

# BLACK LIVES MATTER

## A KS4 RESOURCE PACK

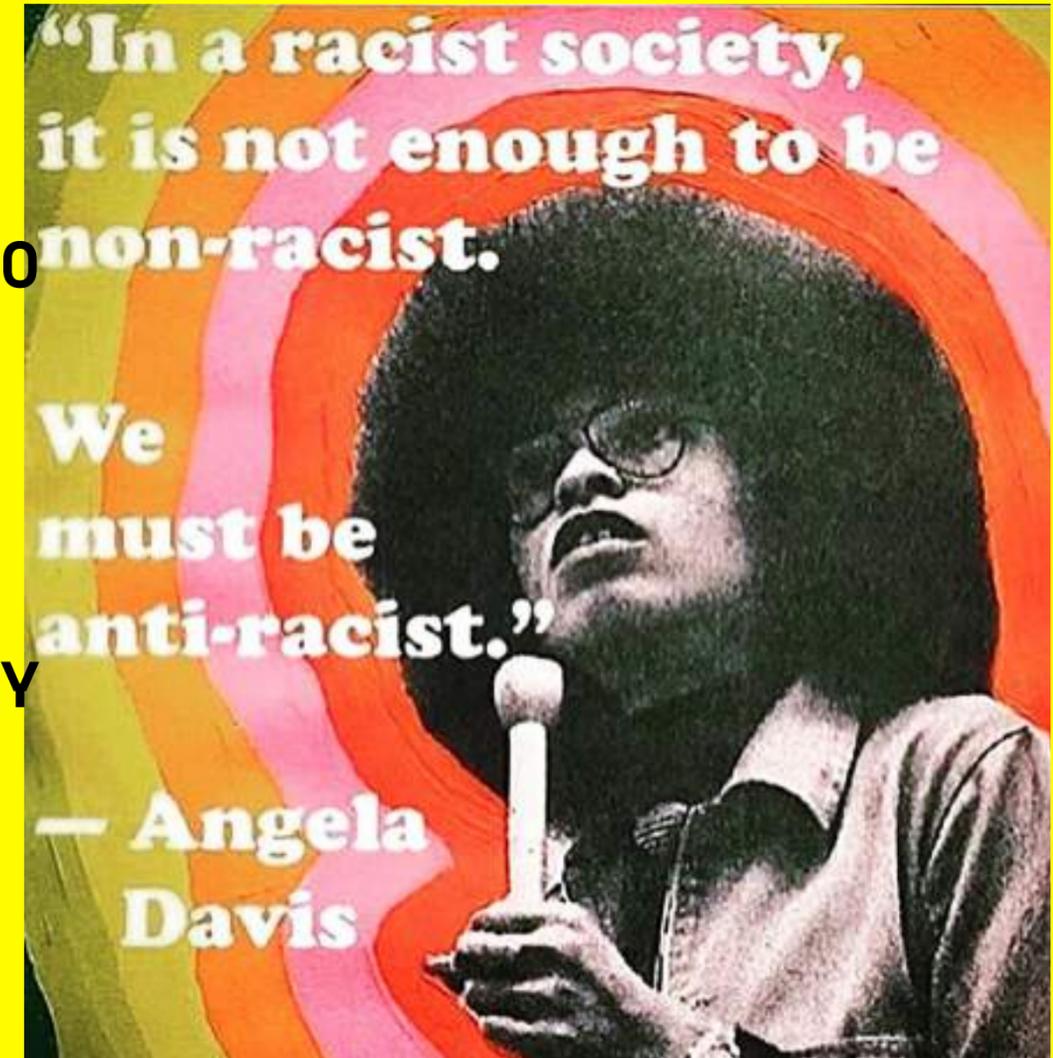
A LIST OF BOOKS, FILMS, TV SHOWS,  
ARTICLES, VIDEOS, PODCASTS AND  
POETRY TO HELP YOU GET EDUCATED ON  
THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT AND  
OTHER ISSUES



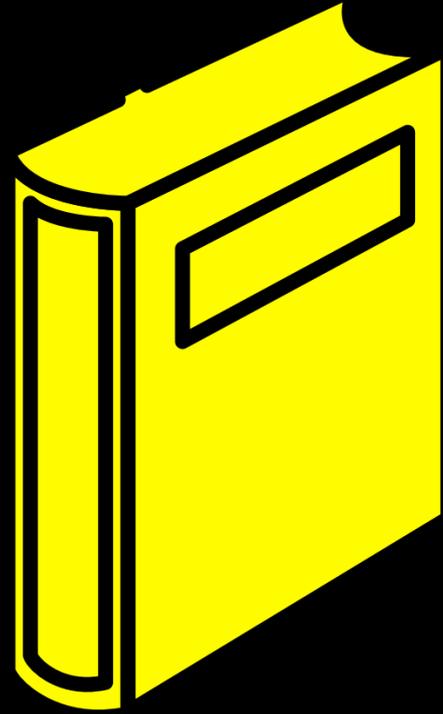
RIGHT NOW, OUR WHOLE WORLD HAS COME TOGETHER TO MOURN THE TRAGIC DEATH OF GEORGE FLOYD AND SO MANY OTHER BLACK CITIZENS WHO HAVE BEEN KILLED UNFAIRLY DUE TO POLICE BRUTALITY. THE TRUTH IS, RACISM IS STILL ALIVE, NOT JUST IN AMERICA BUT ALL OVER THE WORLD. ALL OF OUR SOCIAL MEDIA FEEDS HAVE BEEN TAKEN OVER WITH #BLACKLIVESMATTER AND VIDEOS, PICTURES AND OTHER CONTENT WHICH SHOW HOW THIS DEVASTATING ISSUE IS STILL CAUSING UNBELIEVABLE PAIN AND GRIEF TO PEOPLE ACROSS THE GLOBE.

HOWEVER, BECAUSE THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IS SO WIDESPREAD AND UNREGULATED THERE IS LOTS OF DISINFORMATION (FAKE NEWS) BEING SPREAD. IT IS HARD TO PROPERLY LEARN ABOUT SUCH A COMPLICATED ISSUE THROUGH TWEETS THAT ARE ONLY 280 CHARACTERS LONG, OR ONE INSTAGRAM POST.

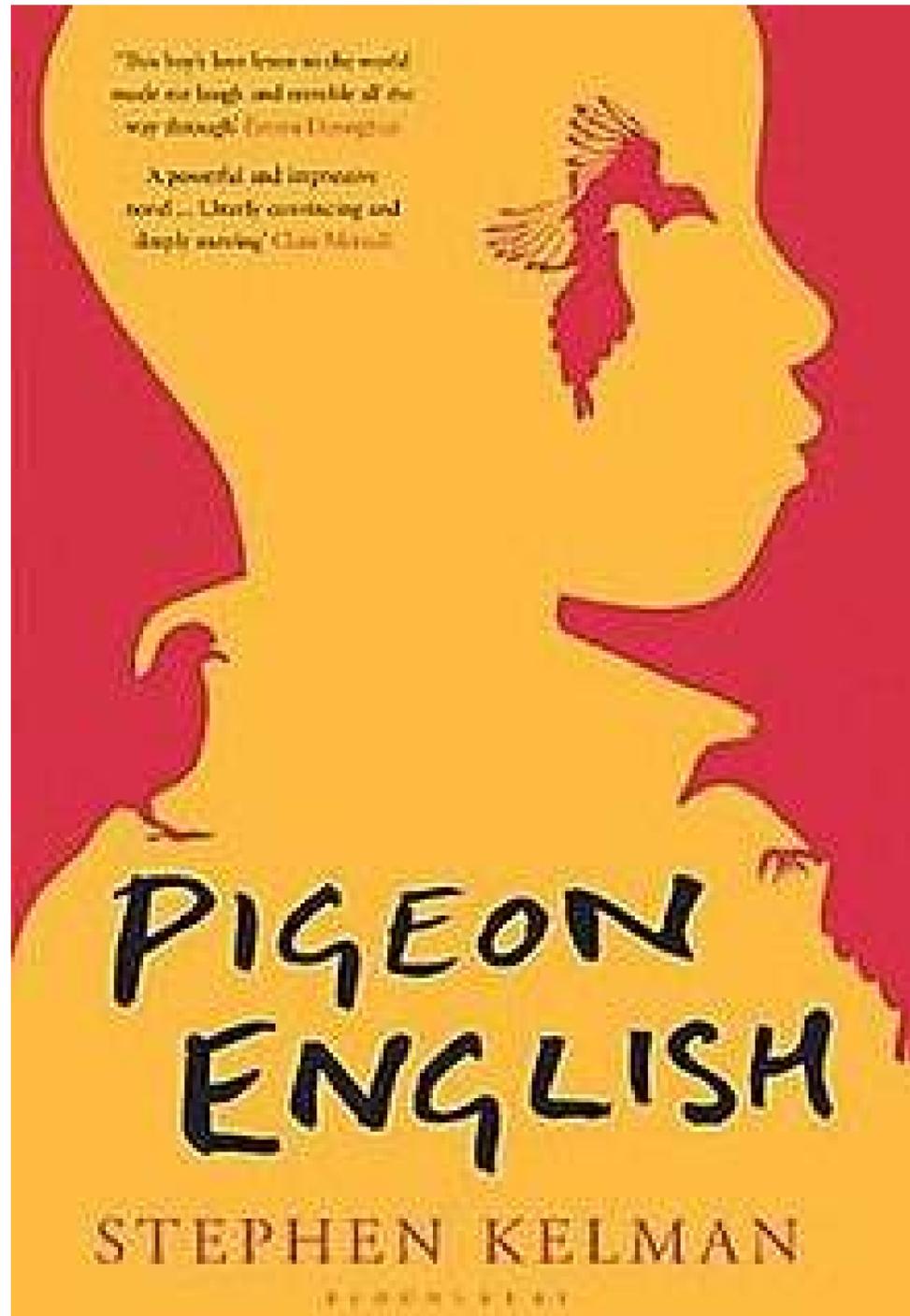
IT IS DOWN TO EACH AND EVERY INDIVIDUAL TO BE PROPERLY EDUCATED ON THE HISTORY OF RACISM, AND WHAT RACISM IS LIKE IN THE 21ST CENTURY. THIS IS THE ONLY WAY WE'LL EVER BE ABLE TO MAKE A CHANGE - THROUGH THE POWER OF KNOWLEDGE.



