



Getting Back to Our Roots: A Celebration of African and African-American Culture

FIC/ACHEBE, C.

Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe

After living in a Nigerian village for many years, Okonkwo, a member of the Ibo tribe, commits a crime and is exiled to another village, where he sees the conflict between traditional ways and the colonial modernization.

FIC/BALDWIN, J.

Go Tell It on the Mountain by James Baldwin

In the Harlem Ghetto and the rural South, fourteen-year-old John and his stepfather Gabriel find ways to cope with the social changes of Depression era America.

S.F./BUTLER, O.

Parable of the Sower by Octavia E. Butler

It is 2025, and when Lauren Olamina's small community is overrun by mobs of scavengers and vandals, she walks north and tries to sow the seeds of empathy.

FIC/CAMPBELL, B.

Your Blues Ain't Like Mine

by Bebe Moore Campbell

When 15-year-old Armstrong Todd crosses racial barriers to talk to a white girl, two white men murder him. The trial of these men provokes discussion on racial equality and justice before the law.

FIC/CARY, L.

Pride by Lorene Cary

Four African-American women—a politician's wife, a fiery woman who has no luck in love, an Episcopal priest, and an alcoholic—come together to offer each other support.

FIC/LITTLE, B.

The Itch by Benilde Little

Abra and her best friend, Natasha, run a film production company in New York City. However, when Abra's husband cheats on her, she runs off to Hollywood with Natasha and immerses herself in the dating scene.

FIC/MCFADDEN, B. *Sugar* by Bernice L. McFadden
Pearl Taylor sees her late daughter's face in Sugar Lacey, a young prostitute who sets up her "business" next door and brings life and vivacity to a sleepy Southern town.

FIC/MORRISON, T. *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison
Pecola Breedlove, a timid, impoverished African-American girl, battles racial self-hatred and physical and verbal abuse to get the thing that she desires more than anything else—to have the bluest eyes.

FIC/PACKER, Z. *Drinking Coffee Elsewhere* by ZZ Packer
In these short stories, characters engage in journeys of self-exploration, including a fight between two Brownie troops of different races and a road trip to the Million Man March.

FIC/PARKS, S. *Getting Mother's Body* by Suzan-Lori Parks
In a dusty town in Texas, Billy Beede, pregnant, is faced with a big decision: should she travel to Arizona with her zany family and dig up her mother's body before the site is paved over?

FIC/SINCLAIR, A. *Coffee Will Make You Black* by April Sinclair
It is the 1960's on Chicago's Southside, and Stevie Stevenson, a bookworm, shifts her focus to politics and crafts a new identity for herself.