

THE WAREHOUSE THEATRE

APRIL 3-26, 2026
WAREHOUSETHATRE.COM



THE MOUNTAINTOP

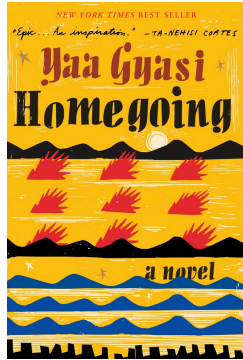
DRAMA BY **KATORI HALL**

APRIL 3, 1968. KING'S DREAM MEETS ITS DESTINY.

Warehouse Connections Reading List
Created in partnership with



Stories of Legacy

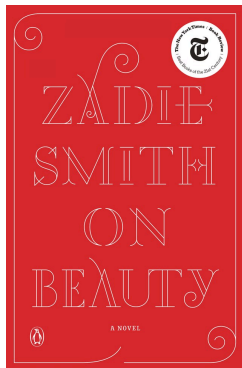


Homegoing, by Yaa Guasi

Effia and Esi are born into different villages in eighteenth-century Ghana. Effia is married off to an Englishman and lives in comfort in the palatial rooms of Cape Coast Castle. Unbeknownst to Effia, her sister, Esi, is imprisoned beneath her in the castle's dungeons, sold with thousands of others into the Gold Coast's booming slave trade, and shipped off to America, where her children and grandchildren will be raised in slavery. One thread of Homegoing follows Effia's descendants through centuries of warfare in Ghana, as the Fante and Asante nations wrestle with the slave trade and British colonization.

The other thread follows Esi and her children into America. Homegoing makes history visceral, and captures, with singular and stunning immediacy, how the memory of captivity came to be inscribed in the soul of a nation.

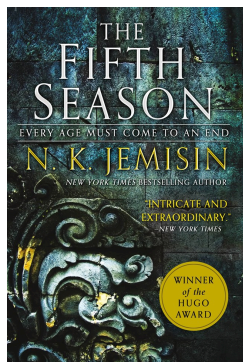
Why we love it: The writing is beautiful, and we couldn't put this book down.



On Beauty, by Zadie Smith

The story of an interracial family living in the university town of Wellington, Massachusetts, whose misadventures in the culture wars—on both sides of the Atlantic—serve to skewer everything from family life to political correctness to the combustive collision between the personal and the political. Full of dead-on wit and relentlessly funny, this tour de force confirms Zadie Smith's reputation as a major literary talent.

Why we love it: It's truly delightful to find a novel that is as provocative as it is entertaining.



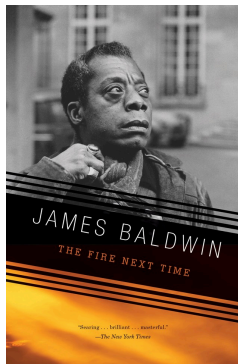
The Fifth Season, by N.K. Jemisin

Essun, a woman living an ordinary life in a small town, comes home to find that her husband has brutally murdered their son and kidnapped their daughter. At the same time, across the heart of the continent known as the Stillness, a rift has been torn into the heart of the earth, spewing ash enough to darken the sky for years. Or centuries.

Essun must pursue the wreckage of her family through a deadly, dying land. Without sunlight, clean water, or arable land, and with limited stockpiles of supplies, there will be war all across the Stillness: a battle royale of nations not for power or territory, but simply for the basic resources necessary to get through the long dark night. Essun does not care if the world falls apart around her. She'll break it herself, if she must, to save her daughter.

Why we love it: N.K. Jemisin is one of our favorite sci-fi writers, and her Broken Earth trilogy begins here. Underneath the story wind threads of legacy, race, and hope.

Ongoing Struggle for Civil Rights



The Fire Next Time, by James Baldwin

The first essay in this book is written in the form of a letter to Baldwin's 14-year-old nephew and discusses the central role of race in American history. The second essay, which takes up the majority of the book, deals with the relations between race and religion, focusing in particular on Baldwin's experiences with the Christian church as a youth, as well as the Nation of Islam's ideals and influence in Harlem.