# FICTION BOOKS



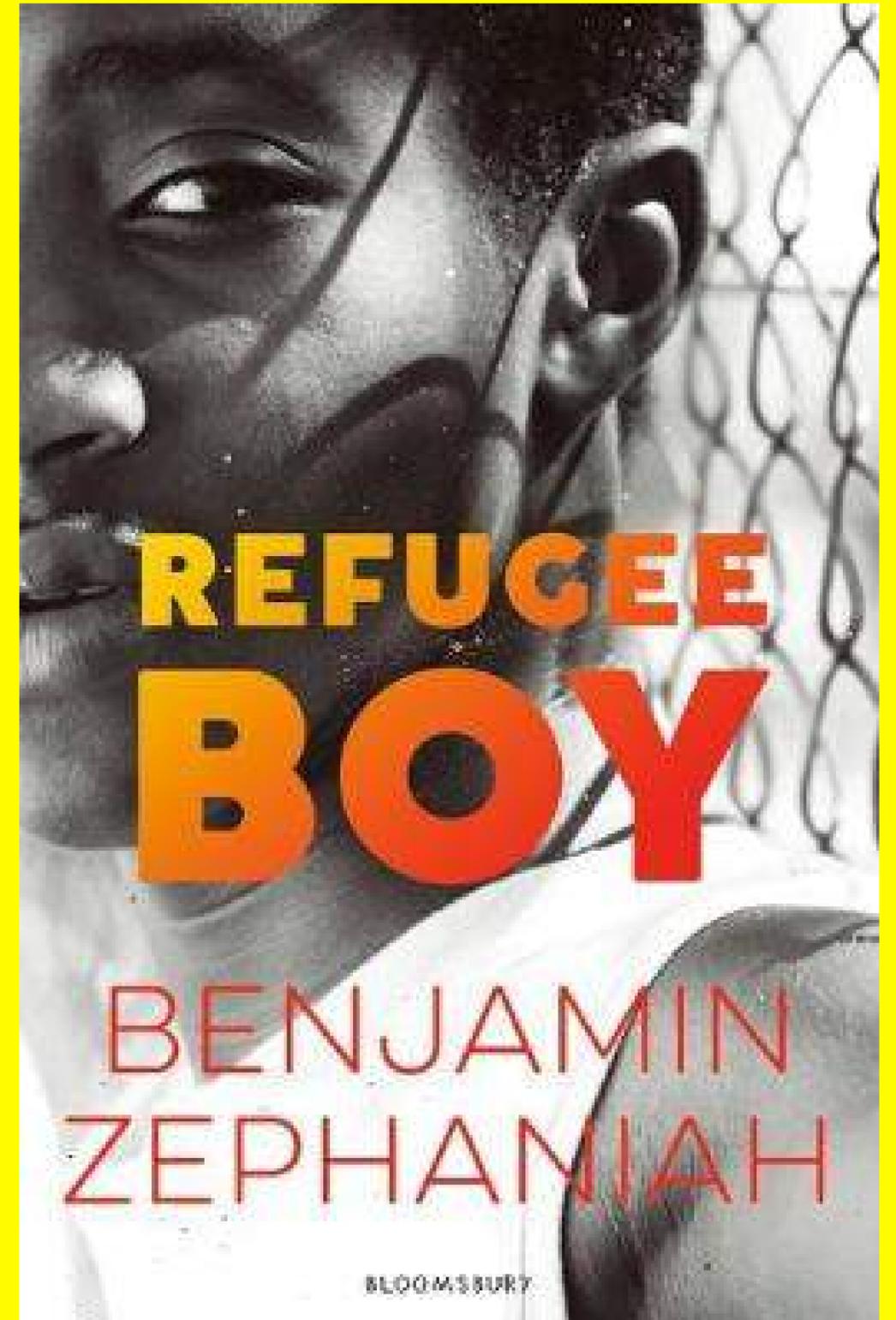
# PIGEON ENGLISH - STEVEN KELMAN



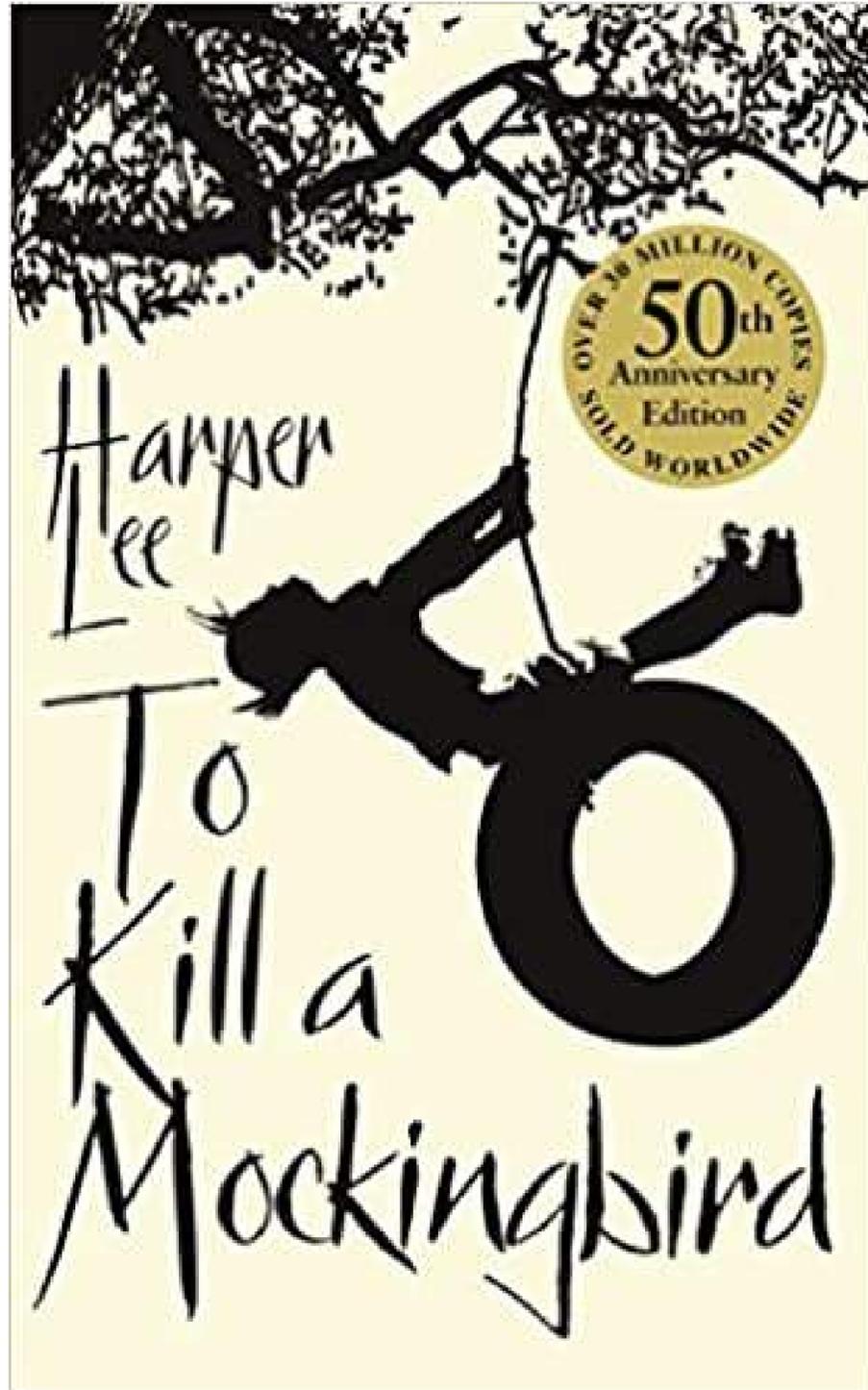
Eleven-year-old Harrison Opoku, the second best runner in Year 7, races through his new life in England with his personalised trainers - the Adidas stripes drawn on with marker pen - blissfully unaware of the very real threat around him. Newly-arrived from Ghana with his mother and older sister Lydia, Harri absorbs the many strange elements of city life, from the bewildering array of Haribo sweets, to the frightening, fascinating gang of older boys from his school. But his life is changed forever when one of his friends is murdered. As the victim's nearly new football boots hang in tribute on railings behind fluorescent tape and a police appeal draws only silence, Harri decides to act, unwittingly endangering the fragile web his mother has spun around her family to keep them safe.

# REFUGEE BOY - BENJAMIN ZEPHANIAH

Alem is on holiday with his father for a few days in London. He has never been out of Ethiopia before and is very excited. They have a great few days together until one morning when Alem wakes up in the bed and breakfast they are staying at to find the unthinkable. His father has left him. It is only when the owner of the bed and breakfast hands him a letter that Alem is given an explanation. Alem's father admits that because of the political problems in Ethiopia both he and Alem's mother felt Alem would be safer in London - even though it is breaking their hearts to do this. Alem is now on his own, in the hands of the social services and the Refugee Council. He lives from letter to letter, waiting to hear from his father, and in particular about his mother, who has now gone missing...



# TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD - HARPER LEE

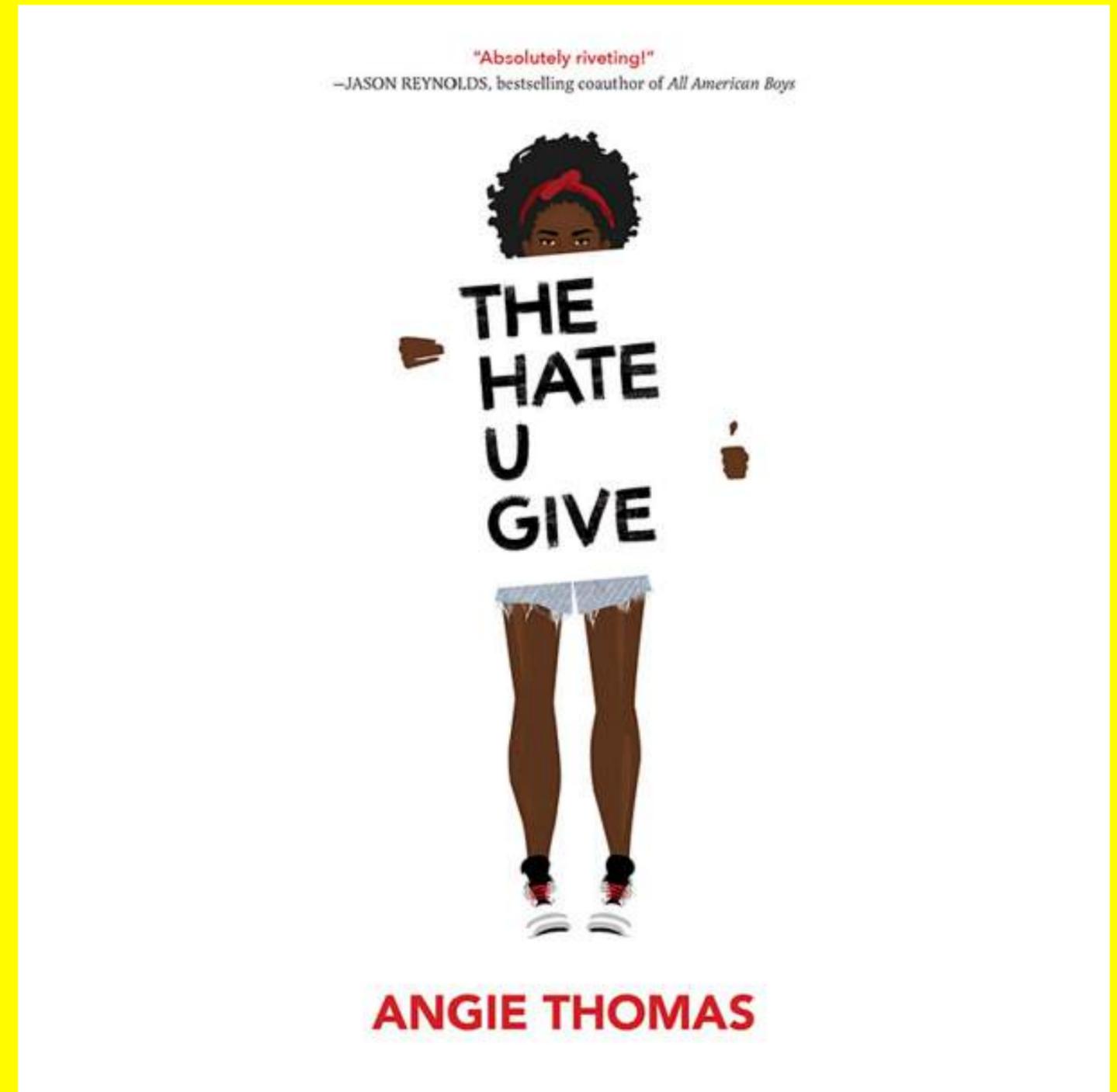


'Shoot all the Bluejays you want, if you can hit 'em, but remember it's a sin to kill a Mockingbird.'

