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ZAZI LIBRARY

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WHAT IS PROJECT ZAZI?

Project Zazi is the name for OTR (Off the Record Bristol)'s project which works with Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) young people to tackle issues of inequality, discrimination, oppression, culture and identity.

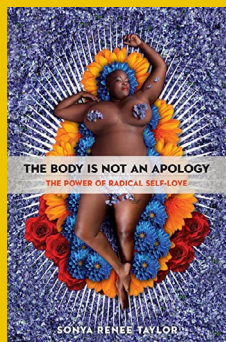
The project offers a mix of one-to-one support and different kinds of group work, where young people across Bristol and South Gloucestershire can explore identity and culture, try new activities and learn new skills.

The aim of Project Zazi is to promote good physical and mental health, healthy relationships and positive lifestyles.

The Project Zazi team have put together this collection of insightful and informative resources around BME history, culture and health.

If you are interested in learning more about Zazi and OTR, visit otrbristol.org.uk and follow us on Instagram - @otrbristol and @otrzazi



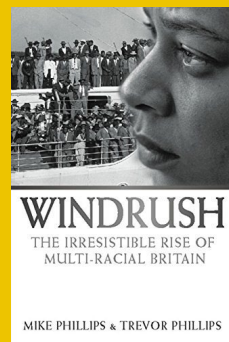


The Body is not an Apology

Sonya Renee Taylor



The Body Is Not an Apology offers radical self-love as the balm to heal the wounds inflicted by violent systems. World-renowned activist and poet Sonya Renee Taylor invites us to reconnect with the origins of our minds and bodies and celebrate our collective, enduring strength. This book explains how we must love ourselves regardless of every system and institution telling us we shouldn't.

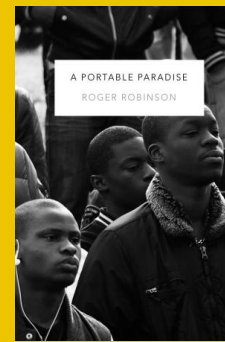


Windrush: The Irresistible Rise of Multi-Racial Britain

Mike and Trevor Phillips



This explains in detail a full account of the windrush story, with first hand stories from those abroad. These stories are about the immigrant experience and the ideas and thoughts about Britain at the time. This might be particularly useful for young people, and staff working with young people.

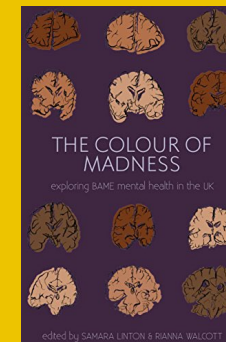


A Portable Paradise

Roger Robinson



This is a collection of poems relating to the experiences of people of colour in London — a very short read but very good! Suitable for young adults and adults.

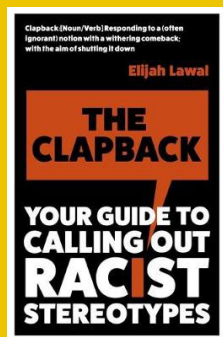


The Colour of Madness

Samira Linton



A fascinating, but at times emotionally difficult, read about the experience of BAME people within mental health (specifically psychiatric) spaces.

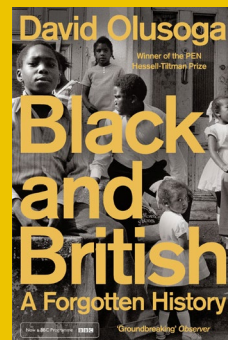


The Clapback

Elijah Lawal



An amazing read, dealing with the ignorant stereotypes that black people face in the UK.

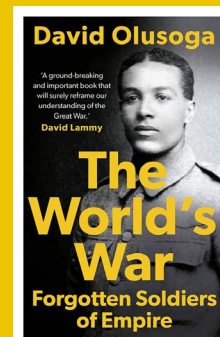


Black and British

David Olusoga



Quite possibly one of the best books on black history in the UK! Gives a 400-year scope on the history of black people in Britain and has been recommended by loads of scholars.