Why we love it: Baldwin's work is effective because it is testimonial and purposeful. He wrote these essays with the goal of a wide, mostly white, readership.

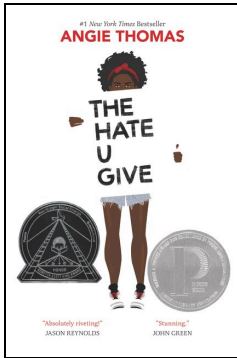


Citizen, by Claudia Rankine

In essay, image, and poetry, this is a powerful testament to the individual and collective effects of racism in our contemporary, often named "post-race" society.

Some of these encounters are slights, seeming slips of the tongue, and some are intentional offensives in the classroom, at the supermarket, at home, on the tennis court with Serena Williams, and the soccer field with Zinedine Zidane, online, on TV—everywhere, all the time. The cumulative stresses come to bear on a person's ability to speak, perform, and stay alive.

Why we love it: This sort of writing and book places the reader in the midst of a struggle instead of describing it.



The Hate U Give, by Angie Thomas

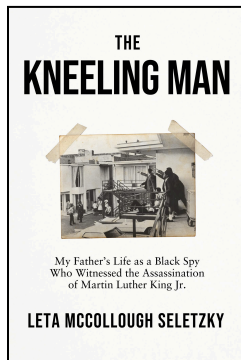
Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed.

Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr.

But what Starr does—or does not—say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life.

Why we love it: Even if this is a young adult book, it's a story for everyone. Read it with a teenager in your life and discuss it together.

The Life & Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



The Kneeling Man, by Leta McCollough Seletzky

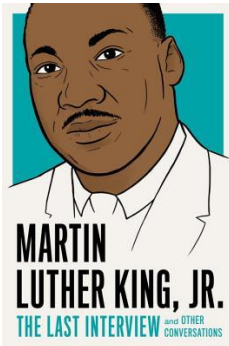
In the famous photograph of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. on the balcony of Memphis's Lorraine Motel, one man knelt down beside King, trying to staunch the blood from his fatal head wound with a borrowed towel.

This kneeling man was a member of the Invaders, an activist group that was in talks with King in the days leading up to the murder. But he was also an undercover Memphis police officer reporting on the activities of this group, which was thought to be possibly dangerous and potentially violent. This kneeling man is author Leta McCollough Seletzky's father.

What would she uncover about her father, who went on to a career at the CIA, and did she want to bear the weight of knowing?

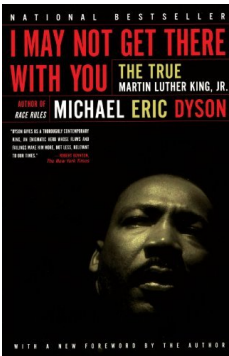
Why we love it: This is part memoir, part meditation on race in America. Truly incredible.

Martin Luther King, Jr.: The Last Interview And Other Conversations



This collection ranges from an early 1961 interview in which King describes his reasons for joining the ministry (after considering medicine), to a 1964 conversation with Robert Penn Warren, to his last interview, which was conducted on stage at the convention of the Rabbinical Assembly, just ten days before King's assassination.

Why we love it: We love the Last Interview series, and this one doesn't disappoint. The variety in these five interviews sheds new light on a public figure we only think we know.



I May Not Get There With You: The True Martin Luther King, Jr., by Michael Eric Dyson

A private citizen who transformed the world around him, Martin Luther King, Jr., was arguably the greatest American who ever lived. Now, after more than thirty years, few people understand how truly radical he was. In this groundbreaking examination of the man and his legacy, provocative author, lecturer, and professor Michael Eric Dyson restores King's true vitality and complexity and challenges us to embrace the very contradictions that make King relevant in today's world.

Why we love it: This study of King gives us a flawed, whole reflection of a man, making him more relatable and fully formed