

From: Challenging Racism (mail@networkforgood.com)

To: porozco\_98@yahoo.com

Date: Sunday, November 14, 2021, 12:45 PM EST

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# NOVEMBER 2021

## RESOURCES FOR ANTI-RACIST LIVING



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### NOT TO BE MISSED!

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**N**

by Adrienne Earle Pender  
directed by Nadia Guevara

[The Keegan Theatre](#)

**Playing** Oct 23 – Nov 20, 2021

**Artist Talkback** November 7

**Audience Talkback with CHALLENGING RACISM: The Intersection of Race & Theater/Art**

**November 14, 2021 | Following the performance**

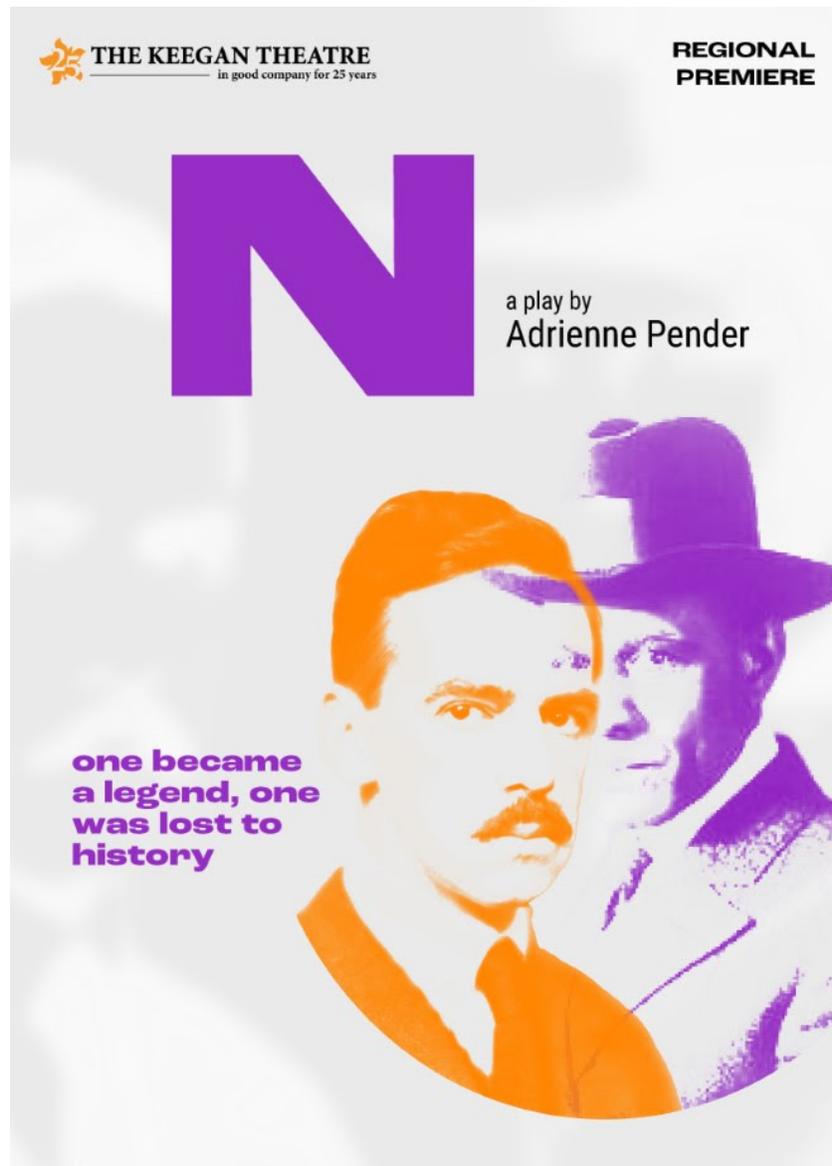
**Free and open to all patrons**

**Download the workbook for the talkback [HERE](#)**

Eugene O'Neill's groundbreaking 1921 play, *The Emperor Jones*, was the first American play that featured an African-American actor in the lead role on Broadway. Charles S. Gilpin's portrayal of Emperor Brutus Jones was hailed as "revelatory," and he was named the finest actor of the age. The opening of *The Emperor Jones* made stars of both men; it was O'Neill's first commercial success, and Gilpin became the toast of the theater world. But by 1926, O'Neill was a

legend and Gilpin was lost to history. Adrienne Pender's *N* explores the challenging relationship between Gilpin and O'Neill and how it ultimately hinged on one word — a word that lifted one of them to the heights of American theater and destroyed the other.

