

Gregory, Philippa **A Respectable Trade** **S**

A historical romance set in Bristol at the end of the 18th century which shows how humans trafficked from Africa helped establish Britain as the most important economic power in the world.

Gyasi, Yaa **Homecoming** **S**

Half sisters Effia and Esi are born in very different circumstances in Ghana. Effia marries a slave trader. Esi becomes a slave. This is the stories of their descendants over the next 200 years

Haley, Alex **Roots** **S**

This massive work is the story of 6 generations of African Americans, starting with Kunte Kinte who was kidnapped in The Gambia in 1767 and sold as a slave in Maryland, USA.

Hill, Lawrence **The Book of Negroes** **S**

A fictional account of one resilient woman's journey from West Africa to slavery in the American plantations and her return to Africa via Canada. Aminata eventually ends up in London where she tells her story to the Abolitionist, William Wilberforce.

Lake, Nick **In Darkness** **J**

A complex story. Set in Haiti both immediately after the devastating earthquake of 2010 and in the late 18th century. Teenager Shorty's life is juxtaposed with that of Toussaint L'Ouverture, who led the island's slave population in a rebellion against the French.

Landman, Tanya **Buffalo Soldier** **J**

The American Civil War has just ended. Charley is no longer a slave. But she has no home or family to go to. Desperate, she dresses as a man and joins the army.

Levy, Andrea **The Long Song** **S**

Life on a Jamaican sugar plantation through the eyes of an elderly woman. July is the daughter of a field slave but is elevated to a house slave. She experiences the Christmas Rebellion of 1831-32 and the end of slavery. The book shows that all slaves were not equal. As a Mulatto (mixed race) July looks down on Black slaves and envies Quadroons (a person with one black grandparent).

Morrison, Toni **Beloved** **S**

A modern classic about the horrors of slavery which continue to take their toll long after freedom. For mature readers only.

Morrison, Toni (editor) The Black Book N973

First published in 1974, this book is an eclectic compilation of historic documents that show the everyday lives of African Americans from slavery to the mid 20th century. . It contains adverts, photographs, obituaries, musical scores, patents and more.

Northup, Solomon 12 Years a Slave N326

A detailed first person account of slave life in the American Deep South. Solomon was an African American and free man living in New York. In 1841 he was kidnapped, sold into slavery and forced to work on a cotton plantation.

Rees, Celia Pirates J

An adventure story, with a dash of romance which questions the ethics of the slave trade. Nancy, daughter of a slave trader, and Minerva, a runaway slave, take to the high seas on a pirate ship

Rhys, Jean Wide Sargasso Sea S

A retelling of Jane Eyre from the point of view of Mr Rochester's wife, the "mad woman in the attic". The story begins in Jamaica. where Antoinette/Bertha is the daughter of an ex-slave master.

Stowe, Harriet Beecher Uncle Tom's cabin S

A classic American anti-slavery novel. Published in 1852, it caused many Americans to reflect on their treatment of slaves. However, in the 20th century the book was criticised for stereotyping black people.

Twain, Mark Huckleberry Finn S

Published in 1883, this American classic is about a boy and a slave who run away together down the Mississippi River. Huckleberry Finn is one of the most banned books in American schools because it is written in the language of the time and is deemed racist.

Whitehead, Colson The Underground Railroad T

This book starts out as a conventional historical novel about a 15 year old slave girl working on a cotton plantation. Then as the "Underground Railroad" takes on a physical entity, it develops into something far more ambitious.

The Civil Rights Movement in USA and Beyond

Angelou, Maya **I know why the caged bird sings (and sequels)** **A**

Maya Angelou was an influential African American writer and Civil Rights activist. This book is the first in a series of autobiographies. In it she recalls her early life during the 1930s and 1940s

Baldwin, James **Go tell it on the mountain** **S**

Set in 1930s Harlem, this semi-autobiographical novel shows the effects of slavery on future generations of African Americans.

Bulawayo, NoViolet **We Need New Names** **S**

Darling lives in a shanty town in Zimbabwe. Perpetually hungry, Darling and her friends dream of a new life in America. But when for Darling the dream comes true, she finds that living as an illegal in downtown Detroit is not the paradise she envisaged.

Johnston, Tony **Bone by bone by bone** **J**

David is growing up in Tennessee during the 1950s. His father is a doctor and important figure in the community. His father is also a racist. David's best friend, Malcom is black and his father threatens to kill Malcolm if David ever brings him home.

Kidd, Sue Monk **The secret life of bees** **S**

It's 1964 and President Johnson has just signed the Civil Rights Act. In South Carolina, 14 year old Lily, a white motherless girl with a sadistic father, accompanies her black nanny to town so she can register to vote.