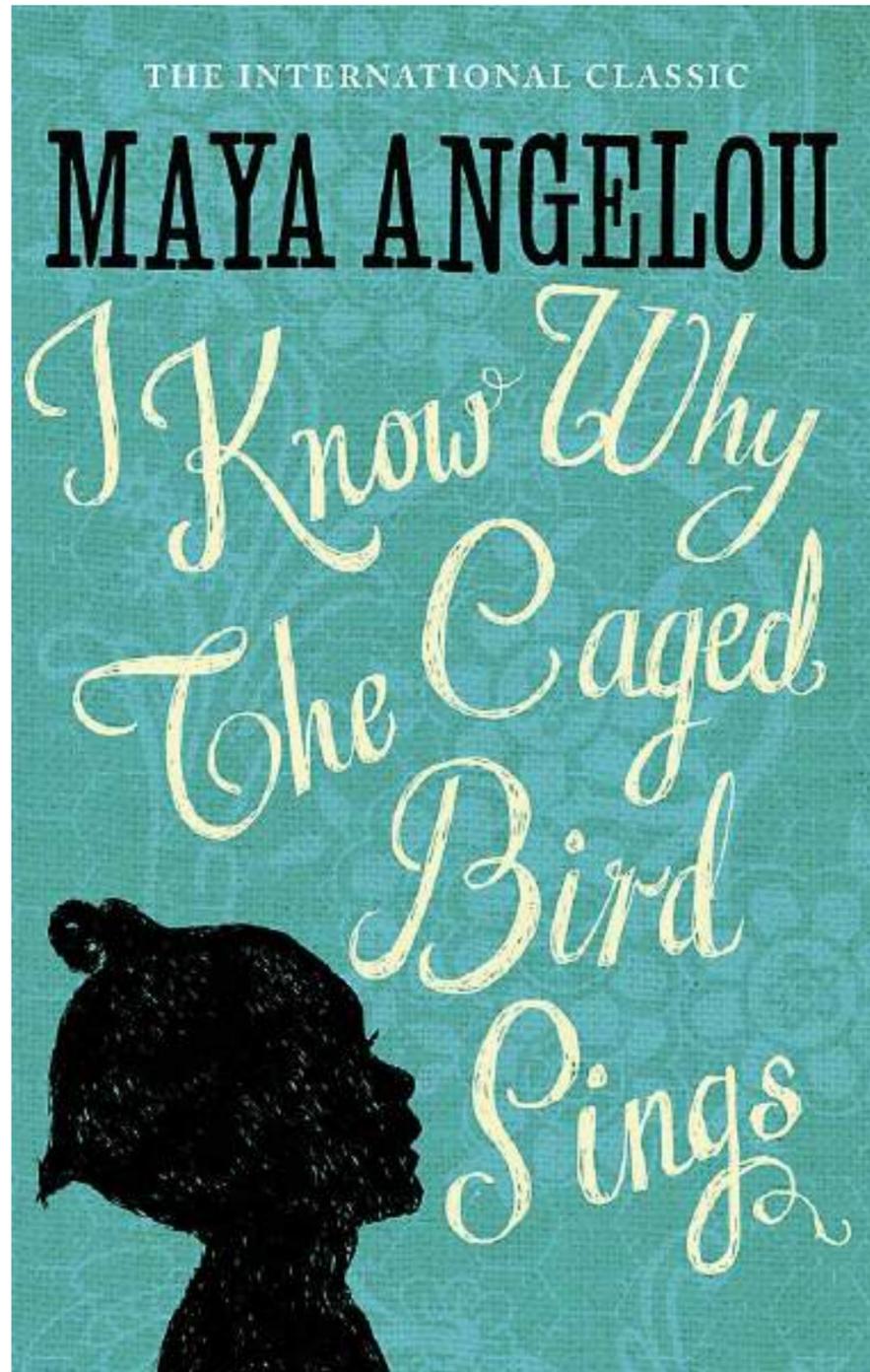
A lawyer's advice to his children as he defends the real mockingbird of Harper Lee's classic novel - a black man charged with the rape of a white girl. Through the young eyes of Scout and Jem Finch, Harper Lee explores with exuberant humour the irrationality of adult attitudes to race and class in the Deep South of the thirties. The conscience of a town steeped in prejudice, violence and hypocrisy is pricked by the stamina of one man's struggle for justice. But the weight of history will only tolerate so much.

# THE HATE U GIVE - ANGIE THOMAS

Sixteen-year-old Starr lives in two worlds: the poor neighbourhood where she was born and raised and her posh high school in the suburbs. The uneasy balance between them is shattered when Starr is the only witness to the fatal shooting of her unarmed best friend, Khalil, by a police officer. Now what Starr says could destroy her community. It could also get her killed. Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, this is a powerful and gripping YA novel about one girl's struggle for justice.



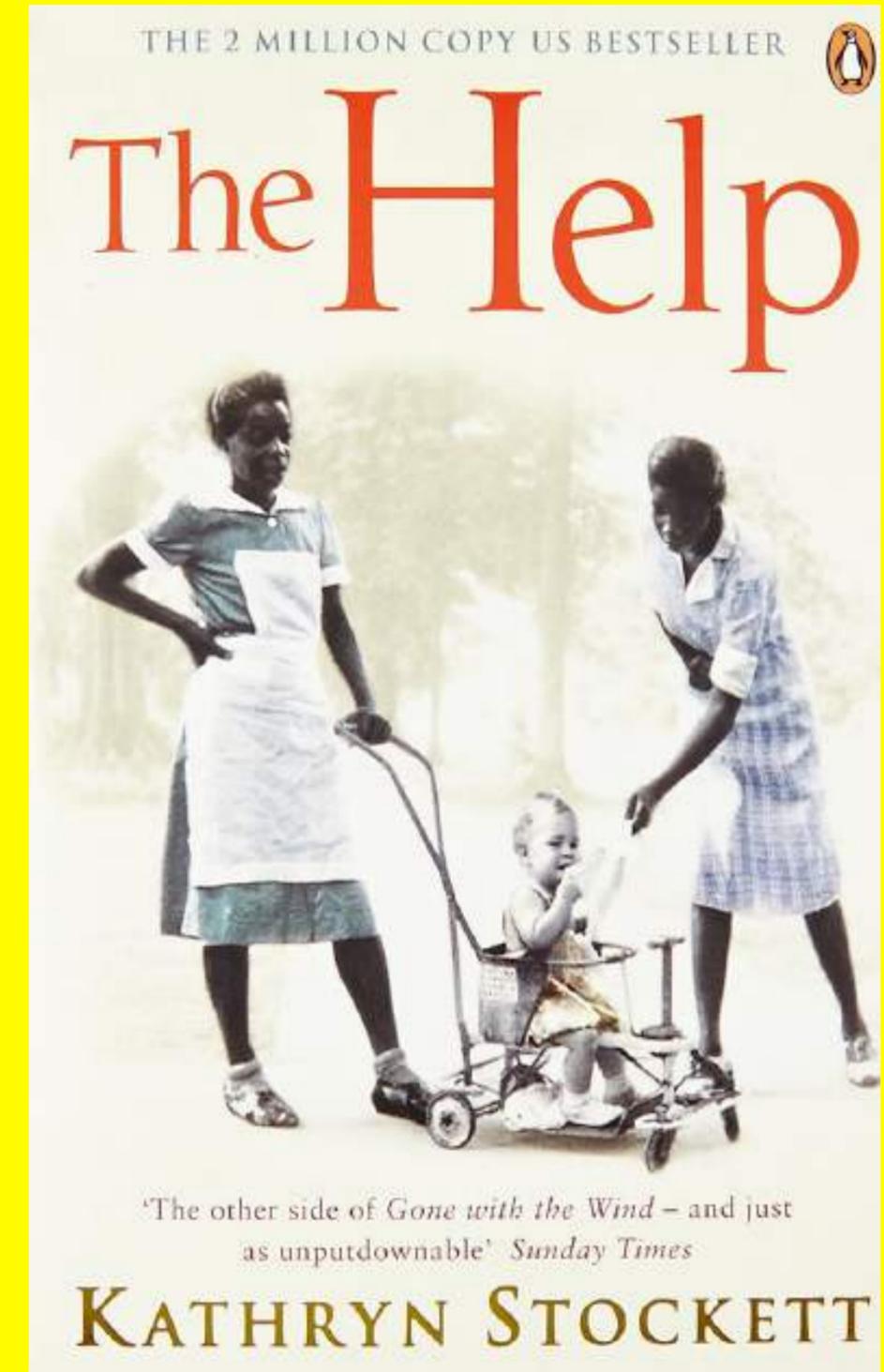
# I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS - MAYA ANGELOU



I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings is a 1969 autobiography describing the early years of American writer and poet Maya Angelou. The first in a seven-volume series, it is a coming-of-age story that illustrates how strength of character and a love of literature can help overcome racism and trauma. The book begins when three-year-old Maya and her older brother are sent to Stamps, Arkansas, to live with their grandmother and ends when Maya becomes a mother at the age of 16.

# THE HELP - KATHRYN STOCKETT

The Help recounts the story of a young white journalist Eugenia "Skeeter" Phelan and her relationship with two black maids, Aibileen Clark and Minny Jackson, during the Civil Rights Movement in 1963 Jackson, Mississippi. In an attempt to become a legitimate journalist and writer, Skeeter decides to write a book from the point of view of the maids, exposing the racism they are faced with as they work for white families. Black domestic workers in 1960s America were referred to as "the help", hence the title of the journalistic expose, the novel and the film.

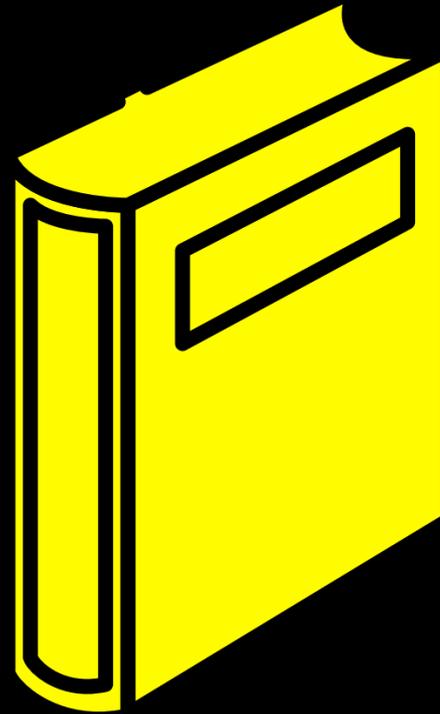


# THE COLOUR OF HUMANITY - BALI RAI

This is a short story which is written from the imagined perspective of Anthony Walker, a Liverpool teenager who was tragically killed by racists. It reminds us that being human has no colour, and we should strive for a world where the colour of your skin does not determine your value in society.