BUY TICKETS [HERE](#)



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## GIVING TUESDAY IS THIS NOVEMBER 30

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You can help Challenging Racism continue its mission to empower and inspire people to disrupt racism one compassionate conversation at a time. Consider donating this November 30th and be part of the change. To do so click on the image or follow this [link](#).



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## CHALLENGING RACISM IN THE NEWS

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**Who's getting DC theaters to do the work that undoes racism?**

[DC Metro Theater Arts](#), October 27, 2021

Among consultants working with local arts organizations to end racist and oppressive practices, Young Playwrights' Theater is playing a leading role.

It was back in 2017 that the **Young Playwrights' Theater (YPT)** needed to do some internal work around issues of institutional racism and oppression. It hired some consultants, and worked with them for about 15 months, identifying issues, policies, and structures that were standing in the way of its anti-racism and anti-oppressive goals as an organization.

That led to YPT changing a lot... To read the full article from the DC Metro Theater Arts, click [here](#).

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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## Many Voices One Community: The Healing Power of Poetry

### Free Poetry Workshops

4 sessions / 2 still available

Registration necessary

The workshops will provide writing prompts and craft guidance to respond to Arlington's segregationist history, including Hall's Hill Segregation Wall, Fire Station 8, and the Nazi party. The project will culminate in a public poetry reading on January, 2022, date and place TBD.

Come to all or any:

Saturday, September 18, 2021: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm (virtual)

Sunday, October 3, 2021: 2:00 - 4:00 pm (hybrid)

Wednesday, November 18, 2021: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm (hybrid)

Sunday, December 5, 2021: 2:00 - 4:00 pm (hybrid)

Workshops led by Susan Bucci Mockler. To register and for Zoom link please contact her at sbuccimockler@gmail.com or 703.615.4083.

This program is supported in part by Arlington County through the Arlington Cultural Affairs division of Arlington Economic Development and the [Arlington Commission for the Arts](#).

## Free Poetry Workshops



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### A History of Slavery and Resistance in Dutch New York

Monday November 22, 2021

6:30 pm

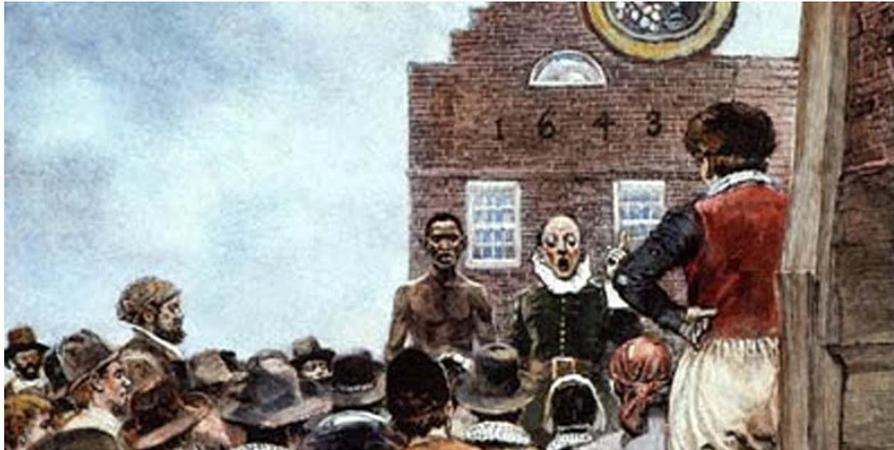
Online event, register [here](#)

Professor [Andrea C. Mosterman](#) takes another look at slavery and enslaved resistance in New Amsterdam.

In her new book, [Spaces of Enslavement](#), **Andrea C. Mosterman** addresses the persistent myth that the Dutch were more humane slaveowners. Investigating practices in New Netherland and the founding colony that became New York, the historian of the early US and Atlantic world shows that slavery in the old city held much in common with the southern plantation.

Mosterman, Associate Professor at the University of New Orleans, details how the movement of enslaved persons was controlled in both homes and public spaces like workshops, courts, and churches. She addresses how the enslaved responded by escaping from or modifying these spaces to expand their activities within. Over the course of the 17th and 18th centuries, the region's Dutch communities were engaged in a daily struggle with Black New Yorkers who found ways to claim freedom and resist oppression.

