This is a community curated list of books, poems, articles and blog posts that explore race, not only in St. Louis, but America as a whole. By no means a full comprehensive list, here are a few to get you started on the trail of understanding what's happening. For more information, please visit [www.left-bank.com/black-lives-matter](http://www.left-bank.com/black-lives-matter)

### Children’s Books

*Freedom on the Menu: The Greensboro Sit-Ins* by Carole Boston Weatherford

*Many Thousand Gone: African Americans from Slavery to Freedom* by Virginia Hamilton

*One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams-Garcia

### Civil Rights History

*Freedom Summer: The Savage Season of 1964 That Made Mississippi Burn and Made America a Democracy* by Bruce Watson

*Lynching of Cleo Wright* by Dominic J. Capeci JR

*The Freedom Summer Murders* by Don Mitchell

*The Eve of Destruction: How 1965 Transformed America* by James T. Patterson

*The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin

*American Slavery, American Freedom* by Edmund S. Morgan

*A Mighty Long Way: My Journey to Justice at Little Rock Central High School* by Carlotta Walls Lanier

*Olivia's Story: The Conspiracy of Heroes Behind Shelley V. Kraemer* by Jeffrey S. Copeland
Waking from the Dream: The Struggle for Civil Rights in the Shadow of Martin Luther King, Jr. by David Chappell

Turn Away Thy Son: Little Rock, the Crisis That Shocked the Nation by Elizabeth Jacoway

Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice by Phillip Hoose

Buried in the Bitter Waters: The Hidden History of Racial Cleansing in America by Elliot Jaspin

Medical Apartheid: The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans from Colonial Times to the Present by Harriet Washington

Race Riot: Chicago in the Red Summer of 1919 by William Tuttle


All Eyes Are Upon Us: Race and Politics from Boston to Brooklyn Sokol Jason


Black Moses: The Story of Marcus Garvey and the Universal Negro Improvement Association by E. David Cronon

Sundown Towns: A Hidden Dimension of American Racism by James Loewen

Contemporary Civil Rights Issues

Disintegration: The Splintering of Black America by Eugene Robinson

The N Word: Who Can Say It, Who Shouldn’t and Why by Jabari Asim

Uprooting Racism: How White People Can Work for Racial Justice by Paul Kivel

The Meaning of Freedom: And Other Difficult Dialogues by Angela Y. Davis

Creative Community Organizing: A Guide for Rabble-Rousers, Activists, and Quiet Lovers of Justice by Si Kahn

The House That Race Built edited by Wahneema Lubiano
Black Stats: African Americans by the Numbers in the Twenty-First Century by Monique W. Morris

*Great American City: Chicago and the Enduring Neighborhood Effect* by Robert J. Sampson

*The News: A User’s Manual* by Alain De Botton

*Combined Destinies: Whites Sharing Grief about Racism* by Jealous T. Ann

*The Divide: American Injustice in the Age of the Wealth Gap* by Mat Taibbi

*Pedagogy of the Oppressed* by Paulo Freire

*White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son* by Tim Wise

*Witnessing Whiteness: The Need to Talk about Race and How to Do It* by Shelly Tochluk

*Dog Whistle Politics: How Coded Racial Appeals Have Reinvented Racism and Wrecked the Middle Class* by Ian Haney-Lopez

**Memoir**

*The Beautiful Struggle: A Father, Two Sons and an Unlikely Road to Manhood* by Ta-Nehisi Coates

*The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates* by Wes Moore

*The Grace of Silence: A Family Memoir* by Michele Norris

*High on the Hog: A Culinary Journey from Africa to America* by Jessica B. Harris

*March, Book 1* by John Lewis

*Men We Reaped* by Jesmyn Ward

*The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin

*At the Elbows of My Elders* by Gail Milissa Grant

*A Mighty Long Way* by Carlotta Walls Lanier

*Black Like Me* by John Howard Griffin

*Fire Shut Up in My Bones* by Charles Blow
Sister: An African American Life in Search of Justice by Silvia Bell White

Novels and Stories Exploring Race

Welcome to Braggsville by T. Geronimo Johnson

Boy, Snow, Bird by Helen Oyeyemi

Americannah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

The Burgess Boys by Elizabeth Strout

Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison

A Taste of Honey by Jabari Asim

Betsey Brown by Ntozake Shange

A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines

Native Son by Richard Wright

King Hedley II by August Wilson

Stuck Rubber Baby by Howard Cruse

Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination by Toni Morrison

All about Skin: Short Fiction by Women of Color by Jina Ortiz

Policing and Incarceration

Rise of the Warrior Cop by Radley Balko

The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander

Losing Legitimacy by Gary Lafree

Mass Incarceration on Trial by Jonathan Simon

Suspicion Nation by Lisa Bloom

The Central Park Five by Sarah Burns
Arbitrary Justice by Angela J. Davis
Life in Prison by Stanley “Tookie” Williams
*No Choirboy: Murder, Violence and Teenagers on Death Row* by Susan Kuklin
*Why Are So Many Black Men in Prison?* By Demico Boothe

**Race in St. Louis History**

*Never Been a Time* by Harper Barnes

*Mapping Decline* by Colin Gordon

*Grassroots at the Gateway* by Clarence Lang

*That’s the Way it Was* by Vida “Sister” Goldman Prince

*Olivia’s Story* by Jeffrey Copeland

*Mill Creek Valley A Soul of Saint Louis: The Life and Death of a Black Neighborhood* by Ron Fagerstrom
Books for children from around the world. This book will be available shortly on the International Children's Digital Library, a joint project of the Internet Archive and University Of Maryland. Topics: Schools -- Fiction, Bears -- Fiction. New York Public Library. 22,309 22K. Shop for children's books by age, series, author, subject and format. Find bestsellers, new releases, award winners and our recommended books for kids at Amazon.com. Select the department you want to search in. All Departments Audible Books & Originals Alexa Skills Amazon Devices Amazon Warehouse Appliances Apps & Games