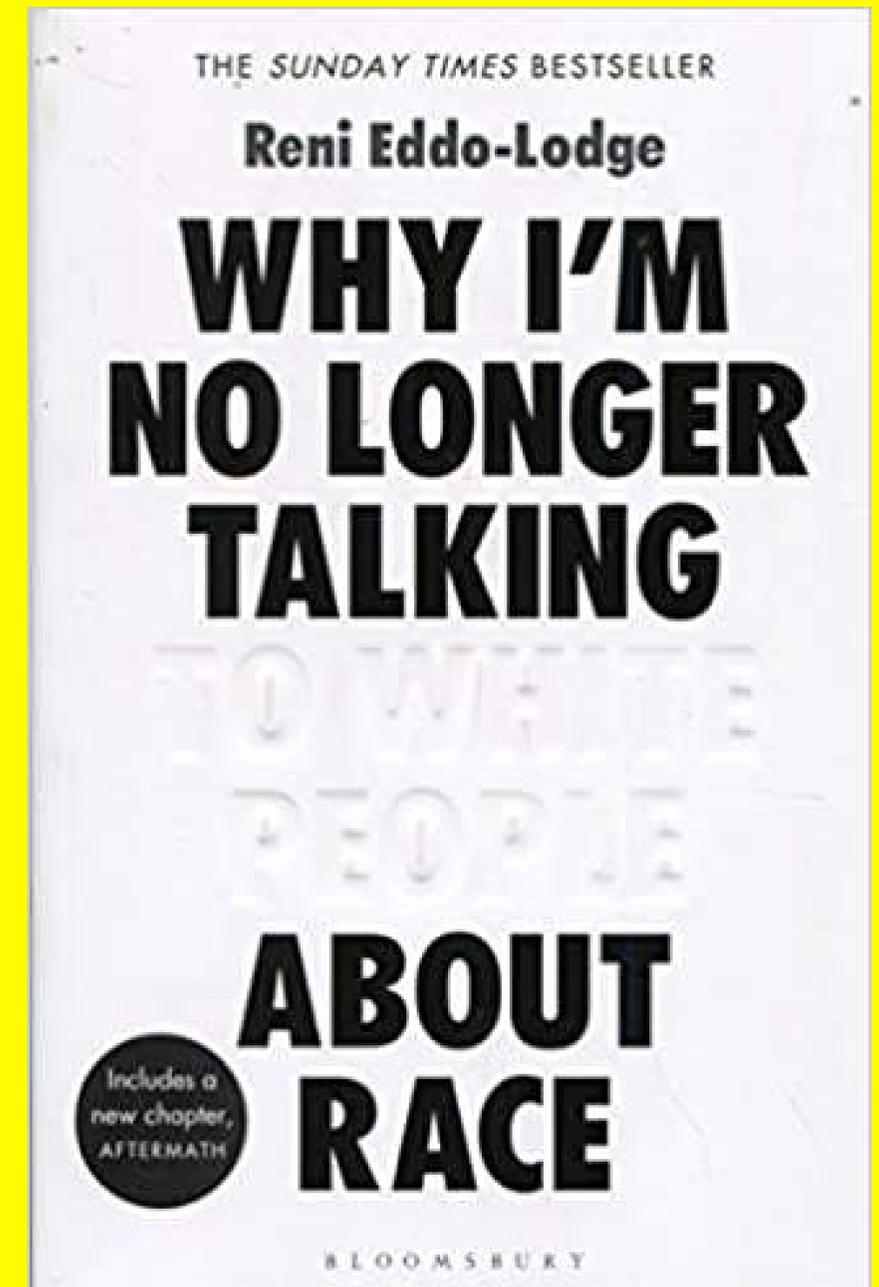


# NON-FICTION BOOKS

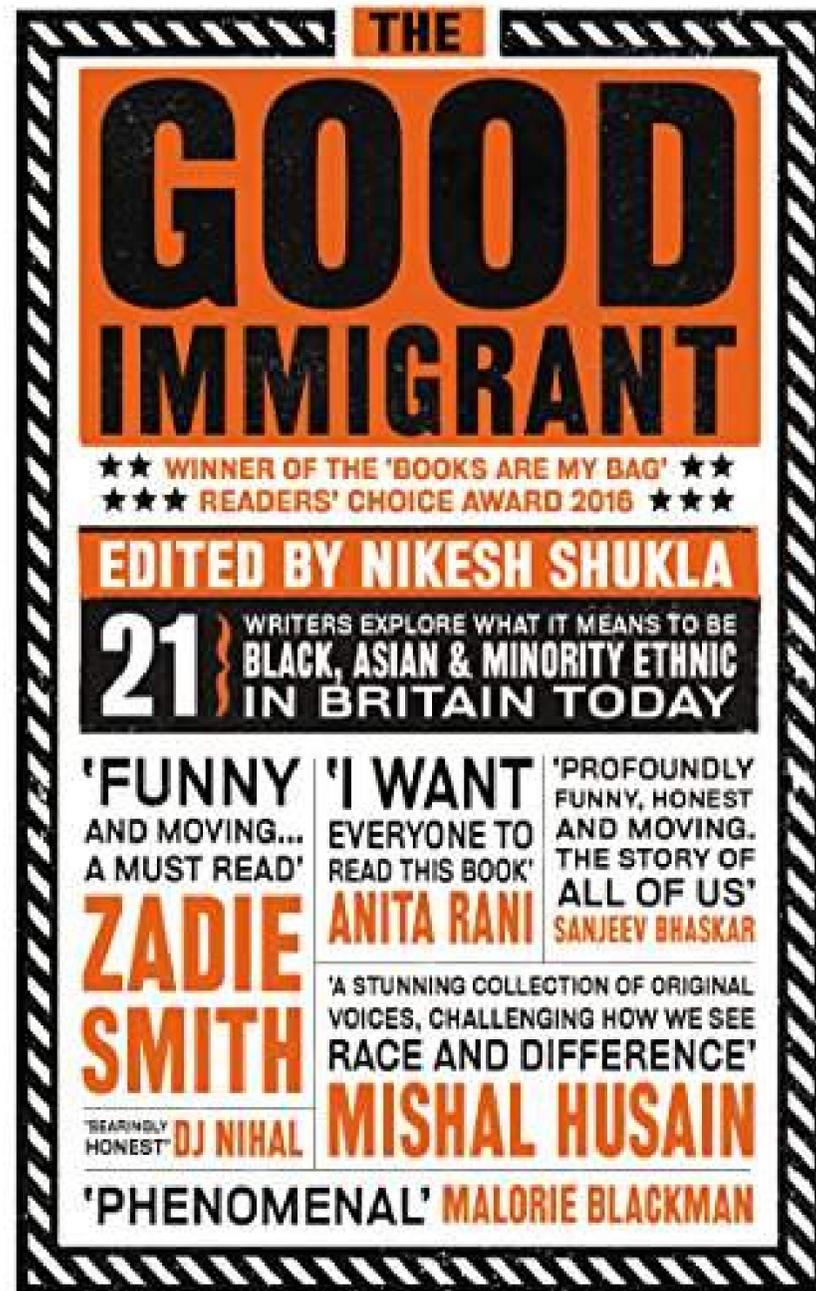


# WHY I'M NO LONGER TALKING TO WHITE PEOPLE ABOUT RACE - RENI-EDDO LODGE

In 2014, award-winning journalist Reni Eddo-Lodge wrote about her frustration with the way that discussions of race and racism in Britain were being led by those who weren't affected by it. She posted a piece on her blog, entitled: 'Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race'. Her words hit a nerve. The post went viral and comments flooded in from others desperate to speak up about their own experiences. Galvanised by this clear hunger for open discussion, she decided to dig into the source of these feelings. Exploring issues from eradicated black history to the political purpose of white dominance, whitewashed feminism to the inextricable link between class and race, Reni Eddo-Lodge offers a timely and essential new framework for how to see, acknowledge and counter racism. It is a searing, illuminating, absolutely necessary exploration of what it is to be a person of colour in Britain today.



