Thirteen-year-old Jo tries to juggle life in a family that is half Chinese, half English, running a takeaway in Coventry...



### The boy at the back of the class by Onjali Q Rauf

Told with heart and humour, The Boy at the Back of the Class is a child's perspective on the refugee crisis, highlighting the importance of friendship and kindness in a world that doesn't always make sense.



### Out of bounds: stories of conflict and hope by Beverley Naidoo

A collection of seven stories based in South Africa, covering the changing political climate since 1948. For almost fifty years apartheid forced the young people of South Africa to live apart as Blacks, Whites, Indians and 'Coloureds'. This unique and dramatic collection of stories, one for each decade, is about young people's choices in a beautiful country made ugly by injustice.



### Skin Deep by Tony Bradman

An anthology of original, hard-hitting short stories which tackle the difficult and sensitive issue of racism in its many forms - bullying, exclusion, class, the colour of skin, hatred and war.



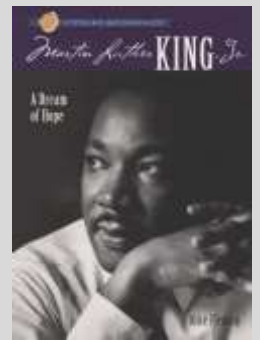
### Internment by Samira Ahmed

Set in a horrifying near-future America, seventeen-year-old Layla and her parents are forced into an internment camp for Muslim citizens.



### Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman

Sephy is a Cross - a member of the dark-skinned ruling class. Callum is a nought - a 'colourless' member of the underclass who were once slaves to the Crosses. Against a background of prejudice and distrust, a romance builds between Sephy and Callum - a romance that is to lead both of them into danger..



Martin Luther King, Jr. : a dream of hope by Alice Fleming



Discrimination: Issues Online (308)

[Free ebook here.](#)

#### Login

Check the library KLP page [here](#).



Racism: a very short introduction

[Free ebook here.](#)

#### Login

Check the library KLP page [here](#).

[Watch the TV series on BBC iPlayer](#)



### Slay by Brittney Morris

A fierce teen game developer battles a real-life troll intent on ruining the Black Panther-inspired video game she created and the safe community it represents for black gamers. Slay is really a fearless and open discussion of what it means to be Black. *Some mild swearing.*



### You must be Layla by Yassmin Abdel-Magied

Thirteen-year-old Layla sets out to prove that she deserves her scholarship at her new school by entering a big robotics competition.



### A Jigsaw of Fire and Stars by Yaba Badoe

A powerful, haunting debut that steps seamlessly from the horrors of people-trafficking to the magic of African folklore.



### Unheard Voices edited by Malorie Blackman

A collection of stories and poems to commemorate the anniversary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act.



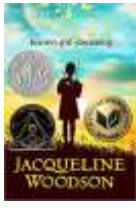
### The girl who fell from the sky by Heidi Durrow

In 1960-70s America, a young girl is sent to live with her grandmother after her mother commits suicide. She is thrust for the first time into a black community where her light brown skin and startling blue eyes provoke a constant stream of attention.



### How high the moon by Karyn Parsons

An 11-year-old girl witnesses the racial tensions that lie beneath her segregated hometown when a 14-year-old black boy is accused of murdering two white girls.



### Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

Told in vivid and emotional poetry, this is the story of a childhood spent between New York and South Carolina, and of never truly feeling at home in either place. Of growing up as an African-American girl in the 1960s and 1970s, in the wake of the Civil Rights movement.



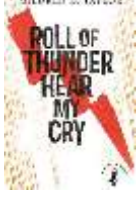
### Now or never by Bali Rai

A young Indian soldier serving in the British army faces racism as he and his friends make their way to the evacuation zone at Dunkirk... A tense, true life account that highlights a little known part of Dunkirk's history.



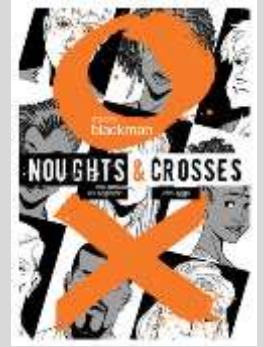
### Son of the circus by E L Norry

This book explores the life of a young mixed-race boy, Ted, living with his mother and poorly older brother in Victorian Bradfield... Based a true story, this is a compelling read written in a first person narrative.

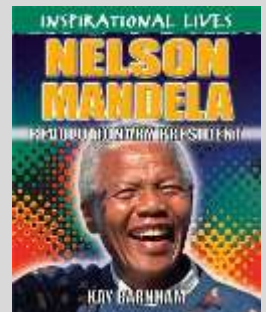


### Roll of thunder, hear my cry by Mildred D Taylor

This is a brilliant classic about an African American girl growing up in Mississippi in the 1930s.



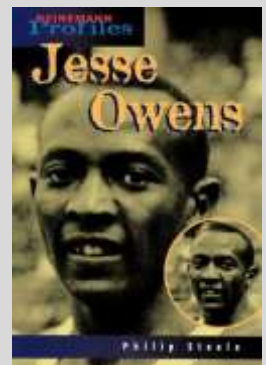
The graphic novel



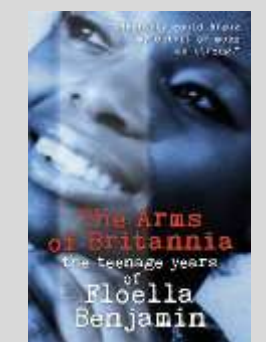
Inspirational lives series: Nelson Mandela



Civil rights in the USA by B. January



Jesse Owens by Philip Steele



The arms of Britannia: Floella Benjamin



### Freedom, 1783 by Catherine Johnson

A 12-year-old boy struggles to break the bonds of his slavery when he bought over to England from Jamaica with his master...



### Free? : stories celebrating human rights

A selection of stories about human rights to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights...

Featured authors:

- Jamila Gavin
- Ibtisam Barakat
- Ursula Dubosarsky
- Meja Mwangi
- Rita Williams-Garcia



### New Kid by Jerry Craft

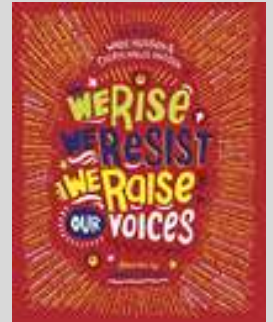
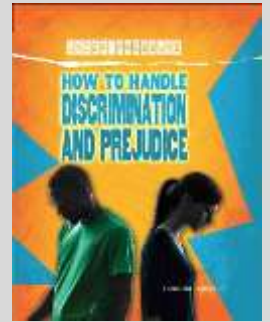
New Kid is a timely, honest graphic novel about starting over at a new school where diversity is low and the struggle to fit in is real, from award-winning author-illustrator Jerry Craft.



### Stella by starlight by Sharon M. Draper

When the Ku Klux Klan's unwelcome reappearance rattles Stella's segregated southern town, bravery battles prejudice in this Depression-era "novel. As Stella's community—her world—is upended, she decides to fight fire with fire. And she learns that ashes don't necessarily signify an end.

Book Club favourite author!



We Rise, We Resist, We Raise Our Voices

## Fighting racism: Black and other ethnic minority writers (Teen reads)

### Teen books suitable for more mature students (13+)



### Black enough: stories of being young and black in America by Ibi Zoboi

A diverse collection of stories by African American authors on what it is like growing up black in the US.

*NOTE : This collection includes a variety of themes and issues such as LGBTQ, drug references, sexual assault, mental health awareness*



### Tyler Johnson Was Here by Jay Coles

When twin brothers Martin and Tyler go to a party, a fun night goes downhill fast after a shooting and a police raid, and Tyler goes missing.



### The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

The brilliant bestseller about the aftermath of an incident of police brutality in America.