The World's War

David Olusoga



A fascinating account of the unheard stories of World War 1 and 2 that involved people of colour who fought and died for the colonial powers.



Why I'm no longer talking to white people about race

Reni Eddo-Lodge



This book gives a fabulous account of Reni trying to explain how racism in the UK is still thriving today, and how infuriating it can be when these facts are pushed to the side. White feminism is also discussed in great depth in one chapter and many of her own thoughts and experiences are retold through the book.

BOOKS + POETRY

ESPECIALLY GOOD FOR...



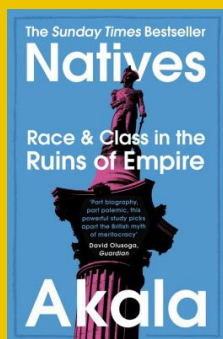
Young people



Professionals



Parents

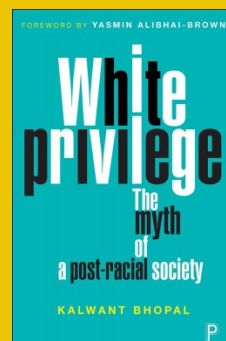


Natives: Race and class in the ruins of empire

Akala



A really clear introduction to the Black history that tends to get skated over or completely ignored in UK schools, and the way that historical racism is still being played out. Explores racism through the lens of the British empire and commonwealth nations, how our histories have collided and how empire and its history still play a huge part of how class and race affect the lives of all generations.

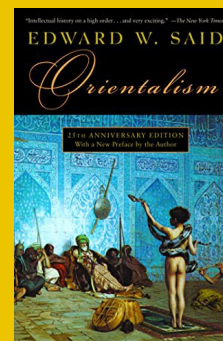


White Privilege: The Myth of a Post-Racial Society

Kalwant Bhopal



Drawing on topical debates and supported by empirical data, this book examines the impact of race on wider issues of inequality and difference in society but still feels easy to understand. It also shows how certain types of whiteness are not privileged — Gypsies and Travellers for example, communities who remain marginalised and disadvantaged in society.

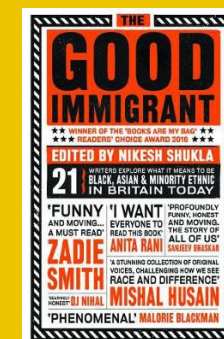


Orientalism

Edward Said



This is a fascinating read about the misinformation that the west creates about the east and the overall 'othering' of the east. A really dense history on the Israel-Palestine conflict and how the west plays a huge and immoral part in that. Most suitable for adults and staff working with young people.



The Good Immigrant

Nikesh Shukla



This is an amazing book full of short stories about different immigrant experiences in the UK. A lot of the content explores the racism they experience, but spun in a reflective way and with the aim of teaching us a little about just how diverse each race's experiences can be.

BOOKS + POETRY

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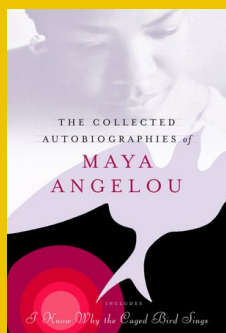
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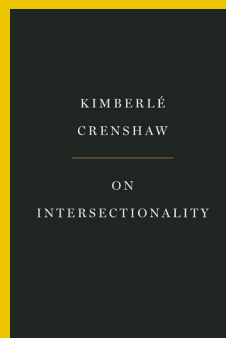


Maya Angelou's Autobiography

Maya Angelou



This is Maya Angelou's whole life story, written in her own words, through six books — from her first memories (going on a train with her brother to live with in the deep south with her grandmother who was born in a slave cabin) to the early 2000s. It's absolutely phenomenal how well she has reflected on her life so honestly and has lived through so much. Most suitable for young adults and adults.



Intersectionality

Kimberlé Crenshaw



This book shows the key essays and articles that have defined the concept of intersectionality collected together for the first time. Crenshaw explores how a holistic analysis of discrimination gives rise to a better understanding of social forces. This new account covers the evolution of the meaning of intersectionality over the course of two decades and how this concept has radically changed the face of social justice activism.



