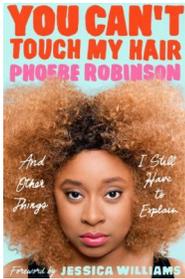


# Books by the Stack



## *You Can't Touch My Hair: and Other Things I Still Have To Explain* by Phoebe Robinson

The stand-up comedian and WNYC podcaster offers humorous, poignant essays describing her experience as a black woman in modern America on topics such as how she's been questioned on her love of Billy Joel and U2 and why you can't touch her hair. .

**Why you'll like it:** *Autobiography, racism, funny.*

**About the Author:** PHOEBE ROBINSON is a stand-up comedian, writer, and actress whom *Vulture.com*, *Essence*, and *Esquire* have named one of the top comedians to watch. Robinson's writing has been featured in *The Village Voice* and on *Glamour.com*, *TheDailyBeast.com*, *VanityFair.com*, *Vulture.com*, and *NYTimes.com*. Robinson lives and performs stand-up in Brooklyn, NY, and you can read her weekly musings about race, gender, and pop culture on her blog, *Blaria.com* (aka *Black Daria*).

### Questions for Discussion

1. Did you enjoy this book? Why or why not?
2. What is Robinson's most admirable quality? Is she someone you would want to know?
3. Was there something especially surprising about Robinson's story? What was it and why?
4. Do the stories aim directly at an emotional effect, or is emotion merely its natural by-product?
5. What did you think of the structure and style of the writing?
6. What essay/story resonated most with you personally in either a positive or negative way?
7. Titles can tell you what to pay attention to; titles can set the tone of a story; titles can be mysterious until after you finished the story when the meaning becomes clear. What is Robinson trying to do with her titles?
8. Does each story grow logically out of the preceding one and lead naturally to the next?

