

PREJUDICE /// RACISM

Abdel-Fattah, Randa

The Lines We Cross

Basketball enthusiast Michael attends anti-immigration rallies with his parents until a friendship with a Muslim refugee newcomer from Afghanistan compels him to question his family's politics.

Alexie, Sherman

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.

Blackman, Malorie

Naughts & Crosses

In a world where the pale-skinned Naughts are discriminated against by the politically and socially powerful dark-skinned Crosses, teenagers Callum--a Naught--and Sephy--a Cross--test whether their love is strong enough to survive their society's racism.

Draper, Sharon

Romiette and Julio

An African-American girl and a Latino boy fall in love after meeting on the Internet, but they are harassed by a gang who objects to their interracial dating.

Gaines, Ernest J.

The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman

Miss Jane Pittman is 110 when she recalls her childhood and the arrival of both Union and Confederate troops on the plantation where she lived.

Gaines, Ernest J.

A Lesson Before Dying

A young illiterate African American man witnesses two black robbers kill a white store owner in Louisiana in the late 1940s, and he is the one convicted.

Grisham, John

A Time to Kill

Criminal lawyer Jake Brigance faces the fight of his life when he is asked to defend Carl Hailey, who, in a fit of rage, shot and killed the men on trial for the rape of his daughter.

Guterson, David

Snow Falling on Cedars

After returning from internment during World War II and trying to get his land back, Kabuo Miyamoto is arrested and tried for the murder of Carl Heine.

Higgins, M. G.

I'm Just Me

Nasreen and Mia, who are Muslim and African American respectively, are the targets of bullies at Arondale High and together come up with a plan to fight back against their tormenters.

Kidd, Sue Monk

The Secret Life of Bees

After her "stand-in mother," a bold black woman named Rosaleen, insults the three biggest racists in town, Lily Owens joins Rosaleen on a journey to Tiburon, South Carolina, where they are taken in by three sisters.

Latham, Jennifer

Dreamland Burning

When Rowan finds a skeleton on her family's property, investigating the brutal, century-old murder leads to painful discoveries about the past. Alternating chapters reveal information that help solve the mystery of what happened through the telling of the story of William, a teen who lived through the racial firestorm leading up to the 1921 Tulsa race riot.

Lee, Harper

To Kill a Mockingbird

Scout's father defends a black man accused of raping a white woman in a small Alabama town during the 1930s.

Lester, Julius

Day of Tears

This story begins with a factual event--the largest slave auction in United States history that took place in 1859 on Pierce Butler's plantation in Georgia. The book introduces Butler, his abolitionist ex-wife Fanny Kemble, their two daughters, the auctioneer, and a number of slaves sold to pay off Butler's gambling debts. Emma, a fictional house slave, is the centerpiece of the novel. She cares for the master's daughters and has been promised that she will never be sold.

Magoon, Kekla

How It Went Down

When sixteen-year-old Tariq Johnson is shot to death, his community is thrown into an uproar because Tariq was black and the shooter, Jack Franklin, is white. In the aftermath, everyone has something to say, but no two accounts of the events agree.

Myers, Walter Dean

The Glory Field

Follows a family's two hundred forty-one year history, from the capture of an African boy in the 1750s through the lives of his descendants, as their dreams and circumstances lead them away from and back to the small plot of land in South Carolina that they call the Glory Field.

Myers, Walter Dean

Invasion

Josiah Wedgewood and Marcus Perry were friends in Virginia, but now that they are both involved in the Normandy invasion, the differences in their positions is uncomfortable. Josiah is a white infantryman and Marcus is a black transport driver, the only role the segregated army will allow him.

Perera, Anna

Guantanamo Boy

Six months after the events of September 11, 2001, Khalid, a Muslim fifteen-year-old boy from England, is kidnapped during a family trip to Pakistan and imprisoned in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where he is held for two years for reasons unknown to him.

Picoult, Jodi

Small Great Things

A black neonatal nurse is charged with causing the death of a white supremacist's newborn baby. The story is told from the points of view of the nurse, her attorney, and the baby's father.

Reynolds, Jason

All-American Boys

When sixteen-year-old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing, classmate Quinn witnesses his brutal beating at the hands of a police officer who happens to be the older brother of his best friend. Told through Rashad and Quinn's alternating viewpoints.

Smith, Sherri L.

Flygirl

During World War II, a light-skinned African-American girl "passes" for white in order to join the Women Airforce Service Pilots.

Stevenson, Sarah Jamila

The Latte Rebellion

When high school senior Asha Jamison is called a "towel head" at a pool party, she and her best friend Carey start a club to raise awareness of mixed-race students that soon sweeps the country, but the hubbub puts her Ivy League dreams, friendship, and beliefs to the test.

Strasser, Todd

The Wave

The powerful forces of group pressure that pervaded many historic movements such as Nazism are recreated in the classroom when history teacher Burt Ross introduces a "new" system to his students. Before long "The Wave," with its rules of "strength through discipline, community, and action," sweeps from the classroom through the entire school. As most of the students join the movement, Laurie Saunders and David Collins recognize the frightening momentum of "The Wave" and realize they must stop it before it's too late.

Stratton, Allan

Borderline

Despite the strained relationship between them, teenaged Sami Sabiri risks his life to uncover the truth when his father is implicated in a terrorist plot.

Thomas, Angie

The Hate U Give

Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, this searing debut is about an ordinary girl in extraordinary circumstances and addresses issues of racism and police violence with intelligence, heart, and unflinching honesty.

Trueman, Terry

7 Days at the Hot Corner

Varsity baseball player Scott Latimer struggles with his own prejudices and those of others when his best friend reveals that he is gay.

Volponi, Paul

Black and White

Two star high school basketball players, one black and one white, experience the justice system differently after committing a crime together and getting caught.

Winters, Cat

The Steep & Thorny Way

A sixteen-year-old biracial girl in rural Oregon in the 1920s searches for the truth about her father's death while avoiding trouble from the Ku Klux Klan in this historical novel inspired by Shakespeare's 'Hamlet'.

Woodson, Jacqueline

If You Come Softly (and sequel)

After meeting at their private school in New York, fifteen-year-old Jeremiah, who is black and whose parents are separated, and Ellie, who is white and whose mother has twice abandoned her, fall in love and then try to cope with people's reactions.