Lee, Harper **To kill a mockingbird** **S**

This book, published in 1960 at the height of the Civil Rights Movement, was an instant success. It remains the most widely read book dealing with racial injustice and bigotry in America. The story takes place in the Deep South during the 1930s.

Malcolm X & Haley, Alex **The Autobiography of Malcolm X** **N973.9**

Courageous advocate for the rights of African Americans or racist Black Supremacist? Malcolm X (1925-1965) was a controversial and influential activist. This is his own story as told to the journalist Alex Haley.

Mathis, Ayana **The twelve tribes of Hattie** **S**

The United States from 1925 to 1980 as seen through the eyes of one African American family.

The Windrush Generation and Black British People in the 20th/21st Century

Akala **Race and Class in the Ruins of Empire** **N305.8**
Eddo-Lodge, Reni **Why I'm no longer Talking to White People about Race** **N305.8**
Hirsh, Afua **Brit(ish)** **N305.8**

To be Black and British is to belong and yet, not truly belong. Is Britain racist? Is British history too white-centric? To what extent are attitudes attributable to the legacy of the slave trade and colonialisation? Written by black writers and published recently, these books are provocative and uncomfortable for white readers.

Benjamin, Floella **Coming to England (and sequel)** **A**
An autobiography of childhood and adolescence which is both inspiring and easy to read. Baroness Floella Benjamin is a black woman who has had an illustrious career as an actress, television presenter, business woman and politician. Born in the Caribbean she came to England in 1960, a part of the "Windrush Generation".

Craigie, Emma **What was Never Said** **J**
When she was 6 years old, Zahra's family came to England from Somalia to escape the civil war. She has many happy memories of Somalia and often wishes she was still living there. But one memory she has is the day the cutter came to her sister. And now the cutter has arrived at her house in England.

Doherty, Berlie **Abela** **J**
Told alternately by the two main characters, this book looks at human trafficking and cross-cultural adoption. Abela is a nine year old Tanzanian orphan whose family has died from AIDS. Rosa is a thirteen year old girl who is not sure whether she approves of her mother's desire to adopt another child, especially one from Africa.

Emecheta, Buchi **Head Above Water** **A**
The author came to England from Nigeria in 1962, and ended up living alone in Kentish Town with five children to support. Intelligent and resourceful, she studied for a degree and became a teacher and writer. Her daughters attended Camden School for Girls.

Evaristo, Bernadine **Girl. Woman, Other** **S**
2020 Booker winning novel. Stories about 12 mostly Black British women whose lives interconnect. The women are different ages and from totally different backgrounds but are united in their experiences of being a person of colour in contemporary Britain.

Gal-dem **I Will not be Erased** **A**

Gal-dem (<https://gal-dem.com>) is an organisation that promotes the viewpoints of Women of Colour. In this anthology, writers (mainly British) look back at their teenage years and reflect on what they have learned between then and now. Don't miss ex Camden School for Girls student, Kuchenga's remarkable story.

Gilroy, Paul **Black Britain - a Photographic History** **N305.8**

The story of the everyday lives of Black people in Britain in the 20th century told through photographs. An honest portrayal of both the good times and the bad.

Levy, Andrea **Small Island** **S**

Joseph fought for Britain during World War Two. He returns on the SS Windrush to start a new life in the "Mother Country". Hortense his wife soon joins him. They find lodgings with Queenie who is sympathetic to the problems the immigrants face. Then Queenie's missing husband returns from the war in the East disillusioned and demoralized.

Also by Andrea Levy about Jamaican immigrants living in Finsbury Park include:

Every Light in the House Burnin' (1960s), and **Never Far From Nowhere** (1970s).

Olusoga, David **Black and British - a forgotten history** **N305.8**

A detailed and erudite history of Black African and Caribbean people who have made their homes in Britain over the centuries. Most suited to Sixth Form readers.

Phillips, M/Phillips, T **Windrush - the irresistible rise of multi-racial Britain** **N305.8**

This book consists of interviews with people and the families of people who came to Britain from the West Indies on the Empire Windrush in 1948. The interviews took place in the late 1990s, about fifty years after the immigrants arrived here.

Selvon, Sam **The Lonely Londoners** **S**

Published in 1956, this was the first novel about the "Windrush Generation". Episodic and written in Creole. It follows the daily lives of a group of young immigrants living in London.

Zephaniah, Benjamin **Refugee boy** **J**

Alem's father is Ethiopian and his mother is Eritrean. The 2 countries are at war and Alem is not safe in either. So his father takes him on a holiday to London and leaves him there all alone.