2024
Reading Program
Programa De Lectura
독서 프로그램

United
Women
in Faith



May 2023

Dear United Women in Faith Readers,

Blessings to you and greetings!

I am writing to you from a new space, as our family moved this year. There are lots of tasks associated with moving and most of them are, in my opinion, a bit of a slog. Negotiating a new lease, a lot of scrubbing, packing and unpacking an embarrassing number of cardboard boxes—these are all a necessary part of changing homes, yet none rank high on my personal "Sounds Like Fun" list.

There is, however, one administrative task of moving that I've long cherished: the ritual of getting a new local public library card. This year's visit was particularly special because I was joined by my son, who, for the first time, got a library card of his own. He's not old enough to read, though he does have a few books memorized well enough that he may fool an extremely gullible novice. Still, like so many young children, even before he has learned to decode the letters and words himself, he has come to appreciate the great gift of books. He revels in the many worlds contained within a handful of paper glued between a couple flaps of cardboard. He remains ever ready to cram in "just one more" before bedtime.



Maybe, at whatever age, you, too, are trying to fit in "just a few more pages" before lights out. Who would blame you?

Low-tech and affordable, books remain an incomparable tool in our spiritual toolbox. Reading can offer us solace and adventure, a balm for the heart, and challenge to the mind, a chance to journey far afield and a chance, ultimately, to come home to our own deepest selves. Amid the many changes that life inevitably brings, books remain a powerful companion.

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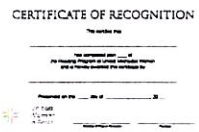
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GENERAL FAQs



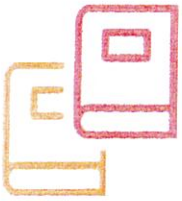
- **Where can I find the books?**

  You can access books at your public library, from your local bookstore, or through an online retailer. Starting this year, you can also purchase most of the 2024 Reading Program books at bookshop.org/shop/uwfaith. United Women in Faith receives 10% back on all purchases from our virtual shelves.



- **How do I earn a Reading Program certificate?**

  Recognition of Reading Program participation is handled at the district and/or conference level of United Women in Faith. Please reach out to your district/conference leadership team for the relevant details about where and when to submit your reporting form to receive recognition for completing one of the reading plans.



- **What resources support intergenerational learning?**

  The 2024 list includes four intergenerational book "sets," where an adult book is paired with a companion book to facilitate intergenerational reading and learning for youth or children. Book sets include *Blessed Youth, Braiding Sweetgrass, Carved in Ebony, and The 1619 Project.*

- **How can I recommend a book?**

  If you would like to suggest a book for consideration for a future Reading Program catalog, you can do so using the link available at uwfaith.org/read.



- **How can I learn about upcoming events and keep connected to the community?**
  - If you would like to join our mailing list, scan here or visit bit.ly/RPMailList.
  - We also invite you to join us in the Reading Enthusiasts discussion group on Mighty Networks where you can post, learn about upcoming events, and share with others about your favorite books.
    - For people who are new to Mighty Networks: bit.ly/reading-enthusiasts.
    - For people who are already on Mighty Networks: bit.ly/reading-enthusiasts-MN.

BONUS BOOKS



We are happy to recommend four 2024 Bonus Books. Each Bonus Book counts for 2 Reading Program reporting credits. This year's Bonus Books are organized around the theme Love Your Neighbor.

Love Your Neighbor in the World

These thought-provoking, challenging, and inspiring books invite us into a deeper understanding of U.S. history, our relationships with one another, and our relationship with the natural world.

- *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants,* by Robin Wall Kimmerer.
- *The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story* by Nikole Hannah-Jones.

Both books have a companion volume for younger readers, which is also included in the 2024 Reading Program: *Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults* (for youth) and *The 1619 Project: Born on the Water* (for children). You may want to explore possibilities for intergenerational reading and study in your church or at your local unit, where adults and children/youth read parallel texts and engage together in discussion about the books' themes.

Love Your Neighbor in The United Methodist Church

These books, both published by Abingdon (UMC publishing house), highlight the experiences of United Methodist leaders, and invite us into timely deep reflection about how to love our neighbor and ourselves in our United Methodist Church.

- *Our Strangely Warmed Hearts: Coming Out into God's Call,* by Karen P. Oliveto.
- *I'm Black. I'm Christian. I'm Methodist,* edited by Rudy Rasmus.

Both books explore The United Methodist Church's recent history and present challenges and possibilities through engaging personal testimonies, biblical reflection, and historical insight. Each book includes multiple voices and varied stories, since there are many experiences of what it means to be a United Methodist. You may want to explore possibilities for a group study on United Methodism, where the group reads and discusses both books as a form of deeper engagement with the vital questions facing our denomination today. We may not agree with every perspective we read, but we believe these voices are powerful and worth lifting for such a time as this.

READING PROGRAM
PLANS

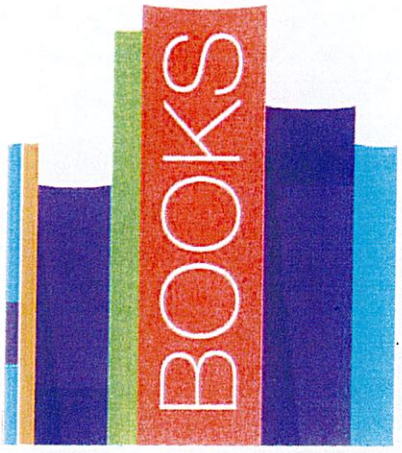
Eligible years: For 2023, books from the 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021–2022, and 2023 Reading Program lists are all eligible for Reading Program reporting credit, if you have not previously read them.

PLAN I
- 5 books each year.
- 1 book from each category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of response magazine.

PLAN II
- 10 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of response magazine.

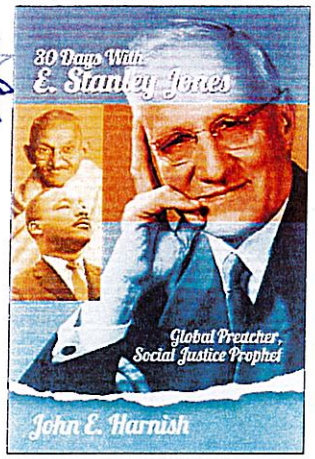
PLAN III
- 15 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- PLUS 5 additional books from any category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of response magazine.

PLAN IV
- 20 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- PLUS 10 additional books from any category
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of response magazine.



Books can be purchased directly from the retailer of your choice, from **bookshop.org/shop/uwfaith**, or borrowed from your local public library.

For books on previous reading lists go to: **uwfaith.org/resources/reading-program**

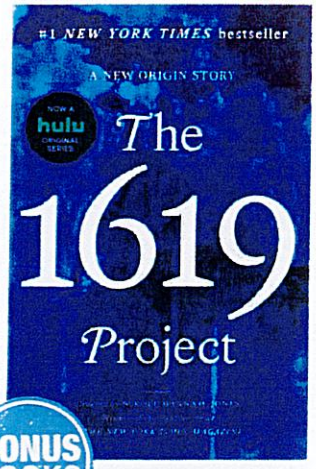


30 DAYS WITH E STANLEY JONES: GLOBAL PREACHER, SOCIAL JUSTICE PROPHET

JOHN HARNISH

READTHE SPIRIT BOOKS (2022)

Dive into 30 short, inspiring true stories about the life of E. Stanley Jones (1884-1973), described as the "greatest missionary since Saint Paul" in his day. Twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his ministry work in India, Jones was an author, statesman, interfaith leader, and a spokesman for peace, racial inclusion, and social justice. His work brought him into close contact with Mahatma Gandhi and other Indian leaders, and his writings are said to have influenced Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s nonviolent approach to injustice. Here, Harnish illustrates the timeless, loving wisdom that Jones believed lay at the core of Christianity.



BONUS BOOKS

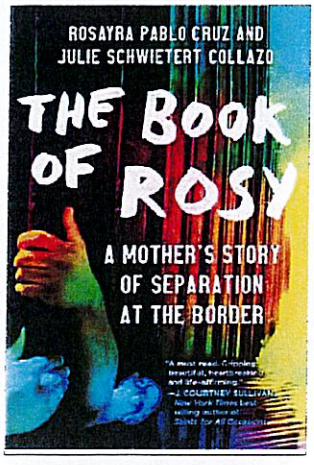
THE 1619 PROJECT: A NEW ORIGIN STORY (FOR ADULTS)

NIKOLE HANNAH-JONES

RANDOM HOUSE/ONE WORLD (2021)

The 1619 Project is an exploration of the meaning and overall impact of slavery on American life. Produced in August 2019, the 400-year anniversary of the arrival of the first enslaved people to Virginia, it retells United States history through essays, photos, and podcasts. Ultimately, The 1619 Project addresses the impact of slavery on the nation's foundational ideals, economy, health care system, racial segregation, music, and more, examining the systems of race and caste that still operate in America today.

SET- Check out the children's version of this book on page 9 of this catalog.

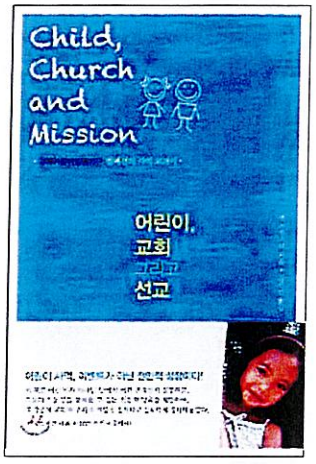


THE BOOK OF ROSY: A MOTHER'S STORY OF SEPARATION AT THE BORDER

ROSAYRA PABLO CRUZ AND JULIE SCHWIETERT

HARPERONE (2020)

This wrenching story shares the plight of the many families separated at the United States and Mexico border. Here, Rosayra "Rosy" Pablo Cruz pens her agonizing tale of seeking asylum in the U.S. after fleeing her home country of Guatemala with her two young boys. After the brutal journey, they arrived at the Arizona border—only to be seized and forcibly separated under the Department of Homeland Security's new "zero tolerance" policy. She shares her painful but inspiring story about the cruelty of detention and the unbearable agony of being separated from her children in a strange land.



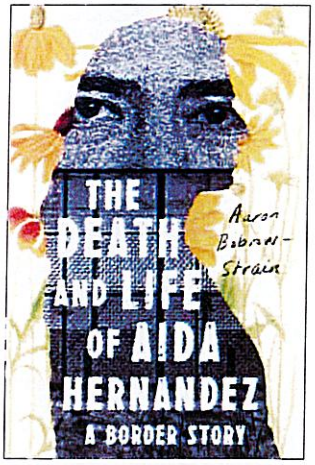
어린이, 교회 그리고 선교…김진선 역…..
CHILD, CHURCH AND MISSION

DAN BREWSTER

THE PFDION MISSION (2014)

Penned by longtime Compassion International child ministry expert Dan Brewster, this book addresses the topic of ministry to children in totality, ultimately focusing on the most critical issues and needs. It practically examines how to reach, equip, and empower children to maximize their transformational impact and mobilize them for continuing impact throughout the rest of their lives. As Brewster notes, God often accomplishes the work of the kingdom of God through the very special abilities of the children. The book is lauded as a resource for ministers, seminarians, teachers, and other child advocates.

Book available in Korean, some also available in English.

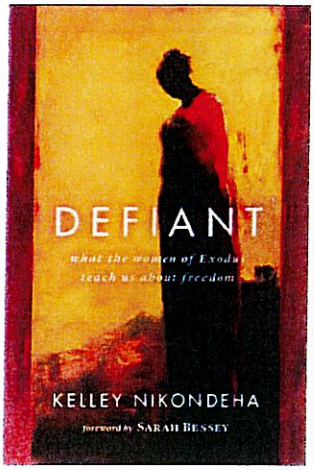


THE DEATH AND LIFE OF AIDA HERNANDEZ: A BORDER STORY

AARON BOBROW-STRAIN

FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX/PICADOR (2019)

This book tells the story of a Mexican teen mother, Aida, journeying through the U.S. immigration system and the obstacles she faces. Aida was born in Mexico in 1987. When Aida was 8 years old, her mother took her and her siblings to live in Arizona, where she grew up undocumented. After her deportation, Aida found herself in a Mexican city marked by violence, in a country not hers, and separated from her son. To get back to the United States and reunite with her son, she embarked on a harrowing journey, enduring detention centers, immigration courts, and more.

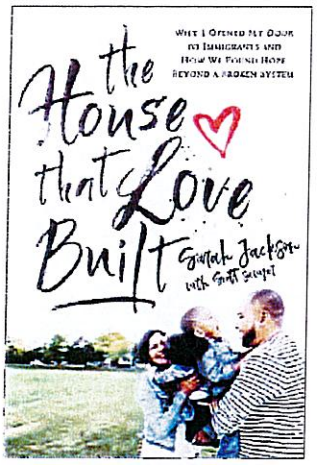


DEFIANT: WHAT THE WOMEN OF EXODUS TEACH US ABOUT FREEDOM

KELLY NIKONDEHA

EERDMANS (2020)

The women of Exodus defied Pharaoh, raised Moses, and plundered Egypt. They summoned courage, harnessed intelligence, and gathered resources to enact justice in many small ways and overturned an empire. Today, women find themselves in similar circumstances. *Defiant* reflects on the resistance literature of Exodus and what it has to offer women, as well as the deep work women do to create conditions for liberation in their church, community, and country. Nikondeha shares how what the women of Exodus accomplished under the oppression of Pharaoh might unlock for us as we imagine our mandate under modern systems of injustice.

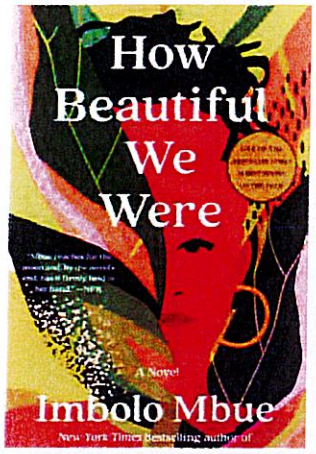


THE HOUSE THAT LOVE BUILT: WHY I OPENED MY DOOR TO IMMIGRANTS AND HOW WE FOUND HOPE BEYOND A BROKEN SYSTEM

SARAH JACKSON

ZONDERVAN (2020)

What does it mean to love our neighbor? That is the question at the heart of this story, authored by one woman who experienced transformation after she opened her home to immigrants. Once, Jackson thought immigration justice was administered through walls and fences. Then she met a deported young father separated from his U.S.-citizen family, and everything changed. As she began to meet families ravaged by threats in their homeland, biblical justice took on a new meaning. The work she began through Casa de Paz joined the Christian tradition of hospitality, shining light on what it means to love our neighbor.