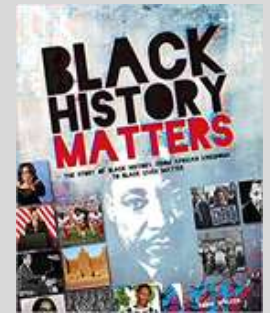
*Note: Contains racist comments, swearing, reference to violence/drug dealing and rioting/looting/burning shops.*



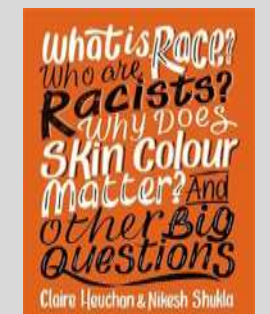
### On the Come Up by Angie Thomas

Sixteen-year-old Bri wants to be one of the greatest rappers of all time. But Bri's success is all that stands between her family and homelessness, so she doesn't just want to make it - she has to. Even if it means becoming exactly what the public expects her to be. *NOTE: Contains strong language and drug references*

### Non-fiction books



Black History Matters by Robin Walker



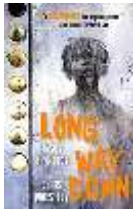
What is race? Who are racists? Why does skin colour matter? And other big questions



### Dear Martin by Nic Stone

A black honour student starts keeping a journal in which he writes to Martin Luther King Jr. after being apprehended by a policeman in a racially-motivated arrest...

*NOTE : Includes swearing and use of the 'N' word.*



### Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds

A story of sixty seconds—the time it takes a kid to decide whether or not he's going to murder the guy who killed his brother.

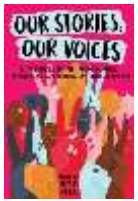
*Note: Contains gun and gangland violence throughout and strong language.*



### Piecing me together by Renee Watson

A young African American girl strives to break the assumptions people have about race, economic class, and social standing at the private school she attends.

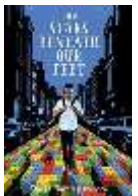
*NOTE : Contains descriptions of racial prejudice, including a teenage girl who is beaten up by the police at a party.*



### Our stories, our voices by Amy Reed (14+)

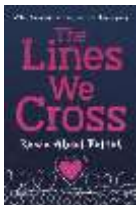
21 female young adult authors write about their experiences growing up as women in America. This anthology of essays explores the diverse experiences of injustice, empowerment, and growing up female in America.

*NOTE: strong language and discussion of rape/sexual violence*



### The Stars Beneath Our Feet by David Barclay Moore

A boy tries to steer a safe path through the projects in Harlem in the wake of his brother's death...



### The lines we cross by Randa Abdel-Fattah

A teen boy in Australia whose family are very involved with anti-immigration politics falls in love with an Afghan refugee girl.

*NOTE: Contains occasional strong & racist language, underage drinking and sexual references.*



### One bright child by Patricia Cumper

Follows a young Jamaican girl as she is sent to school in England in the 1930s, showing the prejudice that she encounters on her way to University and marriage...



### That Asian Kid by Savita Kalhan

A pupil suffering from unfair bias at school finds his chance to reverse his fortunes when he records an incriminating video of two teachers... Fueled by a powerful sense of injustice that we can all relate to. The depiction of closet racism is uncomfortable and challenging.

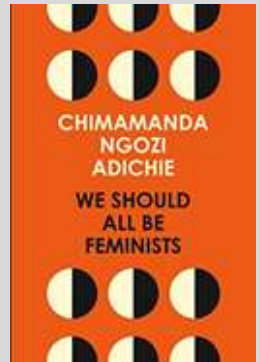


### X: A Novel by Ilyasah Shabazz

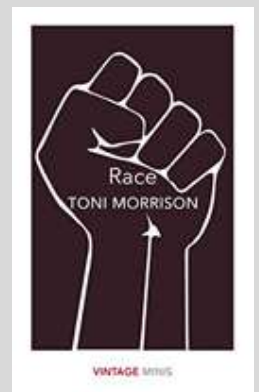
This skillfully rendered novel traces Malcolm X's life through flashbacks, from his father's death to his imprisonment and eventual understanding of his father's wisdom....



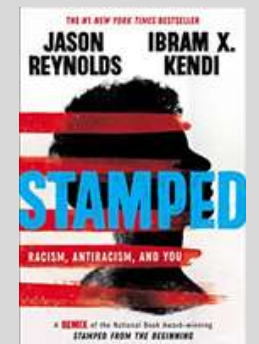
This book is anti-racist by T. Jewell



We should all be feminists

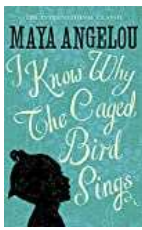


Race by Toni Morrison



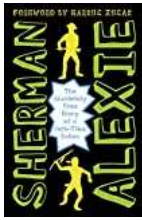
Stamped: racism, antiracism and you

[Also discover the adult edition of this book here.](#)



### **I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou**

This is the first of Maya Angelou's five volumes of autobiography, in which she evokes her childhood with her grandmother in the American south of the 1930s. She learns the power of a white skin and suffers the trauma of rape by her mother's lover.



### **The absolutely true diary of a part-time Indian by Sherman Alexie**

This is a heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written tale, featuring poignant drawings that reflect the character's art and it is based on the author's own experiences. It chronicles contemporary adolescence as seen through the eyes of one Native American boy. *Contains swearing & references to violence.*



### **A change is gonna come by Various Authors**

This is a short stories collection featuring top Young Adult authors and introducing a host of exciting new voices. This anthology of stories and poetry from BAME writers focuses on the theme of change.

NOTE : Contains strong language, sexual content, terrorism, violence and a story in which young offenders are put in a kind of Big Brother-style reality show where the public votes on whether they live or die



### **A blade so black by L. L. McKinney**

Alice finds herself fighting nightmarish monsters both at home in Atlanta and in a dark Wonderland when she is saved from one by the mysterious Hatta.



### **Frankly in love by David Yoon**

Two Korean teenagers living in America pretend to date each other to please their parents, while secretly in love with other people. This is a poignant & perceptive look at racism & family duty.

NOTE : *Strong language throughout and racist comments*



### **A very large expanse of sea by Tahereh Mafi**

An American Muslim girl subjected to racist prejudice has to learn to trust people when she meets a boy. This book is Full of heartbreaking emotional depth set against ever-present racism. Its Semi-autobiographical nature gives it real clout and does a great job in wearing down stereotypes. Racist swearing.



### **Dew Angels by Melanie Schwapp (15+)**

Follows the life of a young girl growing up in Jamaica where she deals with racial prejudice from both her family who pride themselves on their light-coloured skin, as well as the wider community she lives in.

NOTE : *Contains swearing, domestic violence, marijuana use, gang crime, murder, attempted rape, suicide.*



### **I will not be erased : our stories about growing up as people of colour by gal-dem (14+)**

Essays about growing up by writers from the gal-dem magazine written by women of colour and non binary people of colour...

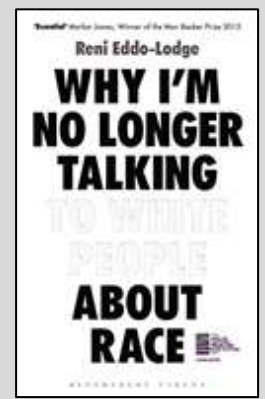
NOTE : *Discusses drug use and sexual relationships in detail*



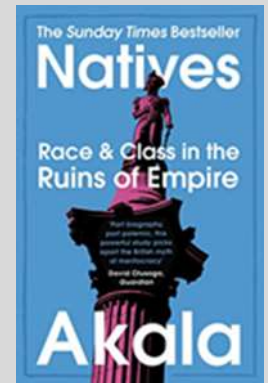
### **The Black Flamingo by Dean Atta (for 15+ students)**

A boy comes to terms with his identity as a mixed-race gay teen - then at university he finds his wings as a drag artist.

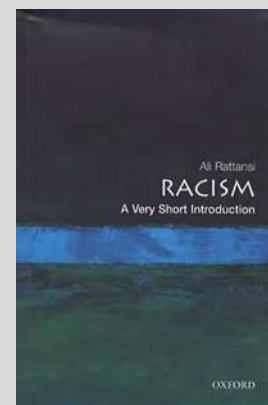
NOTE : *Strong language throughout; discussion of sex and sexual preferences though nothing graphic. Narrative in verse.*



Why I'm no longer talking to white people about race.



