

African American Read-In Book List

Updated January 2018

Choose a book from this list or feel free to bring your favorite piece or passage by an African American author. All of these books are available at the New Albany-Floyd County Public Library. Please remember that selections should be appropriate for all ages.

Picture Books

Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut by Derrick Barnes
Knock, Knock: My Dad's Dream for Me by Daniel Beaty
I Am Loved by Nikki Giovanni
Little Leaders by Vashti Harrison
I, Too, Am America by Langston Hughes
My People by Langston Hughes
Goin' Somewhere Special by Patricia McKissack
H.O.R.S.E.: A Game of Basketball and Imagination by Christopher Myers
Jazz by Walter Dean Myers
Looking Like Me by Walter Dean Myers
Bad News for Outlaws by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson
Boycott Blues: How Rosa Parks Inspired a Nation by Andrew Davis Pinkney
Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up By Sitting Down by Andrea Davis Pinkney
Freedom in Congo Square by Carole Boston Weatherford
I, Matthew Henson by Carole Boston Weatherford
In Your Hands by Carole Boston Weatherford
Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson

Middle Grade

The Crossover by Kwame Alexander
Kinda Like Brothers by Coe Booth
Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis
The Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis
Out of My Mind by Sharon Draper
If All Comes Down to This by Karen English
Honey I Love by Eloise Greenfield
Make Way for Dyamonde Daniel by Nikki Grimes
Planet Middle School by Nikki Grimes
The Dark-Thirty: Southern Tales of the Supernatural by Patricia McKissack

Heart and Soul by Kadir Nelson
We Are the Ship by Kadir Nelson
Ghetto Cowboy by G. Neri
Martin Rising: Requiem for a King by Andrea Davis Pinkney
Ghost by Jason Reynolds
Towers Falling by Jewell Parker Rhodes
You Can Fly: The Tuskegee Airmen by Carole Boston Weatherford
One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia
Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson
Locomotion by Jacqueline Woodson

Teen

Tyrell by Coe Booth
Little & Lion by Brandy Colbert
Mare's War by Tanita Davis
The Battle of Jericho by Sharon Draper
Copper Sun by Sharon Draper
The Skin I'm In by Sharon Flake
The First Part Last by Angela Johnson
Day of Tears by Julius Lester
How it Went Down by Kekla Magoon
The Rock and the River by Kekla Magoon
Monster by Walter Dean Myers
How I Discovered Poetry by Marilyn Nelson
Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds
Flygirl by Sherri Smith
Dear Martin by Nic Stone
The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas
This Side of Home by Renee Watson
After Tupac and D Foster by Jacqueline Woodson

Adult

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou
The Fire Next Time by James Baldwin
Selected Poems by Gwendolyn Brooks
Kindred by Octavia Butler
Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates
Having Our Say by Sarah L. Delany and A. Elizabeth Delany

Never Caught by Erica Dunbar
The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar by Paul Laurence Dunbar
Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison
Difficult Women by Roxane Gay
The Collected Poetry of Nikki Giovanni by Nikki Giovanni
Roots by Alex Haley
Selected Poems of Langston Hughes by Langston Hughes
Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston
An American Marriage by Tayari Jones
Walking with the Wind by John Lewis
The Color of Water by James McBride
Five-Carat Soul by James McBride
Beloved by Toni Morrison
The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison
Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison
Mama Day by Gloria Naylor
Twelve Years a Slave by Solomon Northrup
The History of White People by Nell Irvin Painter
Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson
The Color Purple by Alice Walker
The Temple of My Familiar by Alice Walker
Sing, Unburied, Sing by Jesmyn Ward
The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead
The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson
Black Boy by Richard Wright
The Autobiography of Malcolm X by Malcolm X and Alex Haley