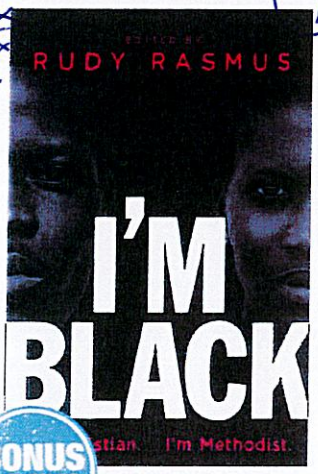


HOW BEAUTIFUL WE WERE: A NOVEL

IMBOLO MBUE

RANDOM HOUSE (2021)

What happens when the reckless drive for profit, coupled with the ghost of colonialism, comes up against one community's determination to hold on to its ancestral land? In *How Beautiful We Were*, a fearless young woman, Thula, from the small fictional African village of Kosawa, starts a revolution against an American oil company. In Kosawa, the people have been living in fear because of the environmental degradation there, from pipeline spills harming farmlands to children dying from drinking toxic water. Left with few choices, the people of Kosawa decide to fight back.

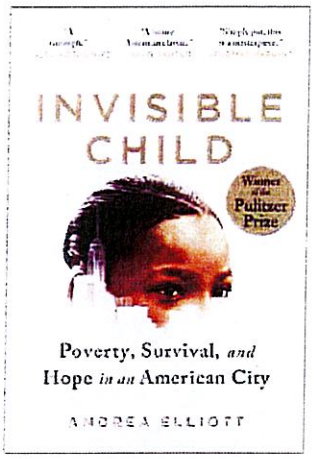


I'M BLACK. I'M CHRISTIAN. I'M METHODIST.

RUDY RASMUS, EDITOR

ABINGDON PRESS (2020)

In this book, edited by Dr. Rudy Rasmus, personal narratives from 10 men and women reveal the distinct struggles of being Black in the church, facing both historic and modern racism. While the essays each begin with the central identities of Black, Christian, and Methodist, they also represent different journeys of confronting centuries of White supremacy in religious and secular institutions. Weaving together autobiography and spiritual formation, they represent a significant contribution to our theological understanding of racism.

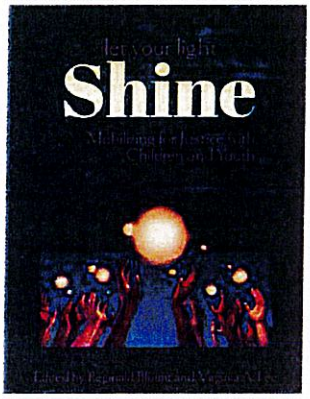


INVISIBLE CHILD: POVERTY, SURVIVAL, AND HOPE IN AN AMERICAN CITY

ANDREA ELLIOT

RANDOM HOUSE (2021)

The winner of the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize and a finalist for the Bernstein Award, this book follows eight dramatic years in the life of Dasani, a precocious and imaginative girl living in a homeless shelter in Brooklyn. Elliott weaves the story of Dasani's childhood with the history of her ancestors, tracing their passage from slavery to the Great Migration north. As Dasani comes of age, New York City's homeless crisis has exploded, deepening the chasm between rich and poor. She must guide her siblings through a world riddled by hunger, violence, racism, drug addiction, and the threat of foster care.



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE: MOBILIZING FOR JUSTICE WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

REGINALD BLOUNT AND VIRGINIA LEE

FRIENDSHIP PRESS (2019)

What can we do about the plethora of harsh situations children face today, such as broken immigration policies, hunger, school shootings, mass incarceration, human trafficking, and failing schools? Advocacy might well be the answer. This collection of writings on advocacy for children and theological education mobilizes readers by educating about the history and goals of the Children's Defense Fund, including the passion of founder Marian Wright Edelman. Child advocacy is also woven throughout the book with religious core values, illuminating the faith aspect of helping children have a voice. The book also covers the Freedom Schools movement of the 1960s, as well as the CDF's contemporary Freedom Schools.

Youth Books



APPLE: SKIN TO THE CORE

ERIC GANSWORTH

LEVINE QUERIDO (2020)

In many Native American communities, the term "apple" is a racial slur referring to a person who is "Red on the outside, White on the inside," meaning one who looks like an Indigenous person but acts "White." In this bittersweet but inspiring poetic memoir, the author reclaims the term, transforming the slur through the retelling of his own narrative. An Onondaga writer and visual artist raised in the Tuscarora Nation, Gansworth explores the terrible legacy of government boarding schools and addresses identity and belonging as he struggles with appropriation, language, family ties, friendship, feeling lost, and leaving home for college.

Suitable for upper youth or adult.



THEY CALLED US ENEMY

GEORGE TAKEI

TOP SHELF PRODUCTIONS (2019)

This *New York Times* bestselling graphic novel is a memoir detailing the childhood of George Takei, actor, author, and activist. Takei spent his childhood imprisoned with his family within American concentration camps during World War II. *They Called Us Enemy* is his firsthand account of those years behind barbed wire, the experience of growing up under legalized racism, his mother's hard choices, his father's faith in democracy, and the way those experiences planted the seeds for his astonishing future.

Suitable for youth.



THIRTY TALKS WEIRD LOVE

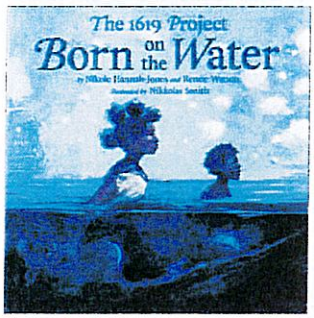
ALESSANDRA N. VARELA

CINCO PUNTOS PRESS (2021)

This is a moving story of a girl on the cusp of womanhood who learns to empathize with others—and ultimately to care for herself. Thirteen-year-old Anamaría is struggling both with depression and with understanding what's truly important as she grows up in Ciudad Juárez, México. Enter her 30-year-old self, who pays a surprise visit to Anamaría. Anamaría doesn't want to trust this stranger, who insists she's from the future. Meanwhile, she's mourning the tragedy plaguing her city—the disappearance of young girls and women that is becoming increasingly common.

Suitable for youth.

Children's Books



Suitable for children.

THE 1619 PROJECT: BORN ON THE WATER (FOR CHILDREN)

NIKOLE HANNAH-JONES

KOKILA (2021)

Hannah-Jones collaborated with children's book author Renée Watson to produce this companion piece. A children's picture book written in verse, it serves to help young people understand the important concepts addressed in the original—notably, the impact of slavery on American's foundational principles. In the children's version, the book explores a perspective from a young Black girl tasked in school to draw a flag that represents her ancestral land. At first she doesn't understand her family's past, but soon the girl talks with her grandmother and learns the truth about her lineage.

SET- Check out the adult version of this book on page 5 of this catalog.



BLUE: A HISTORY OF THE COLOR AS DEEP AS THE SEA AND AS WIDE AS THE SKY

NANA EKUA BREW-HAMMOND

KNOPF BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS (2022)

This riveting exploration of culture and history traces the journey of the color through time and across the globe. The color blue has been long sought-after, from the mass quantities of sapphire rocks ground by ancient Afghan painters, to the snails harvested in Eurasia for the tiny bits of blue contained in their bodies, to the indigo grown as a cash crop on the backs of African slaves. In this beautifully rendered children's book, discover a history of the color as deep as the sea and as wide as the sky.

Suitable for children.



EL CICLO DEL ARROZ, EL CICLO DE LA VIDA: UN CUENTO SOBRE LA AGRICULTURA / CYCLE OF RICE, CYCLE OF LIFE: A STORY OF SUSTAINABLE FARMING

JAN REYNOLDS

LEE & LOW BOOKS (2021)

From award-winning author and National Geographic photographer Jan Reynolds comes the Spanish-language version of her remarkable and illustrative photography book, skillfully and beautifully detailing the ancient ritual of the cycle of water and the cycle of rice in Bali from temples to fields and from seeds to rice-bearing plants. Woven throughout is information on Balinese spiritual ritual practices and the dangers of overproduction into the explanation of this tiny but powerful grain. Readers come away with a poignant and critical message on responsible stewardship.

Suitable for children. Book available in English and Spanish.

"I credit the Reading Program for opening my eyes to situations, perspectives, and events that I never had been aware of in the past. It has challenged me to read beyond my comfort level, explore my faith, and be aware of the world beyond my personal experience.

—Jana Jones, Reading Program Committee Chair



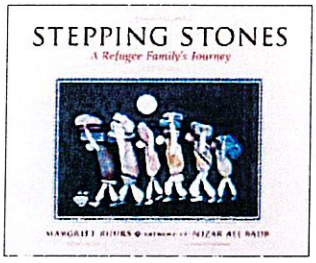
EL MANGLE: SEMBRANDO ARBOLES PARA ALIMENTAR FAMILIAS /THE MANGROVE TREE: PLANTING TREES TO FEED FAMILIES

SUSAN L. ROTH AND CINDY TRUMBORE

LEE & LOW BOOKS (2021)

Now available in both English and Spanish, Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore's *The Mangrove Tree* uses powerful prose and pictures to capture this poignant look at an ecological innovation project in the village of Hargigo in the impoverished African nation of Eritrea. The book details Dr. Gordon Sato's idea to plant mangrove trees there, which grow easily in salt water, ultimately providing profound long-term benefits for the community. Also included are many photographs of Sato and the people of Hargigo, bringing their inspiring story into real-world perspective.

Suitable for children. Book available in English and Spanish.



STEPPING STONES: A REFUGEE FAMILY'S JOURNEY

MARGRIET RUURS

ORCA BOOK PUBLISHERS (2016)

This dual-language (English/Arabic) book shares the story of a young girl, Rama, who with her multigenerational family is forced to flee her once-peaceful village to escape the ravages of civil war. The book was inspired by the stone artwork of Syrian artist Nizar Ali Badr, discovered by chance by Canadian writer Margriet Ruurs, who has authored more than 40 children's books. The author was impressed with Badr's work and, using many of his already-created pieces, set out to create a story about the Syrian refugee crisis, allowing the human side of the situation to speak louder than the political.

Suitable for children.

I've always been an avid reader but what a joy it is to share my passion with hundreds of other Reading Enthusiasts, changing the world one page at a time!

—Mikele Haskins-Delmore, Northeastern Jurisdiction President

Adult Books

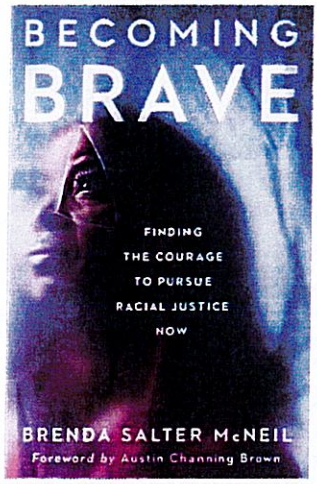


BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY: A MEMOIR

QIAN JULIE WANG

DOUBLEDAY (2021)

Seven-year-old Qian arrives in New York full of curiosity—and overwhelmed by fear and scarcity. While in Chinese, the word for America translates to "beautiful country," her new life is anything but beautiful. Formerly professors, now Qian's parents labor in sweatshops and fight constantly, desperate to survive in poverty in the richest country in the world. Shunned by her classmates for her limited English, Qian turns to books—and small joys that keep her going. *This New York Times* best-seller reveals a family fracturing under the weight of invisibility, and a girl coming of age in the shadows, who never stops seeking the light.



BECOMING BRAVE: FINDING COURAGE TO PURSUE RACIAL JUSTICE NOW

BRENDA SALTER MCNEIL

BRAZOS PRESS (2020)

Are you brave enough to break the silence and work with others to dismantle systems of injustice and inequality? Speaker, author, professor, and thought leader Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil offers a distinctly Christian framework for addressing systemic injustice, challenging Christians to be everyday activists. Through the lens of the biblical narrative of Esther, McNeil challenges Christian reconcilers to recognize the particular pain in our world and work together to repair what is broken while maintaining a deep hope in God's ongoing work for justice. This book provides education and prophetic inspiration for every person who wants to take reconciliation seriously.



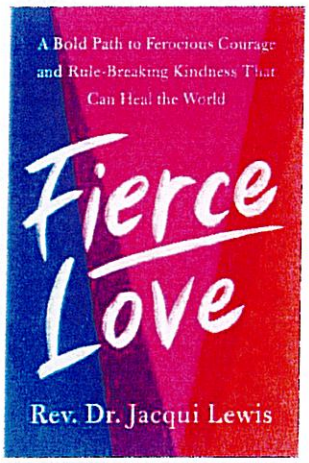
CARVED IN EBONY: LESSONS FROM THE BLACK WOMEN WHO SHAPE US

JASMINE HOLMES

BETHANY HOUSE PUBLISHERS (2021)

These names may not be familiar, but they worked to change laws, built schools, spoke to thousands, shared the gospel, and modeled much about what it means to be modern women of faith. *Carved in Ebony* takes a look at the lives and impact of Elizabeth Freeman, Nannie Helen Burroughs, Maria Fearing, Charlotte Forten Grimké, Sarah Mapps Douglass, Sara Griffith Stanley, Amanda Berry Smith, Lucy Craft Laney, Maria Stewart, and Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, discovering how Black women have helped define the landscape of American history and faith.

SET- Check out the youth version of this book on page 16 of this catalog.