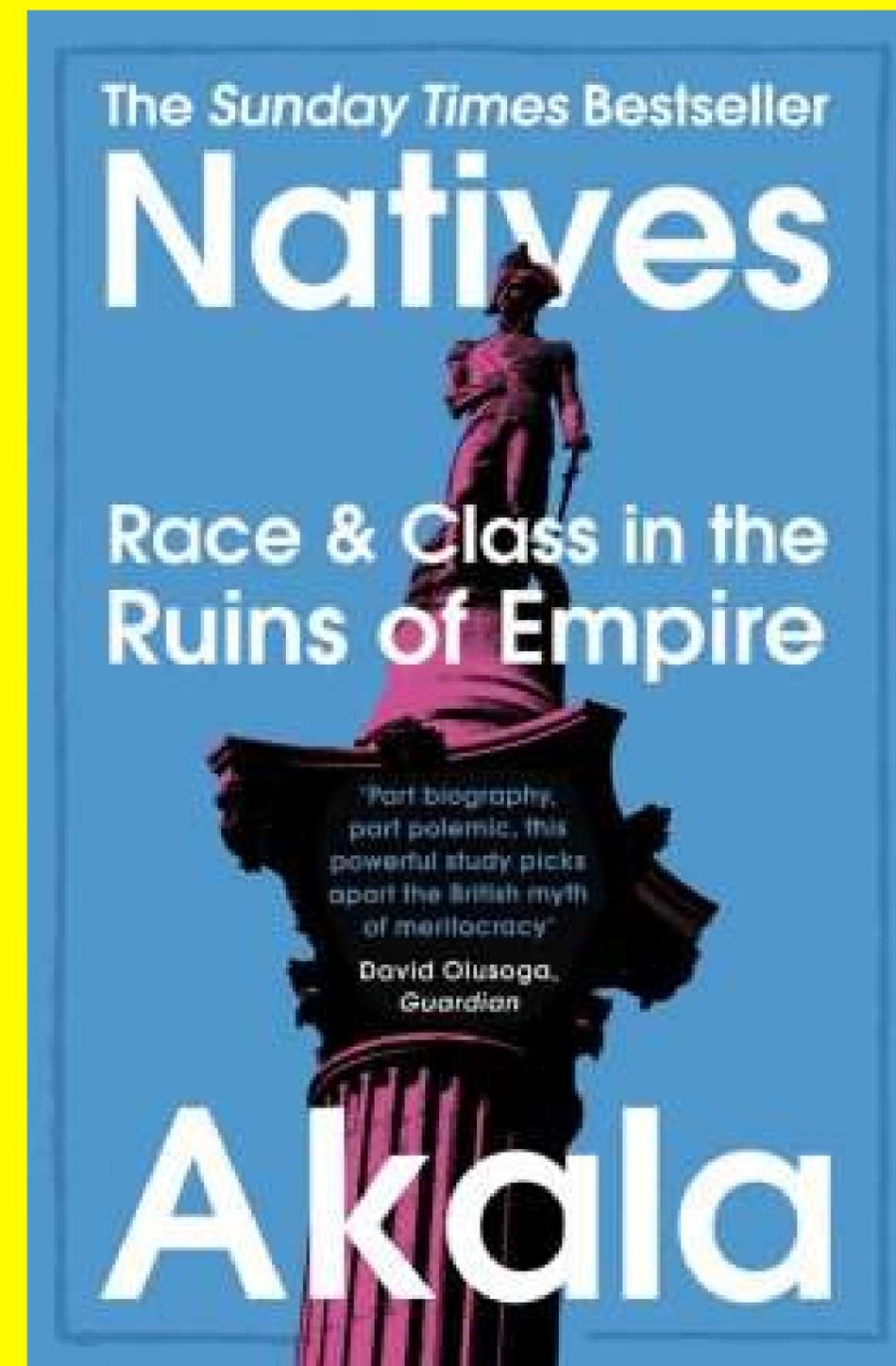
# THE GOOD IMMIGRANT: 26 WRITERS REFLECT ON AMERICA - NIKESH SHUKLA



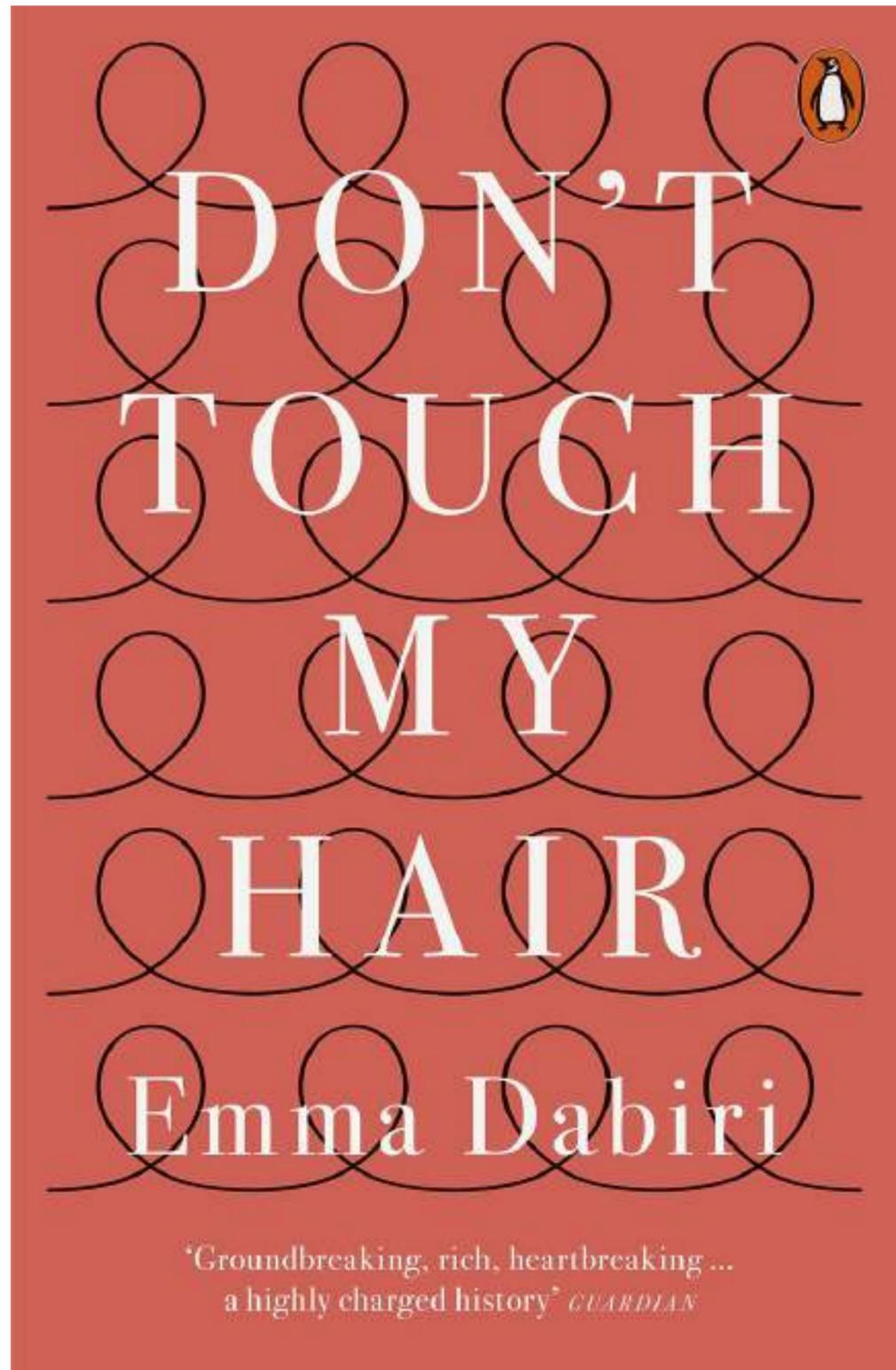
How does it feel to be constantly regarded as a potential threat, strip-searched at every airport? Or to be told that, as an actress, the part you're most fitted to play is 'wife of a terrorist'? How does it feel to have words from your native language misused, misappropriated and used aggressively towards you? How does it feel to hear a child of colour say in a classroom that stories can only be about white people? How does it feel to go 'home' to India when your home is really London? What is it like to feel you always have to be an ambassador for your race? How does it feel to always tick 'Other'? Bringing together 21 exciting black, Asian and minority ethnic voices emerging in Britain today, *The Good Immigrant* explores why immigrants come to the UK, why they stay and what it means to be 'other' in a country that doesn't seem to want you, doesn't truly accept you—however many generations you've been here—but still needs you for its diversity monitoring forms.

# NATIVES - AKALA

From the first time he was stopped and searched as a child, to the day he realised his mum was white, to his first encounters with racist teachers - race and class have shaped Akala's life and outlook. In this unique book he takes his own experiences and widens them out to look at the social, historical and political factors that have left us where we are today. Covering everything from the police, education and identity to politics, sexual objectification and the far right, *Natives* will speak directly to British denial and squeamishness when it comes to confronting issues of race and class that are at the heart of the legacy of Britain's racialised empire.



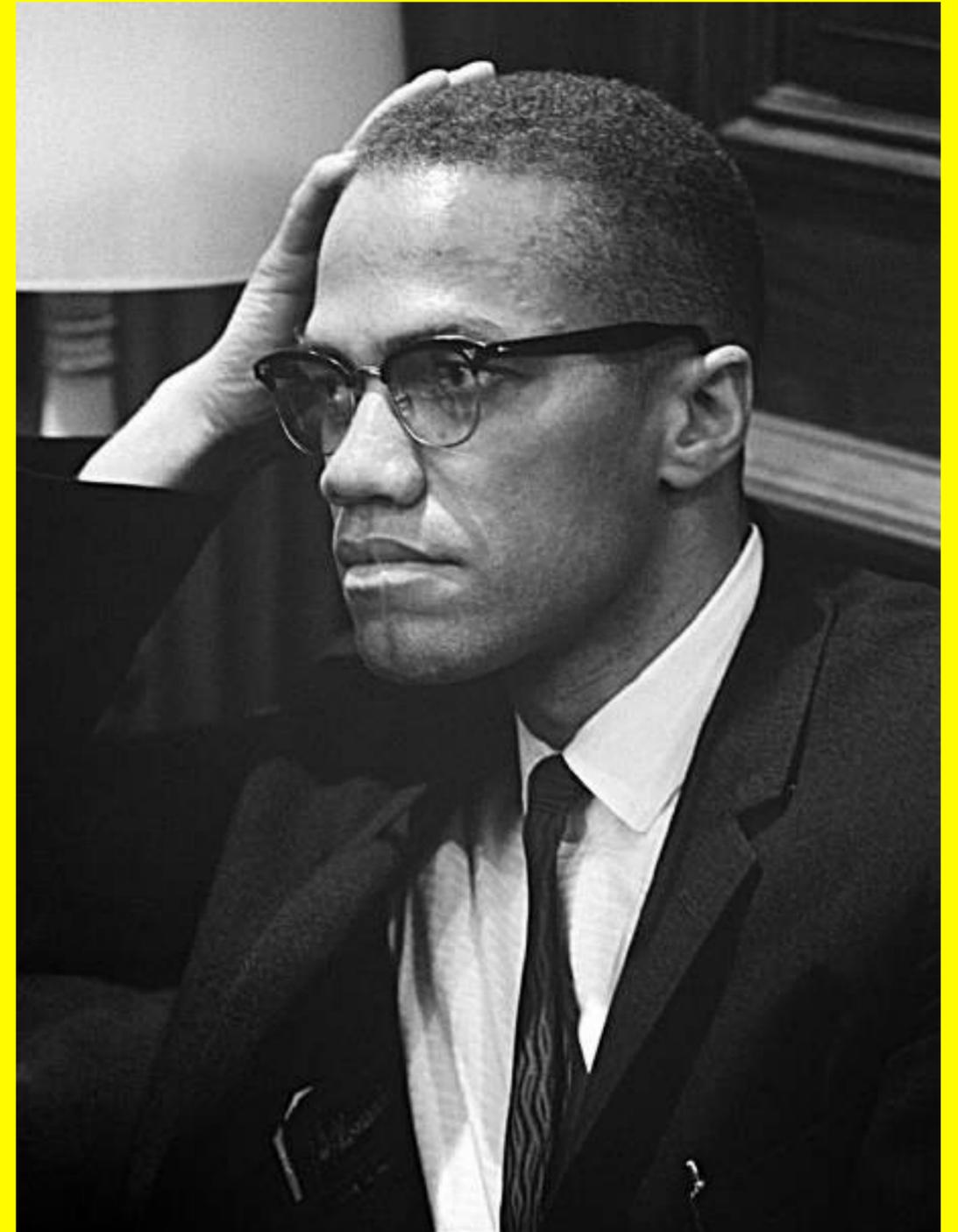
# DON'T TOUCH MY HAIR - EMMA DABIRI



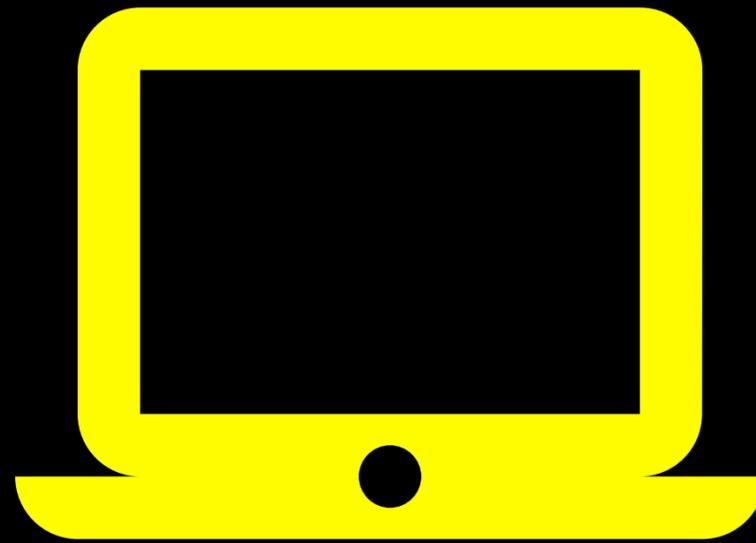
From women's solidarity and friendship to forgotten African scholars and the dubious provenance of Kim Kardashian's braids, the scope of black hairstyling ranges from pop culture to cosmology, from prehistoric times to the (afro)futuristic. Uncovering sophisticated indigenous mathematical systems in black hairstyles, alongside styles that served as secret intelligence networks leading enslaved Africans to freedom, *Don't Touch My Hair* proves that far from being only hair, black hairstyling culture can be understood as an allegory for black oppression and, ultimately, liberation.

# THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X - MALCOLM X

Through a life of passion and struggle, Malcolm X became one of the most influential figures of the 20th Century. In this riveting account, he tells of his journey from a prison cell to Mecca, describing his transition from hoodlum to Muslim minister. Here, the man who called himself "the angriest Black man in America" relates how his conversion to true Islam helped him confront his rage and recognize the brotherhood of all mankind.



# ARTICLES AND WEBSITES

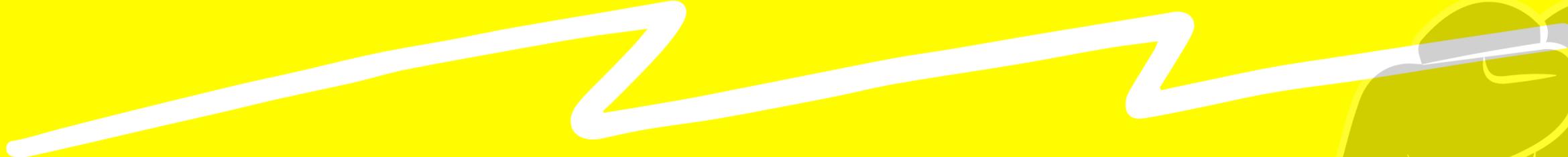


Clicking the links on the slides will take you to the web-page, or you can copy and paste the links into your web browser.

# **THE MINNEAPOLIS REBELLION SO FAR, ACCORDING TO THE PEOPLE LIVING IT**

This article details the action currently happening in Minneapolis following the killing of George Floyd by a police officer.

<https://www.teenvogue.com/story/george-floyd-minneapolis-rebellion-so-far-according-to-people-living-it>



## **#BLACKLIVESMATTER: THE BIRTH OF A NEW CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT**

This article discusses the recent history of the #blacklivesmatter hashtag following the shooting of many innocent black African-Americans by police.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jul/19/blacklivesmatter-birth-civil-rights-movement>



# WHAT DO I WANT FROM WHITE PEOPLE? AN ILLUSTRATION ON BEING BLACK IN AMERICA BY TIANNA TAYLOR

*"The systems in place uphold white supremacy and simply put, the systems in place need to be knocked down. And who would have thought, that in the middle of a global pandemic and imminent economic crisis that we would light America on fire.*

*What is it like to be Black in America?*

*Have someone put their knee on your neck and repeat.*

*Enough."*



This is an excerpt from a beautifully written blog post about the narrator's experience as a black girl, the pain she feels at the death of innocent black civilians, and how she wants white people to use their privilege.