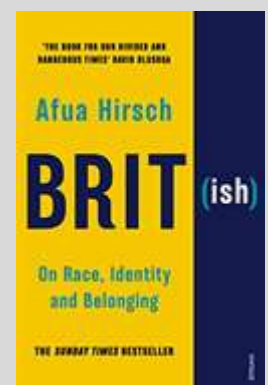
Natives: Race and class in the ruins of Empire



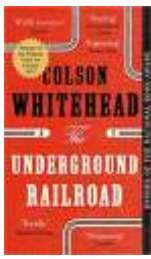
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Brit(ish): on race, identity and belonging



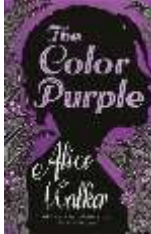
### The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead

Cora is a slave on a cotton plantation in Georgia. When Caesar, a slave recently arrived from Virginia, tells her about the Underground Railroad, they take the perilous decision to escape to the North. This is at once the story of one woman's ferocious will to escape the horrors of bondage and a shatteringly powerful meditation on history.



### Sing, unburied, sing by Jesmyn Ward (15+)

A boy travels with his drug-addicted mother and his younger sister to the deep South to see his convict father. In the prison he encounters another boy, the ghost of a dead inmate who carries all of the ugly history of the South with him in his wandering. He too has something to teach Jojo about fathers and sons, about legacies, about violence, about love. *Note: Violence, swearing, abuse.*



### The color purple by Alice Walker

The classic, Pulitzer-Prize winning novel that made Alice Walker a household name...



### Small Island by Andrea Levy

It is possibly the definitive fictional account of the experiences of the *Empire Windrush* generation.

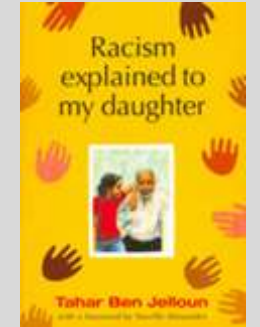


### Beloved by Toni Morrison

With the context of slavery and post-abolition shaping characters and events, it offers a devastatingly intimate experience of an oppressed race and is a sharp reminder that today's social injustice in the US has ugly and painful roots.



The good immigrant: UK



Racism explained to my daughter by Tahar Ben Jelloun



The good immigrant: USA

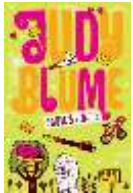
## Books that deal with racism and discrimination

### Children's and younger teen books (10 – 12 years old)



### The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

After escaping from his cruel father, Huckleberry Finn teams up with runaway slave, Jim, and they head off on a raft down the Mississippi River. But danger is always close at hand - will they survive and win their freedom



### Iggie's House by Judy Blume

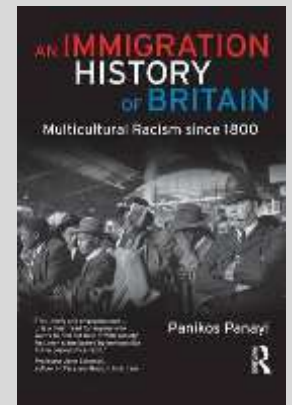
A young girl realises the racism in her neighbourhood when a new family move in next door. Because of the colour of the skin, the families in the community start a petition to evict them.



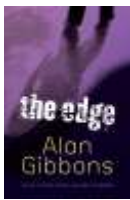
### Infinite sky by C J Flood

Tragedy befalls 13-year-old Iris and her family when she befriends a traveller boy to whom her 15-year-old brother and father take a dislike...

### Non-fiction books

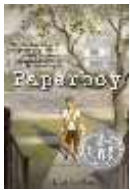


The Immigration history of Britain: Multicultural racism since 1800



### **The Edge by Alan Gibbons**

A boy and his mother try to escape from her violent boyfriend but in doing so encounter racial hatred and family resentments... Wow! Taut, tense, compelling thriller which grips from page 1.



### **Paperboy by Vince Vawter**

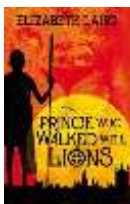
An 11-year-old boy with a debilitating stutter delivers newspapers in Memphis, summer 1959, realising truths about himself and the people on his delivery route...



### **How to be invisible by Tim Lott**

A boy finds an old book which holds the secret to becoming invisible and discovers secrets behind family and acquaintances around him as a consequence of doing so.

*NOTE : Contains a small amount of mild swearing.*



### **The prince who walked with lions by Elizabeth Laird**

An Abyssinian prince is torn from his mountain home and moved to England when his father's rule is over-turned as part of Britain's colonial expansion. Based on a true story.



### **Out of the blue by Sophie Cameron**

A girl comes to terms with the death of her mother after befriending a fallen angel. Set against the backdrop of the frenzied Edinburgh festival, the story tackles questions of grief and guilt and fear over who we really are.



### **The house on Hummingbird Island by Sam Angus**

Follows the experiences of friendship, racism and bigotry of a young girl from the age of twelve to seventeen at the start of the 20th century, when she inherits a colonial house in the West Indies...



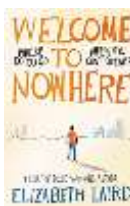
### **The boy in a striped pyjamas by John Boyne**

A German boy befriends a Jew in a concentration camp, without realising the significance of the facility...



### **Hell and high water by Tanya Landman**

A mixed-race boy tries to prove his father's innocence when he is transported to the American colonies after being accused of theft. Inspired by the true story of Thomas Benson, an eighteenth-century Devonshire smuggler.



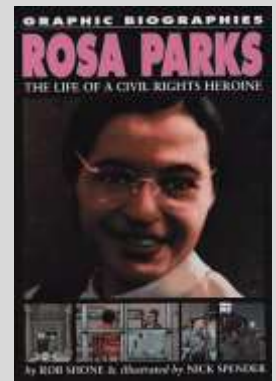
### **Welcome to Nowhere by Elizabeth Laird**

Twelve-year-old Omar and his brothers and sisters were born and raised in the beautiful and bustling city of Bosra, Syria. Omar doesn't care about politics - all he wants is to grow up to become a successful businessman who will take the world by storm. But when his clever older brother, Musa, gets mixed up with some young political activists, everything changes . .

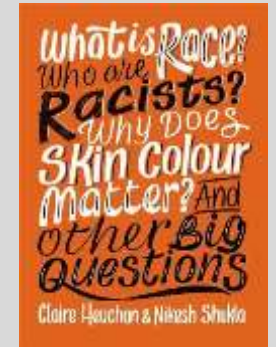


### **Boy 87 by Ele Fountain**

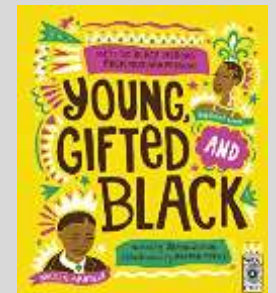
A schoolboy has to flee his home when soldiers come to recruit children to join their army, and makes a perilous journey to try and find safety in England.



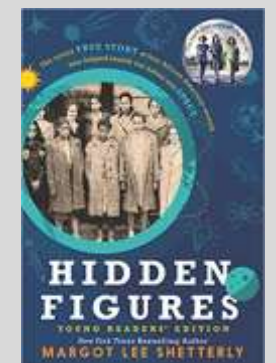
Rosa Parks: Graphic biographies



What is race? Who are racists? Why does skin colour matter? And other big questions



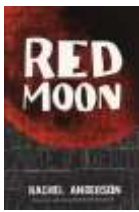
Meet 52 Black Heroes from Past and Present



Hidden Figures Young Readers' Edition







### Red Moon by Rachel Anderson

Moving to France after his father is murdered, Hamish meets a boy who is an illegal refugee, and he and his mother smuggle him over to England.



### The Island by Armin Greder

When the people of the Island discover a man and a tattered raft on their beach, they are reluctant to take him in. He doesn't look like them. But they cannot send him back to the sea where he will surely perish. Instead, they put him aside but even that doesn't solve their problem...



### Ruby Tanya by Robert Swindells

A school-girl and her friend from the local asylum seekers camp overcome the racial prejudice that blows up when a bomb goes off at their school and together help prevent those responsible from committing a second atrocity.



### Auslander by Paul Dowswell

A teenage orphan from Poland is adopted into a Nazi family and struggles to conform.



### Slave Girl (My Story) by Patricia C McKissack

In the slave quarters of Virginia's cruel plantations, Clotee's people pray for freedom. But when will it come? Clotee is a slave in a Virginia plantation. To her, freedom is the greatest word in the world. In the slave quarters, people pray for freedom, or as they call it 'heaven'. But when will it come?