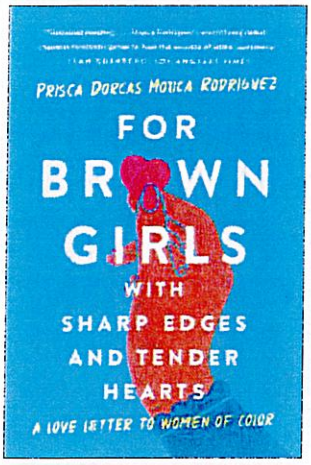


FIERCE LOVE: A BOLD PATH TO FEROCIOUS COURAGE AND RULE-BREAKING KINDNESS THAT CAN HEAL THE WORLD

REV. DR. JACQUI LEWIS

HARMONY (2021)

In this book, Lewis addresses how embracing the tenets of ubuntu can help bring about the change we seek in a world divided. Race and ethnicity, caste and color, gender and sexuality, class and education, and religion and political party have become demographic labels that reduce differences to simplistic categories in which "we" are vehemently against "them." But Lewis's own experience—of being the first female and first Black minister in her church's history, of being in an interracial marriage, and of making peace with childhood abuse—illustrates how empathy and forgiveness are the key to reversing these ugly trends.

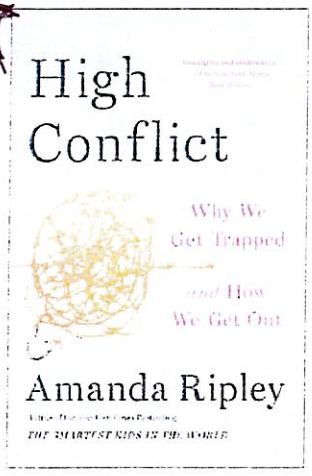


FOR BROWN GIRLS WITH SHARP EDGES AND TENDER HEARTS: A LOVE LETTER TO WOMEN OF COLOR

PRISCA DORCAS MOJICA RODRÍGUEZ

SEAL PRESS (2021)

In what she calls a "love letter to women of color," author Prisca Dorcas Mojica Rodríguez—the founder of Latina Rebels—shares the challenges Brown girls face, from imposter syndrome to colorism. In this book, she empowers women to decolonize their worldview and defy "universal" White narratives by telling their own stories. She guides women of color toward a sense of pride and sisterhood and offers essential tools to energize a movement with the knowledge they need to find success on their own terms. The result is a liberating path forward for all women of color.

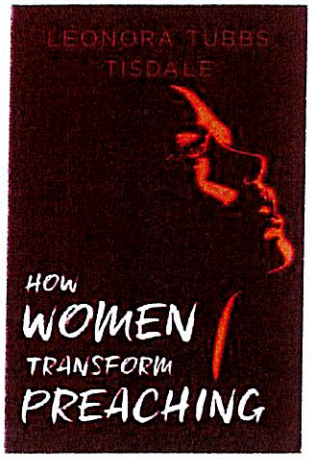


HIGH CONFLICT: WHY WE GET TRAPPED AND HOW WE GET OUT

AMANDA RIPLEY

SIMON AND SCHUSTER (2021)

Bestselling author and award-winning journalist Amanda Ripley investigates how good people get captured by emotionally unhealthy, over-the-top conflict—and how they break free. Ripley begins by exploring real-world examples of such conflict, from political feuds to gang warfare and personal vendettas, then dissects how those involved dismantled the stakes and transformed high conflict into something good. As the book asserts, people can and do escape high conflict. Individuals, and entire communities, can short-circuit the feedback loops of outrage and blame—if they want to.

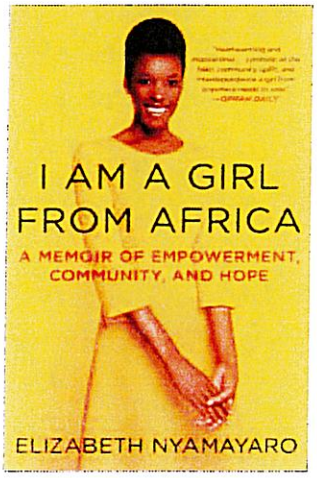


HOW WOMEN TRANSFORM PREACHING

LEONORA TUBBS TISDALE

ABINGDON PRESS (2021)

Leonora Tubbs Tisdale, Clement-Muehl Professor Emerita of Divinity at Yale Divinity School, explores how the presence of women preachers and scholars has transformed the practice of homiletics in this country—from the reclamation of women's "herstory" in preaching, to the topics addressed, to the way in which hermeneutics and theologizing are undertaken, to the imagery and embodiment of the sermons themselves. Tisdale shares untold stories of women preachers throughout history who are largely unknown but who serve as examples of both the struggle and power of women's preaching. She also tells the stories of contemporary women preachers.

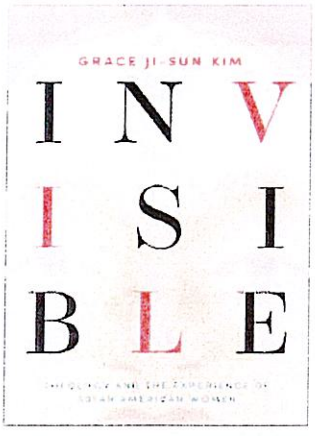


I AM A GIRL FROM AFRICA: A MEMOIR OF POWER, COMMUNITY AND HOPE

AELIZABETH NYAMAYARO

SCRIBNER (2022)

When she was eight years old, a severe drought hit Nyamayaro's village in Zimbabwe. Unable to move from hunger and malnourishment, she encountered a United Nations aid worker who gave her a bowl of warm porridge and saved her life—a transformative moment that inspired her to dedicate herself to giving back to her community, continent, and world. Nyamayaro's incredible memoir takes readers from the near-death experience of an African girl to a lifelong dedication to real change. It is a story of persevering through great odds and finding one's true calling while delivering an important message of hope, empowerment, and interdependence.

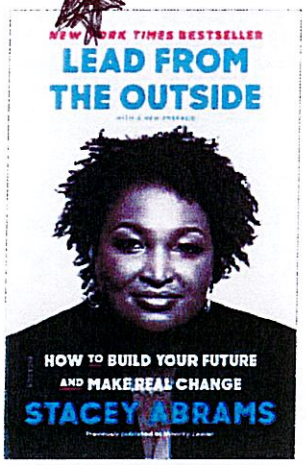


INVISIBLE: THEOLOGY AND THE EXPERIENCE OF ASIAN AMERICAN WOMEN

GRACE JI-SUN KIM

FORTRESS PRESS (2021)

In *Invisible*, Grace Ji-Sun Kim examines encounters with racism, sexism, and xenophobia as she works toward ending Asian American women's invisibility. Kim explores how invisibility is not only a racial and cultural issue, but also a profound spiritual issue. The Western church—and its theology—has historically obscured the concerns of Asian Americans. The Asian American church relegates women to domestic, supportive roles meant to uplift male leaders. Kim deploys biblical, sociological, and theological narratives to empower the voices of Asian American women.

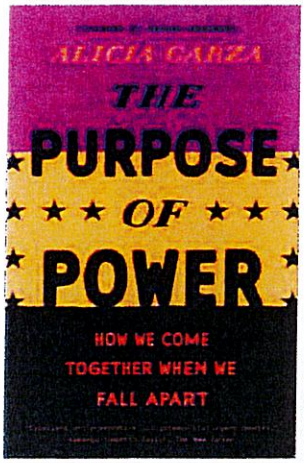


LEAD FROM THE OUTSIDE: HOW TO BUILD YOUR FUTURE AND MAKE REAL CHANGE

STACEY ABRAMS

PICADOR (2019)

Stacey Abrams, one of the most prominent Black female politicians in the U.S., offers this necessary handbook for harnessing the strengths of being an outsider when it comes to leadership. Abrams argues that knowing your own passion is the key to success, and she draws from her experience and hard-won insights to break down how ambition, fear, money, and failure function in leadership, while offering personal stories that illuminate practical strategies. Differences in race, gender, and class are surmountable, she asserts. The trick is to proactively use this "otherness" while recognizing internal fears.

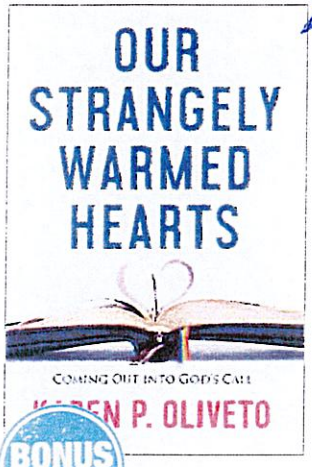


THE PURPOSE OF POWER: HOW WE COME TOGETHER WHEN WE FALL APART

ALICIA GARZA

ONE WORLD (2020)

The Purpose of Power is a call to action and an essential guide to building transformative movements to address the challenges of our time. Authored by Alicia Garza, the co-creator of #BlackLivesMatter and the Black Lives Matter Global Network, the book offers new lessons for today's generation of activists—including how making room amongst the woke for those who are still awakening can inspire and activate more people to fight for the world we all deserve. This is the story of one woman's lessons through years of bringing people together to create change.

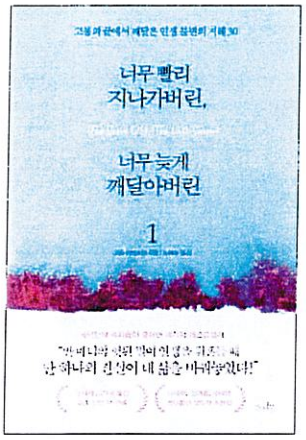


OUR STRANGELY WARMED HEARTS: COMING OUT INTO GOD'S CALL

KAREN OLIVETO

ABINGDON PRESS (2018)

Karen Oliveto is bishop of the Mountain Sky Episcopal Area for The United Methodist Church and the first openly lesbian bishop in the denomination. Here, Oliveto discloses how, just like Methodism founder John Wesley experienced a strangely warmed heart when he discovered his true spiritual identity, so too do spiritual renewal and a personal call to ministry emerge in the strangely warmed hearts of lesbian and gay Christians. The book includes first-person narratives of LGBTQ persons faithfully serving in the UMC, as well as how the coming-out process is deeply spiritual as one grows into an authentic, God-created and graced self.



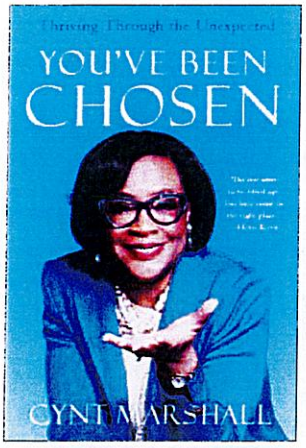
너무 빨리 지나가 버린, 너무 늦게 깨달아 버린…. 노혜숙 역 …
TOO SOON OLD, TOO LATE SMART

GORDON LIVINGSTON

DA CAPO LIFELONG BOOKS (2008)

This bestselling collection of common-sense wisdom from celebrated psychologist and veteran Gordon Livingston proves it's never too late to move beyond the deepest of losses. Out of a lifetime of experience, Livingston has extracted 30 bedrock truths, including that we are what we do; any relationship is under the control of the person who cares the least; the perfect is the enemy of the good; and only bad things happen quickly. Livingston illuminates these in a series of essays, many of which focus on our closest relationships and the things that we do to impede or, less frequently, enhance them.

Book available in Korean, some also available in English.



YOU'VE BEEN CHOSEN: THRIVING THROUGH THE UNEXPECTED

CYNT MARSHALL

BALLANTINE BOOKS (2022)

This relentlessly optimistic memoir by one of the most influential Black business leaders in America offers hope and guidance for navigating life's most difficult challenges. Marshall has spent her life beating personal and professional odds while helping everyone she meets see how they are uniquely equipped to thrive. She grew up in a housing project with a violent father, but also a strong, devoted mother. She excelled at school and her professional life, overcoming overt and subtle racism to become, at 40, one of the first Black woman officers at AT&T. At 51, she was diagnosed with stage 3 colon cancer. Overnight, her life changed, but her commitment to serve others did not.

Youth Books



Suitable for youth.

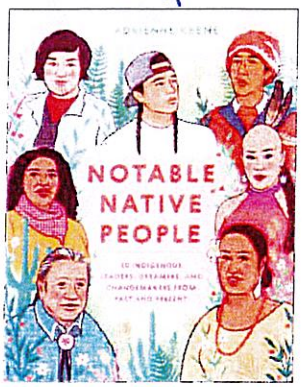
CARVED IN EBONY: YOUNG READER'S EDITION

JASMINE L HOLMES

BETHANY HOUSE PUBLISHERS (2022)

In this companion book aimed toward young readers, Holmes shares 10 short biographies of Black Christian women who were instrumental in American history between the 18th and 20th centuries. While these names may not be familiar, these women lived faithful and influential lives in a world filled with injustice. They worked to change laws, built schools, spoke to thousands, and shared the gospel all around the world. And while history books may have forgotten them, their stories can teach so much about how we can live today.

SET - Check out the adult version of this book on page 12 of this catalog.



NOTABLE NATIVE PEOPLE: 50 INDIGENOUS LEADERS, DREAMERS, AND CHANGEMAKERS FROM PAST AND PRESENT

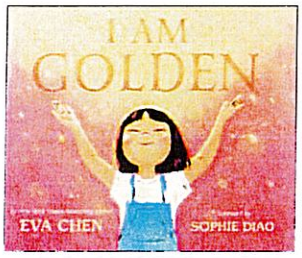
ADRIENNE KEENE

TEN SPEED PRESS (2021)

An American Indian Library Association Youth Literature Award Young Adult Honor Book, *Notable Native People* celebrates the lives, stories, and contributions of Indigenous artists, activists, scientists, athletes, and other changemakers. Keene, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and assistant professor of American studies and ethnic studies at Brown University, highlights the vital impact Indigenous dreamers and leaders have made on the world. Featured are 50 notable American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian people, from NBA star Kyrie Irving to 19th-century sculptor Edmonia Lewis to linguist Jessie Little Doe Baird, who revived the Wampanoag language.

Suitable for youth.