**Read the whole post at:**

<https://whatsupwithtianna.com/2020/05/30/what-do-i-want-from-white-people-an-illustration-on-being-black-in-america/?fbclid=IwAR0C1-39E0gAV9hjqqd-UA6qCyMaScU0870WVzu57NXynv27B1Y-Uq7SaVk>



# **11 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP BLACK LIVES MATTER END POLICE VIOLENCE - TEEN VOGUE**

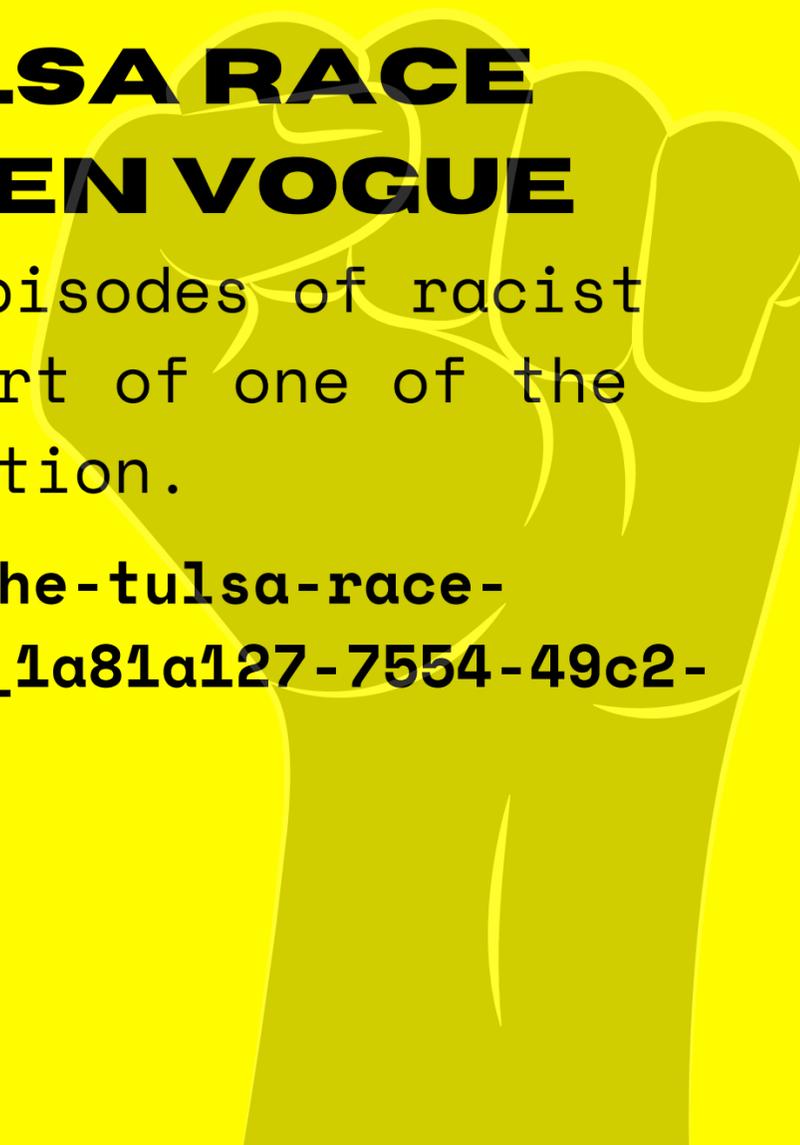
<https://www.teenvogue.com/story/support-the-black-lives-matter-movement>



## **BLACK WALL STREET AND THE TULSA RACE MASSACRE OF 1921, EXPLAINED - TEEN VOGUE**

The Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921 was one of the worst episodes of racist violence in American history, which erupted in the heart of one of the most prosperous Black communities in the nation.

[https://www.teenvogue.com/story/black-wall-street-and-the-tulsa-race-massacre#intcid=recommendations\\_teen-vogue-verso-hp-trending\\_1a81a127-7554-49c2-be3c-bf52fc70dbc1\\_popular4-1](https://www.teenvogue.com/story/black-wall-street-and-the-tulsa-race-massacre#intcid=recommendations_teen-vogue-verso-hp-trending_1a81a127-7554-49c2-be3c-bf52fc70dbc1_popular4-1)



# **BEYOND THE HASHTAG: HOW TO TAKE ANTI-RACIST ACTION - TEEN VOGUE**

<https://www.teenvogue.com/story/beyond-the-hashtag-how-to-take-anti-racist-action>



## **MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WAS MORE RADICAL THAN WE REMEMBER - TEEN VOGUE**

A look at the life and work of Martin Luther King.

<https://www.teenvogue.com/story/mlk-more-radical-than-we-remember>



# GAL-DEM

Gal-dem is a media publication which is committed to telling the stories of women and non-binary people of colour. They empower women and non-binary POC to tell their stories and empower themselves in a world where the media tries to erase their voices. The link below is to their 'politics' section where they have great articles on race, gender, class and sexuality but their whole website is great!

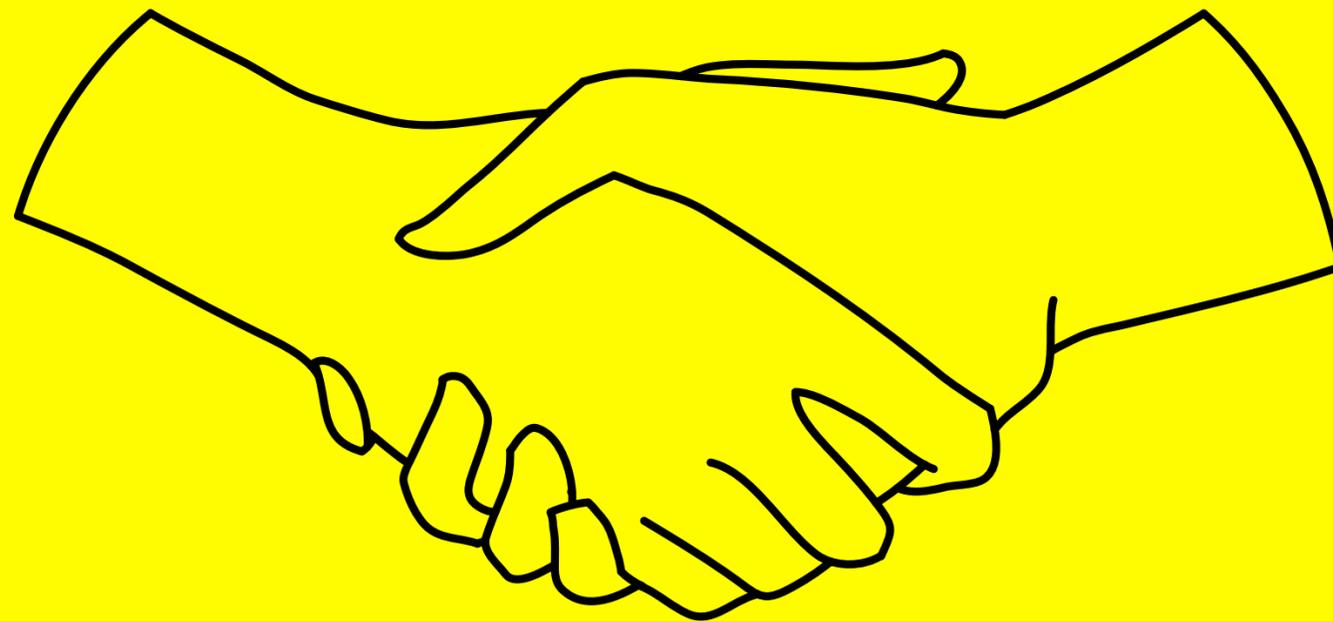


<https://gal-dem.com/politics/>

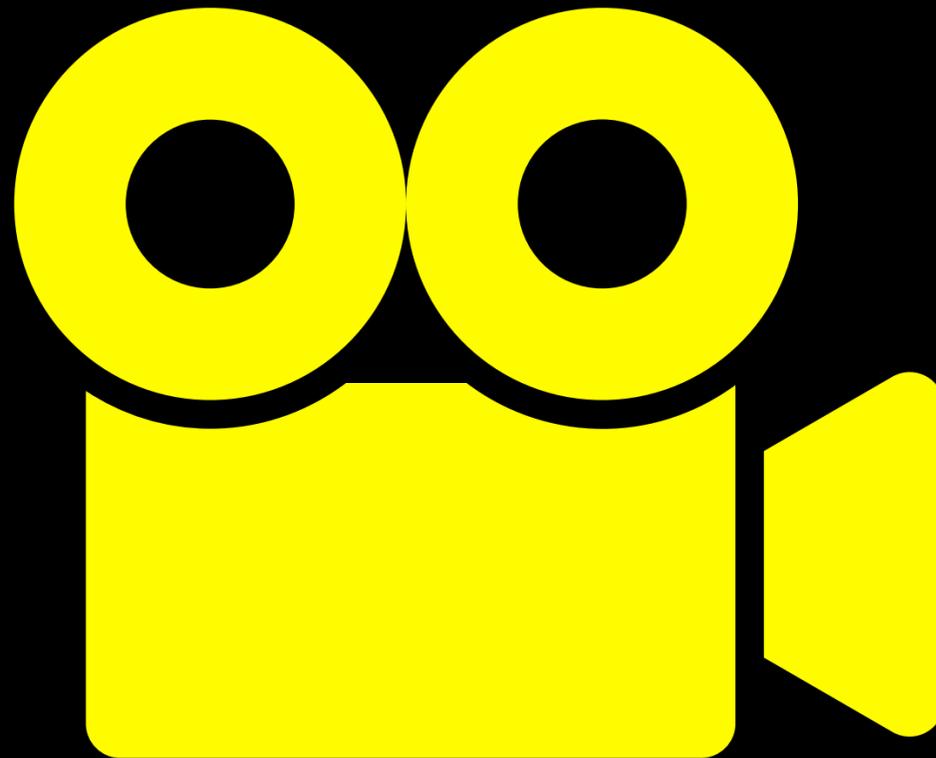
# **MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES FOR BLACK TEENS**

<https://www.teenvogue.com/story/mental-health-resources-black-teens>

If you are black and you have been affected by what you have seen in the news or social media, this article discusses ways to look after your mental health and seek help.



# VIDEOS



Clicking the links on the slides will take you to the web-page, or you can copy and paste the links into your web browser.

# THE RISE OF THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT



A short documentary which documents the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement in conversation with its co-founder, Patrisse Cullors.

Warning: This documentary contains short clips which show violence against African Americans.

This may upset you. If you want to speak to someone, reach out to an adult at home, school or your friends. Don't suffer in silence!

Watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tgFI0phqRIY>



# 'I HAVE A DREAM' - MLK'S SPEECH

Martin Luther King's famous speech, 'I Have A Dream' in 1963.

[Watch it here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vP4iY1TtS3s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vP4iY1TtS3s)

## THE ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE: WHAT TOO FEW TEXTBOOKS TOLD YOU

A short video which details how the Atlantic Slave Trade still has ramifications for how society perceives race today.

