**Anti-Racism? I Want to Learn. Where Do I Start?**

The murders of unarmed African-American people in the USA and the racism and injustice directed toward people of colour here in Canada are beginning to shed a light on problems that go back for hundreds of years. It is hard to know where to start to learn about the important issues surrounding racism and people of colour in North America.

Reading, watching documentaries, and educating ourselves about these issues is probably the best place to start. Once we begin to understand the history and the problems that marginalized peoples deal with, we can then find ways to get involved and support the work being done to combat racism and help to solve problems faced by people of colour in our own communities. We aren’t called to solve the whole thing, but neither are we free to abandon the work.

The resources contained in the pages that follow are by no means comprehensive and I cannot claim to have read or watched each item on this list. However I have searched trusted sources and have done my best to include a variety of voices and topics to get you started.

If you have suggestions to offer that could be added to this list, please forward them to lorre.calder@sympatico.ca and we will update the list accordingly.

Lorre Calder,

March 2022

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**The History of Black People in North America--Documentary Series**

***The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross (Documentary Series, 2014)***

***Written and Presented by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.***

From Wikipedia

“*The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross* is a six-part documentary miniseries written and presented by Henry Louis Gates Jr. It aired for the first time on the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) in the fall of 2013. The companion book to the series, The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross (SmileyBooks, 2013), was co-authored by Gates and historian Donald Yacovone. The two-DVD set of the series was released in January 2014.

The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross chronicles the full sweep of the African-American experience, from the origins of the transatlantic slave trade to the re-election and second inauguration of President Barack Obama. It is the first documentary series to recount this history in its entirety since the nine-part History of the Negro People aired on National Educational Television in 1965, and the one-hour documentary Black History: Lost, Stolen, or Strayed, narrated by Bill Cosby and broadcast in 1968. According to the PBS website for the series, The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross "explores the evolution of the African-American people, as well as the multiplicity of cultural institutions, political strategies, and religious and social perspectives they developed — forging their own history, culture and society against unimaginable odds. Commencing with the origins of slavery in Africa, the series moves through five centuries of remarkable historic events right up to the present — when America is led by a black president, yet remains a nation deeply divided by race."

For the series, Gates collaborated with more than 30 historians to identify and select 70 of the most important and illustrative stories of the African-American experience to serve as the epic's narrative spine. Among the more notable figures Gates highlighted was the black Spanish conquistador Juan Garrido, who, in 1513, accompanied Ponce de León on his expedition into what is now the state of Florida. As a result, the airing of The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross coincided with the 500th anniversary of the presence of persons of African descent in what is today the continental United States. Among the other prominent figures profiled in the series are: Harriet Tubman, Richard Allen, Frederick Douglass, Robert Smalls, Ida B. Wells, W. E. B. Du Bois, Booker T. Washington, Marcus Garvey, Oscar Micheaux, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr., Ruby Bridges, Charlayne Hunter-Gault, Kathleen Neal Cleaver, Maulana Karenga, Colin Powell, and many more.”

This documentary series is free for you to watch at the following links:

The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross (Documentary Series)

<https://www.bitchute.com/playlist/TwkMN8mPr4HP/> Complete Series (Scroll Down)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/V31FbpS4om0c/> Part 1 The Black Atlantic (1500-1800)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/vVV1xdl2V9gZ/> Part 2 The Age of Slavery (1800-1860)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/bED7rYUTCbWW/> Part 3 Into The Fire (1861-1896)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/v7eJtslDWDl1/> Part 4 Making A Way Out Of No Way (1897-1940)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/mic3fRBTi8UO/> Part 5 Rise! (1940-1968)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/QtzkU4csYnPz/> Part 6 A More Perfect Union (1968-2013)

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***Emancipation Road (Documentary Series, 2014)***

***Produced by LionHeart Filmworks***

***Narrated by Coby Batty***

From the IMDB website:

“From The Creators Of The Best-Selling Documentary Series "Up From Slavery"... A 7-Part Compelling Journey Through America's Greatest Saga. In 1860, the nation founded upon an idea that all men are created equal and endowed by their creator with the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness had as many as four hundred thousand slave-owners and almost four million slaves. By denying these rights to more than twelve percent of its population, America would soon pay with the blood of a generation. The story of African Slavery in America started with the first permanent English Colony in the 17th century... and ended with the Civil War. But those two hundred and fifty years of struggle were just the beginning. The beginning of a journey down the long Emancipation Road.”

This documentary series is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slsLmhQ40E8> Part 1- 1625-1863 - The Shadows of Slavery

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXTH1Gx-xTk> Part 2- 1863-1870 - The Emancipation Proclamation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7YuwraGq54> Part 3- 1870-1909 - Separate But Equal

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pxpz5Ys6a7I> Part 4- 1909-WWII - Regardless of the Color of One's Skin

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OW74fR-sjKk> Part 5- 1945-1963 - The Double Victory

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uFO6gBGApsA> Part 6- 1963-1968 - The Civil Rights Era

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxHy49RLSyM> Part 7- 1968-Today - Heroes of Hope

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***Eyes on the Prize (Documentary Series, 1987)***

***Narrated by Julian Bond***

Film Description From the PBS Website:

“Produced by Blackside, Eyes on the Prize tells the definitive story of the civil rights era from the point of view of the ordinary men and women whose extraordinary actions launched a movement that changed the fabric of American life, and embodied a struggle whose reverberations continue to be felt today. Winner of numerous Emmy Awards, a George Foster Peabody Award, an International Documentary Award, and a Television Critics Association Award, Eyes on the Prize is the most critically acclaimed documentary on civil rights in America.

Eyes on the Prize recounts the fight to end decades of discrimination and segregation. It is the story of the people — young and old, male and female, northern and southern — who, compelled by a meeting of conscience and circumstance, worked to eradicate a world where whites and blacks could not go to the same school, ride the same bus, vote in the same election, or participate equally in society. It was a world in which peaceful demonstrators were met with resistance and brutality — in short, a reality that is now nearly incomprehensible to many young Americans.

Through contemporary interviews and historical footage, Eyes on the Prize traces the civil rights movement from the Montgomery bus boycott to the Voting Rights Act; from early acts of individual courage through the flowering of a mass movement and its eventual split into factions. Julian Bond, political leader and civil rights activist, narrates.

The driving force behind Eyes on the Prize and Blackside, Henry Hampton (1940-1998) won numerous awards for this landmark series including the duPont-Columbia Gold Baton, the Peabody Award, and Academy Award nominations. He set out to share his vision of what he called "the remarkable human drama that was the Civil Rights Movement" through the Eyes on the Prize documentary and a book of the same title by Juan Williams. In recent years, a number of key figures who appear in the films (including the Reverend Ralph Abernathy, a leader of the Montgomery bus boycott; Coretta Scott King, wife of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King, and an activist in her own right; Kwame Ture, also known as Stokely Carmichael, leader of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee; and George Wallace, the 1960s Alabama governor who resisted integration) have died, making this record of their testimony all the more valuable.”

This documentary series is free for you to watch at the following links:

Eyes on the Prize (Documentary Series Episode Links) <https://www.bitchute.com/playlist/TwkMN8mPr4HP/> Complete Series

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/wtmS6TSLpg05/> Part 1 Awakenings (1954–1956)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/QDHo1U5b1lKP/> Part 2 Fighting Back (1957 1962)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/6beWa4BAvMZI/> Part 3 Ain't Scared of Your Jails (1960-1961)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/223a1Y0IW6Wd/> Part 4 No Easy Walk (1962-1966)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/gxSjsXE6ucck/> Part 5 Mississippi: Is This America? (1963-1964)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/PUwDiw83kGSW/> Part 6 Bridge to Freedom (1965)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/9fuz2MGXmU0q/> Part 7 The Time Has Come (1964-66)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/Piek3QacSLcz/> Part 8 Two Societies (1965-68)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/EW7VhJ04QS5T/> Part 9 Power! (1966-68)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/xOMErzyzd5xt/> Part 10 The Promised Land (1967-68)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/lHZCxCoE636T/> Part 11 Ain't Gonna Shuffle No More (1964-72)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/E8cM7dd9jJoJ/> Part 12 A Nation of Law? (1968-71)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/gIbwBsm70hUG/> Part 13 The Keys to the Kingdom (1974-80)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/AGXJsKbcCfQz/> Part 14 Back to the Movement (1979-mid 80s)

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/s51ZlW0Bvf5V/> Part 15-Director’s Interview

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***The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow (Documentary Series, 2002)***

***PBS Production***

***Narrated by Richard Roundtree***

From the PBS website

‘The landmark four-part series The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow explores segregation from the end of the Civil War to the dawn of the modern civil rights movement. It was a brutal and oppressive era in American history, but during this time, large numbers of African Americans and a corps of influential black leaders bravely fought against the status quo, amazingly acquiring for African Americans the opportunities of education, business, land ownership, and a true spirit of community.’