Children's Books



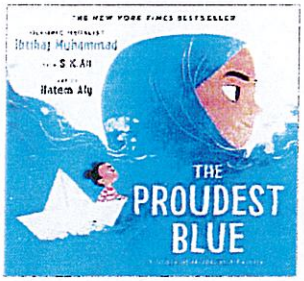
I AM GOLDEN

EVA CHEN

FEIWEL AND FRIENDS (2022)

Described as both joyful and lyrical, this children's picture book by Eva Chen, illustrated by Sophie Diao, was an instant *New York Times* bestseller. *I Am Golden* tells the story of Mei, the daughter of Chinese immigrants to New York, who is shown to be a bridge connecting her parents to their new home. Not only is it a moving ode to the immigrant experience, but it is also a manifesto of self-love for Chinese American children.

Suitable for children.



THE PROUDEST BLUE: A STORY OF HIJAB AND FAMILY

IBTIHAJ MUHAMMAD AND S.K. ALI

LITTLE, BROWN BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS (2019)

Written by Olympic medalist and social justice activist Ibtihaj Muhammad and Morris Award finalist S.K. Ali, *The Proudest Blue* is a powerful, vibrantly illustrated story about the first day of school—and two sisters on one's first day of hijab. For while many see hijab as beautiful, others do not. Uplifting and universal, the story lifts up the importance of new experiences, the unbreakable bond between siblings, and why being proud of who you are matters so much.

Suitable for children.



WHO IS FLORENCE PRICE?

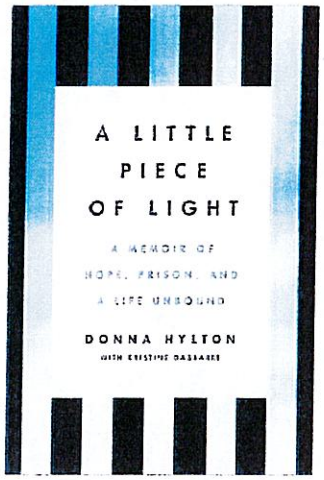
STUDENTS OF THE SPECIAL MUSIC SCHOOL, KAUFMAN MUSIC CENTER
SCHIRMER TRADE BOOKS (2021)

A group of New York City middle school students at Special Music School, Kaufman Music Center, had the opportunity to write this history of composer Florence Price, the first Black woman to be recognized as a symphonic composer and be performed by a major American orchestra in 1933. When Price was just four years old, she played her first piano concert. As she grew up, she studied and wrote music, hoping one day to hear her music performed by an orchestra. This is the story of a brilliant musician who prevailed against race and gender prejudices to achieve significant acclaim.

Suitable for children.

The Reading Program was really one of the first things that captured my United Women in Faith imagination because back in the day when I was young my mother was a UMW Secretary of Program Resources and she would request my assistance in preparing for displays. I always loved to scan the books when I was "helping" and it made me think—How can an organization with this kind of reading list be anything but exciting and inviting!
—Ellen Lipsey, Reading Program Committee Member and South Central Jurisdiction President

Adult Books

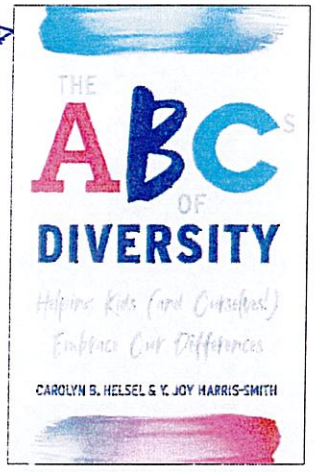


A LITTLE PIECE OF LIGHT: A MEMOIR OF HOPE, PRISON AND LIFE UNBOUND

DONNA HYLTON

HACHETTE BOOKS (2018)

Donna Hylton's early life was a nightmare of abuse. In 1986, she took part in a horrific act and was sentenced to 25 years to life for kidnapping and second-degree murder. This tells the tale of her journey back to life as she faced the truth about the crime that locked her away for 27 years, as well as the family she found inside prison that ultimately saved her. Alongside this generation's most infamous criminals, she learned to fight, then thrive. Since her release in 2012, she has emerged as a leading advocate for criminal justice reform and women's rights.

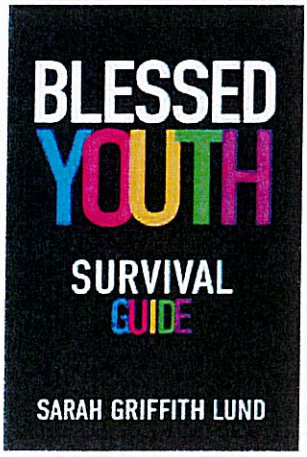


THE ABCS OF DIVERSITY: HELPING KIDS (AND OURSELVES!) EMBRACE OUR DIFFERENCES

CAROLYN B. HELSEL AND Y. JOY HARRIS-SMITH

CHALICE PRESS (2020)

How do we raise the next generation to respect and learn from people who look or believe differently than they do? From two educators who are also moms comes a guide to help parents and other teachers navigate conversations about all kinds of diversity. This practical resource includes activities to build compassion and empathy among differing religions, classes, races, genders, abilities, political affiliations, sexual orientations, nationalities, and more.



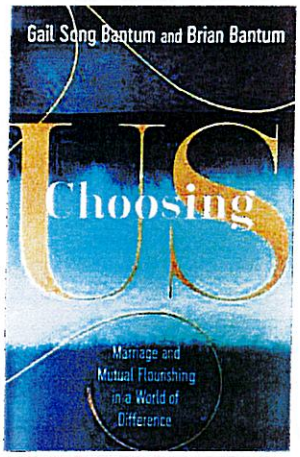
BLESSED YOUTH: BREAKING THE SILENCE ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS WITH CHILDREN AND TEENS

SARAH GRIFFITH LUND

CHALICE PRESS (2022)

Mental illness can be tremendously isolating. This book helps remove the barriers of stigma and shame associated with mental illness in children and teens, helping them understand they are worthy. In addition to a helpful collection of stories, the book includes practical resources such as prayers and a guide for age-appropriate talks about warning signs and how to get help for themselves and friends. The author, the Rev. Dr. Sarah Griffith Lund, is an ordained minister who also serves on the national staff of the United Church of Christ as the Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice.

SET- Check out the youth version of this book on page 23 of this catalog.

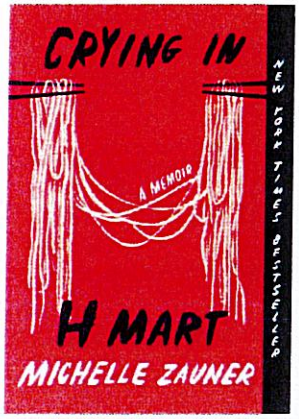


CHOOSING US: MARRIAGE AND MUTUAL FLOURISHING IN A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

GAIL SONG BANTUM AND BRIAN BANTUM

BRAZOS PRESS (2022)

For years, people have asked the Bantums to reveal the secret to their marriage as a multiracial Christian couple, each with a high-profile ministry calling. The book tackles the mistakes, lessons, and principles that have helped the Bantums navigate 20-plus years of marriage, while inspiring readers to pursue mutual flourishing in their relationships. *Choosing Us* reflects the realities and demands of modern marriage and respects the callings and ambitions of both partners to build a relationship that thrives and reflects the kingdom of God.

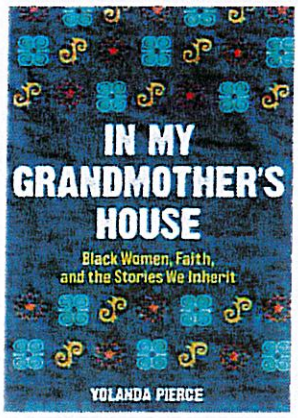


CRYING IN H MART: A MEMOIR

MICHELLE ZAUNER

KNOPF (2021)

This memoir spent more than a year on the *New York Times* best-seller list. Penned by Michelle Zauner, the Korean American indie rockstar behind the solo musical act Japanese Breakfast, the book explores family, food, grief, love, and growing up Korean American. Particularly, it addresses mother-daughter relationships, as it was her mother's diagnosis of terminal cancer when Michelle was 25 that forced a reckoning with her identity and brought her to reclaim the gifts of taste, language, and history her mother had given her.

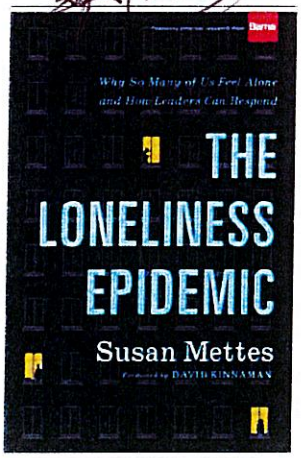


IN MY GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE: BLACK WOMEN, FAITH, AND THE STORIES WE INHERIT

YOLANDA PIERCE

BROADLEAF BOOKS (2021)

From Yolanda Pierce, dean of Howard University School of Divinity, comes this gripping and honest reflection of the genuine faith she experienced at the knee of her Black grandmother. Born on a former cotton plantation, Pierce's grandmother raised her in the deep, steadfast faith inherited from those once enslaved. Here, Pierce reflects on the Divine she encountered in the everyday womanist theology she grew up in—rooted in liberating scriptures, experiences in the Black church, and truths. Alongside this run the tensions of race, spirituality, trauma, freedom, resistance, and memory, all contributing to the deep wells of faith and wisdom that continue to drive her.

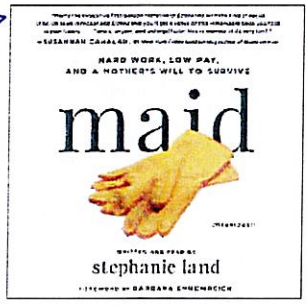


THE LONELINESS EPIDEMIC: WHY SO MANY OF US FEEL ALONE—AND HOW LEADERS CAN RESPOND

SUSAN METTES

BRAZOS PRESS (2021)

Why are so many people experiencing deep loneliness? And how can the church respond? That is the crux of this new book from behavioral scientist and researcher Susan Mettes, who delves into the profound toll of loneliness in the United States. Mettes reveals that it is not the oldest Americans but the youngest adults who are loneliest. Social media can play a positive role in alleviating loneliness, helping to cultivate belonging and friendship. She offers meaningful ways the church can minister to lonely people, going far beyond simplistic solutions to addressing their inner lives and the God who understands them.

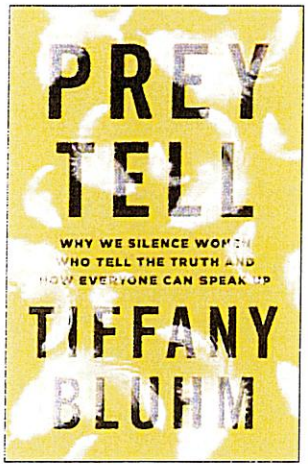


MAID: HARD WORK, LOW PAY, AND A MOTHER'S WILL TO SURVIVE

STEPHANIE LAND

LEGACY LIT (2019)

This raw and unflinching book explores the lives of the working poor through the perspective of one single mother, Stephanie Land, forced to work as a housekeeper and survive on food stamps to support herself and her young daughter. Desperate to fulfill her own dreams, Land worked days and took classes online to earn a college degree and began to write relentlessly, sharing the true stories that weren't being told: the stories of overworked and underpaid Americans. She wrote to remember the fight, to eventually cut through the deep-rooted stigmas of the working poor.

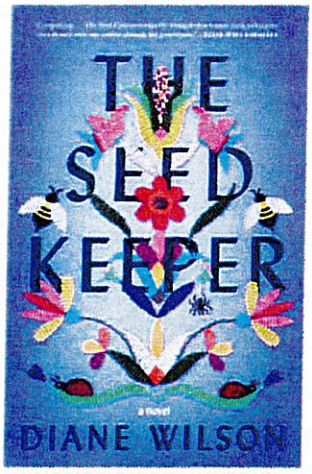


PREY TELL: WHY WE SILENCE WOMEN WHO TELL THE TRUTH AND HOW EVERYONE CAN SPEAK UP

TIFFANY BLUHM

BRAZOS PRESS (2021)

Addressing men and women in all work settings—within the church and beyond—popular author and podcast host Tiffany Bluhm addresses sexual harassment, sexual assault, and the complex dynamics of power and abuse in systems we all find ourselves in. Ultimately, Prey Tell seeks to expose the cultural and spiritual narratives that silence women and illuminate the devastating emotional, financial, and social impact of silence in the face of injustice. The book is hailed as a must-read, though a difficult read, for anyone who longs to see justice upheld in the world.

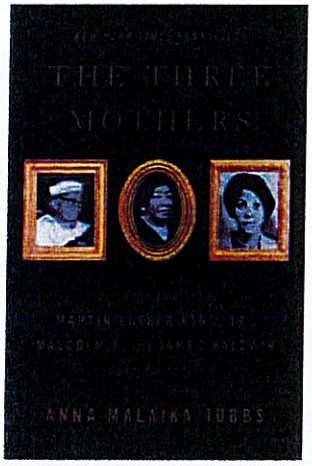


THE SEED KEEPER: A NOVEL

DIANE WILSON

MILKWEED EDITIONS (2021)

Rosalie Iron Wing has grown up in the woods with her father, who tells her stories of plants, of the stars, of the origins of the Dakhóta people. But one morning he doesn't return, and Rosalie is sent to live with a foster family. Years later, Rosalie returns to her childhood home and begins to confront the past on a search for family, identity, and community. In the process, she learns what it means to be descended from women with souls of iron—women who have protected so much through generations of hardship and loss.

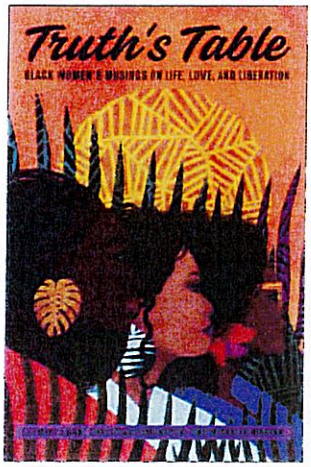


THE THREE MOTHERS: HOW THE MOTHERS OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR, MALCOLM X AND JAMES BALDWIN SHAPED A NATION

ANNA MALAIKA TUBBS

FLATIRON BOOKS (2021)

Much has been written about Berdis Baldwin's son James, about Alberta King's son Martin Luther, and Louise Little's son Malcolm. But virtually nothing has been said about the extraordinary women who raised them. In her groundbreaking and essential debut *The Three Mothers*, scholar Anna Malaika Tubbs celebrates Black motherhood by telling the story of the three women who raised and shaped some of America's most pivotal heroes. These women used their strength and motherhood to push their children toward greatness, all with a conviction that every human being deserves dignity and respect despite the rampant discrimination they faced.



