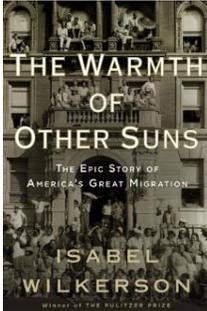


Black History Month

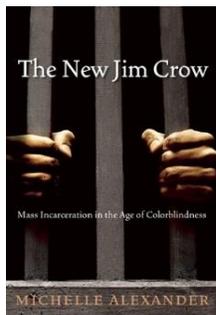
A few good books to celebrate and honor Black History Month.

Non-Fiction



[The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration](#) by Isabel Wilkerson

Pulitzer Prize–winning author Isabel Wilkerson chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life.



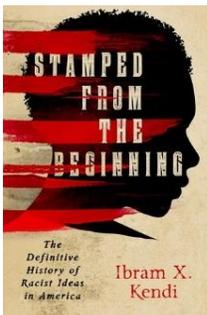
[The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness](#) by Michelle Alexander

Former litigator-turned-legal-scholar Michelle Alexander’s groundbreaking book shows the ways that America’s “War on Drugs” has been targeting black men and decimating communities of color for decades, and essentially functions as a contemporary system of racial control.



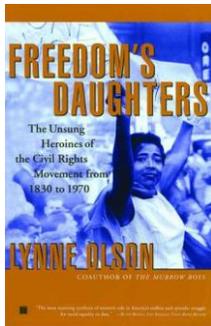
[March](#) (series) by John Lewis, Andre Aydin and Nate Powell

This graphic novel trilogy is a vivid first-hand account of John Lewis lifelong struggle for civil and human rights. Rooted in Lewis personal story, it also reflects on the highs and lows of the broader civil rights movement. This series was The Vermont Humanities Council’s 2019 Vermont Reads Pick.



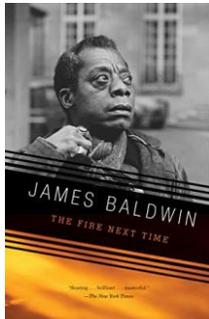
[Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America](#) by Ibram X. Kendi

Ibram X. Kendi uses the lives of five major American intellectuals to illustrate the entire story of anti–Black racist ideas and their staggering power over the course of American history. Or try the Young Adult version, [Stamped: Racism, Antiracism and You](#), written with Jason Reynolds.



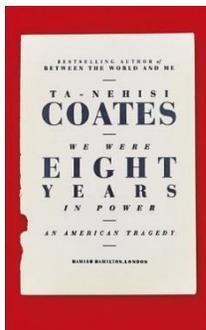
[Freedom's Daughters: The Unsung Heroines of the Civil Rights Movement from 1830 to 1970](#) by Lynne Olson

The first comprehensive history of the vital role women played in the civil right's movement. Includes portraits of more than 60 women, some well-known and some never before written about.



[The Fire Next Time](#) by James Baldwin

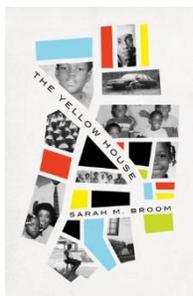
A classic work from one of our nation's most powerful writers.



[We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy](#)

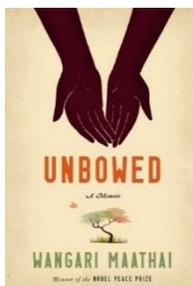
by Ta-Nehisi Coates

This collection of essays from Coate's time writing for *The Atlantic* is filled with his reflections on history, and how that history brought us through the Obama presidency and into the election of Donald Trump.



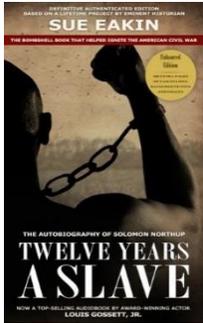
[The Yellow House](#) by Sarah Broom

This National Book Award winner is both a deeply personal account of Bloom's childhood and family, and an honest account of the devastation that Hurricane Katrina wracked on the Black communities in New Orleans.



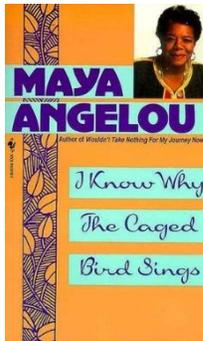
[Unbowed](#) by Wangari Maathai

Wangari Maathai, the winner of the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize and a single mother of three, recounts her extraordinary life as a political activist, feminist, and environmentalist in Kenya.



[Twelve Years a Slave](#) by Solomon Northup

Originally published in 1853, this haunting memoir of a free man, kidnapped and sold into slavery, is itself a piece of history.



[I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings](#) by Maya Angelou

This classic memoir is the first volume of Maya Angelou's autobiography series.

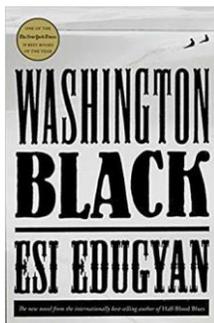
Fiction

Sometimes we can get a good dose of history by curling up with a good novel. Try one of these...



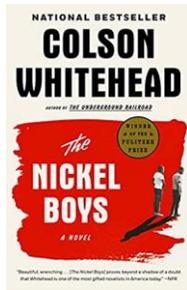
[The Color Purple](#) by Alice Walker

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award, this classic novel depicts the lives of African American women in early twentieth-century rural Georgia.



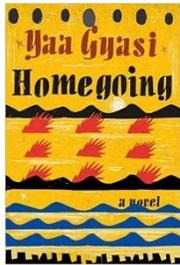
[Washington Black](#) by Esi Edugyan

Washington Black is an eleven-year-old field slave raised on a Barbados sugar plantation. His master's eccentric brother - a naturalist, explorer, scientist, inventor, and abolitionist - chooses him to be his manservant. Thus begins an adventure, and a lifelong connection.



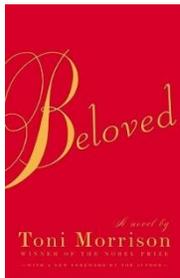
[The Nickel Boys](#) by Colson Whitehead

Winner of the 2020 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, this novel is set in 1960's Tallahassee, and is based on the real story of a brutalizing reform school that operated for 111 years.



[Homegoing](#) by Yaa Gyasi

A novel that traces two families through 300 years of history, in Ghana and in America.



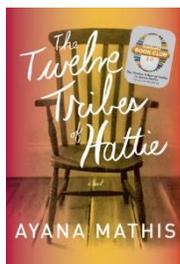
[Beloved](#) by Toni Morrison

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, this Toni Morrison classic is a portrait of a woman haunted by the past.



[The Vanishing Half](#) by Brit Bennett

Weaving together multiple strands and generations of a family, from the Deep South to California, from the 1950s to the 1990s, this novel follows twin sisters who live in different worlds.



[The Twelve Tribes of Hattie](#) by Ayana Mathis

The story of the children of the Great Migration through the trials of one unforgettable family.