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j3IxWEK0uJA> Part 1 Promises Betrayed

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utwE5ZPd7Gk> Part 2 Fighting Back

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FWEbqU9CfyI> Part 3 Don’t Shoot Too Soon

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vadRcW_r-SE> Part 4 Terror and Triumph

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***Up From Slavery (Documentary Series, 2011)***

***Directed by Kevin R. Hershberger***

***Narrated by Coby Batty***

From the IMDB website:

“In 1860, as the American Experiment threatened to explode into a bloody civil war, there were as many as four hundred thousand slave-owners in the United States, and almost four million slaves. The nation was founded upon the idea that all men are created equal and endowed by their creator with the inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The nation would pay a bloody cost for denying that right to more than twelve percent of its population.

But when slavery was first brought to America's shores, this war, and even the nation it tore apart, was centuries in the future. With incredibly detailed historical re-enactments, expert commentary and the stories of slavery told through first-hand accounts, this is an epic struggle 400 years in the making. A journey into the past like none other. This is the story of these men and women who by their hands laid the foundation of what would become the most powerful nation on Earth. “

This documentary series is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a8tEhggLsy4> Part 1 - 1619 Virginia - The First African Slaves arrive

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dX289mrDlVE> Part 2 - 18th Century Colonial America and Slavery under the rule of the British Empire

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cuMUSlG-cbc> Part 3 - Slavery in the United States after the Revolution

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vIabx1OmMzQ> Part 4 - Nat Turners Rebellion, 1831

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tgrY7BVvrF8> Part 5 - Abolition from the North grows

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wLCrwNdxNO4> Part 6 - The Civil War. Emancipation Proclamation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9tswcM3Xheg> Part 7 - Aftermath of the Civil War and new freedom

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**Black Lives and Stories--Documentaries**

***Journey to Justice (Documentary)***

***Roger McTair***

***2000 | 47 min***

This documentary pays tribute to a group of Canadians who took racism to court. They are Canada's unsung heroes in the fight for Black civil rights. Focusing on the 1930s to the 1950s, this film documents the struggle of 6 people who refused to accept inequality. Featured here, among others, are Viola Desmond, a woman who insisted on keeping her seat at the Roseland movie theatre in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia in 1946 rather than moving to the section normally reserved for the city's Black population, and Fred Christie, who took his case to the Supreme Court after being denied service at a Montreal tavern in 1936. These brave pioneers helped secure justice for all Canadians. Their stories deserve to be told.

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on the National Film Board website. <https://www.nfb.ca/film/journey_to_justice/>

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***I Am Not Your Negro (Documentary)***

***Directed by Raoul Peck***

***Running Time: 95 minutes***

From the TVO website:

In his incendiary documentary, Raoul Peck envisions the book James Baldwin never finished – ‘Remember This House’. The book was to be a revolutionary, personal account of the lives and successive assassinations of three of his close friends -Medgar Evers, Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr. The result is a radical, examination of race in America, using Baldwin's original words, spoken by Samuel L. Jackson, and a flood of rich archival material.

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on the TVO website: <https://www.tvo.org/video/documentaries/i-am-not-your-negro>

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**Zero Tolerance (Documentary)**

**Michka Saäl**

**2004 | 1 h 15 min**

From the National Film Board website:

Being young is tough, especially if you're Black, Latino, Arab or Asian. In a city like Montreal, you can get targeted and treated as a criminal for no good reason. Zero Tolerance reveals how deep seated prejudice can be. On one side are the city's young people, and on the other, its police force. Two worlds, two visions. Yet one of these groups is a minority, while the other wields real power. One has no voice, while the other makes life-and-death decisions.

When a policy of zero tolerance to crime masks an intolerance to young people of colour, the delicate balance between order and personal freedom is upset. A blend of cinéma vérité and personal testimonies, this hard-hitting film will broaden your mind and change your way of thinking**. In French with English subtitles.**

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on the National Film Board website. Click here:

<https://www.nfb.ca/film/zero_tolerance-edu/>

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***Freedom Riders (Documentary 2010)***

***Director/Writer : Stanley Nelson***

The film chronicles the story behind hundreds of civil rights activists called the Freedom Riders who challenged the racial segregation of the American interstate transport and by traveling together in small interracial groups and sitting where they chose on the buses and trains to demand equal access to terminal restaurants and waiting rooms, and to bring racial segregation national attention.

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srIcN1Eo_y8>

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***We Are the Roots: Black Settlers and their Experiences of Discrimination on the Canadian Prairies (Documentary)***

***Produced and directed by Dr. Jenna Bailey***

***In collaboration with Dr. David Este and Deborah Dobbins***

*From the Bailey and Soda films website:*

*An intriguing and moving new documentary.”*

*– Paula Simons, Edmonton Journal*

*We are the Roots: Black Settlers and their Experiences of Discrimination on the Canadian Prairies tells the story of a wave of African American immigrants who moved to Alberta and Saskatchewan between 1905-1912 to escape racism and persecution in the United States. Taking advantage of Canada’s offer of 160 acres of land for a $10 fee, 1000-1500 individuals moved to the Prairies and helped develop several settlements throughout the provinces. Through the stories of 19 descendants of the original settlers, We are the Roots focuses on the experiences of discrimination these individuals encountered while living in the rural communities and in Edmonton.*

This documentary is available for you to watch for free

<https://vimeo.com/257364347>

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***Remember Africville (Documentary)***

***Shelagh Mackenzie***

***1991 | 35 min***

*From the National Film Board website:*

*“Africville, a small black settlement, lay within the city limits of Halifax, Nova Scotia. In the 1960s, the families who lived there were uprooted and their homes demolished in the name of urban renewal and integration. Now, more than twenty years later, the site of the community of Africville is a stark, under-utilized park. Former residents, their descendants and some of the decision-makers, speak out and, with the help of archival photographs and films, tell the story of that painful relocation.”*

This documentary is available to watch for free on the National Film Board website:

<https://www.nfb.ca/film/remember-africville/>

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***The Road Taken (Documentary)***

***Selwyn Jacob***

***1996 | 52 min***

From the National Film Board website:

This 1996 documentary takes a nostalgic ride through history to present the experiences of Black sleeping-car porters who worked on Canada's railways from the early 1900s through the 1960s. There was a strong sense of pride among these men and they were well-respected by their community. Yet, harsh working conditions prevented them from being promoted to other railway jobs until finally, in 1955, porter Lee Williams took his fight to the union.

Claiming discrimination under the Canada Fair Employment Act, the Blacks won their right to work in other areas. Interviews, archival footage and the music of noted jazz musician Joe Sealy (whose father was a porter) combine to portray a fascinating history that might otherwise have been forgotten.

This documentary is available for you to watch for free at the National Film Board’s website:

<https://www.nfb.ca/film/road_taken/>

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***John Ware Reclaimed (Documentary)***

***By Cheryl Foggo***

***2020 | 1 h 12 min***

**Please note: This film contains explicit language. Viewer discretion is advised.**

From the National Film Board’s website:

John Ware Reclaimed follows filmmaker Cheryl Foggo on her quest to re-examine the mythology surrounding John Ware, the Black cowboy who settled in Alberta, Canada, before the turn of the 20th century. Foggo’s research uncovers who this iconic figure might have been, and what his legacy means in terms of anti-Black racism, both past and present.

This film is available for you to watch for free at the National Film Board’s website:

<https://www.nfb.ca/film/john-ware-reclaimed/>

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**The Untold Story of EMMETT LUIS TILL (Documentary 2005)**

**by Keith Beauchamp**

**From YouTube:**

Never-before-seen testimony is included in this documentary on Emmett Louis Till, who, in 1955, was brutally murdered after he whistled at a white woman.