TRUTH'S TABLE: BLACK WOMEN'S MUSINGS ON LIFE, LOVE, AND LIBERATION

EKEMINI UWAN, CHRISTINA EDMONDSON, AND MICHELLE HIGGINS

CONVERGENT BOOKS (2022)

In their literary debut, co-hosts Christina Edmondson, Michelle Higgins, and Ekemini Uwan offer stories by Black women and for Black women examining theology, politics, race, culture, and gender matters through a Christian lens. These essays deliver a compelling theological re-education and pair the spiritual formation and political education necessary for Black women of faith. A finalist for the NAACP Image Award, this book is for anyone seeking to explore the spiritual dimensions of hot-button issues within the church, or anyone thirsty to deepen their faith.



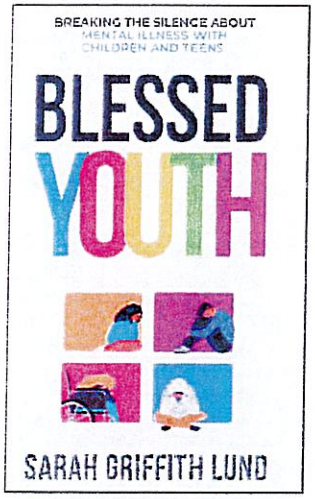
ANDALE, PRIETA!: A LOVE LETTER TO MY FAMILY

YASMIN RAMIREZ

CINCO PUNTOS PRESS (2022)

This debut memoir by Mexican-American writer Yasmin Ramirez explores how tough lessons, and even tougher people, can teach us a great deal about love. Ramirez grew up profoundly influenced by the strong women in her life, particularly her grandmother Ita, as well as her great-grandmother, Lupe, and her mother, Leticia. In many ways, the book is also a reclamation of the sometimes-derogatory term prieta, which Grandma Ita used as a loving nickname for her, but is often used in Spanish as a slur to describe people with dark skin.

Youth Books



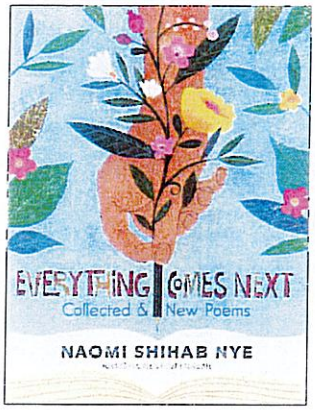
BLESSED YOUTH: SURVIVAL GUIDE

SARAH GRIFFITH LUND

CHALICE PRESS (2022)

This pocket-size companion guide for youth covers topics that today's youth often face, such as anxiety, sadness, depression, phobias, OCD, panic attacks, PTSD, trauma, and therapy. It also helps youth recognize when they are experiencing an issue and encourages them to tell a parent, doctor, or another adult who can help. Youth are encouraged to be proactive with their mental health by developing good overall health practices and taking a pledge to promise to identify three people who they can contact if they begin having thoughts of self-harm and/or suicide.

SET- Check out the adult version of this book on page 23 of this catalog.



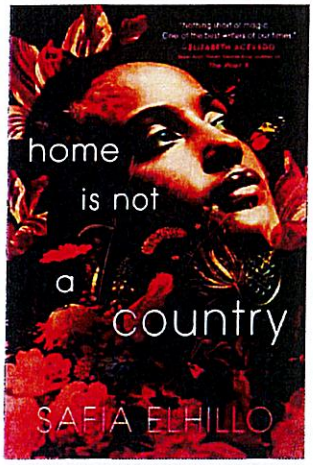
EVERYTHING COMES NEXT: COLLECTED AND NEW POEMS

NAOMI SHIHAB NYE

GREENWILLOW BOOKS (2020)

Many are familiar with Naomi Shihab Nye, poet, essayist, and anthologist. Author of more than 20 volumes, Nye was the Poetry Foundation's Young People's Poet Laureate from 2019–2022. This collection offers an introduction to the poet's work for new readers, as well as a comprehensive edition for classroom and family sharing. It features favorites such as "Famous" and "A Valentine for Ernest Mann," as well as widely shared pieces such as "Kindness" and "Gate A-4." Writing prompts and tips by the award-winning poet make this an outstanding choice for aspiring poets of all ages.

Suitable for youth.



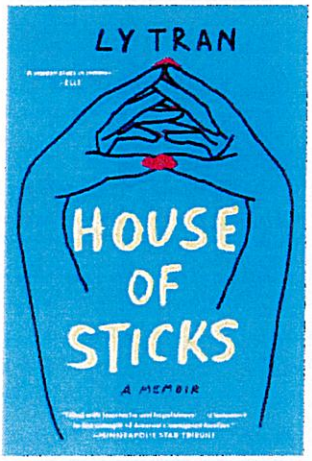
HOME IS NOT A COUNTRY

SAFIA ELHILLO

MAKE ME A WORLD (2021)

Longlisted for the National Book Award, this poetic novel-in-verse centers on one girl, Nima, struggling with identity, loneliness, and acceptance in a culture far from her ancestral land. Caught between cultures and longing for what could be, Nima grasps for a new identity—that of a girl like her, a girl named Yasmeen, the name her parents meant to give her at birth. From acclaimed Sudanese American poet Safia Elhillo comes this reflection on family, home, and what it truly means to belong.

Suitable for youth.



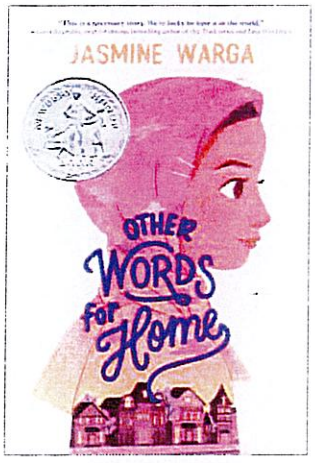
HOUSE OF STICKS: A MEMOIR

LY TRAN

SCRIBER (2021)

This coming-of-age memoir addresses what it means to grow up a stranger in a strange land, clinging desperately to hope. After she immigrated with her family from a tiny town along the Mekong river in Vietnam to a two-bedroom railroad apartment in Queens, New York, Tran and her family struggle to survive. Her father spent nearly a decade as a prisoner of war, and all of them battle not only poverty and displacement but war trauma. As she grows up in this new land, Tran finds herself torn between two worlds, blending in while honoring her parents' Buddhist faith and working long hours in the family's nail salon.

Suitable for youth.



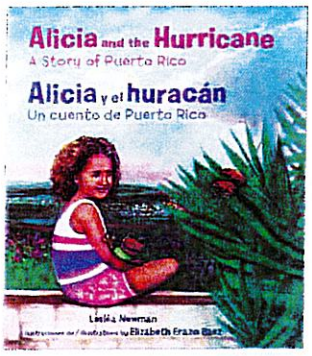
OTHER WORDS FOR HOME

JASMINE WARGA

BALZER + BRAY (2019)

This *New York Times* bestseller and Newbery Honor Book centers on a young girl who moves from Syria to the United States. At first, everything in America seems too fast and too loud. Her new label of "Middle Eastern," an identity she's never known before, is difficult to understand. But American life also brings unexpected surprises—new friends, a whole new family, and a school musical. Maybe America, too, is a place where Jude can be seen as she really is.

Suitable for youth.



ALICIA AND THE HURRICANE: A STORY OF PUERTO RICO

LESLEA NEWMAN

CHILDREN'S BOOK PRESS (2022)

From bestselling author Lesléa Newman comes this poignant story of a Puerto Rican child facing a hurricane and her concern for the beloved coquíes of her home island. *Alicia and the Hurricane* is a tender look at the resilience of people, and native creatures, whose lives have been disrupted by a natural disaster. With love and support, family and friends come together to share, rebuild, and fill Alicia's heart with hope.

Suitable for children. Book available in English and Spanish



JOSIE DANCES

DENISE LAJIMODIERE

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESS (2021)

This rich and colorful tale brings to life the beauty of the powwow through the lens of one young girl, Josie. Josie dreams of dancing at next summer's powwow. But first she needs many special things: a dress, a shawl, a cape, leggings, moccasins, and, perhaps most important of all, her spirit name. To gather all these essential pieces, she calls on her mom, her aunty, her kookum, and Grandma Greatwalker. They have the skills to prepare Josie for her powwow debut, where she will dance to honor her ancestors.

Suitable for children.



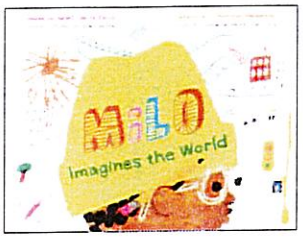
JUNA AND APPA

JANE PARK

LEE & LOW BOOKS (2022)

From acclaimed children's book author and award-winning podcast and video producer Jane Park comes this magical story featuring young June and her greatest hero, her Appa. Juna loves Saturdays, when she gets to help her father in their dry-cleaning shop. But one Saturday, she witnesses a customer yell at Appa because of a lost jacket. Juna sets off on a magical journey to help find the jacket, encountering remarkable animals that show her the different ways that fathers care for their young. A sweet and touching tale about the love between fathers and their children.

Suitable for children.



MILO IMAGINES THE WORLD

MATT DE LA PENA

G.P. PUTNAM'S SONS BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS (2021)

This poignant book takes readers on a journey with Milo and his sister, who are both Black, who take a long subway ride together. While his sister is glued to her cell phone, curious Milo draws pictures of the lives he imagines for other passengers, from the whiskered man with the crossword puzzle to the wedding-dressed woman with a little dog peeking out of her handbag to a boy in a suit. When the boy in the suit gets off on the same stop as Milo—walking the same path, going to the exact same place—Milo realizes that you can't really know anyone just by looking at them.

Suitable for children.



SEE YOU SOON

MARIAME KABA

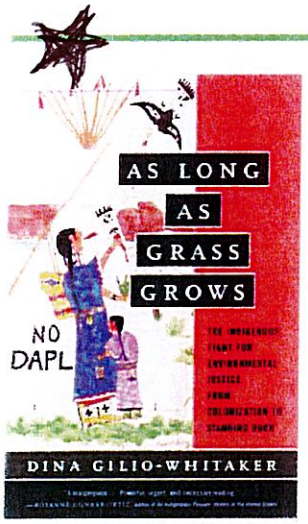
HAYMARKET BOOKS (2022)

How can children cope when people they love have to go to jail? Queenie loves living with Mama and Grandma Louise. Together, they go to the grocery store, eat ice cream, and play games in the park. But sometimes, when Mama is sick, she has to go away. One day, Queenie and Grandma ride the bus with Mama to the county jail. Queenie is worried and afraid to ask questions, overcome with worry and sadness. Yet soon Queenie opens a letter from Mama and savors every word. She knows Mama loves her and looks forward to their upcoming visit. Love is the star of this story.

Suitable for children.

. . . for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her.

Proverbs 8:1–21
"The Gifts of Wisdom"
Scriptural basis for the Reading Program

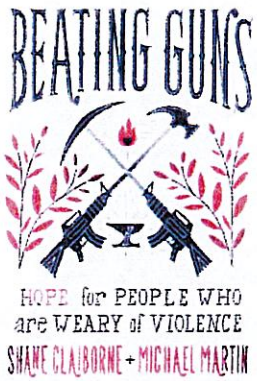


AS LONG AS GRASS GROWS: THE INDIGENOUS FIGHT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, FROM COLONIZATION TO STANDING ROCK

DINA GILIO-WHITAKER

BEACON PRESS (2019)

Through the unique lens of "Indigenized environmental justice," researcher and activist Dina Gilio-Whitaker explores the fraught history of treaty violations, struggles for food and water security, and protection of sacred sites, while highlighting the leadership of Indigenous women in this centuries-long struggle. *As Long As Grass Grows* gives readers a history of Indigenous resistance to government and corporate incursions on their lands and offers new approaches to environmental justice activism. This is the story of Native peoples' resistance to environmental injustice and land incursions, and a call for environmentalists to learn from the Indigenous community's rich history of activism.

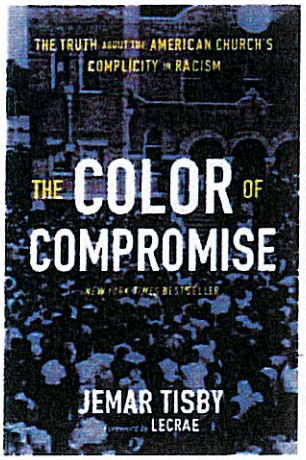


BEATING GUNS: HOPE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE WEARY OF VIOLENCE

SHAINE CLAIBORNE AND MICHAEL MARTIN

BRAZOS PRESS (2019)

Bestselling author and activist Shane Claiborne and Michael Martin show why Christians should be concerned about gun violence and how they can be part of the solution. The authors transcend stale rhetoric about gun control to offer a creative and productive response. Full-color images show how guns are being turned into tools and musical instruments across the nation. Charts, tables, and facts convey the realities of gun violence in America, but as the authors make clear, there is a story behind every statistic. *Beating Guns* allows victims and perpetrators to tell their own compelling stories, offering hope for change.

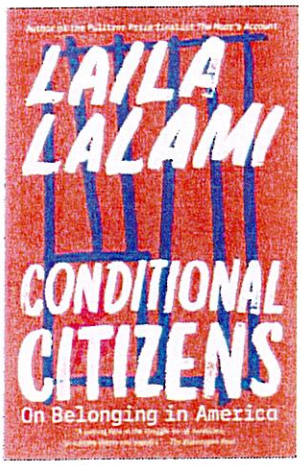


THE COLOR OF COMPROMISE: THE TRUTH ABOUT THE AMERICAN CHURCH'S COMPLICITY IN RACISM

JEMAR TISBY

ZONDERVAN (2019)

The Color of Compromise is not a call to shame or a platform to blame White evangelical Christians. Rather, it is a call from a place of love and desire to fight for a more racially unified church that no longer compromises what the Bible teaches about human dignity and equality, and a call that challenges Black and White Christians alike to stand up now and begin implementing change. Here, Tisby outlines concrete ways to bring about a more equitable and inclusive environment among God's people—starting today.