[Nicole Maskiell](#), Assistant Professor at the University of South Carolina, currently finishing a book comparing the development of elite northern culture by examining the social and kinship networks that intertwined enslavers and enslaved, joins in conversation.



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## Racial Equity in Education: Deepening the Conversation

8 sessions between October 19, 2021 and May 17, 2022

4:00 - 5:30 pm

Online event, register [here](#)

**Join a virtual cohort with global educators to expand and share discussions about racial equity in schools.**

In this monthly group, we will get together to collaborate, learn about, and discuss racial equity and diversity in schools. Each month we will rotate between sessions led by a facilitator with new content and sessions led by members of the cohort as they share something they are working on to inspire others, share resources, and receive feedback. Monica Belton, along with MiniPD, will share their expertise and facilitate the dialogue each month as the cohort learns, shares, and grows together.

### Why Attend?

During the 2020-2021 school year, educators from around the world participated in a Racial Equity in Education cohort. This event was a resounding success as educators were able to explore the background about racism and take actionable steps towards supporting students and making their school communities anti-racist. We are excited to offer another event aimed at deepening the conversation!

### Who should attend?

This event is for teachers and leaders who have already begun learning about racism and have begun using anti-racist strategies and practices in your school. This will provide you with the opportunity to deepen your learning, connect with a community of educators, and both share and gain practical ideas.

**Interested in attending? Share this [justification letter](#) with your school administrators!**

*\*Please note that the topics may shift based on the needs and interests of the cohort.*

If you are just beginning the process of examining racial equity or looking for building your understanding, please join our Racial Equity in Education: Beginning the Conversation cohort.

More information [here](#).



## Leading for Change: Join LGW's Anti-Racist Leadership Series

LGW's commitment to creating racial equity continues with the third iteration of our impactful Anti-Racist Leadership Series. We are now offering new 101, 201, and 301 programs to build opportunities for anti-racism, racial reconciliation, advocacy, and activism in our organizations, communities, and society.

The series fosters a community of support and collaboration and provides trusted resources to participants. Sessions occur virtually once per month. 645 diverse, cross-sector leaders have participated in past programs, hailing from 266 different organizations, businesses, and government agencies.

Please join us today by registering at the links below. Sponsorship opportunities are available now for organizations and businesses seeking a key role in dismantling systemic racism and helping others create more inclusive work cultures.



This six-month program is designed to give us the opportunity to immerse ourselves in the topic of race, then use exposure to information, group interaction, and personal sharing to explore the way systemic racism impacts each, and all of us, and to take that awareness into action as leaders and allies.

Register



The three-month 201 program is focused on organizational change. How can we design the cultures of our organizations to actively dismantle patterns of bias and race that have been deeply embedded in the system? Who do we need to be as leaders to take our organizations to the next level? Participants in this program should have completed the 101 series as a prerequisite. Exceptions can be granted based on interviews. The series begins on January 27, 2022. being Black and a woman.

Register



During the three virtual meetings of this program, participants will first be given a model for assessing an organization, based on Howard Ross's book, "ReInventing Diversity: Transforming Organizational Community to Strengthen People, Purpose, and Performance" and then will assess their organization. Participants in this program should have completed the 201 series as a prerequisite. Exceptions can be granted based on interviews. The series begins on April 28, 2022.

Register

## FROM OUR FACEBOOK FEED

### The Urgency of Intersectionality | Kimberlé Crenshaw

Now more than ever, it's important to look boldly at the reality of race and gender bias -- and understand how the two can combine to create even more harm. [Kimberlé Crenshaw](#) uses the term "intersectionality" to describe this phenomenon; as she says, if you're standing in the path of multiple forms of exclusion, you're likely to get hit by both. In this moving talk, she calls on us to bear witness to this reality and speak up for victims of prejudice.

Watch the full video [here](#).



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## The Origin of Race in the USA

Do you believe that your race correlates to your skin tone? Because that wasn't always the case. So how did Americans come to believe that race equals certain visible physical characteristics such as skin color and hair? And why is it that certain ethnic groups that were once considered "non-white" became reclassified as "white"?

Watch this [video](#) to find out!



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## Implicit Bias: Peanut Butter, Jelly and Racism

Still a bit confused as to what implicit bias means and whether you have some? Check out this short [video](#) from the New York Times, Peanut Butter, Jelly and Racism by [Saleem Reshamwala](#), and learn something new today!