Simple yet riveting, The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till articulates the madness of racism in the South of the 1950s. Combining archival photos and footage with deeply felt interviews, this documentary tells the harrowing story of what happened when a mischievous 14 year old black boy from Chicago, visiting his relatives in Mississippi, whistled at a white woman in the street.

The lynching that followed was so gruesome that a media circus surrounded the trial--and what stunned the nation was not only the crime, but the blithe unconcern the citizens of a small Mississippi town felt toward the brutal murder of a black teenager.

The interviews suspensefully unveil the story, moving from the viewpoint of Till's mother to the perspective of his Southern cousins to actual film of Till's uncle, who had the astonishing courage to accuse the two killers in court. Till's mother, Mamie Till-Mobley, addressed the entire country in news footage, begging that something be done so that her son did not die in vain.

The awkward, un-media-savvy quality of the 1950s interviews may seem to come from another world, but the harsh truth of what happened sprang all too clearly from America's still unresolved racial conflicts. A passionate, compelling documentary.

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qT6ZYcYuL9o**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qT6ZYcYuL9o)

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***Seeking Salvation-A History of the Black Church in Canada (Documentary)***

***Directed by Phillip Daniels, 2004, Running Time: 1hr 30min***

From YouTube:

“Spanning four centuries on a joyful voyage of music and heritage, Seeking Salvation traces the history of the Black Church and considers its future in a changing society.”

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A8qc8PQU8es>

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***4 Little Girls (Documentary)***

***Directed by Spike Lee, 1997***

***Running Time 1hr 42min***

From YouTube

“4 Little Girls is a 1997 American historical documentary film about the 15 September 1963 case of four African-American girls (Addie May Collins, Carol Denise McNair, Cynthia Wesley, Carole Rosamond Robertson) in the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing in Birmingham, Alabama. It was directed by Spike Lee and nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary.

In 2017, the film was selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant".”

This documentary is available for you to watch for free at either of the following two links:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1h3PcGLIFACFOWJh3u4s3k1zuFOjmXxSa/view>

or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ebuKaY0KIbI>

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***Josiah (Documentary 2018)***

***Directed by Jared Brock***

***Running Time: 56 min***

From the TVO website:

Narrated by Danny Glover, ‘Josiah’ tells the remarkable story of author, abolitionist, and former slave, Josiah Henson, who escaped to Canada in 1830 after 42 years of enslavement, and was a key inspiration for Harriet Beecher Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin. Once free, Henson rescued 118 slaves and founded the Dawn freeman settlement in Dresden, Ontario. Viewer discretion advised.

This documentary is available for you to watch for free at either of the following two links:

<https://www.tvo.org/video/documentaries/josiah> TVO website

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s0ZyJKVirgw> YouTube

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***Slavery by Another Name (Documentary, 2012)***

***Running Time: 1Hr 24min***

***Directed by Sam Pollock***

***Based on the Pulitzer-Prize-winning book by Douglas Blackmon, ‘Slavery By Another Name’***

From the PBS website:

“Slavery by Another Name is a 90-minute documentary that challenges one of Americans’ most cherished assumptions: the belief that slavery in this country ended with the Emancipation Proclamation. The film tells how even as chattel slavery came to an end in the South in 1865, thousands of African Americans were pulled back into forced labor with shocking force and brutality.”

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on the PBS website until February 12, 2028

<https://www.pbs.org/video/slavery-another-name-slavery-video/>

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***The Godmother of Rock and Roll-Sister Rosetta Tharpe (Documentary 2014)***

***Running Time: 1Hr***

***Produced and Directed by: Mick Csaky***

From the PBS website:

Sister Rosetta Tharpe: The Godmother of Rock & Roll. Southern-born, Chicago-raised and New York-made. Despite not being a household name today, Sister Rosetta Tharpe is one of the most influential artists of the 20th century.

This documentary if available for you to watch for free on Vimeo:

<https://vimeo.com/101093967>

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***The Children's March | 1963 (Documentary)***

***Running Time 42min***

***Directed by Robert Houston***

***2005, Southern Poverty Law Centre***

From YouTube

“American short documentary film about the Birmingham, Alabama civil rights marches in the 1960's, highlighting the bravery of young activists involved in Children's Crusade (1963).

 In 2005, this film won an Oscar at the 77th Academy Awards for Documentary Short Subject and was made by the Southern Poverty Law Center (https://www.splcenter.org/ )”

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5enZRwbnISQ>

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

***Harriet Tubman: They Called Her Moses (Documentary 2018)***

***Director: Robert Fernandez, Running Time 45min***

From YouTube

“Discover the real Harriet Tubman in this compelling documentary narrated by Alfrelynn Roberts and featuring expert interviews with leading scholars, including Dr. Eric Lewis Williams of the Smithsonian Institute and Carl Westmoreland of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. It also features remarkable early 20th century audio recordings of African-American spirituals sung by former slaves.

Harriet Tubman is a familiar and revered name in American history. But many are unfamiliar with the details of her remarkable story, the depth of her character, and the inner motivations that drove her. Born into slavery in Maryland in the 1820s, Harriet Tubman's resolute Christian faith would compel her to extraordinary acts of courage and sacrifice. Through her selfless efforts, hundreds of African-American slaves escaped to freedom. Tubman's tenacious trust in God and love for others earned her the title "the Moses of her people." Discover the real Harriet Tubman in this compelling documentary narrated by Alfrelynn Roberts and featuring expert interviews with leading scholars, including Dr. Eric Lewis Williams of the Smithsonian Institute and Carl Westmoreland of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. It also features remarkable early 20th century audio recordings of African-American spirituals sung by former slaves.”

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HlXGK2wi5oM>

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***George Washington Carver: An Uncommon Life (Documentary, 2018)***

***Running Time: 56min***

***Directed by: Laurel Bower***

From the PBS website:

While George Washington Carver's rise from slavery to scientific accomplishment has inspired millions, time has reduced him to the man who did something with peanuts. This documentary uncovers Carver's complexities and reveals the full impact of his life and work.

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_3CVmluYFtI>

Or on the PBS website

<https://www.pbs.org/video/george-washington-carver-an-uncommon-life-qeru7s/>

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***1964: The Fight for a Right (Documentary 2018)***

***Producers: Taiwo Gaynor, Edie Greene***

***Running Time: 57min***

From YouTube

By the mid twentieth century, Mississippi’s African Americans had suffered from nearly 75 years of Jim Crow discrimination. In order to break open the closed society and improve their lives, they needed to be able to vote. In the summer of 1964, hundreds of young white volunteers converged in Mississippi for a 10-week voter registration campaign. The results of their efforts still reverberate.

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZOX36uYgMys>

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***Black Wall Street (Documentary 1999)***

***Produced by Sean P. Geary, Mark Montgomery***

***Running Time 43min.***

From YouTube

“The Tulsa race riot was a large-scale, racially motivated pogrom on May 31 and June 1, 1921, in which a group of whites attacked the black community of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The Greenwood District, the wealthiest black community in the United States (now commonly referred to as "the Black Wall Street"), was burned to the ground. Over the course of 16 hours, more than 800 people were admitted to local white hospitals with injuries, the two black hospitals were burned down, and police arrested and detained more than 6,000 black Greenwood residents at three local facilities. An estimated 10,000 blacks were left homeless, and 35 city blocks composed of 1,256 residences were destroyed by fire, resulting in over $26 million in damages. The official count of the dead by the Oklahoma Bureau of Vital Statistics was 36, but other estimates of black fatalities vary from 55 to about 300.

The events of the massacre were long omitted from local and state histories: "The Tulsa race riot of 1921 was rarely mentioned in history books, classrooms or even in private. Blacks and whites alike grew into middle age unaware of what had taken place."[1] With the number of survivors declining, in 1996, the state legislature commissioned a report to establish the historical record of the events, and acknowledge the victims and damages to the black community. Released in 2001, the report included the commission's recommendations for some compensatory actions, most of which were not implemented by the state and city governments. The state passed legislation to establish some scholarships for descendants of survivors, economic development of Greenwood, and a memorial park to the victims in Tulsa. The latter was dedicated in 2010.”