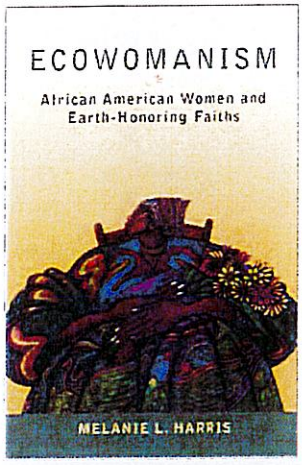


CONDITIONAL CITIZENS: ON BELONGING IN AMERICA

LAILA LALAMI

PANTHEON (2020)

What does it mean to be American? In this starkly illuminating and impassioned book, Pulitzer Prize Finalist Laila Lalami recounts her unlikely journey from Moroccan immigrant to U.S. citizen, using it as a starting point for her exploration of American rights, liberties, and protections. Tapping into history, politics, and literature, she elucidates how accidents of birth—such as national origin, race, and gender—that once determined the boundaries of Americanness still cast their shadows today. A *New York Times* Editors' Choice, as well as a Best Book of the Year for *Time, NPR, Bookpage, and L.A. Times.*

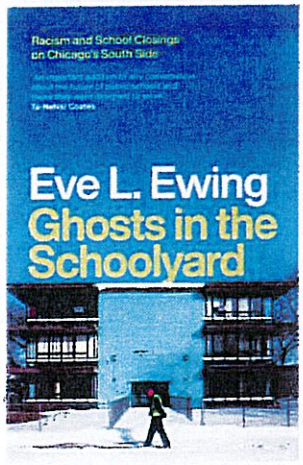


ECOWOMANISM: AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN AND EARTH-HONORING FAITHS

MELANIE L HARRIS

ORBIS BOOKS (2017)

Scholarship on African American history and culture has often neglected the tradition of African American women who engage in theological and religious reflection on their ethical and moral responsibility to care for the earth. But in *Ecowomanism*, Melanie Harris argues that African American women make distinctive contributions to the environmental justice movement in the ways that they theologize, theorize, practice spiritual activism, and come into religious understandings about our relationship with the earth. Incorporating elements of her family history to set the stage for her argument, Harris intersperses her academic reflections with her own personal stories and anecdotes.

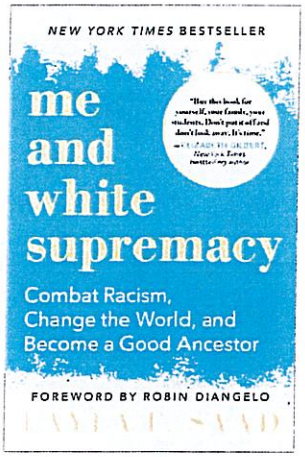


GHOSTS IN THE SCHOOLYARD: RACISM AND SCHOOL CLOSINGS ON CHICAGO'S SOUTH SIDE

EVE L. EWING

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS (2018)

Dr. Eve Louise Ewing is a sociologist whose research is focused on racism, social inequality, urban policy, and the impact of these forces on American public schools and young people. Here, Ewing takes a hard look at Chicago Public Schools. While people talk about them with a mix of pity and contempt, Ewing knows them from the inside: as a student, then a teacher, and now a scholar who studies them. That perspective has shown her public schools are not buildings full of failures but an integral part of their neighborhoods, at the heart of their communities, storehouses of history and memory that bring people together.

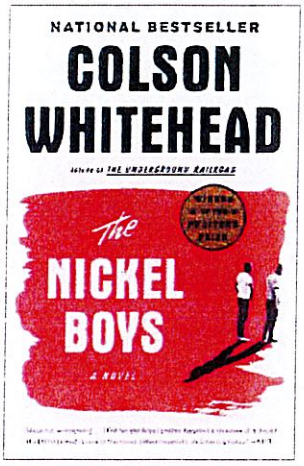


ME AND WHITE SUPREMACY: COMBAT RACISM, CHANGE THE WORLD, AND BECOME A GOOD ANCESTOR

LAYLA SAAD

SOURCEBOOKS (2020)

Awareness leads to action, and action leads to change. This eye-opening book challenges readers to do the essential work of unpacking biases, and helps White people take action and dismantle the privilege within themselves to stop (often unconsciously) inflicting damage on people of color, and in turn, help other White people do better, too. Based on the viral Instagram challenge that captivated participants worldwide, *Me and White Supremacy* takes readers on a 28-day journey, complete with journal prompts, to do the necessary and vital work that can ultimately lead to improving race relations.



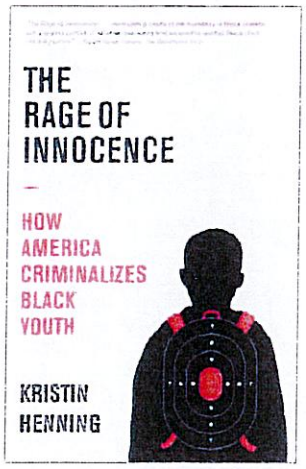
THE NICKEL BOYS / LOS CHICOS DE NICKEL

COLSON WHITEHEAD

DOUBLEDAY (2019)

When Elwood Curtis, a Black boy in 1960s Tallahassee, is unfairly sentenced to a juvenile reformatory called the Nickel Academy, he finds himself trapped in a chamber of horrors. Elwood's only salvation is his friendship with fellow "delinquent" Turner, which deepens despite Turner's conviction that Elwood is hopelessly naive, the world is crooked, and the only way to survive is to scheme and avoid trouble. Based on the real story of a reform school that operated for 111 years and warped the lives of thousands, The Nickel Boys dramatizes another strand of American history through the story of two boys unjustly sentenced.

Book available in English and Spanish.



THE RAGE OF INNOCENCE: HOW AMERICA CRIMINALIZES BLACK YOUTH

KRISTIN HENNING

PANTHEON (2021)

Drawing upon 25 years of representing Black youth in Washington, D.C.'s juvenile courts, Henning confronts America's irrational, manufactured fears of these young people and makes a powerfully compelling case that the crisis in racist American policing begins with its relationship to Black children. Henning explains how discriminatory, aggressive policing has socialized a generation of Black teenagers to fear, resent, and resist police, and she details the long-term consequences of racism that they experience at the hands of police and their vigilante surrogates. Unlike White youth, Black youth are seen as a threat and are denied healthy adolescent development.

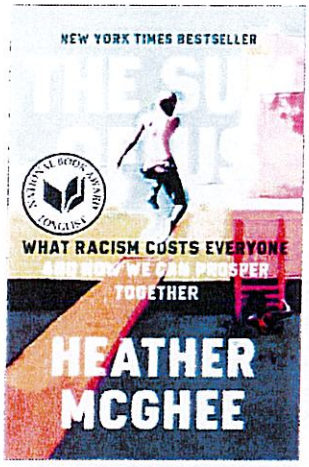


SAVING US: A CLIMATE SCIENTIST'S CASE FOR HOPE AND HEALING IN A DIVIDED WORLD

KATHARINE HAYHOE

ATRIA/ONE SIGNAL PUBLISHERS (2021)

In *Saving Us*, Canadian climate scientist Hayhoe argues that when it comes to changing hearts and minds, facts are only one part of the equation. We need to find shared values in order to connect our unique identities to collective action. This is not another doomsday narrative about a planet on fire. It is a multilayered look at science, faith, and human psychology from an icon in her field—recently named chief scientist at The Nature Conservancy. Drawing on interdisciplinary research and personal stories, Hayhoe shows that small conversations can have astonishing results.

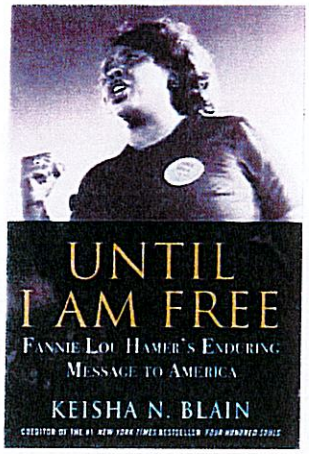


THE SUM OF US: WHAT RACISM COSTS EVERYONE

HEATHER MCGHEE

ONE WORLD (2021)

Heather McGhee's specialty is the American economy—and the mystery of why it often fails the American public. From the financial crisis of 2008 to rising student debt to collapsing public infrastructure, she found a root problem: racism in politics and policymaking. But not just in the most obvious indignities for people of color. Racism has costs for White people, too. McGhee embarks on a journey across the country from Maine to Mississippi to California, tallying what we lose when we buy into the zero-sum paradigm—the idea that progress for some of us must come at the expense of others.

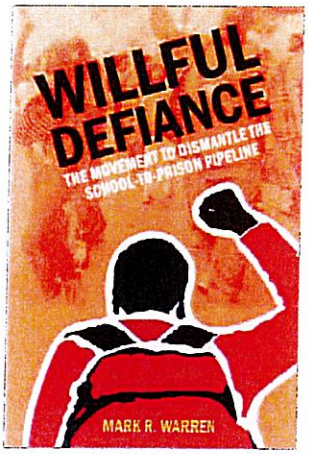


UNTIL I AM FREE: FANNIE LOU HAMER'S ENDURING MESSAGE TO AMERICA

KEISHA N BLAIN

BEACON PRESS (2021)

Award-winning historian and bestselling author Blain situates Fannie Lou Hamer as a key political thinker alongside leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, and Rosa Parks and demonstrates how her ideas remain salient for a new generation of activists committed to dismantling systems of oppression. Despite her limited material resources and the myriad challenges she endured as a Black woman living in poverty in Mississippi, Hamer committed herself to making a difference in the lives of others. A blend of social commentary, biography, and intellectual history, the book is a manifesto for anyone committed to social justice.



WILLFUL DEFIANCE: THE MOVEMENT TO DISMANTLE THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE

MARK WARREN

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS (2021)

In *Willful Defiance*, Warren—professor of public policy and public affairs at the University of Massachusetts Boston—documents how Black and Brown parents, students, and low-income communities of color organized to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline in their local schools and built an intersectional movement that spread across the country. Examining organizing processes in Mississippi, Los Angeles, Chicago, and other localities, he shows how relatively small groups of community members built the power to win policy changes to reduce suspensions and expulsions by combining deep local organizing with resources from the national movement.

Youth Books



ECHOES OF GRACE

GUADALUPE GARCIA MCCALL

TU BOOKS (2022)

This triumphant new novel explores sisterhood, family secrets, intergenerational trauma, life, and love in a modern Gothic setting with a magical realist twist. In Eagle Pass, Texas, Grace struggles to understand the echoes she inherited from her mother visions, which often distort her reality. One morning, a disturbing echo takes hold of Grace, and tragedy strikes. As Grace's echoes bring ghosts and premonitions, they also bring memories of when Grace fled to Mexico to the house of her maternal grandmother—a woman who Grace had been told died long ago. Will piecing together the truth heal her, or will the echoes destroy everything she holds dear?

Suitable for youth.



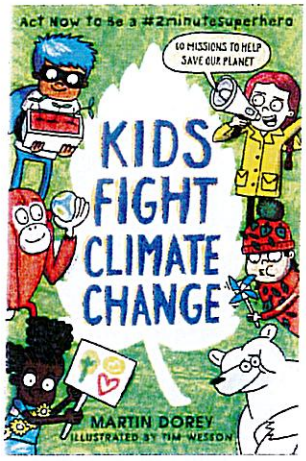
RUNNING

NATALIA SYLVESTER

CLARION BOOKS (2020)

When 15-year-old Cuban American Mariana Ruiz's father runs for president, Mari starts to see him with new eyes. In this debut novel about privacy, waking up, and speaking up, her father's presidential campaign brings a new level of scrutiny to sheltered Mariana and the rest of her family, from a 60 Minutes-style tour of their house to tabloids doctoring photos and inventing scandals. As tensions rise within the Ruiz family, Mari realizes her father is not the man she thought he was. But how do you find your voice when everyone's watching?

Suitable for youth.



KIDS FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE: ACT NOW TO BE A #2MINUTESUPERHERO

MARTIN DOREY

CANDLEWICK PRESS (2022)

Our planet is in trouble! But with the help of this book, every kid can be a superhero making a difference. Sixty engaging missions guide readers through making carbon-saving changes in all aspects of their lives, from gardening to gadgets—even a do-it-yourself water-saving device for their toilet tank. Aided by lively illustrations, the author weaves crucial climate statistics and helpful resources with stories of positive change already happening, such as the resurgence of the Eurasian beaver due to conservation efforts. Along the way, readers meet other superheroes, both animal and human, who are changing the world, too.

Suitable for children.



SAVING AMERICAN BEACH: THE BIOGRAPHY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ENVIRONMENTALIST MAVYNEE BETSCH

HEIDI TYLINE KING

G.P. PUTNAM'S SONS BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS (2021)

This heartfelt biography tells the story of MaVynee Betsch, an African American opera singer turned environmentalist and the legacy she preserved. Betsch loved going to the beach. But in the days of Jim Crow, most of the beaches in Jacksonville were for Whites only. Her grandfather bought a beach that African American families could enjoy without being reminded they were second class citizens; he called it American Beach. After the beach fell into disrepair, Betsch remembered the importance of American Beach and began her second act as a conservationist, ultimately saving the place that always felt most like home.

Suitable for children.



WE ARE WATER PROTECTORS

CAROLE LINDSTROM

ROARING BROOK PRESS (2020)

Winner of the 2021 Caldecott Medal and a number-one *New York Times* bestseller, *We Are Water Protectors* issues an urgent rallying cry to safeguard the Earth's water from harm and corruption. Inspired by the many Indigenous-led movements across North America, it is a bold and lyrical picture book written by Carole Lindstrom and vibrantly illustrated by Michaela Goade about one young water protector who takes a stand to defend Earth's most sacred resource.