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## RECOMMENDED BOOKS FROM OUR INSTAGRAM FEED

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PENGUIN  CLASSICS

IDA B. WELLS

THE LIGHT OF TRUTH  
WRITINGS OF AN ANTI-LYNCHING CRUSADER

EDITED WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND NOTES BY MIA BAY  
GENERAL EDITOR: HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.

## The Light of Truth: Writings of an Anti-Lynching Crusader by [Ida B. Wells](#)

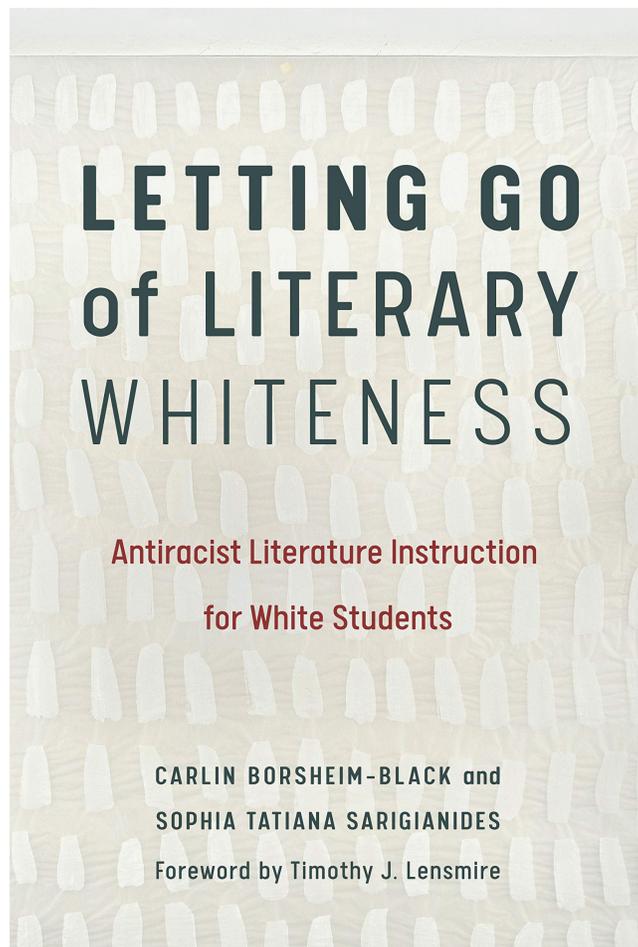
This is the broadest and most comprehensive collection of writings available by an early civil and women's rights pioneer.

Seventy-one years before Rosa Parks' courageous act of resistance, police dragged a young black journalist named Ida B. Wells off a train for refusing to give up her seat. The experience shaped Wells' career, and—when hate crimes touched her life personally—she mounted what was to become her life's work: an anti-lynching crusade that captured international attention.

This volume covers the entire scope of Wells' remarkable career, collecting her early writings, articles exposing the horrors of lynching, essays from her travels abroad, and her later journalism. The Light of Truth is both an invaluable resource for study and a testament to Wells's long career as a civil rights activist.

For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

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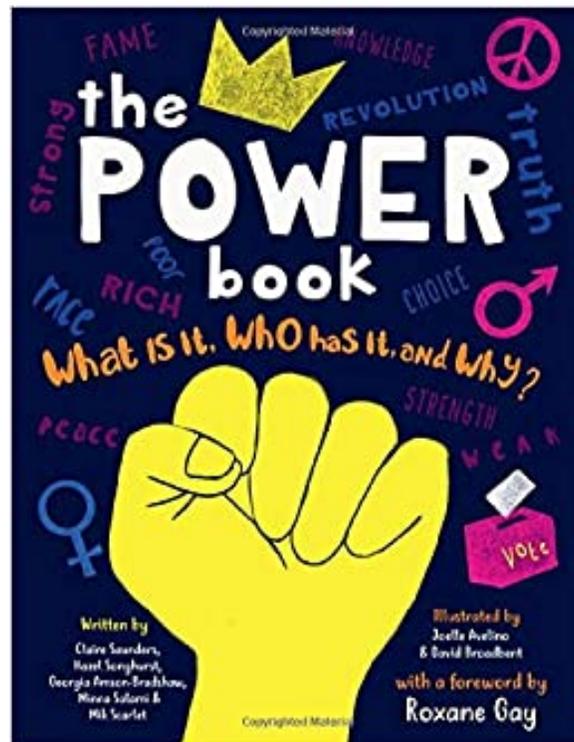
**Letting Go of Literary Whiteness: Antiracist Literature Instruction for White Students** by [Carlin Borsheim-Black](#) and [Sophia Tatiana Sarigianides](#)

