This is a community curated list of books, poems, articles and blog posts that explore race, not only in St. Louis, but America as a whole. By no means a full comprehensive list, here are a few to get you started on the trail of understanding what's happening. For more information, please visit www.left-bank.com/black-lives-matter

**Children’s Books**

*Freedom on the Menu: The Greensboro Sit-Ins* by Carole Boston Weatherford

*Many Thousand Gone: African Americans from Slavery to Freedom* by Virginia Hamilton

*One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams-Garcia

**Civil Rights History**

*Freedom Summer: The Savage Season of 1964 That Made Mississippi Burn and Made America a Democracy* by Bruce Watson

*Lynching of Cleo Wright* by Dominic J. Capeci JR

*The Freedom Summer Murders* by Don Mitchell

*The Eve of Destruction: How 1965 Transformed America* by James T. Patterson

*The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin

*American Slavery, American Freedom* by Edmund S. Morgan

*A Mighty Long Way: My Journey to Justice at Little Rock Central High School* by Carlotta Walls Lanier

*Olivia’s Story: The Conspiracy of Heroes Behind Shelley V. Kraemer* by Jeffrey S. Copeland
Waking from the Dream: The Struggle for Civil Rights in the Shadow of Martin Luther King, Jr. by David Chappell

Turn Away Thy Son: Little Rock, the Crisis That Shocked the Nation by Elizabeth Jacoway

Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice by Phillip Hoose

Buried in the Bitter Waters: The Hidden History of Racial Cleansing in America by Elliot Jaspin

Medical Apartheid: The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans from Colonial Times to the Present by Harriet Washington

Race Riot: Chicago in the Red Summer of 1919 by William Tuttle


All Eyes Are Upon Us: Race and Politics from Boston to Brooklyn Sokol Jason


Black Moses: The Story of Marcus Garvey and the Universal Negro Improvement Association by E. David Cronon

Sundown Towns: A Hidden Dimension of American Racism by James Loewen

Contemporary Civil Rights Issues

Disintegration: The Splintering of Black America by Eugene Robinson

The N Word: Who Can Say It, Who Shouldn’t and Why by Jabari Asim

Uprooting Racism: How White People Can Work for Racial Justice by Paul Kivel

The Meaning of Freedom: And Other Difficult Dialogues by Angela Y. Davis

Creative Community Organizing: A Guide for Rabble-Rousers, Activists, and Quiet Lovers of Justice by Si Kahn

The House That Race Built edited by Wahneema Lubiano
Black Stats: African Americans by the Numbers in the Twenty-First Century by Monique W. Morris

*Great American City: Chicago and the Enduring Neighborhood Effect* by Robert J. Sampson

The News: A User’s Manual by Alain De Botton

Combined Destinies: Whites Sharing Grief about Racism by Jealous T. Ann

The Divide: American Injustice in the Age of the Wealth Gap by Mat Taibbi

Pedagogy of the Oppressed by Paulo Freire

White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son by Tim Wise

Witnessing Whiteness: The Need to Talk about Race and How to Do It by Shelly Tochluk

Dog Whistle Politics: How Coded Racial Appeals Have Reinvented Racism and Wrecked the Middle Class by Ian Haney-Lopez

Memoir

The Beautiful Struggle: A Father, Two Sons and an Unlikely Road to Manhood by Ta-Nehisi Coates

The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates by Wes Moore

The Grace of Silence: A Family Memoir by Michele Norris

High on the Hog: A Culinary Journey from Africa to America by Jessica B. Harris

March, Book 1 by John Lewis

Men We Reaped by Jesmyn Ward

The Fire Next Time by James Baldwin

At the Elbows of My Elders by Gail Milissa Grant

A Mighty Long Way by Carlotta Walls Lanier

Black Like Me by John Howard Griffin

Fire Shut Up in My Bones by Charles Blow
Sister: An African American Life in Search of Justice by Silvia Bell White

Novels and Stories Exploring Race

Welcome to Braggsville by T. Geronimo Johnson
Boy, Snow, Bird by Helen Oyeyemi
Americannah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
The Burgess Boys by Elizabeth Strout
Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison
A Taste of Honey by Jabari Asim
Betsey Brown by Ntozake Shange
A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines
Native Son by Richard Wright
King Hedley II by August Wilson
Stuck Rubber Baby by Howard Cruse

Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination by Toni Morrison
All about Skin: Short Fiction by Women of Color by Jina Ortiz

Policing and Incarceration

Rise of the Warrior Cop by Radley Balko
The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander
Losing Legitimacy by Gary Lafree
Mass Incarceration on Trial by Jonathan Simon
Suspicion Nation by Lisa Bloom
The Central Park Five by Sarah Burns
Arbitrary Justice by Angela J. Davis

Life in Prison by Stanley “Tookie” Williams

*No Choirboy: Murder, Violence and Teenagers on Death Row* by Susan Kuklin

*Why Are So Many Black Men in Prison?* By Demico Boothe

## Race in St. Louis History

*Never Been a Time* by Harper Barnes

*Mapping Decline* by Colin Gordon

*Grassroots at the Gateway* by Clarence Lang

*That’s the Way it Was* by Vida “Sister” Goldman Prince

*Olivia’s Story* by Jeffrey Copeland

*Mill Creek Valley A Soul of Saint Louis: The Life and Death of a Black Neighborhood* by Ron Fagerstrom