Reynolds Media Center Resources
Black History Month 2022

Audiobooks (highlights)

Non-fiction

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.

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)