Rooted in examples from their own and others' classrooms, the authors offer discipline-specific practices for

implementing antiracist literature instruction in White-dominant schools. Each chapter explores a key dimension of antiracist literature teaching and learning, including designing literature-based units that emphasize racial literacy, selecting literature that highlights voices of color, analyzing Whiteness in canonical literature, examining texts through a critical race lens, managing challenges of race talk, and designing formative assessments for racial literacy and identity growth.

Book features:

- Specific classroom scenarios and transcripts of race-related challenges that teachers will recognize to help situate suggested strategies.
- Sample racial literacy objectives, questions, and assessments to guide unit instruction.
- A literature-based unit that addresses societal racism in *A Raisin in the Sun*.
- Assignments for exploring Whiteness in the teaching of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.
- Questions teachers can use to examine *To Kill a Mockingbird* through a critical race lens.
- Techniques for managing difficult moments in whole group discussions.
- Collaborative glossary and exploratory essay assignments to build understanding of race-based concepts and racial identity development.



**The Power Book: What Is It, Who Has It, and Why?** by [Georgia Amson-Bradshaw](#), [Hazel Songhurst](#), [Minna Salami](#), [Claire Saunders](#), [Mik Scarlet](#), and [Joella Avelino](#)

With this inspiring and brightly illustrated guide to power, learn about the different types of power, what it means to have power, and what you can do with your own power to create positive change in the world, no matter who or how old you are.

What makes you the boss of me? What makes a king a king, or a queen a queen? Why can some people vote for their leaders, but other people can't? Does having lots of money make you powerful? Why are there fewer female scientists, leaders, and artists than men in history books?

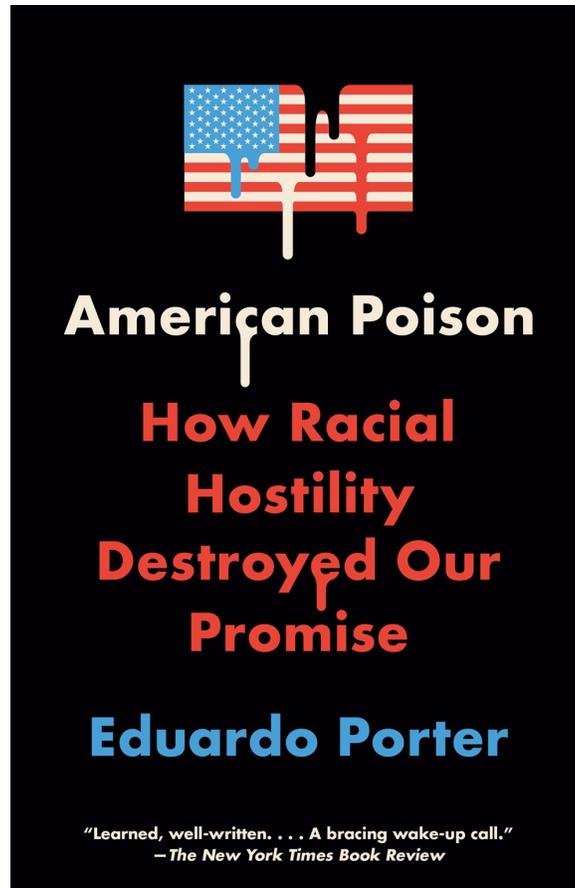
These are things that kids wonder about. The Power Book answers these and other questions in a relatable way for

young people, including thought-provoking discussions on challenging topics, like war, bullying, racism, sexism, and homophobia. You will gain an understanding of your place in your family, your school, and the world, and will discover ways in which you can use your own power to shape the future.

As you explore the many aspects of power, thinking points pose questions that spark self-reflection and quotes and stories from some of the greatest change-makers — such as Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr., Emmeline Pankhurst, Rosa Parks, Malala Yousafzai, and Stephen Hawking — provide historical context and inspiration. Find more opportunities for learning at the back with a glossary of terms and suggestions for further reading.

Gain a greater understanding of how power works, then learn how to harness it for good with *The Power Book*.

