So you want to learn about race?

Compiled with efforts to help one’s understanding of racism, with emphasis on anti-Black racism.

Please note this list is not exhaustive, rather a sample to broaden and deepen one’s own learning journey.

*denotes a Canadian resource

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# Table of Contents

- **Books (non-fiction and fiction)** ........................................... 3
- **Biographies and Personal Narratives** ................................. 6
- **Black LGBT2SQ+ Literature** ................................................ 7
- **Black Feminist Literature** .................................................... 8
- **Letters from Black Canadians** ............................................. 9
- **Resource lists for kids and youth** ..................................... 10
- **TV Shows and Movies** ....................................................... 11
Books (non-fiction and novels)

- Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi. Americanah
- Alexander, M. The New Jim Crow
- Austin, David. Fear of a Black Nation: Race, sex and security in sixties Montreal
- Baldwin, James. (1955). Notes of a Native Son
- Clarke, Austin. The Polished Hoe
- Cooper, Afua. The Hanging of Angélique
- Cole, Desmond. The Skin We’re In: A year of Black resistance and power
- Colvin, Jeffrey. Africville: A novel
Books

- Diangelo, Robin. White fragility: Why it's so hard for white people to talk about racism
- Diverlus, Hudson, Ware. Until We Are Free: Reflections on Black Lives Matter in Canada *
- Edo-Lodge, Reni. Why I’m No Longer Talking To White People About Race
- Foster, Cecil. They Call Me George: The untold story of Black train porters and the birth of modern Canada *
- Muhammed, K.G. The Condemnation of Blackness: Race, crime and the making of modern urban America
- Hill, Lawrence. The Book of Negroes *
- Kendi, Ibram. Stamped from the Beginning
- Kendi, Ibram. How to be an Anti-Racist
- Maynard, Robyn. Policing Black Lives: State violence in Canada from slavery to present. *
Books

- Metz, J. Dying of Whiteness
- Morrison, Toni. Beloved
- Oluo, Ijeoma. So You Want to Talk about Race
- Philip, M. NourbeSe. Blank: Essays and Interviews *
- Reynolds, Graham. Viola Desmond’s Canada *
- Rothstein, R. The Color of Law
- Saad, Layla F. Me and White Supremacy
- Umrigar, Thrity. Everybody’s Son
- Walcott, R. Black Like Who?: Writing Black Canada*
- Wilkerson, I. The Warmth of Other Sun
Biographies and Personal Narratives

- Alexander, Lincoln. Go To School, You’re a Little Black Boy*
- Angelou, Maya. I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.
- Baldwin, James. The Fire Next Time
- Brand, Dionne. Bread Out of Stone: Recollections, Sex, Recognitions, Race, Dreaming, Politics.*
- Coates, T. Between the World and Me.
- Keys, Alicia. More Myself: A journey (unabridged)
- Mandela, Nelson. Long Walk to Freedom
- Obama, Michelle. Becoming
- Noah, Trevor. Born a Crime: Stories from a South African childhood
Black LGBT2SQ+ Literature

- Baldwin, James. Giovanni’s Room
- Carruthers, Charlene. Unapologetic: A Black, queer, and feminist mandate for radical movements
- Chin, Staceyann. Other Side Paradise
- Lorde, Audre. Zami: A new spelling of my name
- McKenzie, Mia. The Summer We Got Free
- Moore, Darnell L. No Ashes In The Fire
- Purnell, Brontez. Since I Laid My Burden Down
- Taylor, Brandon. Real Life
- Walcott, Rinaldo. Queer Returns.
Black Feminist Literature

- Collins, Patricia Hill. Black Feminist Thought
- Cooper, Brittney. Eloquent Rage: A Black feminist discovers her superpower
- Davis, Angela. Women Race Class
- hooks, bell. Ain’t I a Woman: Black women and feminism
- Gay, Roxane. Bad Feminist
- Lorde, Audre. Sister Outsider
- Taylor, Keeanga-Yamahtta. How We Get Free
- Walker, Alice. In Search of our Mothers’ Gardens
Letters from Black Canadians (a series in Macleans*, June 2020)

- Desmond Cole
- Andray Domise
- Esi Edugyan
- Lawrence Hill
- Sandy Hudson
- Eternity Martis
- Rinaldo Walcott
- Ian Williams

Sandy Hudson, co-founder of Black Lives Matter - Toronto
Resources for kids and youth

• List compiled by Indigo for kids (with some Canadian content)
• List compiled by Indigo for youth (with some Canadian content)
• List of books for kids & youth compiled by A Different Booklist that centres on Blackness, Indigeneity, racism and activism (A Black-owned bookstore in Toronto)
• List on books about race and anti-Black racism from Essence magazine
• CNN/Sesame Street Town Hall on Racism – June 6, 2020
• Instagram accounts to follow: @theconsciouskid @teaching_tolerance
Films/tv shows/media

- The Akua Benjamin Legacy Project: celebrating 50 years of Black activism *
- The 13th (Documentary) — Netflix
- American Son (Movie) — Netflix
- The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution (Documentary) — Rent
- Dear White People (TV Show & Movie) — Netflix & Rent
- The Death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson (Documentary) — Netflix
- Do The Right Thing (Movie) — Rent
- Fruitvale Station (Movie) — Rent
- The Hate U Give (Movie) — HBO
- I Am Not Your Negro (Documentary) — Rent
- If Beale Street Could Talk (Movie) — Amazon Prime/ Rent
- Just Mercy (Movie) — Rent
Films/tv shows/media

• The Kalief Browder Story (Documentary) — Netflix
• Little Fires Everywhere - Amazon Prime
• Loving (Movie) — Rent
• Moonlight — Netflix
• Mudbound (Movie) — Netflix
• The Murder of Fred Hampton (Documentary) — Rent
• Reconstruction: America After the Civil War (TV Series) — PBS
• Rest In Power: The Trayvon Martin Story — Rent
• Selma (Movie) — Rent
• Teach Us All (Documentary) — Netflix
• The Book of Negroes — CBC *
• When They See Us (Television Series) — Netflix

• Understanding Black Stories – Free movie offerings from Cineplex (some of the titles listed above are also being offered here)