Suitable for children.



YOU HAVE A VOICE

VERA AHIYYA

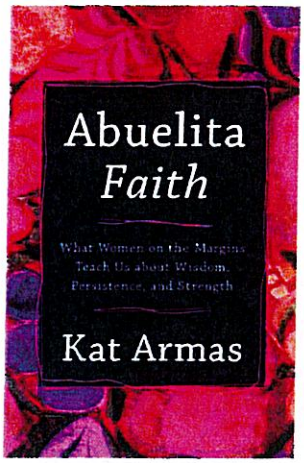
HIGHTREE PUBLISHING (2022)

Inspired by Ahiyya's viral video that has been viewed by millions comes her powerful debut children's book, *You Have a Voice*. The book celebrates the power every child naturally holds in using their voice to make change for good—and empowers both children and grown-ups to use their voice in the world.

Suitable for children.

I've really enjoyed the books in the Reading Program and have learned a lot, which is the point! Our Reading Program involvement has about doubled this past year with the start of our book group. It also has helped to have all the usable Reading Program books on one list and marked with which ones are in our own United Women in Faith library and what is available in our public library. Thanks for all the work you put in to making it all available to us.

—Carol, Reading Program participant



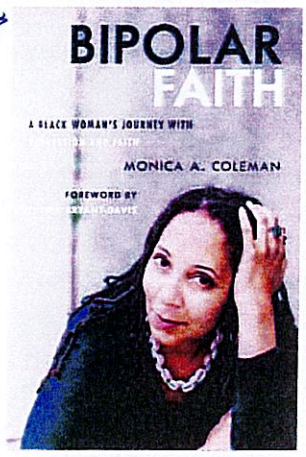
ABUELITA FE/ABUELITA FAITH: WHAT WOMEN ON THE MARGINS TEACH US ABOUT WISDOM, PERSISTENCE, AND STRENGTH

KAT ARMAS

BRAZOS PRESS (2021)

Kat Armas, a second-generation Cuban American, grew up on the outskirts of Miami's famed Little Havana neighborhood. Her earliest theological formation came from her grandmother, her abuelita, who fled Cuba during the height of political unrest and raised three children alone after her husband passed away. Combining personal storytelling with biblical reflection, Armas shows us how voices on the margins—those often dismissed, isolated, and oppressed because of their gender, socioeconomic status, or lack of education—have more to teach us about following God than we realize. This book is a *Christianity Today* 2022 Book Award finalist.

Book available in English and Spanish

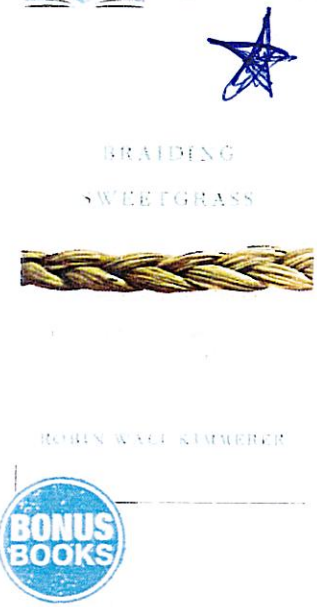


BIPOLAR FAITH: A BLACK WOMAN'S JOURNEY WITH DEPRESSION AND FAITH

MONICA COLEMAN

FORTRESS PRESS (2016)

Coleman examines the ways the legacies of slavery, war, sharecropping, poverty, and alcoholism mask a family history of mental illness. Those same forces accompanied her into the Black religious traditions and Christian ministry. All the while, she wrestled with her own bipolar disorder. *Bipolar Faith* is both a spiritual autobiography and a memoir of mental illness. Citing serendipitous encounters with Black intellectuals like Henry Louis Gates Jr., Angela Davis, and Renita Weems, Coleman offers a rare account of how the modulated highs of Bipolar II can lead to professional success, while hiding a depression that even her doctors rarely believed.



BONUS BOOKS

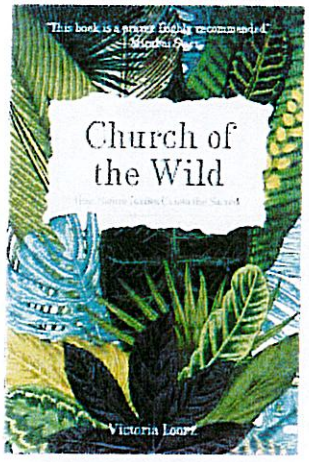
BRAIDING SWEETGRASS: INDIGENOUS WISDOM, SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE, AND THE TEACHINGS OF PLANTS

ROBIN WALL KIMMERER

MILKWEED EDITIONS (2020)

As a botanist, Kimmerer is trained to ask questions of nature with the tools of science. As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, she embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers. Here, she brings these two lenses together. Drawing on her life as an Indigenous scientist and a woman, Kimmerer shows how other living beings offer us gifts and lessons, even if we've forgotten how to hear their voices. She circles toward a central argument: that the awakening of ecological consciousness requires acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world.

SET- Check out the youth version of this book on page 40 of this catalog.

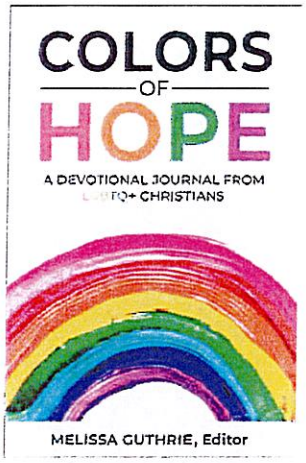


CHURCH OF THE WILD: HOW NATURE INVITES US INTO THE SACRED

VICTORIA LOORZ

BROADLEAF BOOKS (2021)

Whether disillusioned by the church or unfulfilled by traditional expressions of faith, many of us long for a deeper spirituality. Coping with an unraveling vocation, identity, and planet, Loorz turned to the wanderings of spiritual leaders and the sanctuary of the natural world, eventually co-founding the Wild Church Network and Seminary of the Wild. With an ecospiritual lens on biblical narratives and a fresh look at a community larger than our own species, *Church of the Wild* uncovers the roots of faith and helps us deepen our commitment to a suffering earth by falling in love with it.

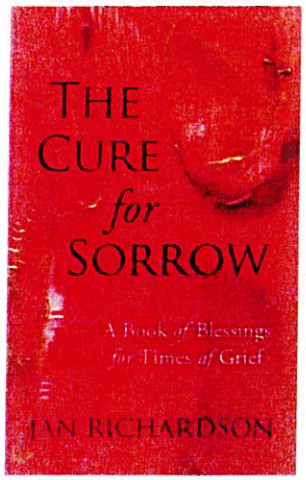


COLORS OF HOPE: A DEVOTIONAL JOURNAL FROM LGBTQIA + CHRISTIANS

MELISSA G. LOY, EDITOR

CHALICE PRESS (2022)

From the Rev. Melissa Lynn Guthrie, director and minister with AllianceQ, comes this much-needed faith-based resource for the LGBTQ+ community, *Colors of Hope* uses the iconic Pride Flag as the core of a nine-week-long reflection and devotional journal. The flag's eight colors are each tied to a specific symbolic theme, inspiring the book's contributors to craft a short essay and a set of several common themes that carry over to each week and invite readers to reflect on the week's theme in different ways.

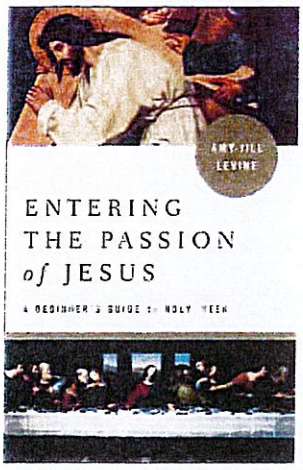


THE CURE FOR SORROW: A BOOK OF BLESSINGS FOR TIMES OF GRIEF

JAN RICHARDSON

WANTON GOSPELLER PRESS (2016)

When Jan Richardson unexpectedly lost her husband and creative partner, she did what she had long known how to do: She wrote blessings. These were no sugar-coated blessings. They minimized none of the pain and bewilderment that came in the wake of a wrenching death. With these blessings, she entered into the depths of the shock, anger, and sorrow. From those depths, she has brought forth words that, with heartbreaking honesty, offer surprising comfort and stunning grace. Those who know loss will find kinship among these pages.

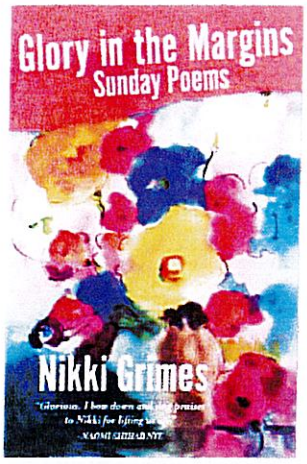


ENTERING THE PASSION OF JESUS: A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO HOLY WEEK

AMY-JILL LEVINE

ABINGDON PRESS (2018)

Jesus' final days were full of risk. Every move he made was filled with anticipation, danger, and the potential for great loss or great reward. In *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story. She shows us how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for the reader, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience. The book is part of a larger six-week study that is perfect for Lent.

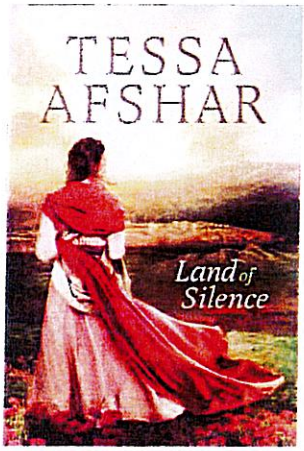


GLORY IN THE MARGINS: SUNDAY POEMS

NIKKI GRIMES

IRON PEN (2021)

This collection of poetry from *New York Times* bestselling author and poet Nikki Grimes explores the many hours Jesus spent with people in the margins. In the book of Job, a suffering man pours out his anguish to his Maker. From the depths of his pain, he reveals a trust in God's goodness stronger than his despair, giving humanity some of the most beautiful and poetic verses of all time. Grimes' poetry reflects a spirit of unvarnished honesty and tenacious hope. Her collection is a gentle, beautiful and provocative collection that opens up Scripture in a fresh and welcome way.

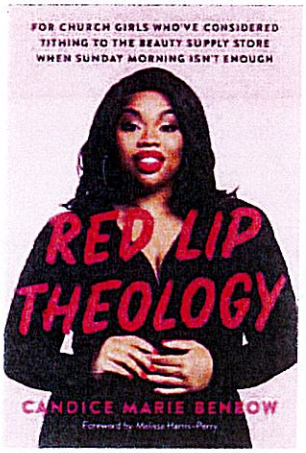


LAND OF SILENCE

TESSA AFSHAR

TYNDALE HOUSE PUBLISHERS (2016)

Before she stole healing by touching the hem of his garment, Elianna was a young girl crushed by guilt. After her only brother is killed in her care, Elianna tries to earn forgiveness by working for her father's textile trade and caring for her family. When another tragedy places Elianna in sole charge of the business, her talent for design brings enormous success, but never absolution. Then illness strikes, isolating Elianna from everyone and stripping everything she has left. No physician can cure her—until she hears whispers of a man whose mere touch can heal.

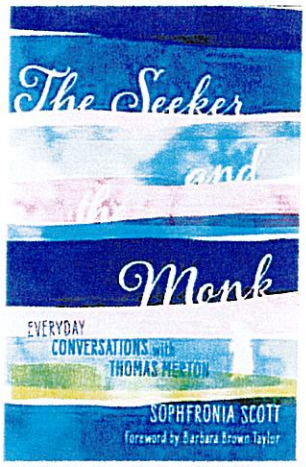


RED LIP THEOLOGY: FOR CHURCH GIRLS WHO'VE CONSIDERED TITHING TO THE BEAUTY SUPPLY STORE WHEN SUNDAY MORNING ISN'T ENOUGH

CANDACE MARIE BENBOW

CONVERGENT BOOKS (2022)

Benbow's essays explore universal themes like heartache, loss, forgiveness, and sexuality, and she unflinchingly empowers women who struggle with feeling loved and nurtured by church culture. Honoring her single mother's love and triumphs—and mourning her unexpected passing—she finds herself forced to shed restrictions she'd been taught to place on her faith practice. And by embracing alternative spirituality and womanist theology, and confronting staid attitudes on body positivity and LGBTQ+ rights, Benbow challenges religious institutions, faith leaders, and communities to reimagine how faith can be a tool of liberation and transformation.

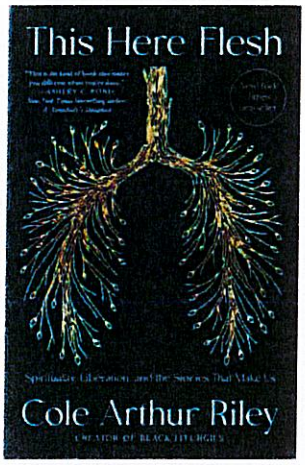


THE SEEKER AND THE MONK: EVERYDAY CONVERSATIONS WITH THOMAS MERTON

SOPHFRONIA SCOTT

BROADLEAF BOOKS (2021)

What if we truly belong to each other? What if we are all walking around shining like the sun? Mystic, monk, and activist Thomas Merton asked those questions in the 20th century. Writer Sophfronia Scott asks them today. Here, Scott mines the extensive private journals of one of the most influential contemplative thinkers of the past for guidance on how to live in these fraught times As a Black woman who is not Catholic, Scott holds spirited, and intimate conversations on race, ambition, faith, activism, nature, prayer, friendship, and love.

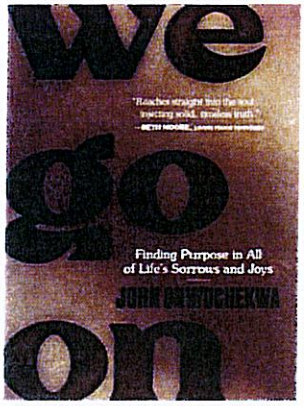


THIS HERE FLESH: SPIRITUALITY, LIBERATION AND THE STORIES THAT MAKE US

COLE ARTHUR RILEY

CONVERGENT BOOKS (2022)

In her stunning debut, the creator of Black Liturgies weaves stories from three generations of her family alongside reflections to discover necessary rituals that connect us with belonging, dignity, and liberation. Here, Arthur Riley reflects on stories of her grandmother and father and how they revealed an embodied, dignity-affirming spirituality, not only in what they believed but in the act of living itself. Writing of her own childhood and coming to self, she boldly explores some of the most urgent questions of life and faith. *This Here Flesh* speaks to anyone who suspects our stories might have something to say to us.