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJbF9SGB3Yk>

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***Double Victory: The Tuskegee Airmen At War (Documentary 2010)***

***Running Time 1hr 30min***

***Produced by Lucasfilm***

From IMDB

“Double Victory spotlights the historic role of the Tuskegee Airmen during World War II, revealing the ways these African Americans bravely fought a war on two fronts: they helped the world triumph against fascism abroad and they fought valiantly for racial justice and equality at home. Though the Tuskegee Airmen faced the enormous challenges of discrimination from military officers, inferior equipment and heightened scrutiny, these pilots and their support personnel excelled. Featuring many Tuskegee pilots who tell powerful stories of their experiences during the war, Double Victory shows how these airmen helped defeat fascism in Europe and helped inspire the Civil Rights Movement upon their return. “

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QmcpILi1Rxc>

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***Dawn of Day: Stories from the Underground Railroad (Documentary, 2016)***

***Produced by: Debbie K. Mercer, College of Education, Kansas State University***

***Directed by: Rusty Earl***

***Running Time: 55min***

From YouTube

Dawn of Day is a historical documentary about the Underground Railroad in Kansas that brings to light Wabaunsee County’s unsung heroes who traversed one of the most turbulent times in our nation’s history. Faith, family, and politics united a community of neighbors who lived and died to ensure Kansas was a free state. Richard Pitts, director of the Wonder Workshop in Manhattan, Kansas, narrates the film and interviews educators, historians and descendants of abolitionists whose shared heritage lives on in the freedom we enjoy today.

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L5c6cDCTJNY>

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***The Story of Marcus Garvey A Documentary (Documentary, 2017)***

***Running Time 2Hr 2min***

***Produced by Institute of the Black World 21st Century***

From the IBW21.org (The Institute of the Black World 21st Century) website:

“Marcus Mosiah Garvey, Jr., (August 17, 1887 – June 10, 1940), was a Jamaican political leader, publisher, journalist, entrepreneur, and orator who was a proponent of the Pan-Africanism movement, to which end he founded the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League (UNIA-ACL). He also founded the Black Star Line, a shipping and passenger line which promoted the return of the African diaspora to their ancestral lands.

Prior to the 20th century, leaders such as Prince Hall, Martin Delany, Edward Wilmot Blyden, and Henry Highland Garnet advocated the involvement of the African diaspora in African affairs. Garvey was unique in advancing a Pan-African philosophy to inspire a global mass movement and economic empowerment focusing on Africa known as Garveyism. Promoted by the UNIA as a movement of African Redemption, Garveyism would eventually inspire others, ranging from the Nation of Islam to the Rastafari movement (some sects of which proclaim Garvey as a prophet).

Garveyism intended persons of African ancestry in the diaspora to “redeem” the nations of Africa and for the European colonial powers to leave the continent. His essential ideas about Africa were stated in an editorial in the Negro World entitled “African Fundamentalism”, where he wrote: “Our union must know no clime, boundary, or nationality… to let us hold together under all climes and in every country…””

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

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

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***Hope & Fury: MLK, The Movement and The Media (Documentary)***

***NBC News Production, 2018***

***1hr 25min***

From YouTube

"Hope & Fury: MLK, The Movement and The Media" is a gripping account of American history told like never before by an all-star lineup of civil rights leaders, pioneering African-American reporters who chronicled the movement, and journalists from across generations, as well as present-day activists who have adopted the tactics of their forbearers to shine a light on inequality in the modern era.”

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wLUFlZhbXZ8>

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***Slavery by Another Name (Documentary)***

***1hr 25 min running time***

From the PBS website:

“Slavery by Another Name is a 90-minute documentary that challenges one of Americans’ most cherished assumptions: the belief that slavery in this country ended with the Emancipation Proclamation. The film tells how even as chattel slavery came to an end in the South in 1865, thousands of African Americans were pulled back into forced labor with shocking force and brutality.”

From Wikipedia:

Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II is a book by American writer Douglas A. Blackmon, published by Anchor Books in 2008. It explores the forced labor of prisoners, overwhelmingly African American men, through the convict lease system used by states, local governments, white farmers, and corporations after the American Civil War until World War II in the southern United States. Blackmon argues that slavery in the United States did not end with the Civil War, but instead persisted well into the 20th century. It depicts the subjugation of convict leasing, sharecropping and peonage and tells the fate of the former but not of the latter two.

Slavery by Another Name began as an article which Blackmon wrote for The Wall Street Journal detailing the use of black forced labor by U.S. Steel Corporation. Seeing the popular response to the article, he began conducting research for a more comprehensive exploration of the topic. The resulting book was well received by critics and became a New York Times Best Seller. In 2009, it was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for General Non-Fiction. In 2012, it was adapted into a documentary film of the same name for PBS.

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on the PBS website until 12 February 2028:

<https://www.pbs.org/video/slavery-another-name-slavery-video/>

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***13th (Documentary)***

***Running Time: 1Hr 40 min***

***Directed by Ava DuVernay***

From YouTube:

“Combining archival footage with testimony from activists and scholars, director Ava DuVernay's examination of the U.S. prison system looks at how the country's history of racial inequality drives the high rate of incarceration in America. This piercing, Oscar-nominated film won Best Documentary at the Emmys, the BAFTAs and the NAACP Image Awards. US Rating: TV-MA For mature audiences. May not be suitable for ages 17 and under.”

From Wikipedia:

13th is a 2016 American documentary film by director Ava DuVernay. The film explores the "intersection of race, justice, and mass incarceration in the United States;" it is titled after the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, adopted in 1865, which abolished slavery throughout the United States and ended involuntary servitude except as a punishment for conviction of a crime.

DuVernay contends that slavery has been perpetuated since the end of the American Civil War through criminalizing behavior and enabling police to arrest poor freedmen and force them to work for the state under convict leasing; suppression of African Americans by disenfranchisement, lynchings, and Jim Crow; politicians declaring a war on drugs that weighs more heavily on minority communities and, by the late 20th century, mass incarceration affecting communities of color, especially American descendants of slavery, in the United States. She examines the prison-industrial complex and the emerging detention-industrial complex, discussing how much money is being made by corporations from such incarcerations.

13th garnered acclaim from a number of film critics. It was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature at the 89th Academy Awards, and won the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Documentary or Nonfiction Special at the 69th Primetime Emmy Awards.

It experienced a surge in viewership by 4,665 percent in June 2020 during the George Floyd protests.

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=krfcq5pF8u8>

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***Malcolm X: Make it Plain (Documentary)***

***2hr 18 min***

Malcolm X: Make It Plain is a 1994, documentary by PBS about the life of Malcolm X, or El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz. The documentary was narrated by Alfre Woodard, produced and directed by Orlando Bagwell, written by Steve Fayer and Orlando Bagwell and co-produced by Judy Richardson. Executive producer was Henry Hampton. Interviewees include Ossie Davis, Alex Haley, Betty Shabazz and Wallace D. Muhammad, among others.

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=csWByunwVI8>

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***1963: The Year That Changed Everything (Documentary, 2013)***

***A film by John Jenkins. 59 Minutes.***

From YouTube

“1963 changed the direction of the country and Birmingham, Alabama was front and center through it all. "1963- The Year That Changed Everything" chronicles many of the events that happened that year. See and hear first-hand accounts of the boycotts, the Children's March, the integration of the University of Alabama, and the tragic bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church. This film offers unique insight into the conditions so prevalent in the South at the time, and the bravery of those who were determined to change things. The film features special appearances by Carolyn McKinstry, Shelley Stewart, Sara Collins Rudolph, Barnett Wright, Joe Langston, Dr. Jesse Lewis and some of the unsung "foot-soldiers," who as children, marched and were jailed.”

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-vEZR5XON4Y>

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**Black Lives and Stories—Books**

***His Truth Is Marching On: John Lewis and the Power of Hope (Book)***

***By Jon Meacham***

***ISBN-10‏: ‎ 1984855026;***

***ISBN-13: ‎ 978-1984855022***

From Amazon:

“John Lewis, who at age twenty-five marched in Selma, Alabama, and was beaten on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, was a visionary and a man of faith. Drawing on decades of wide-ranging interviews with Lewis, Jon Meacham writes of how this great-grandson of a slave and son of an Alabama tenant farmer was inspired by the Bible and his teachers in nonviolence, Reverend James Lawson and Martin Luther King, Jr., to put his life on the line in the service of what Abraham Lincoln called “the better angels of our nature.” From an early age, Lewis learned that nonviolence was not only a tactic but a philosophy, a biblical imperative, and a transforming reality. At the age of four, Lewis, ambitious to become a minister, practiced by preaching to his family’s chickens. When his mother cooked one of the chickens, the boy refused to eat it—his first act, he wryly recalled, of nonviolent protest. Integral to Lewis’s commitment to bettering the nation was his faith in humanity and in God—and an unshakable belief in the power of hope.

