Black History Month
Recommended Reading

FICTION AND POETRY FOR ADULTS & TEENS

Aya de Yopougon
In English: Aya
par Marguerite Abouet / 2005-2010 (Teens/Ados)

Children of Blood and Bone
by Tomi Adeyemi / 2018 (Teens)

Days by Moonlight
by André Alexis / 2019

Inventory
by Dionne Brand / 2006

The Great Black North: Contemporary African Canadian Poetry
by Valerie Mason-John / 2013

Wayside Sang
by Cecily Nicholson / 2017

Brown Girl in the Ring
by Nalo Hopkinson / 1998

Autour de ton cou : nouvelles
In English: The Thing Around Your Neck
par Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie / 2013

Fate of Flames
In French: Les flammes du destin
by Sarah Raughley / 2016 (Teens/Ados)

Frying Plantain
by Zalika Reid-Benta / 2019

Over the Roofs of the World
by Olive Senior / 2005

Dear Martin
by Nic Stone / 2017 (Teens)

The Underground Railroad
by Colson Whitehead / 2016

Reproduction
by Ian Williams / 2019

NON-FICTION FOR ADULTS

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings
by Maya Angelou / 1969

Unapologetic: A Black, Queer, and Feminist Mandate for Radical Movements
by Charlene A. Carruthers / 2018

The Hanging of Angélique: The Untold Story of Canadian Slavery and the Burning of Old Montréal
In French: La pêndaison d'Angélique: l’histoire de l’esclavage au Canada et de l’incendie de Montréal
by Afua Cooper / 2006

In the Black
by B. Denham Jolly / 2017

Dreaming of Elsewhere: Observations on Home
by Esi Edugyan / 2014

Black Writers Matter
by Whitney French / 2019

Dear Current Occupant
by Chelene Knight / 2018

Policing Black Lives: State Violence in Canada from Slavery to the Present
by Robyn Maynard / 2017

Blank: Essays and Interviews
by M. NourbeSe Philip / 2017

So You Want to Talk About Race
by Ijeoma Oluo / 2018

You Can’t Touch My Hair: And Other Things I Still Have to Explain
by Phoebe Robinson / 2016

Feel Free
by Zadie Smith / 2018

Queer Returns
by Rinaldo Walcott / 2016

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Inventory
by Dionne Brand / 2006

The Polished Hoe
by Austin Clarke / 2002

Washington Black
by Esi Edugyan / 2018

All About Love: New Visions
by bell hooks / 2018

The Book of Negroes
In French: Aminata : roman
by Lawrence Hill / 2007

The Return
In French: L'enigme du retour
by Dany Laferrière, trans. David Homel / 2009

Brown Girl in the Ring
by Nalo Hopkinson / 1998

The Great Black North: Contemporary African Canadian Poetry
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Author Spotlight

**Maya Angelou** was an American poet, writer and civil rights activist. She is well known for her poetry and autobiographies including *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.

**Dionne Brand** is a Canadian author, poet and essayist. Her titles include *Bread Out of Stone: Recollections on Sex, Recognitions, Race, Dreaming and Politics* and *The Blue Clerk* which was shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize and Governor General’s Award. **Photo credit:** Jason Chow

**Esi Edugyan** is a Canadian writer of novels, non-fiction and historical fiction including *Half-Blood Blues* and *Washington Black* – both of which have also won the Giller Prize. **Photo credit:** Dan Harasymchuk

**Lawrence Hill** is a Canadian writer of novels, essays and memoir. Two of his books have won Canada Reads - *The Book of Negroes* and *The Illegal* and *The Deserter’s Tale: the Story of an Ordinary Soldier Who Walked Away from the War in Iraq* has been published in several languages.

**Austin Clarke** was an author of novels, essays, poetry and short stories. Born in Barbados, Clarke came to Canada to study in Toronto and then pursued writing and journalism. His notable books include Giller Prize winner *The Polished Hoe* and *In Your Crib*. **Photo credit:** Chris Cushman

**bell hooks** is an American social activist, scholar, and writer on topics of gender, racism, oppression and culture. She has written non-fiction, essays and books for children. **Photo Credit:** Alex Lozupone

**Eisley Pate** is an American social activist, scholar, and writer on topics of gender, racism, oppression and culture. She has written non-fiction, essays and books for children. **Photo Credit:** Alex Lozupone

**CHILDREN’S FICTION**

- *I Am Enough* by Grace Byers / 2018
- *Hair Love* by Matthew A. Cherry / 2019
- *Hair, It’s a Family Affair!* by Mylo Freeman / 2019
- *Sulwe* by Lupita Nyong’o / 2019
- *Mae Among the Stars* by Roda Ahmed / 2018
- *Going Down Home with Daddy* by Kelly Starling Lyons / 2019
- *Being You* by Alexis Pate / 2019

**CHILDREN’S NON-FICTION**

- *The Undefeated* by Kwame Alexander / 2019
- *The Little Boy from Jamaica: A Canadian History Story* by Devon and Pearlene Clunis / 2017
- *Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History* by Vashti Harrison / 2017

**Rise! : From Caged Bird to Poet of the People, Maya Angelou** by Bethany Hegedus and Tonya Engel / 2019

**Harriet Tubman : Freedom Fighter** by Nadia L. Hohn / 2019

**Carter Reads the Newspaper** by Deborah Hopkinson and Don Tate / 2019

**La détermination de Viola Desmond** In English: *Viola Desmond Won’t Be Budged* par Jody Nyasha Warner / 2010

**I Am Farmer: Growing an Environmental Movement in Cameroon** by Baptiste Paul and Miranda Paul / 2019

**Wilma Rudolph** by M. I. Sánchez Vegara / 2019

**Young, Gifted and Black: Meet 52 Black Heroes from Past and Present** by Jamia Wilson / 2018