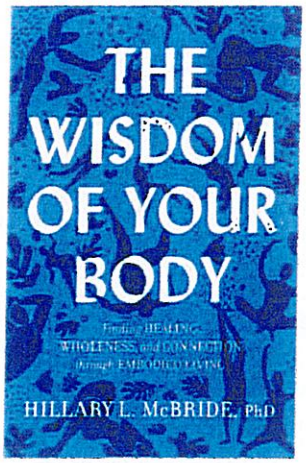


WE GO ON: FINDING PURPOSE IN ALL OF LIFE'S SORROWS AND JOYS

JOHN ONWUCHEKWA

ZONDERVAN (2022)

Rich with black-and-white photography, powerful stories, and life-changing reflections from the book of Ecclesiastes, *We Go On* calls you to find the true answer to the question: Why am I here? This hope-filled exploration of this biblical book of wisdom turns our attention to what our true purpose is and how to let that purpose shape our relationships, career, and life choices. Along with biblical insights, Onwuchekwa weaves together meaningful challenges that, even from difficult beginnings, we can continue to trust God's path.

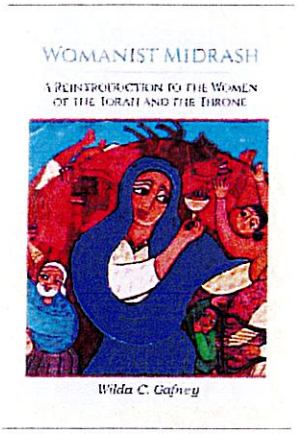


THE WISDOM OF YOUR BODY: EMBODIMENT AS THE ROAD TO HEALING, WHOLENESS, AND CONNECTION

HILLARY L. MCBRIDE

BRAZOS PRESS (2021)

Psychologist and award-winning researcher Hillary McBride explores the broken and unhealthy ideas we have inherited about our body. Embodiment is the way we are in the world, and our embodiment is heavily influenced by who we have been allowed to be. McBride shows that many of us feel disembodied due to colonization, racism, sexism, and patriarchy—destructive systems that rank certain bodies as less valuable, beautiful, or human than others. Embracing our embodiment can liberate us from these systems. *The Wisdom of Your Body* offers a compassionate, healthy, and holistic perspective on embodied living.

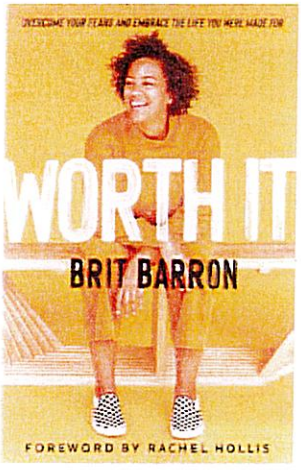


WOMANIST MIDRASH: A REINTRODUCTION TO THE WOMEN OF TORAH AND THE THRONE

WILDA C. GAFNEY

WESTMINSTER JOHN KNOX PRESS (2017)

From Hebrew biblical scholar, professor, and Episcopal priest Wilda Gafney comes this in-depth and creative exploration of the well- and lesser-known women of the Hebrew Scriptures. Using her own translations, Gafney offers a midrashic interpretation of the biblical text that is rooted in the African-American preaching tradition to tell the stories of a variety of female characters, many of whom are often overlooked and nameless. Gafney employs a solid understanding of womanist and feminist approaches to biblical interpretation and the sociohistorical culture of the ancient Near East.



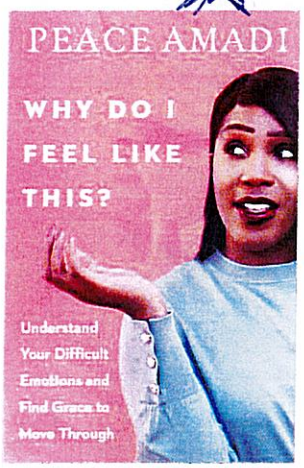
WORTH IT: OVERCOME YOUR FEARS AND EMBRACE THE LIFE YOU WERE MADE FOR

BRITT BARON

BROADLEAF BOOKS (2020)

Growing up in an evangelical megachurch, trying to fit neatly inside the boundaries of her faith, and wrestling with her true self caused Barron to feel boxed in by her fears and unable to realize her full potential. All that changed when she met a girl named Sami, fell in love, and chose to break free from the judgement of others in favor of a full and vibrant life. In *Worth It*, Barron tells her story to inspire readers, encouraging us all to consider other perspectives surrounding race, religion, and sexuality, including fears that keep us from evolving toward acceptance.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH



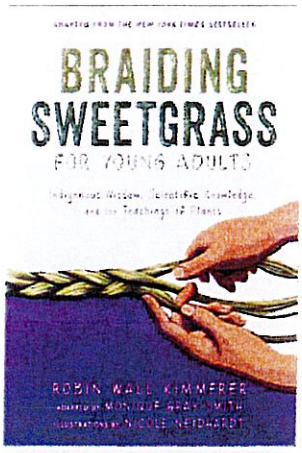
WHY DO I FEEL LIKE THIS?: UNDERSTAND YOUR DIFFICULT EMOTIONS AND FIND GRACE TO MOVE THROUGH

PEACE AMADI

INTERVARSITY PRESS (2021)

Sometimes life is a mess and we get overwhelmed by all sorts of conflicting, difficult emotions. In this book, psychology professor and personal development coach Dr. Peace Amadi helps readers navigate the complexity of their emotions, from discouragement and hurt to trauma and depression. She explains the dynamics underlying what they feel and gives practical resources for living through their emotions in healthy ways. With insights from both psychology and Scripture, this book offers a clear plan to get peace and freedom back and find joy again.

Youth Books



BRAIDING SWEETGRASS FOR YOUNG ADULTS

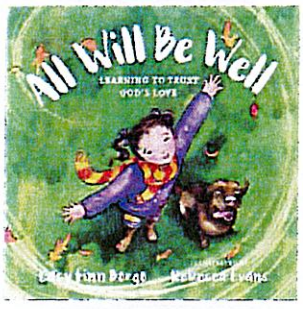
ROBIN WALL KIMMERER

ZEST BOOKS (2022)

In this companion book for youth, botanist Robin Wall Kimmerer draws from her experiences as an Indigenous scientist to demonstrate how all living things—from strawberries and witch hazel to water lilies and lichen—provide us with gifts and lessons every day. Adapted for young adults by Monique Gray Smith, this new edition reinforces how wider ecological understanding stems from listening to the earth's oldest teachers: the plants around us. With informative sidebars, reflection questions, and art from illustrator Nicole Neidhardt, *Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults* brings Indigenous wisdom, scientific knowledge, and the lessons of plant life to a new generation.

SET- Check out the adult version of this book on page 35 of this catalog.

Children's Books



ALL WILL BE WELL: LEARNING TO TRUST GOD'S LOVE

LACY FINN BORGO, ILLUSTRATIONS BY REBECCA EVANS

IVP KIDS (2022)

Mima is very sick, and just thinking about it makes Julian sad and angry. Julian is worried about Mima and wonders if God can hear her or if God cares. Mima explains to Julian that God loves us and God can be trusted—even when we are sad or angry. This gentle story of a grandmother's love for her granddaughter incorporates the timeless wisdom of Julian of Norwich: Because of God's great love for us, all will be well. All Will Be Well tackles the sensitive subjects of death and grief in a way understood by children when adults read thoughtfully with them.

Suitable for children.

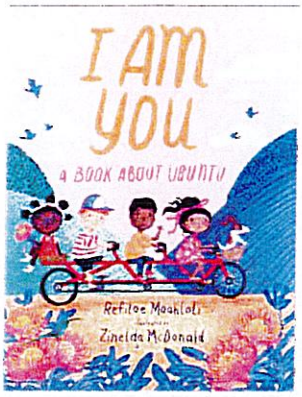


THE GOOD FOR NOTHING TREE

AMY-JILL LEVINE AND SANDY EISENBERG SASSO
FLYAWAY BOOKS (2022)

A tiny fig tree needs time to grow. But how much time? Is the fig tree good for nothing? Inspired by the parable of the barren fig tree, *The Good for Nothing Tree* reminds us readers that the sweetest figs, like many other things, are worth waiting for. Not every tree—and not every child—grows at the same pace. Yet patience, care, and love can change everything, making what may appear "good for nothing" very good. A note about the parable's New Testament origins and a recipe are included.

Suitable for children.



I AM YOU: A BOOK ABOUT UBUNTU

REFILOE MOAHIOLI
AMAZON CROSSING KIDS (2022)

In southern Africa, there is a belief called ubuntu—the idea that all are connected. No matter where we're from or who we are, a person is a person through their connections to other people. With simple, lyrical text and charming artwork, this lively picture book, first published in South Africa, is the perfect introduction to the concept of ubuntu for young kids. A celebration of friendship and kindness, the book shows children the many ways that we are all one. Previously published as *We Are One*, this edition of *I Am You* includes editorial revisions.

Suitable for children.



WONDER AWAITS!

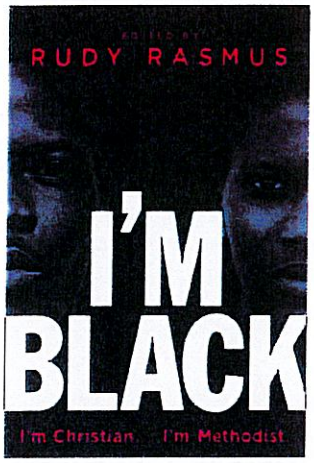
CAROLINE HAMILTON-ARNOLD
CHALICE PRESS (2022)

Have you ever noticed that children are always listening, seeing, touching, smelling, tasting—and thinking? *Wonder Awaits!* encourages children of all ages to use those senses and everyday activities to see the miracles of creation. Kids are encouraged to get close, get dirty, look carefully, look up, make art, make friends, be brave, be curious, be present, and be amazed, all activities adults should do too. Accompanying the words are dozens of photos portraying children from two to six years of age representing the practices encouraged by the text.

Suitable for children.

BONUS BOOKS

EDUCATION FOR MISSION

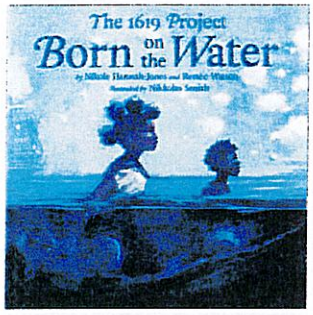


I'M BLACK. I'M CHRISTIAN. I'M METHODIST.

RUDY RASMUS, EDITOR

ABINGDON PRESS (2020)

In this book, edited by Dr. Rudy Rasmus, personal narratives from 10 men and women reveal the distinct struggles of being Black in the church, facing both historic and modern racism. While the essays each begin with the central identities of Black, Christian, and Methodist, they also represent different journeys of confronting centuries of White supremacy in religious and secular institutions. Weaving together autobiography and spiritual formation, they represent a significant contribution to our theological understanding of racism.



THE 1619 PROJECT: BORN ON THE WATER

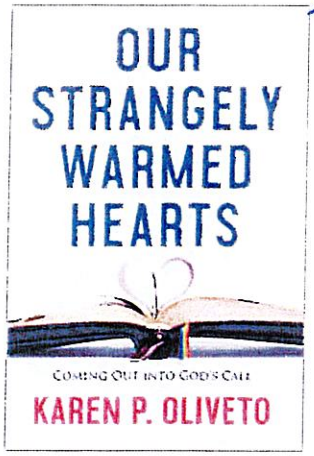
NIKOLE HANNAH-JONES

KOKILA (2021)

Hannah-Jones collaborated with children's book author Renée Watson to produce this companion piece. A children's picture book written in verse, it serves to help young people understand the important concepts addressed in the original—notably, the impact of slavery on American's foundational principles. In the children's version, the book explores a perspective from a young Black girl tasked in school to draw a flag that represents her ancestral land. At first she doesn't understand her family's past, but soon the girl talks with her grandmother and learns the truth about her lineage.

Suitable for children.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



OUR STRANGELY WARMED HEARTS: COMING OUT INTO GOD'S CALL

KAREN OLIVETO

ABINGDON PRESS (2018)

BONUS BOOKS

Karen Oliveto is bishop of the Mountain Sky Episcopal Area for The United Methodist Church and the first openly lesbian bishop in the denomination. Here, Oliveto discloses how, just like Methodism founder John Wesley experienced a strangely warmed heart when he discovered his true spiritual identity, so too do spiritual renewal and a personal call to ministry emerge in the strangely warmed hearts of lesbian and gay Christians. The book includes first-person narratives of LGBTQ persons faithfully serving in the UMC, as well as how the coming-out process is deeply spiritual as one grows into an authentic, God-created and graced self.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH



BRAIDING SWEETGRASS: INDIGENOUS WISDOM, SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE, AND THE TEACHINGS OF PLANTS

ROBIN WALL KIMMERER

MILKWEED EDITIONS (2020)

As a botanist, Kimmerer is trained to ask questions of nature with the tools of science. As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, she embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers. Here, she brings these two lenses together. Drawing on her life as an Indigenous scientist and a woman, Kimmerer shows how other living beings offer us gifts and lessons, even if we've forgotten how to hear their voices. She circles toward a central argument: that the awakening of ecological consciousness requires acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world.

Note: For the Spiritual Growth Bonus Books, you must participate in or lead one of the studies in order to receive Reading Program credit. You may attend or lead the eight-part Mission u study either in a conference/district Mission u context, or in your own local context (church, unit, otherwise) to receive Bonus Book credit. If you read the study but do not lead/participate in a group, it counts as only 1 credit.