[Watch it here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3NXC4Q\\_4JVg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3NXC4Q_4JVg)

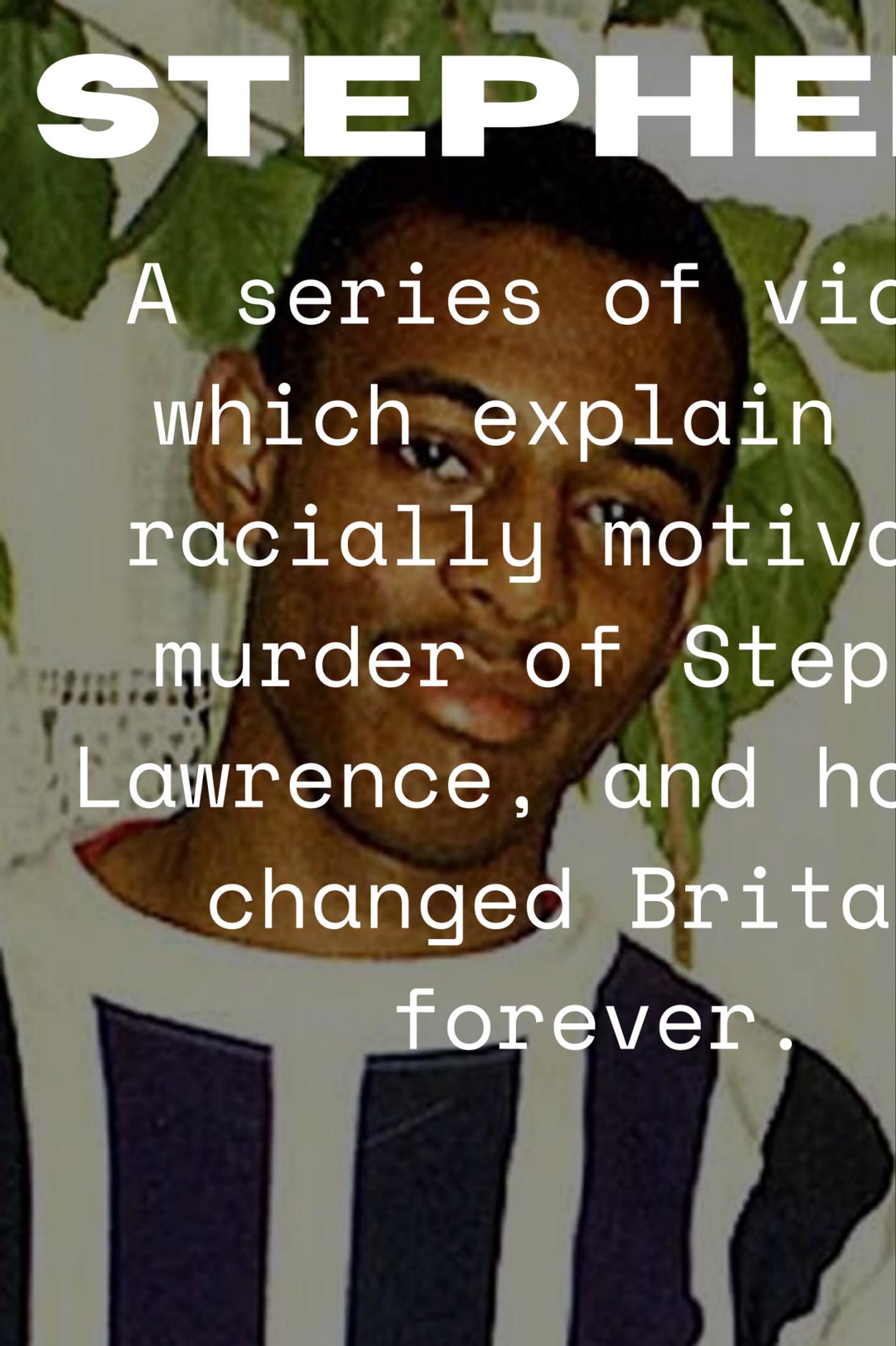
# THE PROBLEM WITH SAYING 'ALL LIVES MATTER'

A short, simple video which explains why saying 'All Lives Matter' is problematic.

Watch it here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fk7ikGW6VRg>



# STEPHEN LAWRENCE

A portrait of Stephen Lawrence, a young Black man with short dark hair, wearing a white t-shirt and a dark blue jacket. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a light-colored wall with green leaves.

A series of videos which explain the racially motivated murder of Stephen Lawrence, and how it changed Britain forever.

1. A short overview of the Stephen Lawrence murder:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sh\\_Spb7hjjU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sh_Spb7hjjU)

2. A video which discusses the institutional racism in the police at the time of Stephen Lawrence's murder. WARNING: Very strong language and upsetting scenes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4XL5f45TJgM>

3. The video focuses on the initial failure to achieve justice for the murder of Stephen Lawrence and the process leading to the eventual conviction of two of the perpetrators, as well as the response of the media and the role of parliament in addressing flaws within the criminal justice system.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XupZJvJoYUQ>

# THE WINDRUSH GENERATION

A series of videos which explain who the Windrush generation are, why they are so important, and the Windrush scandal of 2018.

1. A short overview of the Windrush Generation

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qKJ-iqFmH0Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qKJ-<u>iqFmH0Q</u>)

2. An explanation of the Windrush Scandal and interviews with people coming from the Windrush Generation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q4SIP7EZze4>

# GRENFELL TOWER FIRE

A series of videos which explain how the fire of Grenfell Tower revealed racial and class inequalities in London.

Warning: The first video may distress viewers.

1. Survivors of Grenfell fire tell of their experience

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xwyDZdrXF7A>

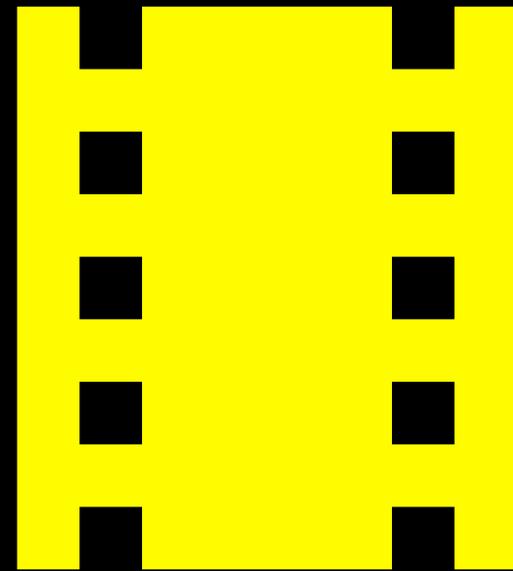
2. Rapper AJ Tracey comments on the lack of government response of Grenfell Tower

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4DuKsxtLY58>

3. Rapper Akala comments that Grenfell fire happened because 'they were poor'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9NWK7V0Lig>

# FILMS/TV SHOWS



You can watch these films on Netflix or Amazon Prime.

# THE HATE U GIVE

Starr Carter, an African-American teenager, faces pressure from various communities and tries to stand up for what is right after she witnesses the shooting of her best friend by the police.



# HIDDEN FIGURES

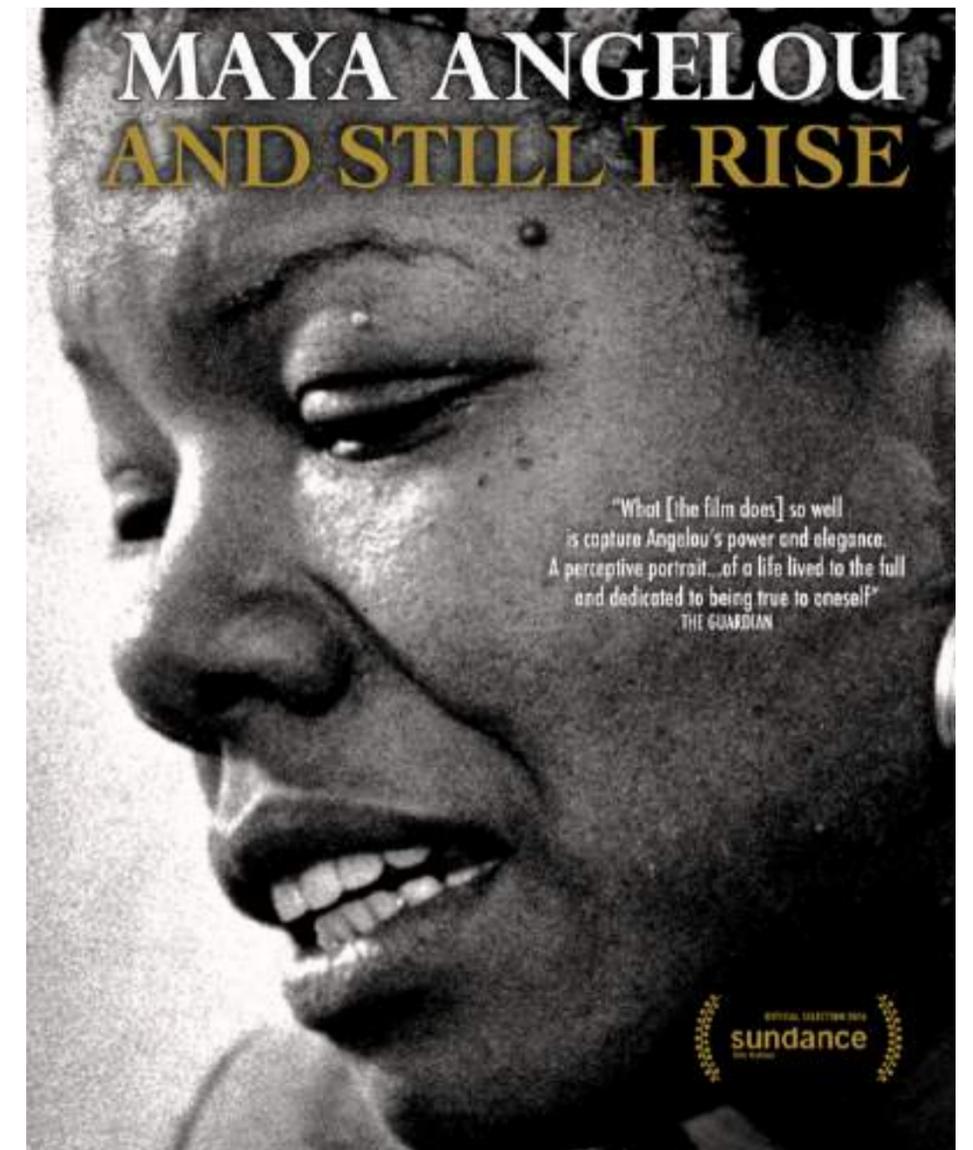
Hidden Figures tells the incredible untold story of Katherine Jonson (Taraji P. Henson), Dorothy Vaughan (Octavia Spencer) and Mary Jackson (Janelle Monae) – brilliant African-American women working at NASA who served as the brains behind the launch into orbit of astronaut John Glenn, a stunning achievement that turned around the Space Race. The visionary trio crossed all gender and racial line and inspired generations.