### Zom-B by Darren Shan

A teenager deals with a racist father at home and a zombie invasion at school, which could prove to be connected. *Not suitable for more sensitive readers.*



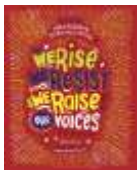
### Ruby Red by Linzi Glass

A teen girl living in Johannesburg witnesses the racism between black people and white people after falling in love with an Afrikaans boy.



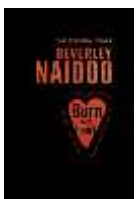
### Come a stranger by Cynthia Voigt

Mina Smith feels as if her life is over when she is expelled from summer camp. Is it really because of the colour of her skin? Overwhelmed with the misery of failure and rejection, she turns to Tamer Shipp, the temporary minister at her father's church. He understands her feelings, even her feelings about him.



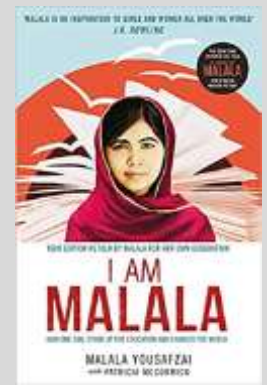
### We Rise, We Resist, We Raise Our Voices

Fifty of the foremost diverse children's authors and illustrators--including Jason Reynolds, Jacqueline Woodson, and Kwame Alexander--share answers to the question, "In this divisive world, what shall we tell our children?"

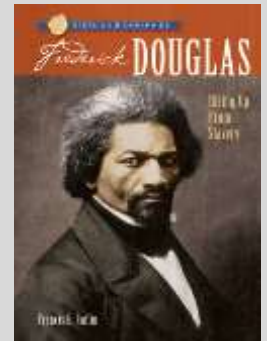


### Burn my heart by Beverley Naidoo

This is an intensely personal and vivid story of two boys: one black, one white. Once they were friends even though their circumstances are very different. But in a country riven by fear and prejudice, even the best of friends can betray one another.



The autobiography



Frederick Douglass : rising up from slavery by Frances E Ruffin



Who are refugees and migrants? : what makes people leave their homes? : and other big questions

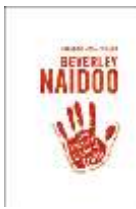


Migration & Immigration (Issues)

[Free ebook here.](#)

Login

Check the library KLP page [here.](#)



### **The other side of truth by Beverley Naidoo**

Set in 1995, a Nigerian girl and her brother smuggled to London are abandoned and they must cope with the police, social services and school bullies...



### **Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson**

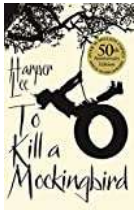
Weighed like a lump of meat. Sold like a bundle of straw. It's time for this slave girl to fight. New York, 1776. The American War of Independence is raging. But Isabel and her sister, Ruth, have their own battles to fight. They're slaves.



### **The unforgotten coat by Frank Cottrell Boyce**

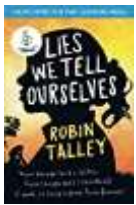
Chingis and his brother really want to fit in at their new school in Liverpool. They're Mongolian refugees, and being accepted is their no. 1 priority (even if this means being a little vague with the truth). When Julie makes friends with them, she soon realises that they have a secret they're not sharing. And then they disappear...

## **Teen books for more mature readers (13+)**



### **To kill a mockingbird by Harper Lee**

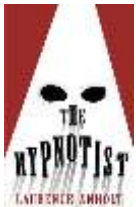
This is a coming-of-age story, an anti-racist novel, a historical drama of the Great Depression and a sublime example of the Southern writing tradition.



### **Lies we tell ourselves by Robin Talley**

1959. The battle for civil rights is raging. Discover Sarah's struggles as the first Black in a previously all white school. Our Book Clubs love this book!

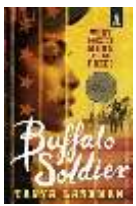
*NOTE: Contains strong language (most of it racist) and violence*



### **The hypnotist by Laurence Anholt**

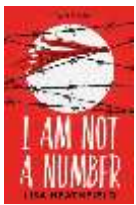
Set in the American Deep South in the 1960s, a black teenager and a University professor experience and fight to overcome extreme racism and the KKK.

*NOTE : Some violence and descriptions of racist attacks that may upset sensitive younger readers.*



### **Buffalo soldier by Tanya Landman**

Set at the end of the American Civil War, a young black girl disguises herself as a man and joins the army after her friend is raped and lynched by a racist mob. Trapped in a world of injustice and inequality, it's only when Charley is posted to Apache territory that she begins to learn what it is to be truly free.



### **I am not a number by Lisa Heathfield**

Set in an authoritarian future Britain, a teenage girl attempts to free herself and her family from a prison camp for political dissidents. The story highlights the political narratives supported by the Trump administration.

*Note: (13+) Not for sensitive readers.*



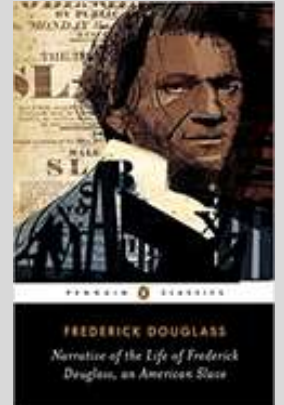
### **Half bad by Sally Green**

A teenage boy who is half white witch and half black witch struggles for survival in a hidden society of witches.

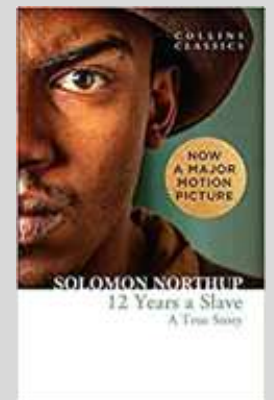
*NOTE : Contains strong language, torture and violence.*



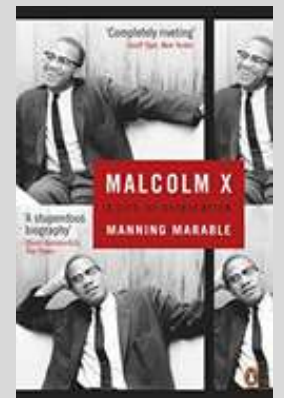
Incidents in the life of a slave girl by Harriet Jacobs



Narratives by Frederick Douglass



Twelve year a slave

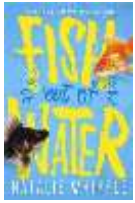


Malcolm X biography



### Grass by C Z Nightingale

A girl's life is changed when she witnesses a racial attack in which a young Asian lad is killed.



### Fish out of water by Natalie Whipple

Over one summer, seventeen year old Mika experiences prejudice towards her mixed-race family, the dementia of her estranged grandmother, and a new romance with rich-kid, Dylan.

*Note: Racial slurs and terms*



### Arctic Zoo by Robert Muchamore

Two teenagers, Georgia in England, Julius in Nigeria, end up in the same Adolescent Mental Health Unit when they become involved in very different violent political protests.

*NOTE : Includes violence, homophobia, and strong language*



### Out of Shadows by Jason Wallace

Follows the lives of boys at a boarding school in 1980s Zimbabwe, focussing on the characteristic politics and racism of the period.

*NOTE : There is a lot of hard swearing throughout, and the intrinsic racism and use of derogatory terms*



### Sisterland by Linda Newberry

An old lady, struggling with Alzheimer's Disease, is forced to face up to her past. Meanwhile, one of her granddaughters becomes aware of the inhumanity and racism around us. Intertwines experience of present-day England with flashbacks to the late 1930s and '40s in continental Europe.



### The Help by Kathryn Stockett

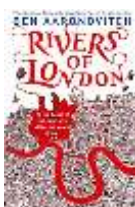
The Help recounts the story of a young white journalist Eugenia "Skeeter" Phelan and her relationship with two black maids, Aibileen Clark and Minny Jackson, during the Civil Rights Movement in 1963 Jackson, Mississippi. In an attempt to become a legitimate journalist and writer, Skeeter decides to write a book from the point of view of the maids, exposing the racism they are faced with as they work for white families.



### Pigeon English by Stephen Kelman

Follows the life of an 11-year-old Ghanaian boy living in inner city London and his ill-fated mission to find the person who knifed a boy from his school.

