

## CONTEMPORARY FICTION

### *Fledgling*

Butler, Octavia (Horror)

A story about the Ina (vampires) written by a MacArthur Fellowship author.

### *A Short Walk*

Childress, Alice

This early 20th century story chronicles Harlem poker dealer Cora James' "short walk" through life.

### *Wild Stars Seeking Midnight Suns*

Cooper, J. California

A collection of short stories about women who live with challenges like AIDS, poverty, and alcoholism.

### *The Dew Breaker*

Danticat, Edwidge

Story focuses on the lives affected by a "dew breaker," or torturer of Haitian dissidents, weaving seamlessly from 1967 Haiti to present-day Florida.

### *Acacia*

Durham, David Anthony

Step into the vivid fantasy world of Acacia and experience intrigue among the Akaran royal family.

### *The Interruption of Everything*

McMillan, Terry

Marilyn finds solace in friends as she experiences a mid-life crisis.

### *A Mercy*

Morrison, Toni

An Anglo-Dutch trader takes a young slave girl in exchange for a bad debt.

### *Devil in a Blue Dress*

Mosley, Walter

The exciting crime novel that introduced readers to the fabulous Easy Rawlins.

### *Apex Hides the Hurt*

Whitehead, Colson

A quirky story about America's obsession with brand names.

## LITERARY NON-FICTION

### *Complete Writings*

Phillis Wheatley

811.1 W56c 2001

### *A Brighter Coming Day*

Francis Ellen Watkins Harper

811.3 H232b

### *Caroling Dusk: An Anthology of Verse by Negro Poets*

Countee Cullen

811.508 C897c c.3

### *The Last Ride of Wild Bill, and Eleven Narrative Poems*

Sterling Allen Brown

811.52 B815L

### *The Essential Gwendolyn Brooks*

811.54 B791 AL2

### *The Collected Poetry of Nikki Giovanni, 1968-1998*

811.54 G439cp

### *The Collected Poems of Audre Lorde*

811.54 L884cp

### *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf*

Ntozake Shange

811.54 Sh18f 1989

### *A Raisin In the Sun and The Sign In Sidney Brustein's Window*

Lorraine Hansberry

812.5 H198r 1995

### *Children of the Night: The Best Short Stories by Black Writers, 1967 to the Present*

Gloria Naylor

813.54 C437

### *The Essential Writings of James Weldon Johnson*

James Weldon Johnson

818.5209 J633e

### *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*

Frederick Douglass

Biography Douglass, Frederick

African American Reads



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## 18TH AND 19TH CENTURY FICTION

### *Clotel, or, The President's Daughter*

Brown, William Wells

1853 slave narrative based on the rumor that Thomas Jefferson fathered his slave's children.

### *Freeman Walker*

Cates, David Allan

The adventures of a boy born to a slave and a white man in 1840s Maryland.

### *The Curse of Caste, or, The Slave Bride: A Rediscovered African-American Novel*

Collins, Julia C.

Race and class prejudice shape the life of a young mulatto girl.

### *The Bondwoman's Narrative*

Crafts, Hannah

The first novel known to be written by an African American in the United States.

### *The Complete Stories of Paul Laurence Dunbar*

Dunbar, Paul Laurence

### *Iola Leroy, or, Shadows Uplifted*

Harper, Frances Ellen Watkins

A classic of African American women's fiction of the 19th-century.

### *Minnie's Sacrifice*

Harper, Frances Ellen Watkins

A young woman from the north discovers her African ancestry.

### *Contending Forces*

Hopkins, Pauline E.

A story of Negro life in the North and South.

### *Song Yet Sung*

McBride, James

A young slave in pre-Civil War Maryland receives visions after a severe head wound.

### *Our Nig, or, Sketches from the Life of a Free Black*

Wilson, Harriet E.

An 1859 autobiographical novel.

## HARLEM RENAISSANCE (1917-1940) FICTION

### *The Quest of the Silver Fleece*

Du Bois, W.E.B.

A work of fiction by the famed American civil rights activist.

### *Plum Bun: A Novel Without a Moral*

Fauset, Jessie Redmon

Philadelphia native Angela Murry moves to New York in 1929 to live as a white woman.

### *The Walls of Jericho*

Fisher, Rudolph

Ralph Merrit buys a house on the borderline between a black and white neighborhood in 1920s Harlem.

### *Tambourines to Glory*

Hughes, Langston

Two women with different life goals start a successful street-corner church in New York.

### *The Complete Stories*

Hurston, Zora Neale

### *Passing*

Larsen, Nella

A black woman who has been passing for white encounters her childhood friend after many years.

### *Home to Harlem*

McKay, Claude

The story of Jake Brown, a U.S. Army deserter who lives in London until a race riot forces him home to the U.S.

### *Black No More*

Schuyler, George

A satirical novel involving a formula that turns black folks into white folks.

### *The Blacker the Berry*

Thurman, Wallace

This novel examines color prejudice among African Americans.

### *The Last Leaf of Harlem*

West, Dorothy

Newly discovered fiction by the last surviving member of the Harlem Renaissance.

## POST-HARLEM RENAISSANCE (1940-1980) FICTION

### *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

Baldwin, James

The life of a Harlem family during the Depression.

### *Those Bones are Not My Child*

Bambara, Toni Cade

Based on the 1980 Atlanta child murders.

### *Tales of the Out & the Gone*

Baraka, Amiri Imamu

Collection of stories about race, sex, politics, and social change.

### *Invisible Man*

Ellison, Ralph

This 1952 novel conveys the complexities of racial intolerance in America.

### *A Lesson Before Dying*

Gaines, Earnest J.

Narrative of a young man on death-row for murder after a robbery goes wrong.

### *If He Hollers Let Him Go*

Himes, Chester B.

Four days in the life of the only black man in an all white shipyard during World War II.

### *Sugar*

McFadden, Bernice

The trials and tribulations of a 12-year-old prostitute.

### *The Street*

Petry, Ann

A young black woman on the streets of Harlem struggles to raise her son.

### *The Free-Lance Pallbearers: An Irreverent Novel*

Reed, Ishmael

An outrageous and imaginative satire.

### *Native Son*

Wright, Richard

The story of a young African American man who kills a white woman in Chicago.