# MAYA ANGELOU: AND STILL I RISE

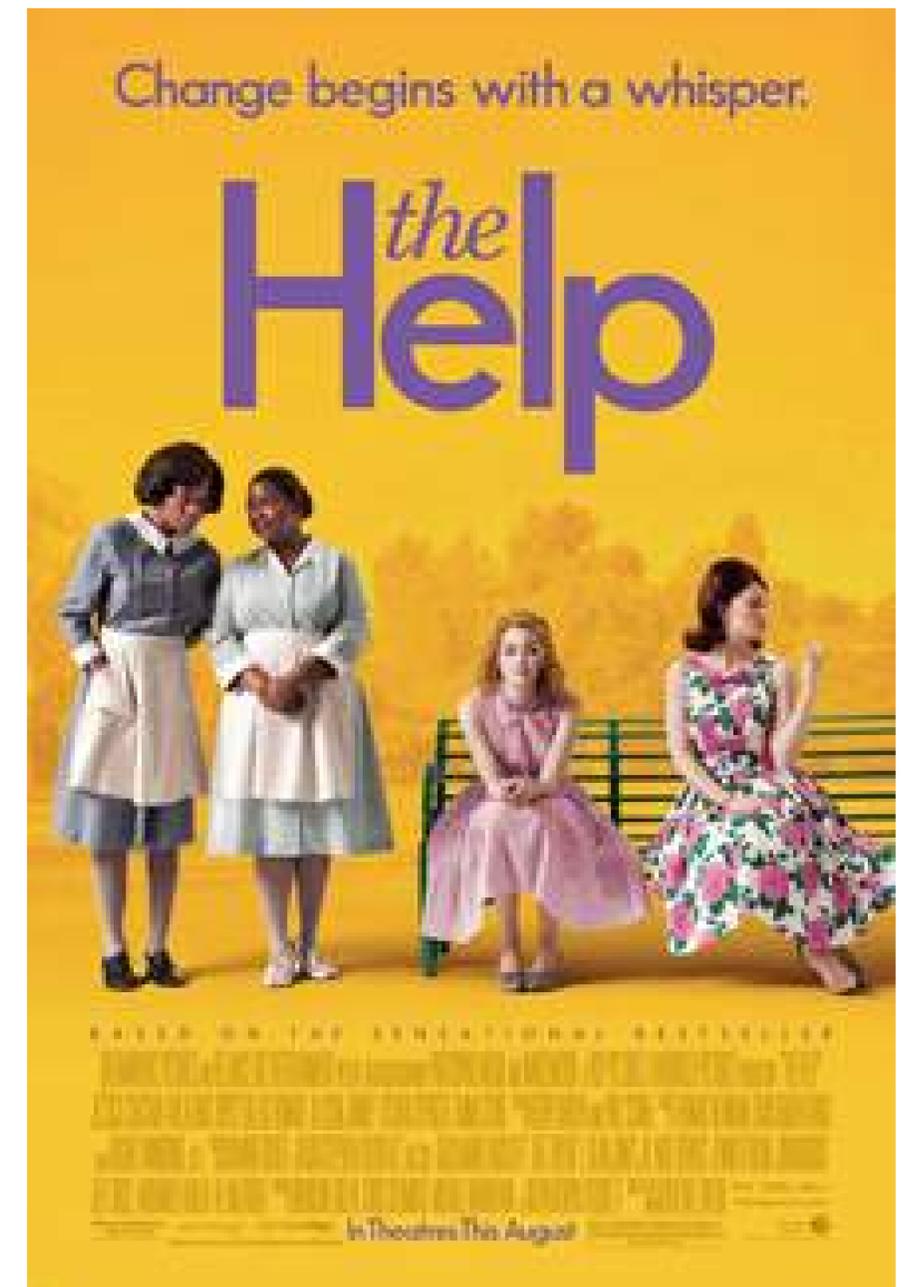
The first feature documentary about the remarkable writer, poet, actress, activist Maya Angelou, whose words touched the nation and continue to inspire people across the world today.

**Warning:** Contains references to rape.



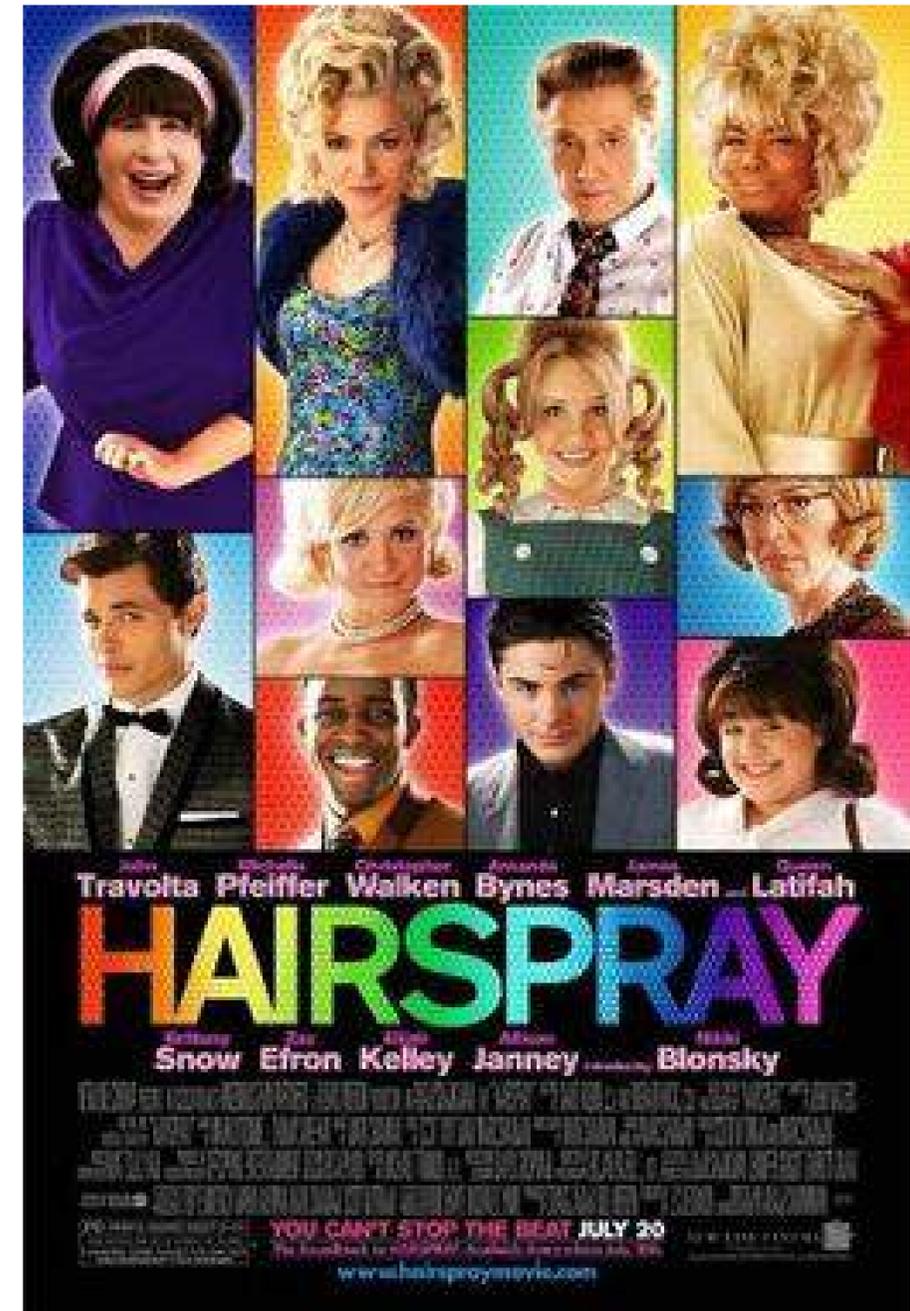
# THE HELP

The Help recounts the story of a young white journalist Eugenia "Skeeter" Phelan and her relationship with two black maids, Aibileen Clark and Minny Jackson, during the Civil Rights Movement in 1963 Jackson, Mississippi. In an attempt to become a legitimate journalist and writer, Skeeter decides to write a book from the point of view of the maids, exposing the racism they are faced with as they work for white families. Black domestic workers in 1960s America were referred to as "the help", hence the title of the journalistic expose, the novel and the film.



# HAIRSPRAY

In 1960s Baltimore, dance-loving teen Tracy Turnblad (Mikki Blonsky) auditions for a spot on "The Corny Collins Show" and wins. She becomes an overnight celebrity, a trendsetter in dance, fun and fashion. Perhaps her new status as a teen sensation is enough to topple Corny's reigning dance queen and bring racial integration to the show.



# WHEN THEY SEE US

When They See Us is a 2019 American drama television miniseries. It is based on events of the 1989 Central Park jogger case and explores the lives and families of the five male suspects who were falsely accused then prosecuted on charges related to the rape and assault of a woman in Central Park, New York City. It is available to watch on Netflix.



# MUSIC/POETRY



# 'BLACK' BY DAVE @ BRIT AWARDS, 2020



# **LANGSTON HUGHES & THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE**

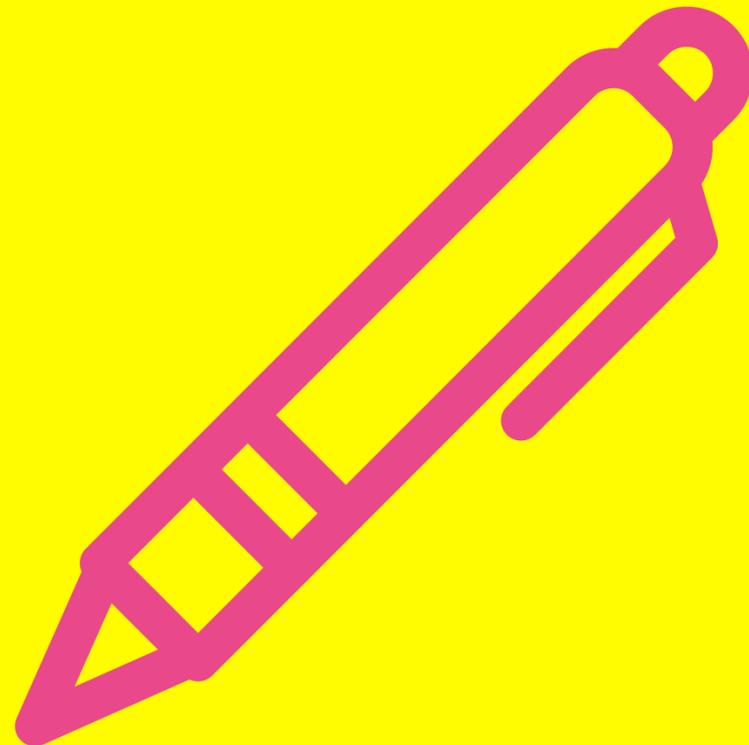
Langston Hughes was a central figure in the Harlem Renaissance: the flowering of black intellectual, literary, and artistic life that took place in the 1920s in a number of American cities, particularly Harlem. A major poet, Hughes also wrote novels, short stories, essays, and plays. He sought to honestly portray the joys and hardships of working-class black lives, avoiding both sentimental idealization and negative stereotypes. This website gives a history of his life, the Harlem Renaissance and lists his poems.

**<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/langston-hughes>**

# **POEMS WRITTEN BY BLACK POETS: MORE LINKS**

<https://poets.org/12-poems-read-black-history-month>

[www. poetryfoundation.org/collections/101640/celebrating-  
black-history-month](http://www.poetryfoundation.org/collections/101640/celebrating-black-history-month)



# STILL I RISE - MAYA ANGELOU

Watch Angelou reading the poem  
aloud here:



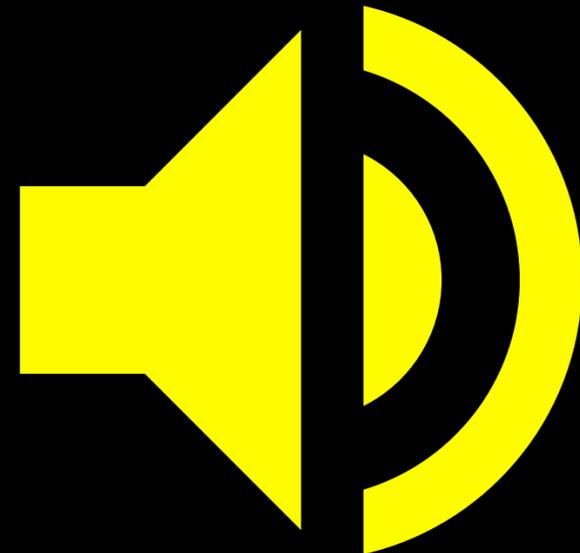
Read the poem here:

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/46446/still-i-rise>

For more information about Maya  
Angelou:

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/maya-angelou>

# PODCASTS



# **ABOUT RACE - RENI EDDO LODGE**

**From the author behind the bestselling *Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race*, comes a podcast that takes the conversation a step further.**

**Featuring key voices from the last few decades of anti-racist activism, *About Race with Reni Eddo-Lodge* looks at the recent history that lead to the politics of today.**

**[WWW.ABOUTTRACEPODCAST.COM](http://WWW.ABOUTTRACEPODCAST.COM)**

# 1619 - NEW YORK TIMES

An audio series on how slavery has transformed America,  
connecting past and present through the oldest form of  
storytelling.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/23/podcasts/1619-podcast.html>