*Note: Contains swearing throughout, incidents of knife crime, gang violence and sexual behaviour.*



### Rivers of London by Ben Aaronovitch

Enter Peter Grant, a Police Constable for the London Metropolitan Police. One dreary night while standing guard at a crime scene a witness approaches him to give a testimony on the murder that happened there the night before.

Unfortunately for Peter that witness is himself, also dead, a ghost



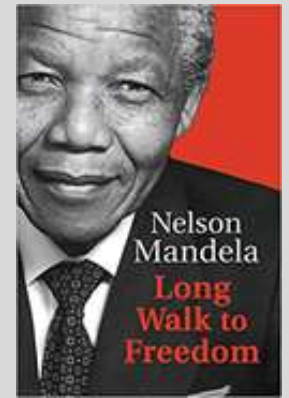
### Uncle Tom's cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe

This is the most popular, influential and controversial book written by an American. The novel gave such a terrific impetus to the crusade for the abolition of slavery that President Lincoln half-jokingly greeted Stowe as 'the little lady' who started the great Civil War. As Keith Carabine argues in his lively and provocative Introduction, the novel immediately provoked a storm of competing and contradictory responses

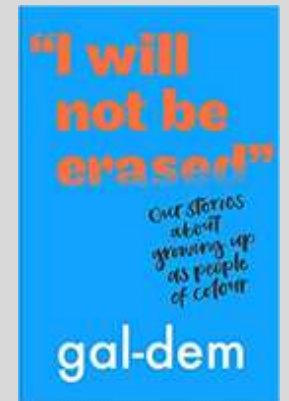


### Blue/orange by Joe Penhall (Play)

In a London psychiatric hospital, an enigmatic patient claims to be the son of an African dictator - a story that becomes unnervingly plausible. An incendiary tale of race, madness and a Darwinian power struggle at the heart of a dying National Health Service.



Long walk to freedom iconic book



I Will Not Be Erased: Our stories about growing up as people of colour by gal-dem



Dear Ljeawe!e: a feminist manifesto in fifteen suggestions



Memoirs of a Black Englishman by Paul Stephenson. Discover how Bristol bus drivers changed history in the UK IN in the 1960s.

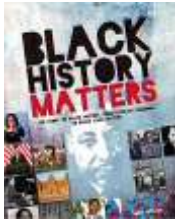
# Non-fiction

## Non-fiction titles



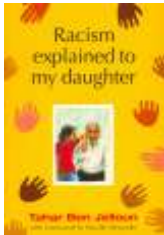
### **What is race? Who are racists? Why does skin colour matter? And other big questions by Claire Heuchan and Nikesh Shukla**

This book really tackles the topic head on, nuanced, thoughtful and thought provoking. Modern, personal case studies really bring the issues to life too. *Note: Contains a number of racial slurs, in the context of people recounting their experiences*



### **Black History Matters by Robin Walker**

It chronicles thousands of years of black history, from African kingdoms, to slavery, apartheid, the battle for civil rights and much more. Important and inspiring black personalities, from Olaudah Equiano to Oprah Winfrey, are highlighted throughout, while achievements and progress are balanced alongside a look at the issues that continue to plague black communities.



### **Racism explained to my daughter by Tahar Ben Jelloun**

When Ben Jelloun took his daughter to a street protest against anti-immigration laws in Paris, she asked question after question: "What is racism? What is discrimination?" Out of their frank discussion comes this book : Ben Jelloun has created a compelling dialogue in which he explains difficult concepts from ghettos and genocide to slavery and anti-Semitism in language we can all understand



### **Racial & ethnic discrimination (Issues 308)**

Looks at the issue of racism in the community and in the workplace and ways that racism can be tackled and challenged...



### **Racism: a very short introduction**

Racism: A Very Short Introduction incorporates the latest research to demystify the subject of racism and explore its history, science, and culture. It sheds light not only on how racism has evolved since its earliest beginnings, but will also explore the numerous embodiments of racism, highlighting the paradox of its survival, despite the scientific discrediting of the notion of 'race' with the latest advances in genetics.

## The British dimension of the issue



### **Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race by Reni Eddo-Lodge**

This is an expertly written critical analysis of what it is to be black in the UK today, talking about history, class, feminism and more, all while trying to decentre whiteness in conversations about race.



### **The Good Immigrant: a collection of essays (various writers)**

It features a multitude of British writers of colour telling their stories in their own voices, from issues around colourism to Islamophobia to cultural misappropriation to being seen as "the model minority".

## Videos and articles

Video from ABC Behind the News: [What is Black Lives Matter Really About?](#)

Translated from French.

Issues Online (vol. 308) [Free ebook here.](#)

### **Login**

Check the library KLP page [here.](#)

Racism: a very short introduction

[Free ebook here.](#)

### **Login**

Check the library KLP page [here.](#)

Interview with the author (11 mins): [Reni Eddo-Lodge: Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race](#)

Video (7 mins) [Nikesh Shukla on The Good Immigrant | 21 writers on what it means to be BAME in the UK today](#)



### **Brit(ish): On Race, Identity and Belonging by Hafua Hirsch**

You're British. Your parents are British. Your partner, your children and most of your friends are British. So why do people keep asking where you're from? We are a nation in denial about our imperial past and the racism that plagues our present. Brit(ish) is Afua Hirsch's personal and provocative exploration of how this came to be – and an urgent call for change.

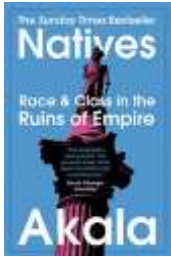
Video (8 mins) Penguin Books – [Interview with author Afua Hirsch](#)



### **Memoirs of a Black Englishman by Paul Stephenson**

Paul Stephenson led a bus boycott in Bristol in 1963 because the companies refused to hire black drivers. His memoir documents his challenges to racist practices and his attempts to bring together black and white communities.

Video (3 mins) [30th April 1963: The Bristol Bus Boycott against discriminatory recruitment begins](#)



### **Natives: Race and Class in the Ruins of Empire by Akala**

Covering everything from the police, education and identity to politics, sexual objectification and the far right, Natives speaks directly to British denial and squeamishness when it comes to confronting issues of race and class that are at the heart of the legacy of Britain's racialised empire.

Video (2 mins) [The propaganda of 'British values' is a distortion of history – Akala | In my opinion](#)



### **Black and British: A Forgotten History by David Olusoga**

In this vital re-examination of a shared history, historian and broadcaster David Olusoga tells the rich and revealing story of the long relationship between the British Isles and the people of Africa and the Caribbean. Unflinching, confronting taboos and revealing hitherto unknown scandals, Olusoga describes how the lives of black and white Britons have been entwined for centuries.

Video (3 mins) [HISTORY - Black British History - David Olusoga](#)



### **There Ain't No Black in the Union Jack: The Cultural Politics of Race and Nation by Paul Gilroy**

Gilroy demonstrates the enormous complexity of racial politics in England today. Exploring the relationships among race, class, and nation as they have evolved over the past twenty years, he highlights racist attitudes that transcend the left-right political divide. He challenges current sociological approaches to racism as well as the ethnocentric bias of British cultural studies.

Video (7 mins) [Alt History: Black British History We're Not Taught in Schools - BBC Stories](#)



### **Staying Power: the Story of Black People in Britain by Peter Fryer**

This is a panoramic history of black Britons. Stretching back to the Roman conquest, encompassing the court of Henry VIII, and following a host of characters from Mary Seacole to the abolitionist Olaudah Equiano, Fryer paints a picture of two thousand years of Black presence in Britain. First published in the 80s, amidst race riots and police brutality, Fryer's history performed a deeply political act; revealing how Africans, Asians and their descendants had long been erased from British history



### **Heart of The Race: Black Women's Lives in Britain by Beverley Bryan, Stella Dadzie, Suzanne Scafe**

A collection of academic essays examining how black women in 1980s Britain suffered at the intersection of racism and sexism. Each chapter explores a different domain of society: education, healthcare, the workplace, political movements, postcolonialism and more.



### **Darcus Howe: A Political Biography by Robin Bunce and Paul Field**

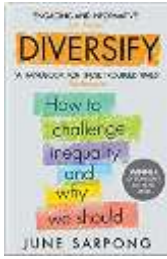
The book examines the struggle for racial justice in Britain, through the lens of one of Britain's most prominent and controversial black journalists and campaigners. The book sheds new light on Howe's leading role in the defining struggles in Britain against institutional racism in the police, the courts and the media.