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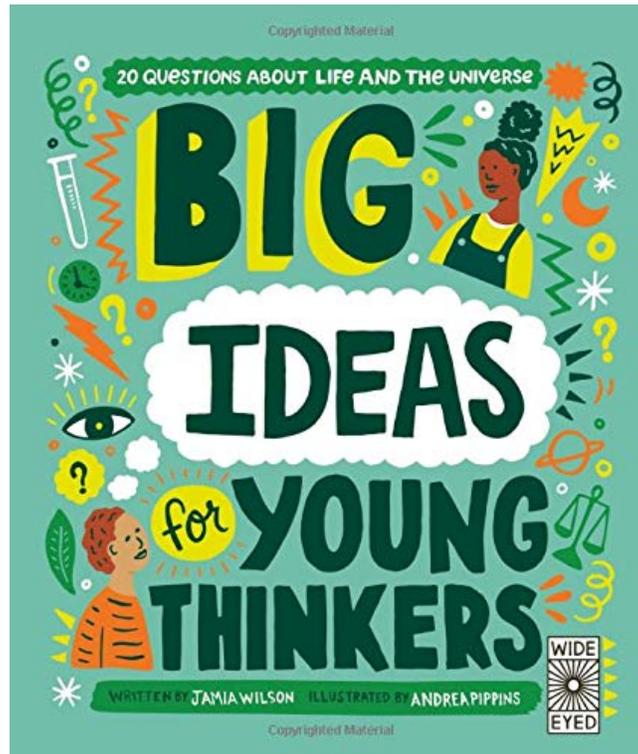
## **American Poison: How Racial Hostility Destroyed Our Promise by [Eduardo Porter](#)**

This book is an urgent and daring examination of how American racism has broken the country's social compact, eroded America's common goods, and damaged the lives of every American--and a heartfelt look at how these deep wounds might begin to heal.

Compared to other industrialized nations, the United States is losing ground across nearly every indicator of social health. Its race problem, argues Eduardo Porter, is largely to blame. In *American Poison*, the *New York Times* veteran shows how racial animus has stunted the development of nearly every institution crucial for a healthy society, including organized labor, public education, and the social safety net. The consequences are profound and are only growing graver with time. Leading us through history and across America--from FDR's New Deal through Bill Clinton's welfare reform to Donald Trump's retrograde and divisive policies--Porter pieces together how racial hostility has blocked American social cohesion at every turn, producing a nation that fails not only its black and brown citizens but white Americans as well.

American Poison is at once a broad, rigorous argument, and a profound cri de coeur. Even as it uncovers our most tenacious national pathology, it points the way toward hope, illuminating the ways in which, as the nation becomes increasingly diverse, it may well be possible to construct a new understanding of racial identity--and a more cohesive society on top of it.

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## Big Ideas for Young Thinkers: 20 Questions about Life and the Universe by [Jamia Wilson](#) and [Andrea Pippins](#)

This book teaches children to train their busy brains and think outside the box. Get lost for hours exploring puzzling questions that have stumped thinkers for years. More importantly, discover your truth by reading about a diverse range of thinkers. Drawing on influences from ancient Greeks right up to modern-day American writers, philosophy is re-imagined in this book.

Relate to the real-life experiences, explore big ideas from a range of thinkers, and decide where you stand on the issue at hand. For example, try to recall your earliest memory. Can you remember a lot or a little? Do memories make us who we are? Or do we pick and choose them to suit who we are? This is a multi-layered book to be explored again and again, revealing new opinions on every read.

Extra info in the book includes a manifesto for talking about difficult topics and managing disagreements, a glossary of terms, a timeline of key thinkers, and an index of themes.

Chapters are organized around questions, which include:

Who am I?

What is race?

What is gender?

What happens when we die?