Meacham calls Lewis “as important to the founding of a modern and multiethnic twentieth- and twenty-first-century America as Thomas Jefferson and James Madison and Samuel Adams were to the initial creation of the Republic itself in the eighteenth century.” A believer in the injunction that one should love one's neighbor as oneself, Lewis was arguably a saint in our time, risking limb and life to bear witness for the powerless in the face of the powerful. In many ways he brought a still-evolving nation closer to realizing its ideals, and his story offers inspiration and illumination for Americans today who are working for social and political change.”

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***Viola Desmond’s Canada (Book)***

***A History of Blacks and Racial Segregation in the Promised Land***

***By Graham Reynolds***

***Foreword by George Elliott Clarke With Wanda Robson***

*From the publisher’s website:*

“Winner of the 2017 Robbie Robertson Dartmouth Book Award for Non-Fiction! The Miramichi Reader’s best non-fiction book of 2016

In 1946, Viola Desmond was wrongfully arrested for sitting in a whites-only section of a movie theatre in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. In 2010, the Nova Scotia Government recognized this gross miscarriage of justice and posthumously granted her a free pardon.

Most Canadians are aware of Rosa Parks, who refused to give up her seat on a racially segregated bus in Alabama, but Viola Desmond’s act of resistance occurred nine years earlier. However, many Canadians are still unaware of Desmond’s story or that racial segregation existed throughout many parts of Canada during most of the twentieth century. On the subject of race, Canadians seem to exhibit a form of collective amnesia. Viola Desmond’s Canada is a ground-breaking book that provides a concise overview of the narrative of the Black experience in Canada. Reynolds traces this narrative from slavery under French and British rule in the eighteenth century to the practice of racial segregation and the fight for racial equality in the twentieth century. Included are personal recollections by Wanda Robson, Viola Desmond’s youngest sister, together with important but previously unpublished documents and other primary sources in the history of Blacks in Canada.”

<https://fernwoodpublishing.ca/book/viola-desmonds-canada>

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***The Skin We're In (Book)***

***A Year of Black Resistance and Power***

***By Desmond Cole***

NATIONAL BESTSELLER

WINNER OF THE 2020 TORONTO BOOK AWARD

From Penguin Random House:

“A bracing, provocative, and perspective-shifting book from one of Canada's most celebrated and uncompromising writers, Desmond Cole. ‘The Skin We're In’ will spark a national conversation, influence policy, and inspire activists.

In his 2015 cover story for Toronto Life magazine, Desmond Cole exposed the racist actions of the Toronto police force, detailing the dozens of times he had been stopped and interrogated under the controversial practice of carding. The story quickly came to national prominence, shaking the country to its core and catapulting its author into the public sphere. Cole used his newfound profile to draw insistent, unyielding attention to the injustices faced by Black Canadians on a daily basis.

Both Cole’s activism and journalism find vibrant expression in his first book, ‘The Skin We’re In’. Puncturing the bubble of Canadian smugness and naive assumptions of a post-racial nation, Cole chronicles just one year—2017—in the struggle against racism in this country. It was a year that saw calls for tighter borders when Black refugees braved frigid temperatures to cross into Manitoba from the States, Indigenous land and water protectors resisting the celebration of Canada’s 150th birthday, police across the country rallying around an officer accused of murder, and more.

The year also witnessed the profound personal and professional ramifications of Desmond Cole’s unwavering determination to combat injustice. In April, Cole disrupted a Toronto police board meeting by calling for the destruction of all data collected through carding. Following the protest, Cole, a columnist with the Toronto Star, was summoned to a meeting with the paper’s opinions editor and informed that his activism violated company policy. Rather than limit his efforts defending Black lives, Cole chose to sever his relationship with the publication. Then in July, at another police board meeting, Cole challenged the board to respond to accusations of a police cover-up in the brutal beating of Dafonte Miller by an off-duty police officer and his brother. When Cole refused to leave the meeting until the question was publicly addressed, he was arrested. The image of Cole walking out of the meeting, handcuffed and flanked by officers, fortified the distrust between the city’s Black community and its police force.

Month-by-month, Cole creates a comprehensive picture of entrenched, systemic inequality. Urgent, controversial, and unsparingly honest, The Skin We’re In is destined to become a vital text for anti-racist and social justice movements in Canada, as well as a potent antidote to the all-too-present complacency of many white Canadians.”

<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.ca/books/536075/the-skin-were-in-by-desmond-cole/9780385686341>

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***I’m Still Here-Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness (Book)***

***by Austin Channing Brown***

From the Goodreads website:

‘From a powerful new voice on racial justice, an eye-opening account of growing up Black, Christian, and female in middle-class white America.

Austin Channing Brown's first encounter with a racialized America came at age 7, when she discovered her parents named her Austin to deceive future employers into thinking she was a white man. Growing up in majority-white schools, organizations, and churches, Austin writes, "I had to learn what it means to love blackness," a journey that led to a lifetime spent navigating America's racial divide as a writer, speaker and expert who helps organizations practice genuine inclusion.

In a time when nearly all institutions (schools, churches, universities, businesses) claim to value "diversity" in their mission statements, ‘I'm Still Here’ is a powerful account of how and why our actions so often fall short of our words. Austin writes in breathtaking detail about her journey to self-worth and the pitfalls that kill our attempts at racial justice, in stories that bear witness to the complexity of America's social fabric--from Black Cleveland neighborhoods to private schools in the middle-class suburbs, from prison walls to the boardrooms at majority-white organizations.

For readers who have engaged with America's legacy on race through the writing of Ta-Nehisi Coates and Michael Eric Dyson, ‘I'm Still Here’ is an illuminating look at how white, middle-class, Evangelicalism has participated in an era of rising racial hostility, inviting the reader to confront apathy, recognize God's ongoing work in the world, and discover how blackness--if we let it--can save us all.”

<https://www.goodreads.com/en/book/show/35883430-i-m-still-here>

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***White Fragility (Book)***

***Why It's So Hard For White People To Talk About Racism***

***By Dr. Robin DiAngelo***

***Foreword by Michael Eric Dyson***

From the Goodreads website:

“About White Fragility

The New York Times best-selling book exploring the counterproductive reactions white people have when their assumptions about race are challenged, and how these reactions maintain racial inequality.

In this “vital, necessary, and beautiful book” (Michael Eric Dyson), antiracist educator Robin DiAngelo deftly illuminates the phenomenon of white fragility and “allows us to understand racism as a practice not restricted to ‘bad people’ (Claudia Rankine). Referring to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially, white fragility is characterized by emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt, and by behaviors including argumentation and silence. These behaviors, in turn, function to reinstate white racial equilibrium and prevent any meaningful cross-racial dialogue. In this in-depth exploration, DiAngelo examines how white fragility develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what we can do to engage more constructively.”

<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/566247/white-fragility-by-dr-robin-diangelo/>

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***Hidden Figures (Book)***

***by Margot Lee Shetterly***

From the Goodreads website:

‘The #1 New York Times Bestseller. Set amid the civil rights movement, the never-before-told true story of NASA’s African-American female mathematicians who played a crucial role in America’s space program. Before Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of professionals worked as ‘Human Computers’, calculating the flight paths that would enable these historic achievements. Among these were a coterie of bright, talented African-American women. Segregated from their white counterparts, these ‘coloured computers’ used pencil and paper to write the equations that would launch rockets and astronauts, into space. Moving from World War II through NASA’s golden age, touching on the civil rights era, the Space Race, the Cold War and the women’s rights movement, ‘Hidden Figures’ interweaves a rich history of mankind’s greatest adventure with the intimate stories of five courageous women whose work forever changed the world.’

