

## Reynolds Media Center Resources Black History Month 2022

### Audiobooks (highlights)

#### Non-fiction

[\*Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America 1619-2019\*](#), ed. by Ibram X. Kendi (2021)

A unique “community” history of African Americans. The editors, Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain, have assembled ninety brilliant writers, each of whom takes on a five-year period of that four-hundred-year span.

[\*Hidden Figures: The American Dream And The Untold Story Of The Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win The Space Race\*](#) by Margot Lee Shetterly (2016)

Set amid the civil rights movement, this is the never-before-told true story of NASA’s African American female mathematicians who worked as ‘Human Computers’ in America’s space program to calculate the flight paths that would enable astronauts to walk on the moon.

[\*My Life, My Love, My Legacy\*](#) by Coretta Scott King

The life story of King—wife of Martin Luther King Jr., founder of the King Center for Nonviolent Social Change, and singular twentieth-century American civil rights activist.

[\*The New Jim Crow\*](#) by Michelle Alexander (2010)

The author, a litigator turned legal scholar, presents her argument for characterizing our current U.S. criminal justice system as our society’s latest system of racial control.

[\*They Can’t Kill Us All\*](#) by Wesley Lowery (2016)

A behind-the-scenes account of the #blacklivesmatter movement, including background on the founders; the racially charged controversies that have motivated members; and the economic, political, and personal histories that inform its purpose.



#### Fiction

[\*The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman\*](#) by Ernest Gaines (1971)

Gaines’s now-classic novel—written as an autobiography—spans one hundred years of Miss Jane’s remarkable life, from her childhood as a slave on a Louisiana plantation to the Civil Rights era of the 1960s.

[\*Mrs. Wiggins\*](#) by Mary Monroe (2021)

*New York Times* bestselling author Mary Monroe returns to the Deep South Depression-era town of her scandalous Mama Ruby series, in this tale of a woman determined to have a respectable life—and do anything to keep it.

[\*The Nickel Boys\*](#) by Colson Whitehead (2019)

Whitehead brilliantly dramatizes another strand of American history through the story of two boys unjustly sentenced to a hellish reform school in Jim Crow-era Florida.

[\*Passing\*](#) by Nella Larsen (1929)

The story of two light-skinned black women who have known each other since childhood. One remains in the black community in Harlem, the other decides to “pass” as white, even marrying a white, racist man.

[\*The Water Dancer\*](#) by Ta-Nehisi Coates (2019)

Hiram Walker was born into bondage but gifted with a mysterious power. When Hiram almost drowns in a river, that power saves his life, and he decides to try to escape from the only home he’s ever known.

[\*Wild Seed\*](#) by Octavia Butler (Book One of the Patternist Series) (1980)

In this brilliant sci-fi/fantasy story, Doro and Anyanwu “chase each other across continents and centuries ... changing the destiny of the human race.” (Viola Davis)