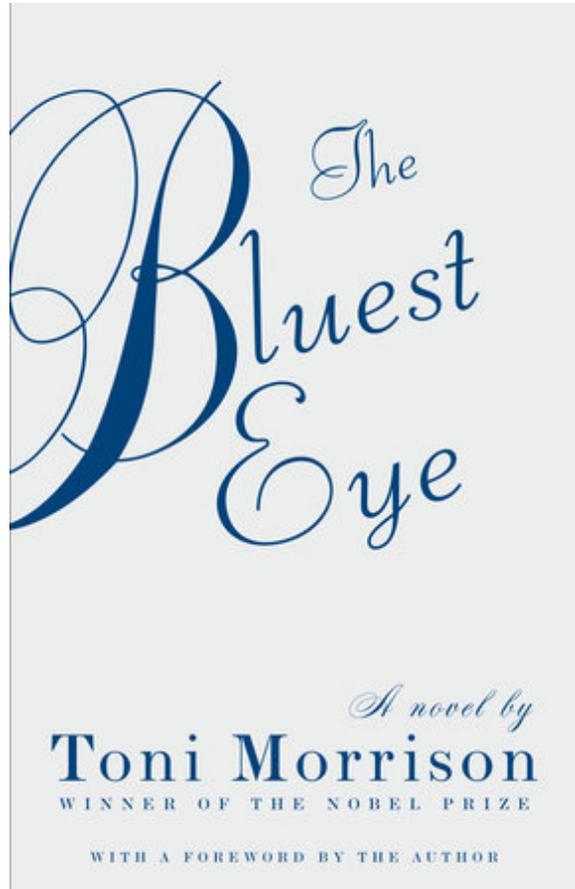
What is right and wrong?

What is justice?

What is memory?

A world-expanding book to get lost in: either individually, or as a family.

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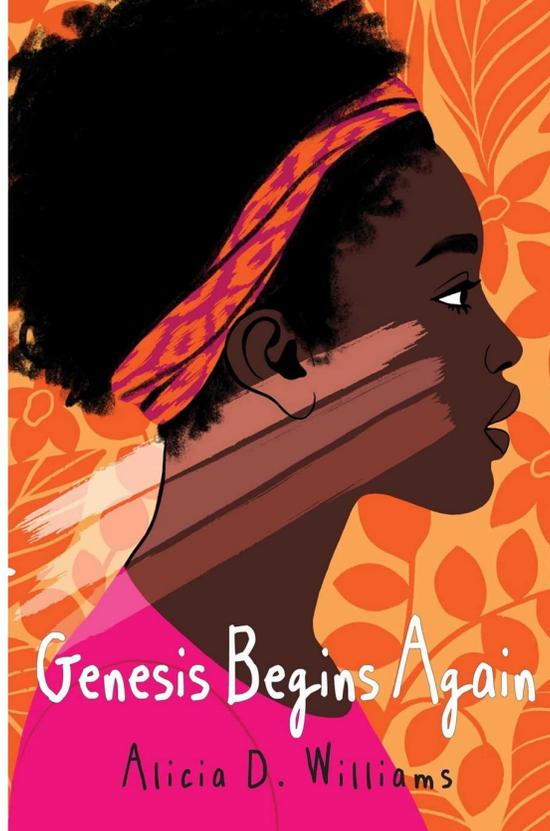
## The Bluest Eye by [Toni Morrison](#)

Nobel Prize winner Toni Morrison powerfully examines our obsession with beauty and conformity—and asks questions about race, class, and gender with her characteristic subtlety and grace.

In Morrison's bestselling first novel, Pecola Breedlove—an 11-year-old Black girl in an America whose love for its blond, blue-eyed children can devastate all others—prays for her eyes to turn blue: so that she will be beautiful, so that people will look at her, so that her world will be different. This is the story of the nightmare at the heart of her yearning, and the tragedy of its fulfillment.

Here, Morrison's writing is "so precise, so faithful to speech and so charged with pain and wonder that the novel becomes poetry" (The New York Times).

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## Genesis Begins Again by Alicia D. Williams

This deeply sensitive and powerful debut novel tells the story of a thirteen-year-old who must overcome internalized racism and a verbally abusive family to finally learn to love herself.

There are ninety-six things Genesis hates about herself. She knows the exact number because she keeps a list. Like [#95](#): Because her skin is so dark, people call her charcoal and eggplant — even her own family. And [#61](#): Because her family is always being put out of their house, belongings laid out on the sidewalk for the world to see. When your dad is a gambling addict and loses the rent money every month, eviction is a regular occurrence.

What's not so regular is that this time they all don't have a place to crash, so Genesis and her mom have to stay with her grandma. It's not that Genesis doesn't like her grandma, but she and Mom always fight — Grandma haranguing Mom to leave Dad, that she should have gone back to school, that if she'd married a lighter skinned man none of this would be happening, and on and on and on. But things aren't all bad. Genesis actually likes her new school; she's made a couple friends, her choir teacher says she has real talent, and she even encourages Genesis to join the talent show.