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/25953369-hidden-figures>

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***Death of Innocence: The Story of the Hate Crime that Changed America (Book)***

***by Mamie Till-Mobley and Christopher Benson -2004***

From the Goodreads website:

“There are many heroes of the civil rights movement—men and women we can look to for inspiration. Each has a unique story, a path that led to a role as leader or activist. Death of Innocence is the heartbreaking and ultimately inspiring story of one such hero: Mamie Till-Mobley, the mother of Emmett Till—an innocent fourteen-year-old African-American boy who was in the wrong place at the wrong time, and who paid for it with his life. His outraged mother’s actions galvanized the civil rights movement, leaving an indelible mark on American racial consciousness.

Mamie Carthan was an ordinary African-American woman growing up in 1930s Chicago, living under the strong, steady influence of her mother’s care. She fell in love with and married Louis Till, and while the marriage didn’t last, they did have a beautiful baby boy, Emmett.

In August 1955, Emmett was visiting family in Mississippi when he was kidnapped from his bed in the middle of the night by two white men and brutally murdered. His crime: allegedly whistling at a white woman in a convenience store. His mother began her career of activism when she insisted on an open-casket viewing of her son’s gruesomely disfigured body. More than a hundred thousand people attended the service. The trial of J. W. Milam and Roy Bryant, accused of kidnapping and murdering Emmett (the two were eventually acquitted of the crime), was considered the first full-scale media event of the civil rights movement.

What followed altered the course of this country’s history, and it was all set in motion by the sheer will, determination, and courage of Mamie Till-Mobley—a woman who would pull herself back from the brink of suicide to become a teacher and inspire hundreds of black children throughout the country.

Mamie Till-Mobley, who died in 2003 just as she completed this memoir, has honored us with her full testimony: “I focused on my son while I considered this book. . . . The result is in your hands. . . . I am experienced, but not cynical. . . . I am hopeful that we all can be better than we are. I’ve been brokenhearted, but I still maintain an oversized capacity for love.” Death of Innocence is an essential document in the annals of American civil rights history, and a painful yet beautiful account of a mother’s ability to transform tragedy into boundless courage and hope.”

<https://www.goodreads.com/en/book/show/208405.Death_of_Innocence>

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***Willie: The Game-Changing Story of the NHL's First Black Player (Book)***

***by Willie O'Ree, Michael McKinley***

From the Goodreads website:

“An inspiring memoir that shows that anyone can achieve their dreams if they are willing to fight for them.

In 1958, Willie O'Ree was a lot like any other player toiling in the minors. He was good. Good enough to have been signed by the Boston Bruins. Just not quite good enough to play in the NHL.

Until January 18 of that year. O'Ree was finally called up, and when he stepped out onto the ice against the Montreal Canadiens, not only did he fulfil the childhood dream he shared with so many other Canadian kids, he did something that had never been done before.

He broke hockey's colour barrier. Just as his hero, Jackie Robinson, had done for baseball.

In that pioneering first NHL game, O'Ree proved that no one could stop him from being a hockey player. But he soon learned that he could never be just a hockey player. He would always be a black player, with all that entails. There were ugly name-calling and stick-swinging incidents, and nights when the Bruins had to be escorted to their bus by the police.

But O'Ree never backed down. When he retired in 1979, he had played hundreds of games as a pro, and scored hundreds of goals, his boyhood dreams more than accomplished.

In 2018, O'Ree was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in recognition not only of that legacy, but of the way he has built on it in the decades since. He has been, for twenty years now, an NHL Executive and has helped the NHL Diversity program expose more than 40,000 boys and girls of diverse backgrounds to unique hockey experiences.

Inspiring, frank, and shot through with the kind of understated courage and decency required to change the world, Willie is a story for anyone willing to persevere for a dream**.”**

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/54227862-willie?from_search=true&from_srp=true&qid=umUk2D4xgR&rank=4>

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***How to Be An Anit-Racist (Book)***

***by Ibram X. Kendi***

From the Goodreads website:

“Ibram X. Kendi's concept of antiracism reenergizes and reshapes the conversation about racial justice in America--but even more fundamentally, points us toward liberating new ways of thinking about ourselves and each other. In How to be an Antiracist, Kendi asks us to think about what an antiracist society might look like, and how we can play an active role in building it.

In this book, Kendi weaves together an electrifying combination of ethics, history, law, and science, bringing it all together with an engaging personal narrative of his own awakening to antiracism. How to Be an Antiracist is an essential work for anyone who wants to go beyond an awareness of racism to the next step: contributing to the formation of a truly just and equitable society.”

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/40265832-how-to-be-an-antiracist?from_search=true&from_srp=true&qid=97KZm9gPwI&rank=1>

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***In the Black: My Life (Book)***

***by B. Denham Jolly***

From the Goodreads website:

“In the Black traces B. Denham Jolly’s personal and professional struggle for a place in a country where Black Canadians have faced systematic discrimination. He arrived from Jamaica to attend university in the mid-1950s and worked as a high school teacher before going into the nursing and retirement home business. Though he was ultimately successful in his business ventures, Jolly faced both overt and covert discrimination, which led him into social activism. The need for a stronger voice for the Black community fueled Jolly’s 12-year battle to get a licence for a Black-owned radio station in Toronto. At its launch in 2001, Flow 93.5 became the model for urban music stations across the country, helping to launch the careers of artists like Drake.

Jolly chronicles not only his own journey: he tells the story of a generation of activists who worked to reshape the country into a more open and just society. While celebrating these successes, In the Black also measures the distance Canada still has to travel before we reach our stated ideals of equality.”

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/31213686-in-the-black?ac=1&from_search=true&qid=qbJgNYcDMi&rank=1>

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***They Call Me George (Book)***

***(The Untold Story of Black Train Porters and the Birth of Modern Canada)***

***By Cecil Foster, 2019***

From the CBC website:

“At the beginning of the 20th century, being a train porter in Canada was a job reserved for black men only. Cecil Foster documents this underreported piece of Canadian history in the nonfiction book They Call Me George. The tiring, thankless and low-paying job — that consisted of hauling luggage, folding down beds, shining shoes and serving passengers— forced these men to be separated from their families as they travelled the country. They Call Me George documents how one man, Stanley Grizzle, went from being a porter to leading a movement and eventually receiving the Order of Canada.”

From Biblioasis:

“A historical work of non-fiction that chronicles the little-known stories of black railway porters — the so-called "Pullmen" of the Canadian rail lines. The actions and spirit of these men helped define Canada as a nation in surprising ways; effecting race relations, human rights, North American multiculturalism, community building, the shape and structure of unions, and the nature of travel and business across the U.S. and Canada.”

Drawing on the stories and legends of several of these influential early black Canadians, this book narrates the history of a very visible, but rarely considered, aspect of black life in railway-age Canada. These porters, who fought against the idea of Canada as White Man's Country, open only to immigrants from Europe, fought for opportunities and rights and won.”

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***Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption (Book)***

***by Bryan Stevenson***

***(This book is now also a motion picture and is available on DVD)***

From the Goodreads website:

An unforgettable true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, and a clarion call to end mass incarceration in America — from one of the most inspiring lawyers of our time.

Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a nonprofit law office in Montgomery, Alabama, dedicated to defending the poor, the incarcerated, and the wrongly condemned.

Just Mercy tells the story of EJI, from the early days with a small staff facing the nation’s highest death sentencing and execution rates, through a successful campaign to challenge the cruel practice of sentencing children to die in prison, to revolutionary projects designed to confront Americans with our history of racial injustice.

One of EJI’s first clients was Walter McMillian, a young Black man who was sentenced to die for the murder of a young white woman that he didn’t commit. The case exemplifies how the death penalty in America is a direct descendant of lynching — a system that treats the rich and guilty better than the poor and innocent.

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/20342617-just-mercy?ac=1&from_search=true&qid=cuAJpy3cHo&rank=1>

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***Walking with the Wind: A Memoir of the Movement (Book)***

***By John Lewis***

From Amazon:

“The award-winning national bestseller, ‘Walking with the Wind’, is one of our most important records of the American civil rights movement. Told by John Lewis, who Cornel West calls a “national treasure,” this is a gripping first-hand account of the fight for civil rights and the courage it takes to change a nation.

