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## Forsyth County Public Library Provides Lists of Books Linked to Black History

Compiling a list of must-read books by African-American authors is a daunting task. There are so many titles to consider, both old and new.

The genres are as varied as the authors themselves. Time and space therefore were my deciding factors.

I am grateful for my co-workers' suggestions, the Forsyth County Public Library's African American Literature NextReads newsletter (<http://tiny.cc/yb27tx>), the 2010 brochure, African American History & Culture, also produced by FCPL, Williamsburg (VA) Pubic Libraries list of 100+ African-American Writers (<http://tiny.cc/ae27tx>) and various must read lists available from Goodreads.

These titles represent a collection of Black thought and experience that spans time, class and political affiliation.

There are short and long reads; funny and profoundly sad reads. Each title or collection of titles illuminates a moment in time whether fictionalized or not, that will speak to all races.

As always, please contact your local library or log on to our site at [www.forsythlibrary.org](http://www.forsythlibrary.org) for additional titles, special Black History Month programming, and excellent resources for pleasure reading as well as research.

Following are lists of various kinds of books linked to Black History.

### Black History / Biographies

- "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," by Maya Angelou (see review page 13)
- "Roots: The Saga of an American Family," by Alex Haley
- "Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl," by Harriet A. Jacobs
- "12 Years a Slave," by Solomon Northup
- "Dreams from My father: A Story of Race and Inheritance," by President Barack Obama
- "Extraordinary, Ordinary People: A Memoir of Family," by Condoleezza Rice
- "Black Boy," by Richard Wright
- "The Autobiography of Malcolm X," by Malcolm X with Alex Haley

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"Education is the key  
to unlock the golden  
door of freedom."

*George Washington Carver  
African American scientist, educator and inventor*

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