**Free ebook**, available on the [Bloomsbury Open Access platform](#). Just click on the chapters (not Buy book).



### **Safe: 20 Ways to be a Black Man in Britain Today by Derek Owusu**

An anthology of powerful essays reflecting on the Black British male experience, collated and edited by Mostly Lit podcast host Derek Owusu. Including essays from top poets, writers, musicians, actors and journalists, this timely and accessible book brings together a selection of powerful reflections exploring the Black British male experience and what it really means to reclaim and hold space in the landscape of our society.



**Diversify: How to challenge inequality and why we should by June Sarpong**  
With unshakeable case studies, brand-new research from Oxford University, and six revolutionary steps to help you overcome unconscious bias, this book will help you become part of a better society.

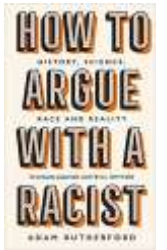
Video (3 mins) [June Sarpong - Diversify introduction](#)



### **Superior: the return of race science by Angela Saini**

Superior examines racial bias in science, past and present, arguing that science and racism have a long and close relationship. Angela Saini argues that while “race” as a concept has no scientific basis, racism in science persists to this day, not just in the hi-jacking of sound scientific studies by “alt-right” ideologues on YouTube but also in arguments made by respected scientists that represent social injustices as biological inevitabilities.

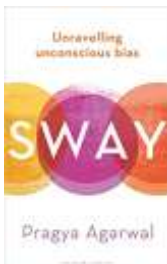
Video (6 mins) Waterstone's - [Angela Saini introduces Superior](#)



### **How to Argue With a Racist: History, Science, Race and Reality by Adam Rutherford**

This book is a vital manifesto for a twenty-first century understanding of human evolution and variation, and a timely weapon against the misuse of science to justify bigotry.

Video (4 mins) BBC Radio 4 - [How to Argue With a Racist by Adam Rutherford](#)

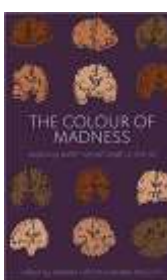


### **Sway: Unravelling Unconscious Bias by Dr Pragya Agarwal**

Much racism, like other prejudices, is unconscious, as are missed opportunities to combat discrimination. Dr Pragya Agarwal explores, without judgement, how we are often biased in ways we are entirely unaware of (and in many instances would be horrified by). These unconscious biases shape both our perceptions and our actions. Becoming aware of them helps us ensure that our thinking and behaviour reflect our values.

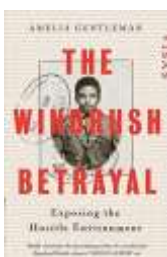
[Video book trailer](#) (45 seconds)

Video (4 mins) [Interview with the author](#)



### **The Colour Of Madness Anthology: Exploring BAME mental health in the UK**

An anthology with contributions from the BAME/PoC/BME community with experience of Mental Health Issues.



### **The Windrush Betrayal: Exposing the Hostile Environment by Amelia Gentleman**

Amelia Gentleman's exposé of the Windrush scandal shocked the nation, and led to the resignation of Amber Rudd as Home Secretary. In this book, she tells the full story of her investigation for the first time. Her writing shines a light on the people directly affected by the scandal and illustrates the devastating effect of politicians becoming so disconnected from the world outside Westminster that they become oblivious to the impact of their policy decisions. This is a vitally important account that exposes deeply disturbing truths about modern Britain.



### **Slay in Your Lane by Yomi Adegoke and Elizabeth Uviebinen**

An inspirational guide to life for a generation of black British women inspired to find success in every area of their lives.

Video (8 mins) Guardian Culture – [Interview with the authors](#)



### **It's Not About the Burqa: Muslim Women on Faith, Feminism, Sexuality and Race by Mariam Khan**

Taking one of the most politicized and misused words associated with Muslim women and Islamophobia, this book is poised to change all that. Seventeen Muslim women speaking frankly about the hijab and wavering faith, about love and divorce, about feminism, queer identity, sex, and the twin threats of a disapproving community and a racist country.

Video (2mins) Scottish Book Trust - [Mariam Khan wants to change the conversation about Muslim women](#)



### **Black, Listed: Black British Culture Explored Paperback by Jeffrey Boakye**

AFRO-CARIBBEAN. COLOURED. ETHNIC MINORITY. IMMIGRANT. BAME. URBAN. WOKE. FAM. BLACK. These are just some of the terms being wrestled with in Black, Listed, an exploration of twenty-first century Black identity told through a list of insults, insights and everything in between. Taking a panoramic look at global Black history and contemporary culture, this book investigates the ways in which Black communities (and individuals) have been represented, oppressed, mimicked, celebrated and othered.



### **Right-Wing Populism in Europe: Politics and Discourse by Ruth Wodak, Majid Khosravi-Nik and Brigitte Mral (eds)**

Right-wing populist movements and related political parties are gaining ground in many EU member states. This unique, interdisciplinary book provides an overall picture of the dynamics and development of these parties across Europe and beyond. Combining theory with in-depth case studies, it offers a comparative analysis of the policies and rhetoric of existing and emerging parties including the British BNP, the Hungarian Jobbik and the Danish Folkeparti.

**Free ebook**, available on the [Bloomsbury Open Access platform](#). Just click on the chapters (not *Buy book*).

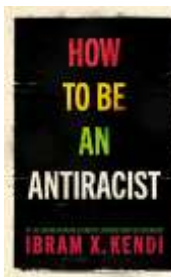
## **The American dimension of the issue**



### **So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo**

In *So You Want to Talk About Race*, Ijeoma Oluo guides readers of all races through subjects ranging from intersectionality and affirmative action to "model minorities" in an attempt to make the seemingly impossible possible: honest conversations about race and racism, and how they infect almost every aspect of American life.

Video (8 mins) [Ijeoma Oluo shares her new book](#)



### **How to Be an Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi**

In this rousing and deeply empathetic book, Ibram X. Kendi, founding director of the Antiracism Research and Policy Center, shows that when it comes to racism, neutrality is not an option: until we become part of the solution, we can only be part of the problem. Not being racist is not enough. We have to be antiracist.

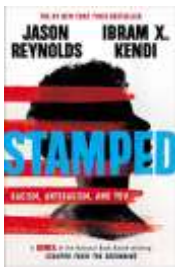
Video (2 mins) Waterstone's - [How To Be An Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi](#)



### **This Book Is Anti-Racist: 20 lessons on how to wake up, take action, and do the work by Tiffany Jewell**

Who are you? What is racism? Where does it come from? Why does it exist? What can you do to disrupt it? Learn about social identities, the history of racism and resistance against it, and how you can use your anti-racist lens and voice to move the world toward equity and liberation.

Video (5 mins) [Tiffany Jewell Reads from This Book is Anti-Racist | San Antonio Book Festival](#)



### **Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You by J. Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi**

This remarkable reimagining of Dr. Ibram X. Kendi's National Book Award-winning *Stamped from the Beginning* reveals the history of racist ideas in America, and inspires hope for an antiracist future. It takes you on a race journey from then to now, shows you why we feel how we feel, and why the poison of racism lingers. It also proves that while racist ideas have always been easy to fabricate and distribute, they can also be discredited.

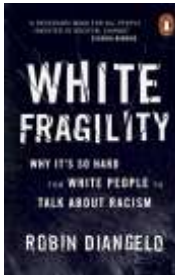
Video (7 mins) CBS interview - [Teaching kids about the complicated history of racism](#)



### **I Will Not Be Erased: Our stories about growing up as people of colour by gal-dem**

gal-dem's talented writers use raw material from their teenage years to give advice to their younger selves and those growing up today.

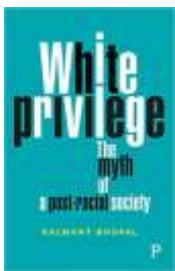
Book trailer (1 minute) | [Will Not Be Erased by gal-dem](#)



### **White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism by Robin J. DiAngelo**

Robin DiAngelo coined the term 'White Fragility' in 2011 to describe this process and is here to show us how it serves to uphold the system of white supremacy. Using knowledge and insight gained over decades of running racial awareness workshops and working on this idea as a Professor of Whiteness Studies, she shows us how we can start having more honest conversations, listen to each other better and react to feedback with grace and humility.