By Any Means Necessary

Malcolm X



Speeches tracing the evolution of Malcolm X's views on political alliances, women's rights, intermarriage, capitalism and socialism. Malcolm X shares his views on how race and privilege control the world and the quality of life for black people. It's emotional, inspirational and many people say this book has changed their lives and how they see the world and each other.



White Fragility: Why it is so hard to talk to white people about race

Doctor Robin DiAngelo



This book attempts to illustrate to a white audience how there can often be a tendency to excuse microaggressions and dismiss the existence of racism as a whole. It has been described as a book written by a white person for white people, and is really good at breaking down concepts like white privilege in a way that is hard to argue against.

BOOKS + POETRY

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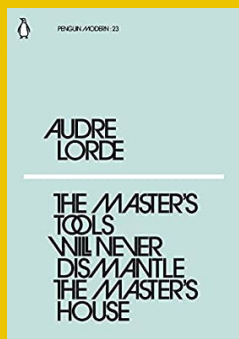
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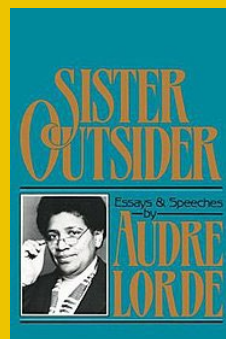


'The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House'

Audre Lorde



A collection of essays on the power of women — and specifically the power of black women. Has been named a classic and can be interpreted in all kinds of ways by all ages.

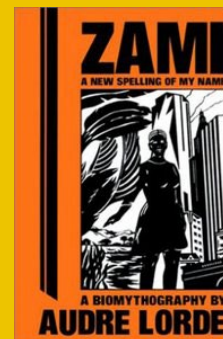


Sister Outsider

Audre Lorde



This collection of fifteen essays written between 1976 and 1984 gives clear voice to Audre Lorde's literary and philosophical personae. These essays explore and illuminate the roots of Lorde's intellectual development and her deep-seated and longstanding concerns about ways of increasing empowerment among minority women writers and the absolute necessity to explicate the concept of difference—difference according to sex, race, and economic status.

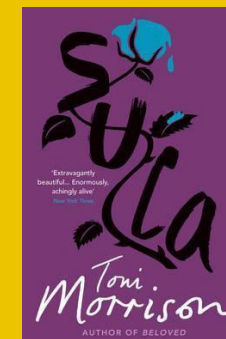


Zami

Audre Lorde



ZAMI is a fast-moving chronicle. From the author's vivid childhood memories in Harlem, to her coming of age in the late 1950s, the nature of Audre Lorde's work is cyclical. It especially relates the linkage of women who have shaped her.



Sula

Toni Morrison



This story is about the lives of two black heroines from their close-knit childhood in a small Ohio town, through their sharply divergent paths of womanhood, to their ultimate confrontation and reconciliation.

Nel Wright has chosen to stay in the place where she was born, to marry, raise a family, and become a pillar of the black community. Sula Peace has rejected the life Nel has embraced, escaping to college, and submerging herself in city life. When she returns to her roots, it is as a rebel and a wanton seductress. Eventually, both women must face the consequences of their choices. Together, they create an unforgettable portrait of what it means and costs to be a black woman in America. Contains some adult content.

BOOKS + POETRY

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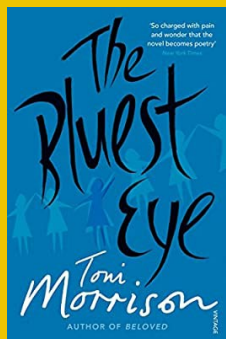
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The Bluest Eye

Toni Morrison



Set in the author's girlhood hometown of Lorain, Ohio, it tells the story of black, eleven-year-old Pecola Breedlove. Pecola prays for her eyes to turn blue so that she will be as beautiful and beloved as all the blond, blue-eyed children in America. In the autumn of 1941, the year the marigolds in the Breedloves' garden do not bloom. Pecola's life does change- in painful, devastating ways.