In 1957, a teenaged boy named John Lewis left a cotton farm in Alabama for Nashville, the epicenter of the struggle for civil rights in America. Lewis’s adherence to nonviolence guided that critical time and established him as one of the movement’s most charismatic and courageous leaders. Lewis’s leadership in the Nashville Movement—a student-led effort to desegregate the city of Nashville using sit-in techniques based on the teachings of Gandhi—set the tone for major civil rights campaigns of the 1960s. Lewis traces his role in the pivotal Selma marches, Bloody Sunday, and the Freedom Rides. Inspired by his mentor, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Lewis’s vision and perseverance altered history. In 1986, he ran and won a congressional seat in Georgia, and remains in office to this day, continuing to enact change.

The late Edward M. Kennedy said of Lewis, “John tells it like it was…Lewis spent most of his life walking against the wind of the times, but he was surely walking with the wind of history.””

[https://www.amazon.ca/gp/product/1476797714/ref=dbs\_a\_def\_rwt\_bibl\_vppi\_i8](https://www.amazon.ca/gp/product/1476797714/ref%3Ddbs_a_def_rwt_bibl_vppi_i8)

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***When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir (Book)***

***by Patrisse Khan-Cullors, Asha Bandele***

From the Goodreads website:

“A poetic and powerful memoir about what it means to be a Black woman in America—and the co-founding of a movement that demands justice for all in the land of the free.

Raised by a single mother in an impoverished neighborhood in Los Angeles, Patrisse Khan-Cullors experienced firsthand the prejudice and persecution Black Americans endure at the hands of law enforcement. For Patrisse, the most vulnerable people in the country are Black people. Deliberately and ruthlessly targeted by a criminal justice system serving a white privilege agenda, Black people are subjected to unjustifiable racial profiling and police brutality. In 2013, when Trayvon Martin’s killer went free, Patrisse’s outrage led her to co-found Black Lives Matter with Alicia Garza and Opal Tometi.

Condemned as terrorists and as a threat to America, these loving women founded a hashtag that birthed the movement to demand accountability from the authorities who continually turn a blind eye to the injustices inflicted upon people of Black and Brown skin.

Championing human rights in the face of violent racism, Patrisse is a survivor. She transformed her personal pain into political power, giving voice to a people suffering in equality and a movement fueled by her strength and love to tell the country—and the world—that Black Lives Matter.

When They Call You a Terrorist is Patrisse Khan-Cullors and asha bandele’s reflection on humanity. It is an empowering account of survival, strength and resilience and a call to action to change the culture that declares innocent Black life expendable.”

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/34964998-when-they-call-you-a-terrorist?ac=1&from_search=true&qid=Lf5LZRfnW9&rank=1>

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***Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US (Book)***

***by Lenny Duncan***

From the Goodreads website:

“Lenny Duncan is the unlikeliest of pastors. Formerly incarcerated, he is now a black preacher in the whitest denomination in the United States: the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Shifting demographics and shrinking congregations make all the headlines, but Duncan sees something else at work--drawing a direct line between the church's lack of diversity and the church's lack of vitality. The problems the ELCA faces are theological, not sociological. But so are the answers.

Part manifesto, part confession, and all love letter, Dear Church offers a bold new vision for the future of Duncan's denomination and the broader mainline Christian community of faith. Dear Church rejects the narrative of church decline and calls everyone--leaders and laity alike--to the front lines of the church's renewal through racial equality and justice.

It is time for the church to rise up, dust itself off, and take on forces of this world that act against God: whiteness, misogyny, nationalism, homophobia, and economic injustice. Duncan gives a blueprint for the way forward and urges us to follow in the revolutionary path of Jesus.”

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/43602206-dear-church?from_search=true&from_srp=true&qid=fNWmCon3Bf&rank=1>

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***Between the World and Me (Book)***

***by Ta-Nehisi Coates***

From the Goodreads website:

“This is your country, this is your world, this is your body, and you must find some way to live within the all of it.”

“In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehisi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation’s history and current crisis. Americans have built an empire on the idea of “race,” a falsehood that damages us all but falls most heavily on the bodies of black women and men—bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden?

Between the World and Me is Ta-Nehisi Coates’s attempt to answer these questions in a letter to his adolescent son. Coates shares with his son—and readers—the story of his awakening to the truth about his place in the world through a series of revelatory experiences, from Howard University to Civil War battlefields, from the South Side of Chicago to Paris, from his childhood home to the living rooms of mothers whose children’s lives were taken as American plunder. Beautifully woven from personal narrative, reimagined history, and fresh, emotionally charged reportage, Between the World and Me clearly illuminates the past, bracingly confronts our present, and offers a transcendent vision for a way forward.”

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/25489625-between-the-world-and-me?ac=1&from_search=true&qid=7zZ7F5oXTz&rank=1>

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***The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness (Book)***

***by Michelle Alexander***

From the Goodreads website:

"Jarvious Cotton's great-great-grandfather could not vote as a slave. His great-grandfather was beaten to death by the Klu Klux Klan for attempting to vote. His grandfather was prevented from voting by Klan intimidation; his father was barred by poll taxes and literacy tests. Today, Cotton cannot vote because he, like many black men in the United States, has been labeled a felon and is currently on parole."

“As the United States celebrates the nation's "triumph over race" with the election of Barack Obama, the majority of young black men in major American cities are locked behind bars or have been labeled felons for life. Although Jim Crow laws have been wiped off the books, an astounding percentage of the African American community remains trapped in a subordinate status--much like their grandparents before them.

In this incisive critique, former litigator-turned-legal-scholar Michelle Alexander provocatively argues that we have not ended racial caste in America: we have simply redesigned it. Alexander shows that, by targeting black men and decimating communities of color, the U.S. criminal justice system functions as a contemporary system of racial control, even as it formally adheres to the principle of color blindness. The New Jim Crow challenges the civil rights community--and all of us--to place mass incarceration at the forefront of a new movement for racial justice in America.”

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/6792458-the-new-jim-crow?ac=1&from_search=true&qid=7lQLs13Yfo&rank=1>

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***Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and Its Urgent Lessons for Our Own (Book)***

***by Eddie S. Glaude Jr.***

From the Goodreads website:

“We live, according to Eddie S. Glaude Jr., in a moment when the struggles of Black Lives Matter and the attempt to achieve a new America have been challenged by the election of Donald Trump, a president whose victory represents yet another failure of America to face the lies it tells itself about race. From Charlottesville to the policies of child separation at the border, his administration turned its back on the promise of Obama's presidency and refused to embrace a vision of the country shorn of the insidious belief that white people matter more than others.

We have been here before: For James Baldwin, these after times came in the wake of the civil rights movement, when a similar attempt to compel a national confrontation with the truth was answered with the murders of Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King, Jr. In these years, spanning from the publication of The Fire Next Time in 1963 to that of No Name in the Street in 1972, Baldwin transformed into a more overtly political writer, a change that came at great professional and personal cost. But from that journey, Baldwin emerged with a sense of renewed purpose about the necessity of pushing forward in the face of disillusionment and despair.

In the story of Baldwin's crucible, Glaude suggests, we can find hope and guidance through our own after times, this Trumpian era of shattered promises and white retrenchment. Mixing biography--drawn partially from newly uncovered interviews--with history, memoir, and trenchant analysis of our current moment, Begin Again is Glaude's endeavor, following Baldwin, to bear witness to the difficult truth of race in America today. It is at once a searing exploration that lays bare the tangled web of race, trauma, and memory, and a powerful interrogation of what we all must ask of ourselves in order to call forth a new America.”

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**Black Lives and Stories-TV Movies and Feature Films**

*These films are available on DVD and may be available on some streaming platforms such as Netflix, Amazon Prime, Disney, YouTube, etc.*

***Ghosts of Mississippi (Feature Film)***

***Starring: Alec Baldwin, Whoopi Goldberg, James Woods***

***1995, Directed by Rob Reiner, Running Time 2hr 10min***

**A film about the conviction of the murderer of Medgar Evers in 1963.**

Medgar Evers was an American civil rights activist and the NAACP's first field secretary in Mississippi who was assassinated by a white supremacist.