Video (6 mins) The Big Think - [Why "I'm not racist" is only half the story | Robin DiAngelo](#)



### **White privilege: the myth of a post-racial society by Kalwant Bhopal**

The author seeks to understand how social inequality still disproportionately affects certain communities, despite changes in the law and generational shifts that result in more people of colour being born in Britain.

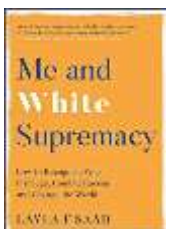
Longer video (20 mins) [Deconstructing white privilege](#)

Video (20 mins) Cambridge University - [White Privilege with Prof Kalwant Bhopal](#)



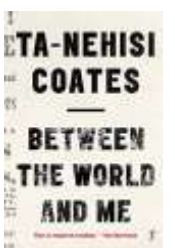
### **White rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide by Carol Anderson**

Compelling and dramatic in the unimpeachable history it relates, White Rage will add an important new dimension to the national conversation about race in America.



### **Me and White Supremacy: How to Recognise Your Privilege, Combat Racism and Change the World by Layla Saad and Robin DiAngelo**

Me and White Supremacy leads readers through a journey of understanding their white privilege and participation in white supremacy, so that they can stop (often unconsciously) inflicting damage on black, indigenous and people of color, and in turn, help other white people do better, too.



### **Between the World and Me: Letter to My Son by Ta-Nehisi Coates**

Between the World and Me is Ta-Nehisi Coates' attempt to answer questions about racism and Black history, presented in the form of a letter to his adolescent son. Coates shares with his son the story of his own awakening to the truth about history and race through a series of revelatory experiences.

Video (7 mins) CBC - [Ta-Nehisi Coates explores America's racial divide in new book](#)



### **The fire next time by James Baldwin**

James Baldwin's impassioned plea to 'end the racial nightmare' in America was a bestseller when it appeared in 1963, galvanising a nation and giving voice to the emerging civil rights movement.

Video (4 mins) TED-Ed - [Notes of a native son: The world according to James Baldwin - Christina Greer](#)





### **The fire this time: a new generation speaks about race edited by Jesmyn Ward**

This book, imagined as a response to James Baldwin's seminal 1963 essay 'The fire next time', brings together a new generation of writers and activists to speak about race and racism in present-day America.



### **The Good Immigrant USA: 26 Writers Reflect on America**

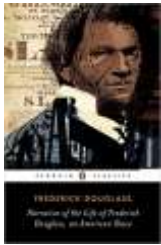
These writers, and the many others in this singular collection, share powerful personal stories of living between cultures and languages while struggling to figure out who they are and where they belong.



### **Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl by Harriet Jacobs (1861)**

This is a devastatingly effective piece of storytelling that reads like a novel. Jacobs' story of surviving slavery is so remarkable a narrative that sheds a rare light on the female experience of slavery. It's an essential read for understanding how white supremacy continues to function in America today.

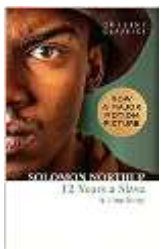
Free book available on Project Gutenberg. [Click here to download.](#)



### **Narrative of Frederick Douglass**

The pre-eminent American slave narrative published in 1845, it details the life of the abolitionist Frederick Douglass from his birth into slavery in 1818 to his escape to the North in 1838: how he endured the daily physical and spiritual brutalities of his owners and drivers, how he learned to read and write, and how he grew into a man who could only live free or die.

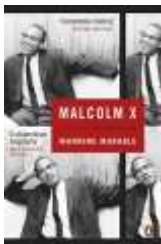
Free book available on Project Gutenberg. [Click here to download.](#)



### **Twelve years a slave: a true story by Solomon Northup**

This is the shocking first-hand account of one man's remarkable fight for freedom.

Free book available on Project Gutenberg. [Click here to download.](#)



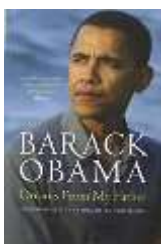
### **Malcolm X Reader: A Life of Reinvention by Mannie Marable**

Manning Marable's new biography is a stunning achievement, filled with new information and shocking revelations that will reframe the way we understand his life and work. Malcolm X unfolds a sweeping story of the darkest days of racial unrest, from the rise of the Ku Klux Klan to the struggles of the civil rights movement.



### **Long walk to freedom by Nelson Mandela**

Emotive, compelling and uplifting, this is the exhilarating story of an epic life; a story of hardship, resilience and ultimate triumph told with the clarity and eloquence of a born leader.



### **Dreams from my father: a story of race and inheritance by Barack Obama**

The son of a black African father and a white American mother, President Obama recounts an emotional odyssey. He retraces the migration of his mother's family from Kansas to Hawaii, then to his childhood home in Indonesia. Finally he travels to Kenya, where he confronts the bitter truth of his father's life and at last reconciles his divided inheritance.

Video (14 mins) [Barack Obama 1995 Interview on Dreams From My Father](#)

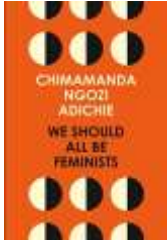


### **Becoming by Michelle Obama**

In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerizing storytelling, Michelle 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.

Video (3 mins) [Oprah selects "Becoming" by Michelle Obama for next book club](#)

### **Quick reads**



### **We should all be feminists by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie**

What does “feminism” mean today?

In this personal, eloquently argued essay – adapted from her much-admired Tedx talk of the same name – Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie offers readers a unique definition of feminism for the twenty-first century, one rooted in inclusion and awareness.

Video (7 mins) [Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie talks feminism, #MeToo movement](#)



### **Dear Ljeawele, or a Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions: The Inspiring Guide to Raising a Feminist**

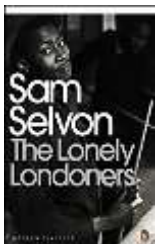
In this book, Adichie replies by letter to a friend’s request for help on how to bring up her newborn baby girl as a feminist. With its fifteen pieces of practical advice it goes right to the heart of sexual politics in the twenty-first century.



### **Race (Mini Vintage) by Toni Morrison**

An exploration of race from one of the twentieth century’s primary chroniclers of the African American experience. Includes selections from the books *Song of Solomon*, *The Bluest Eye*, *Beloved* by Toni Morrison

## **Adult / teen-friendly literature written by minority ethnic writers**



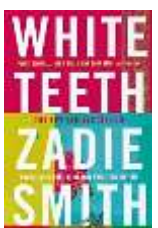
### **The Lonely Londoners by Sam Selvon**

This novel is quintessentially London: characters trying to make ends meet in the hustle and bustle of London streets and landmarks, with the hope (and at times tragedy) of progress. Written about the influx of migrants from Africa, south Asia and the Caribbean to the stretch of the legendary melting pot that is still known as the Harrow Road, trying to find that gold that they were promised.



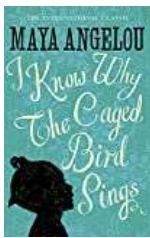
### **Small Island by Andrea Levy**

It is possibly the definitive fictional account of the experiences of the *Empire Windrush* generation.



### **White Teeth by Zadie Smith**

This is a powerful read (and also funny!) as it deals with complex issues such as race, religion, culture, science, aspirations, longing and belonging.



### **I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou**

This is the first of Maya Angelou's five volumes of autobiography, in which she evokes her childhood with her grandmother in the American south of the 1930s. She learns the power of a white skin and suffers the trauma of rape by her mother's lover.



### **The bluest eye by Toni Morrison**

Chronicles a year in the life of a young black girl growing up in Ohio in the 1940s, and the hardships she endures...



### **Beloved by Toni Morrison**

With the context of slavery and post-abolition shaping characters and events, it offers a devastatingly intimate experience of an oppressed race and is a sharp reminder that today's social injustice in the US has ugly and painful roots.



### **Girl, woman, other by Bernardine Evaristo**

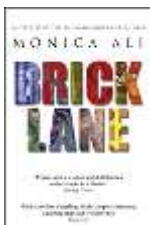
This book teems with life and crackling with energy - a love song to modern Britain and black womanhood...