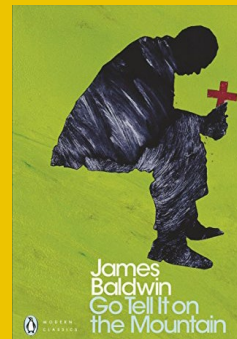


Beloved

Toni Morrison



This book is a whirlwind of a story which loads of people say is Morrison's best. It tells the story of a woman Sethe who was born as a slave and her past still haunts her and she goes through quite a journey mentally.

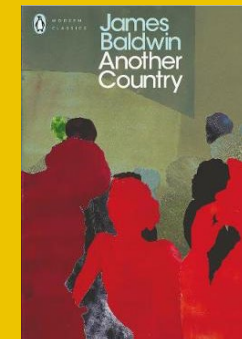


Go Tell It On A Mountain

James Baldwin



Baldwin chronicles a fourteen-year-old boy's discovery of the terms of his identity as the stepson of the minister of a storefront Pentecostal church in Harlem one Saturday in March of 1935. Baldwin's rendering of his protagonist's spiritual, sexual, and moral struggle of self-invention opened new possibilities in the American language and in the way Americans understand themselves. This book is a natural classic.



Another Country

James Baldwin



Another Country is a novel of passions--sexual, racial, political, artistic--that is stunning for its emotional intensity and haunting sensuality, depicting men and women, blacks and whites, stripped of their masks of gender and race by love and hatred at the most elemental and sublime.

BOOKS + POETRY

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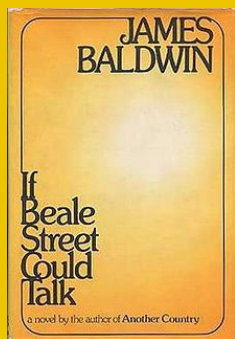
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If Beale St Could Talk

James Baldwin



James Baldwin has given America a moving story of love in the face of injustice. Told through the eyes of Tish, a nineteen-year-old girl, in love with Fonny, a young sculptor who is the father of her child, Baldwin's story mixes the sweet and the sad.



Feminism Interrupted: Disrupting Power

Lola Olufemi



Lola Olufemi explores state violence against women, the fight for reproductive justice, transmisogyny, gendered Islamophobia and solidarity with global struggles, showing that the fight for gendered liberation can change the world for everybody when we refuse to think of it solely as women's work. Including testimonials from Sisters Uncut, migrant groups working for reproductive justice, prison abolitionists and activists involved in the international fight for Kurdish and Palestinian rights, Olufemi emphasises the link between feminism and grassroots organising.



I Am Not Your Baby Mother (Navigating Black Motherhood)

Candice Brathwaite



Candice started blogging about motherhood in 2016 after making the simple but powerful observation that the way motherhood is portrayed in the British media is wholly unrepresentative of our society at large in terms of race representation. She writes with humour, but also straight-talk about facing hurdles such as white privilege, racial microaggression and unconscious bias at every point.



Mask Off (Masculinity Redefined)

JJ Bola



In Mask Off, JJ Bola exposes masculinity as a performance that men are socially conditioned into. Using examples of non-Western cultural traditions, music and sport, he shines light on historical narratives around manhood, debunking popular myths along the way. He explores how LGBTQ+ men, men of colour, and male refugees experience masculinity in diverse ways, revealing its fluidity, how it's strengthened and weakened by different political contexts, such as the patriarchy or the far-right, and perceived differently by those around them.

BOOKS + POETRY

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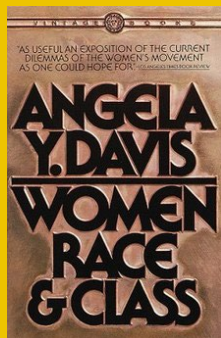
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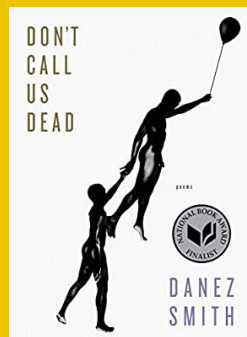


Women Race and Class

Angela Davis



This book has everything. It discusses movements and intersectionality, why some people are not too happy to join in social injustice protests and also a very concise and well-rounded discussion of power in regards to women, race and class. Beautiful and very detailed.



