

Anti-Racism Resources

Books:

[This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation and the Stories that Make Us](#)

Cole Arthur Riley

Genre: Non-fiction/memoir/Christian

Cole Arthur Riley reflects on the stories of her grandmother and father, inviting the reader to descend into their own stories, examine their capacity to rest, wonder, joy, rage, and repair, and find that their humanity is not an enemy to faith but evidence of it.

[James Baldwin: Collected Essays](#)

James Baldwin; Toni Morrison (editor)

Genre: Non-fiction/essays

James Baldwin's brilliant and provocative essays made him the literary voice of the Civil Rights Era, and they continue to speak with powerful urgency to us today.

[I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness](#)

Austin Channing Brown

Genre: Non-fiction/memoir

For readers who have engaged with America's legacy on race through the writing of Ta-Nehisi Coates and Michael Eric Dyson, *I'm Still Here* is an illuminating look at how white, middle-class, Evangelicalism has participated in an era of rising racial hostility, inviting the reader to confront apathy, recognize God's ongoing work in the world, and discover how blackness—if we let it—can save us all.

[The Person You Mean to Be](#)

Dolly Chugh

Genre: Non-fiction

A guide for how to be an ally in confronting sexism, racism, inequality, and injustice in order to make the world (and yourself) better.

[Between the World and Me](#)

Ta-Nehisi Coates

Genre: Non-fiction/memoir

What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden? *Between the World and Me* is Ta-Nehisi Coates's attempt to answer these questions in a letter to his adolescent son.

[The Cross and the Lynching Tree](#)

James Cone

Genre: Non-fiction/Christian

James Cone recognizes this profound paradox of the cross and argues that the cross ought to serve as the paradigmatic symbol through which one can talk about being both black and Christian in America. In *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*, Cone does this systematically and

reflectively, simultaneously looking backwards and forwards, offering a resting place for black America to leave its burdens and providing a path for a better, more united America.

[We Are Charleston: Tragedy and Triumph at Mother Emanuel](#)

Herb Frazier, Dr. Bernard Edward Powers Jr., Marjory Wentworth

Genre: Non-fiction/history

We Are Charleston tells the story of a people, continually beaten down, who seem to continually triumph over the worst of adversity. Exploring the storied history of the A.M.E. Church may be a way of explaining the price and power of forgiveness, a way of revealing God's mercy in the midst of tremendous pain.

[Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and Its Urgent Lessons for Our Own](#)

Eddie S. Glaude Jr.

Genre: Non-fiction/biography

A mix of biography—drawn partially from newly uncovered Baldwin interviews—with history, memoir, and poignant analysis of our current moment, *Begin Again* reveals the painful cycle of Black resistance and white retrenchment and offers an interrogation of what we must ask of ourselves in order to call forth a new America.

[The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together](#)

Heather McGhee

Genre: Non-Fiction

From the financial crisis of 2008 to rising student debt to collapsing public infrastructure, economist Heather McGhee has found a root problem: racism in our politics and policymaking. But not just in the most obvious indignities for people of color. Racism has costs for white people, too. It is the common denominator of our most vexing public problems, the core dysfunction of our democracy and constitutive of the spiritual and moral crises that grip us all. But how did this happen? And is there a way out?

[So You Want to Talk about Race?](#)

Ijeoma Oluo

Genre: Non-fiction

Ijeoma Oluo guides readers of all races through subjects ranging from police brutality and cultural appropriation to the model minority myth in an attempt to make the seemingly impossible possible: honest conversations about race, and about how racism infects every aspect of American life.

[You'll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey: Crazy Stories about Racism](#)

Amber Ruffin

Genre: Non-fiction/humor/essays

Sisters Amber and Lacey share entertainingly horrifying stories through their laugh-out-loud sisterly banter. Painfully relatable or shockingly eye-opening, this book tackles modern-day racism with the perfect balance of levity and gravity (and many of the stories are set in Amber's hometown of Omaha).

[The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church's Complicity in Racism](#)

Jemar Tisby

Genre: None-fiction/Christian

The Color of Compromise details how the American church has helped create and maintain racist ideas and charts a path forward to replace established patterns and systems of complicity with bold, courageous, immediate action.

[Jesus and the Disinherited](#)

Howard Thurman

Genre: Non-fiction/Christian

In this classic theological treatise -- famously known as the text that Martin Luther King Jr. sought inspiration from in the days leading up to the Montgomery bus boycott -- the acclaimed theologian and religious leader Howard Thurman (1900-1981) demonstrates how the gospel may be read as a manual of resistance for the poor and disenfranchised.

[Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents](#)

Isabel Wilkerson

Genre: Non-fiction

Linking the caste systems of America, India, and Nazi Germany, Wilkerson explores eight pillars that underlie caste systems across civilizations, including divine will, bloodlines, stigma, and more. Using riveting stories about people—including Martin Luther King, Jr., baseball's Satchel Paige, a single father and his toddler son, Wilkerson herself, and many others—she shows the ways that the insidious undertow of caste is experienced every day and how our history has been shaped by a rigid hierarchy of human rankings.