Note: Award-winning book.



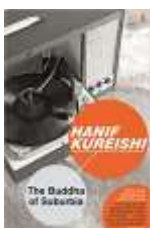
### **Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie**

Fearless, gripping, spanning three continents and numerous lives, 'Americanah' is a richly told story of love and expectation set in today's globalized world.



### **Brick Lane by Monica Ali**

Still in her teenage years, Nazneen finds herself in an arranged marriage with a disappointed older man. Away from her Bangladeshi village, home is now a cramped flat in a high-rise block in London's East End. Confined in her tiny flat, Nazneen sews furiously for a living, shut away with her buttons and linings - until the radical Karim steps unexpectedly into her life. On a background of racial conflict and tension, they embark on a love affair that forces Nazneen finally to take control of her fate.



### **The Buddha of Suburbia by Hanif Kureishi**

The hero of Hanif Kureishi's debut novel is dreamy teenager Karim, desperate to escape suburban South London and experience the forbidden fruits which the 1970s seem to offer. When the unlikely opportunity of a life in the theatre announces itself, Karim starts to win the sort of attention he has been craving - albeit with some rude and raucous results.



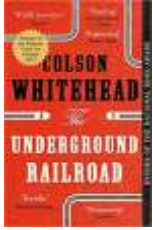
### **We need new names by NoViolet Bulawayo**

An African-American woman describes her life as a 10-year-old in Zimbabwe during its so-called Lost Decade and then her life as a teenager in present-day America...



### **The Sellout by Paul Beatty**

This is a satirical book that is shocking, controversial, and brutally honest right from the first page. The book is about a young man's isolated upbringing, his attempt at re-instated slavery and segregation where he lives and the race trial that sends him to the Supreme Court. Award-winning book.



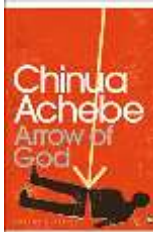
### **The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead**

Cora is a slave on a cotton plantation in Georgia. When Caesar, a slave recently arrived from Virginia, tells her about the Underground Railroad, they take the perilous decision to escape to the North. This is at once the story of one woman's ferocious will to escape the horrors of bondage and a shatteringly powerful meditation on history.



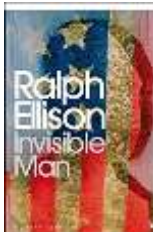
### **The color purple by Alice Walker**

The classic, Pulitzer-Prize winning novel that made Alice Walker a household name...



### **Arrow of God by Chinua Achebe**

Achebe's masterpiece is a beautiful, profoundly engaging novel which explores the complex entanglements of history – the mapping of the space that is Africa and the time that is the era of empire – and the tragic implications of Europe's invasion of the continent.



### **Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison**

It follows a young unnamed narrator through his time at a prestigious black university and his later involvement with black nationalist activism in New York.



### **Black Boy: a record of youth and childhood by Richard Wright**

It is an inspiring story about overcoming barriers, diversity/segregation in the American South, which still resonates today.



### **Notes of a native son by James Baldwin**

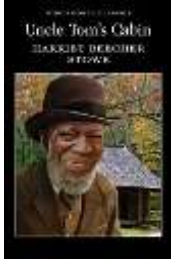
James Baldwin's breakthrough essay collection made him the voice of his generation. Ranging over Harlem in the 1940s, movies, novels, his preacher father and his experiences of Paris, they capture the complexity of black life at the dawn of the civil rights movement with effervescent wit and prophetic wisdom.



### **Their eyes were watching God by Zora Neale Hurston**

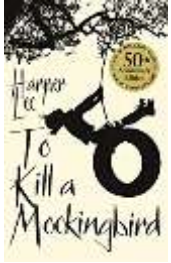
This is a brilliant nuanced novel about race in the US, gender roles and endurance. When Janie, at sixteen, is caught kissing shiftless Johnny Taylor, her grandmother swiftly marries her off to an old man with sixty acres. Janie endures two stifling marriages before meeting the man of her dreams, who offers not diamonds, but a packet of flowering seeds ...

## Inclusive literature that deal racism and discrimination



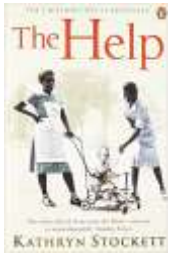
### Uncle Tom's cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe

This is the most popular, influential and controversial book written by an American. The novel gave such a terrific impetus to the crusade for the abolition of slavery that President Lincoln half-jokingly greeted Stowe as 'the little lady' who started the great Civil War. As Keith Carabine argues in his lively and provocative Introduction, the novel immediately provoked a storm of competing and contradictory responses. **Free ebook on [Project Gutenberg](#).**



### To kill a mockingbird by Harper Lee

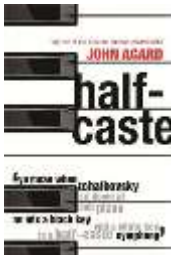
To Kill a Mockingbird is a coming-of-age story, an anti-racist novel, a historical drama of the Great Depression and a sublime example of the Southern writing tradition.



### The Help by Kathryn Stockett

The Help recounts the story of a young white journalist Eugenia "Skeeter" Phelan and her relationship with two black maids, Aibileen Clark and Minny Jackson, during the Civil Rights Movement in 1963 Jackson, Mississippi. In an attempt to become a legitimate journalist and writer, Skeeter decides to write a book from the point of view of the maids, exposing the racism they are faced with as they work for white families.

## Poetry



### Half-caste by John Agard

A collection of poems, many on the theme of race...

Video - [John Agard performs his poem Half-Caste](#)



### She is fierce: brave, bold and beautiful poems by women by Ana Sampson

A stunning gift book containing 150 bold, brave and beautiful poems by women - from classic, well loved poets to innovative and bold modern voices. From suffragettes to school girls, from spoken word superstars to civil rights activists, from aristocratic ladies to kitchen maids, these are voices that deserve to be heard.

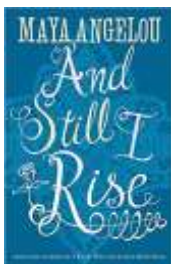


### The Black Flamingo by Dean Atta (for 15+ students)

A boy comes to terms with his identity as a mixed-race gay teen - then at university he finds his wings as a drag artist.

*NOTE : Strong language throughout; discussion of sex and sexual preferences though nothing graphic. Narrative in verse.*

Video (5 mins) [The Black Flamingo by Dean Atta](#)



### And Still I Rise by Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou's poetry - lyrical and dramatic, exuberant and playful - speaks of love, longing, partings; of Saturday night partying, and the smells and sounds of Southern cities; of freedom and shattered dreams.

Video (2 mins) [Maya Angelou performs the poem "Still I rise"](#)

This is a list of poets who were or are people of colour:

**Audre Lorde** <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/audre-lorde>

**Ben Okri** <https://benokri.co.uk/>

**Benjamin Zephaniah** <https://benjaminzephaniah.com/>

**Danez Smith** <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/danez-smith>

**Deanna Rodger** <https://www.deannarodger.co.uk/>

**Derek Walcott** <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/derek-walcott>

**Erica Hunt** <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/erica-hunt>

**Grace Nichols** <https://poetryarchive.org/poet/grace-nichols/>

**Gwendolyn Brooks** <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/gwendolyn-brooks>

**James Baldwin** <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/james-baldwin>

**James Berry** <https://poetryarchive.org/poet/james-berry/>

**Jericho Brown** <https://www.jerichobrown.com/>

**John Agard** <https://poetryarchive.org/poet/john-agard/> John

**Warner Smith** <http://johnwarnersmith.com/>

**June Jordan** <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/june-jordan>

**Karisma Price** <https://www.karismaprice.com/>

**Kiki Petrosino** <http://www.kikipetrosino.com/>

**Langston Hughes** <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/langston-hughes> **Lucille Clifton**

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/lucille-clifton>

**Maya Angelou** <https://www.mayaangelou.com/>

**Nikky Finney** <http://nikkyfinney.net/>

**Porsha Olayiwola** <http://www.porshaolayiwola.com/poems>

**Raymond Antrobus** <http://www.raymondantrobus.com/>

**Rita Dove** <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/rita-dove>

**Valerie Bloom** <https://valeriebloom.co.uk/>