'Don't call us Dead'

Poetry by Danez Smith



Eye opening. Danez is a black, queer, non-binary writer who is HIV positive. There's the added benefit here that they're approachable for visual and auditory learners too as they are also a poetry performer and a lot of their work is available on YouTube.



Akala's interview with Ash Sarker



Discussing the British empire, politics and his own experiences of racism in the UK, Akala gives perspective on class and race and how they affect an individual's life in terms of how they are perceived — and their quality of life as a result.



Jane Elliot - A World Of Difference



Jane Elliot gives amazing insight into thinking traps as they pertain to race, unlocks loads of knowledge about how we came to be this way, and shares her vision of the future. She is known and became famous because of her 'blue eyes, brown eyes' experiment which she conducted in her Year 3 class after the assassination of Dr Martin Luther King Jr.

Watch more

YOUTUBE CHANNELS

ESPECIALLY GOOD FOR....



Young people



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Rian Phin



Rian makes great videos on eco-feminism and how it intersects with race, and has also been producing film break-downs of white privilege. Rian also speaks of their experience of autism and makes amazing DIY clothes!

[Watch more](#)



AKALA



Akala's channel is full of amazing resources for young people - and adults working with young people to get stuck into. Akala is also an amazing musician and scholar with loads to offer our young people. He also does an amazing book series where he recommends a book each week and explains why it is good and what it is about.



Ibz Mo



Ibz is a South Asian Youtuber who is studying at Cambridge University. Unapologetically truthful about his experiences, Ibz is hilarious, really sweet and insightful. He makes videos showing different parts of the Cambridge life and how he and his friends manage to stay true to themselves. He also gives out advice on A-Levels and university life.

OTHER RESOURCES

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Two really useful introductions for white people (especially those identifying or read as women) to the idea of white tears; the weaponizing of white femininity and the way racism dictates who is allowed to display particular emotions:



Ruby Hamad - How white women use strategic tears to avoid accountability



Shannon Barber - White people weaponising your emotions to avoid their racism



"YOGA IS DEAD IS A REVOLUTIONARY PODCAST THAT EXPLORES POWER, PRIVILEGE, FAIR PAY, HARASSMENT, RACE, CULTURAL APPROPRIATION AND CAPITALISM IN THE YOGA AND WELLNESS WORLDS. JOIN INDIAN-AMERICAN HOSTS TEJAL + JESAL AS THEY EXPOSE ALL THE MONSTERS LURKING UNDER THE YOGA MAT."

Yoga Is Dead - Podcast

Yoga Is Dead podcasts are yoga-specific but very upfront about calling out cultural appropriation and racism in the western yoga world. Two South Asian yoga teachers lead the talks.

MOVIES/DOCS



The Colour Of Fear

LECTURES

Akala - Full Oxford Union Address

Akala presents an amazing lecture on the history of Africa and more importantly, how Africa was seen in the earliest times by those who explored it and how lies and misinformation became more important than those earlier facts. Her goes into amazing depth on Egypt and how the world tries to paint over the fact that the great Egyptian empire was full of black faces, no matter how hard Europeans tried to change this.

Joy DeGruy - Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome

An amazing lecture where Dr Joy goes into depth about the implications of American chattel slavery on each enslaved individual and how that has a lasting impact on the mental health of African Americans today.

RESOURCE



A Parent's Guide To Black Lives Matter

This is quite possibly the best resource to learn and explore the important issues of today concerning race all across the globe (BLM movement, George Floyd, Grenfell and and white privilege). Offering insight into how to have difficult conversations with young people of all ages from a guardian's perspective.



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ZAZI AND OTR:



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