But how can Genesis believe anything her teacher says when her dad tells her the exact opposite? How can she stand up in front of all those people with her dark, dark skin knowing even her own family thinks lesser of her because of it? Why, why, why won't the lemon or yogurt or fancy creams lighten her skin like they're supposed to? And when Genesis reaches [#100](#) on the list of things she hates about herself, will she continue on, or can she find the strength to begin again?

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## FILMS TO WATCH THIS MONTH

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## **Mekko (2015)**

Mekko is a 2015 American drama film directed by [Sterlin Harjo](#). Harjo's third feature film, it is a thriller set among a community of homeless Native Americans in Tulsa.

Mekko leaves prison, having served a long sentence for having killed his cousin in a brawl. He reflects on his family's knowing and the path that he strayed from, where he was considered a see'r by the old people. He is haunted by visions of his own death and his ultimate fight with an evil spirit witch that takes the form of warriors or animal spirits. He knows he must confront it, but he fears his own weakness. Mekko meets a fellow native american who says he is a warrior, but who actually preys on the weak while demanding respect. Mekko looks into the man's heart and sees that it is the dwelling place of a witch who has killed many times. Inevitably, a confrontation arises. Mekko tries to avoid it, but he knows that the witch is hunting him.

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## Angry Inuk (2016)

Written and directed by [Alethea Arnaquq-Baril](#), Angry Inuk is a 2016 Canadian Inuit-themed feature-length documentary film that defends the Inuit seal hunt, as the hunt is a vital means for Inuit peoples to sustain themselves.

Subjects in Angry Inuk include Arnaquq-Baril herself as well as Aaju Peter, an Inuit seal hunt advocate, lawyer and seal fur clothing designer who depends on the sealskins for her livelihood. Partially shot in the filmmaker's home community of Iqaluit, as well as Kimmirut and Pangnirtung, where seal hunting is essential for survival, the film follows Peter and other Inuit to Europe in an effort to have the EU Ban on Seal Products overturned. The film also criticizes NGOs such as Greenpeace and the International Fund for Animal Welfare for ignoring the needs of vulnerable northern communities who depend on hunt for their livelihoods by drawing a false distinction between subsistence-driven Inuit hunters and profit-driven commercial hunters.

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## Did You Wonder Who Fired the Gun? (2017)

Directed by [Travis Wilkerson](#), *Did You Wonder Who Fired the Gun?* began as a “live documentary” about one white filmmaker’s reckoning with his family’s racist past. Travis Wilkerson’s great-grandfather murdered a black man in 1946, and decades later, Wilkerson set out for Alabama to try and figure out what happened.

Through interviews, photos, music, and searing personal confession, Wilkerson told the story while sitting on stage as clips and photos are projected onto the screen. Wilkerson’s anger and brokenness are palpable as he reckons with a history of white supremacy that belongs to his family and to him, too — and that translates clearly to the recorded version that you can watch at home.

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## Deidra & Laney Rob a Train (2017)

Deidra & Laney Rob a Train is an American comedy drama crime film directed by [Sydney Freeland](#), from a screenplay by Shelby Farrell. It stars Ashleigh Murray, Rachel Crow, Tim Blake Nelson, David Sullivan, Danielle Nicolet and Sasheer Zamata. The film had its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival on January 23, 2017, before being released on March 17, 2017, by Netflix.

Deidra & Laney's mother Marigold is taken to jail, and they are left to support themselves. To keep her sister Laney and younger brother Jet from being placed in foster care, Deidra makes a plan to rob trains. They need enough money to help pay their mother's bills and bail her out of jail. Along the way, they rekindle old relationships and find out who is real and to be trusted amongst their family and friends.

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# INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR CR

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Challenging Racism is looking for volunteers to join us as we design and implement a range of fundraising and outreach activities for the Executive Director and Board.

Volunteers help plan events, build partnerships, conduct outreach via social media, apply for grants, and design programs for organizations in need of our conversations.

All skills are needed and welcomed and volunteers can choose their areas of expertise to help with. Areas we currently need volunteer assistance with are:

- Grants writing
- Handling Press Releases & Public Relations

- Fundraising for 2021 including our 3rd Annual Running Against Racism Virtual Run/Walk, Giving Tuesday and many more
- Marketing and Squarespace knowledge to help with our Website
- IT & Database management to help with Google Drive

Please complete the form below and feel free to contact us at [volunteer@challengingracism.org](mailto:volunteer@challengingracism.org)

[Volunteer Form](#)



Challenging Racism  
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