A Description of the film from Google:

In this film based on actual events, black activist Medgar Evers (James Pickens Jr.) is murdered in 1963, and much of the evidence points toward white supremacist Byron De La Beckwith (James Woods). However, after two trials, De La Beckwith is acquitted twice by a jury of whites. Now, decades later in 1989, Evers' widow, Myrlie (Whoopi Goldberg), thinks she has evidence to finally convict him. But no lawyer will touch the case except the young and brash Bobby DeLaughter (Alec Baldwin).

This fim is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YcGd4vH8VIg>

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***Separate But Equal (1991 Miniseries)***

***Running Time 3hr 10min (Parts 1&2 run about 1hr 35min each, but are presented together via the link shown)***

***Directed by George Stevens, Jr.***

From YouTube

‘The outstanding 1991 miniseries, "Separate But Equal," tells the story of the landmark case of "Brown v. Board of Education" from start to finish. All the important players are featured here: the schoolchildren forced to attend substandard, segregated schools; Thurgood Marshall (Sidney Poitier) and the other attorneys in the civil rights movement; and Chief Justice Earl Warren (Richard Kiley) and the other Supreme Court justices who decided the case. This miniseries is largely based on Richard Kluger's non-fiction book, "Simple Justice," and it takes pains to be historically accurate. Winner of the 1991 Emmy for Best miniseries, this is a must-see for any student of the Supreme Court and/or civil rights in America.’

This documentary is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vD8XMtj2Mog>

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***Do the Right Thing***

***Spike Lee, writer, producer, director***

***2 hrs***

From Wikipedia

Do the Right Thing is a 1989 American comedy-drama film produced, written, and directed by Spike Lee. It stars Lee, Danny Aiello, Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee, Richard Edson, Giancarlo Esposito, Bill Nunn, John Turturro, and Samuel L. Jackson, and is the feature film debut of Martin Lawrence and Rosie Perez. The story explores a Brooklyn neighborhood's simmering racial tension between its African-American residents and the Italian-American owners of a local pizzeria, culminating in tragedy and violence on a hot summer day.

The film was a critical and commercial success and received numerous accolades, including Academy Award nominations for Best Original Screenplay and Best Supporting Actor for Aiello's portrayal of Sal the pizzeria owner. It is often listed among the greatest films of all time. In 1999, the film was deemed "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant" by the Library of Congress, and was selected for preservation in the National Film Registry.

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***Malcolm X***

***3hr 21 min***

***Directed by Spike Lee***

***Screenplay by Arnold Perl & Spike Lee***

From Wikipedia

Malcolm X (sometimes stylized as X) is a 1992 American epic biographical drama film about the African-American activist Malcolm X. Directed and co-written by Spike Lee, the film stars Denzel Washington in the title role, as well as Angela Bassett, Albert Hall, Al Freeman Jr., and Delroy Lindo. Lee has a supporting role, while Black Panther Party co-founder Bobby Seale, the Rev. Al Sharpton, and future South African president Nelson Mandela make cameo appearances. It is the second of four film collaborations between Washington and Lee.

Malcolm X's screenplay, co-credited to Lee and Arnold Perl, is based largely on Alex Haley's 1965 book, The Autobiography of Malcolm X. Haley collaborated with Malcolm X on the book beginning in 1963 and completed it after Malcolm X's death. The film dramatizes key events in Malcolm X's life: his criminal career, his incarceration, his conversion to Islam, his ministry as a member of the Nation of Islam and his later falling out with the organization, his marriage to Betty X, his pilgrimage to Mecca and reevaluation of his views concerning whites, and his assassination on February 21, 1965. Defining childhood incidents, including his father's death, his mother's mental illness, and his experiences with racism are dramatized in flashbacks.

Malcolm X was distributed by Warner Bros. and released on November 18, 1992. Denzel Washington won the New York Film Critics Circle Award for Best Actor and was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Actor. In 2010, the film was selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant".

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***Selma***

***2hr 8 min***

***Directed by Ava DuVernay***

***Written by Paul Webb***

From Wikipedia

Selma is a 2014 historical drama film directed by Ava DuVernay and written by Paul Webb. It is based on the 1965 Selma to Montgomery voting rights marches initiated and directed by James Bevel and led by Martin Luther King Jr., Hosea Williams, and John Lewis. The film stars actors David Oyelowo as King, Tom Wilkinson as President Lyndon B. Johnson, Tim Roth as George Wallace, Carmen Ejogo as Coretta Scott King, and Common as Bevel.

Selma premiered at the American Film Institute Festival on November 11, 2014, began a limited US release on December 25, and expanded into wide theatrical release on January 9, 2015, two months before the 50th anniversary of the march. The film was re-released on March 20, 2015 in honor of the 50th anniversary of the historical march.

The film was nominated for Best Picture and won Best Original Song at the 87th Academy Awards. It also received four Golden Globe Award nominations, including Best Motion Picture – Drama, Best Director and Best Actor, and won for Best Original Song.

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***Fruitvale Station***

***85 min***

***Directed & Directed by Ryan Coogler***

From Wikipedia

Fruitvale Station is a 2013 American biographical drama film written and directed by Ryan Coogler. It is Coogler's feature directorial debut and is based on the events leading to the death of Oscar Grant, a young man killed in 2009 by BART police officer Johannes Mehserle at the Fruitvale district station of the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) system in Oakland.

The film stars Michael B. Jordan as Grant, with Kevin Durand and Chad Michael Murray playing the two BART police officers involved in Grant's death, although their names were changed for the film. Melonie Diaz, Ahna O'Reilly and Octavia Spencer also star.

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***12 Years a Slave***

***2hr 14 min***

***Directed by Steve McQueen***

***Screenplay by John Ridley***

***Based on the book Twelve Years a Slave, by Solomon Northup***

From Wikipedia

12 Years a Slave is a 2013 biographical period-drama film directed by Steve McQueen from a screenplay by John Ridley, based on the 1853 slave memoir Twelve Years a Slave by Solomon Northup, about a New York State-born free African-American man who was kidnapped in Washington, D.C. by two conmen in 1841 and sold into slavery. Northup was put to work on plantations in the state of Louisiana for 12 years before being released. The first scholarly edition of Northup's memoir, co-edited in 1968 by Sue Eakin and Joseph Logsdon, carefully retraced and validated the account and concluded it to be accurate.

Chiwetel Ejiofor stars as Solomon Northup. Michael Fassbender, Benedict Cumberbatch, Paul Dano, Garret Dillahunt, Paul Giamatti, Scoot McNairy, Lupita Nyong'o, Adepero Oduye, Sarah Paulson, Brad Pitt, Michael Kenneth Williams, and Alfre Woodard feature in supporting roles.

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***The Book of Negroes***

***Mini-series, Six episodes***

***Based on The Book of Negroes, by Lawrence Hill***

***Screenplay by Clement Virgo & Lawrence Hill***

***Directed by Clement Virgo***

From Wikipedia

The Book of Negroes is a 2015 television miniseries based on the 2007 novel of the same name by Canadian writer Lawrence Hill. The book was inspired by the British freeing and evacuation of former slaves, known as Black Loyalists, who had left rebel masters during the American Revolutionary War. The British transported some 3,000 Black Loyalists to Nova Scotia for resettlement, documenting their names in what was called the Book of Negroes.

The novel explores the life of a fictional woman included in this resettlement. She had been taken captive as a girl in West Africa and sold into slavery, held first in South Carolina. She escaped to British lines in New York City, where she was freed and ultimately evacuated to Nova Scotia.

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***Murder in Mississippi (Television movie)***

***1990, Directed by Roger Young***

***Running Time 1Hr, 35min***

From YouTube

Murder in Mississippi is a 1990 television film which dramatized the last weeks of civil rights activists Michael "Mickey" Schwerner, Andrew Goodman and James Chaney, and the events leading up to their disappearance and subsequent murder in the summer of 1964. It starred Tom Hulce as Schwerner, Jennifer Grey as his wife Rita, Blair Underwood as Chaney, and Josh Charles as Goodman. Hulce received a nomination for Best Actor in a TV Miniseries at the 1990 Golden Globes.

As a historical docudrama, Murder in Mississippi precedes the storylines of both 1975's Attack on Terror: The FBI vs. the Ku Klux Klan and 1988's Mississippi Burning.

'Murder in Mississippi is the title of a Norman Rockwell 1964 painting, depicting the same events. The painting is also known as: "Southern Justice."

This film is available for you to watch for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-k5YTDlh7Wo>

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