

Annotated Bibliography – For a Real Better Life: Gender, Race, and Migration in the Twentieth Century			
Fiction			
Author	Title	Publication	Annotation
Champion, Laurie and Glasrud, Bruce A.	Unfinished Masterpiece: The Harlem Renaissance Fiction of Anita Scott Coleman	Texas Tech University Press (May 15, 2008)	Though Anita Scott Coleman was born in Mexico and reared in New Mexico, her stories appeared frequently in <i>The Crisis</i> and other leading journals of the Harlem Renaissance. Reflecting and illuminating the movement's major themes, her often award-winning stories, delicate and understated, offer subtle commentary on the status of black women, their role in black society, and the position of African Americans in an overwhelmingly white society. – Publisher
Gable, Craig	Ebony Rising: Short Fiction of the Greater Harlem Renaissance Era	Indiana University Press (February 18, 2004)	Ebony Rising is the first comprehensive, gender-balanced collection of short fiction from the greater Harlem Renaissance era (1912–1940). This was a time marked by writing of extraordinary breadth and depth by some of the most famous authors in African American literary history. Among them were Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, Jean Toomer, Dorothy West, and Claude McKay. A selected bibliography documents some 300 books and articles on the Harlem Renaissance. There is a separate list of sources for other short stories by the authors appearing in this anthology; a list of award-winning short fiction from two black literary contests of the day; timelines of important historical, literary, and cultural events; and other aids for teachers, students, and reading groups. – Publisher
Hughes, Langston	Not Without Laughter (Dover Thrift Editions)	Dover Publications; Dover Ed edition (April 4, 2008)	A leading figure of the Harlem Renaissance, poet Hughes wrote only one novel — but it is an incredibly powerful and moving work. This 1930s coming-of-age tale, which unfolds amid an African-American family in rural Kansas, explores the dilemmas of life in a racially divided society. – Publisher
Hurston, Nora Zeale	The Complete Stories (P.S.)	Harper Perennial Modern Classics (January 8, 2008)	This landmark gathering of Zora Neale Hurston's short fiction—most of which appeared only in literary magazines during her lifetime—reveals the evolution of one of the most important African American writers. Spanning her career from 1921 to 1955, these stories attest to Hurston's tremendous range and establish themes that recur in her longer fiction. With rich language and imagery, the stories in this collection not only map Hurston's development and concerns as a writer but also provide an invaluable reflection of the mind and imagination of the author of the acclaimed novel <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> . – Publisher
Larsen, Nella	The Complete Fiction of Nella Larsen: Passing, Quicksand, and The Stories	Anchor (November 6, 2001)	In <i>The Complete Fiction of Nella Larsen</i> , whose career flared brightly but briefly in the 1920s, we rediscover one of the most gifted writers of the Harlem Renaissance. Nella Larsen's subject is the struggle of sensitive, spirited heroines to find a place for themselves in a hostile world. <i>Passing</i> is the story of a light-skinned beauty who, after spending years passing for white, finds herself dangerously drawn to an old friend's Harlem neighborhood. In <i>Quicksand</i> , a restless young mulatto tries desperately to find a comfortable place in a world in which she sees herself as a perpetual outsider. Race and marriage offer few securities here or in the other stories in a collection that is compellingly readable, rich in psychological complexity, and imbued with a sense of place that brings Harlem vibrantly to life. – Publisher
Morrison, Toni	Paradise	Plume; 1st edition (April 1, 1999)	<i>Paradise</i> is a tour de force of storytelling power, richly imagined and elegantly composed. Morrison challenges our most fiercely held beliefs as she weaves folklore and history, memory and myth, into an unforgettable meditation on race, religion, gender, and the way a society can turn on itself until it is forced to explode. – Publisher
Tate, Eleanora E.	Celeste's Harlem Renaissance	Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (April 1, 2007)	When Celeste Lassiter Massey is forced to live with her actress Aunt Valentina in Harlem, she is not thrilled to trade her friends and comfortable North Carolina for scary, big-city life. While Celeste experiences the Harlem Renaissance in full swing, she sees as much grit as glamour. A passionate writer, talented violinist, and aspiring doctor, she eventually faces a choice between ambition and loyalty, roots and horizons. The decision will change her forever. – Publisher
Toomer, Jean	Cane	Liveright; New Edition edition (June 13, 2011)	First published in 1923, Jean Toomer's <i>Cane</i> is an innovative literary work—part drama, part poetry, part fiction —powerfully evoking black life in the South. Rich in imagery, Toomer's impressionistic, sometimes surrealistic sketches of Southern rural and urban life are permeated by visions of smoke, sugarcane, dusk, and fire; the northern world is pictured as a harsher reality of asphalt streets. This iconic work of American literature is published with a new afterword by Rudolph Byrd of Emory University and Henry Louis Gates Jr. of Harvard University, who provide groundbreaking biographical information on Toomer, place his writing within the context of American modernism and the Harlem Renaissance, and examine his shifting claims about his own race and his pioneering critique of race as a scientific or biological concept. – Publisher
Williams, Edward Christopher	When Washington Was in Vogue: A Lost Novel of the Harlem Renaissance	Harper Perennial (March 29, 2005)	Nearly lost after its anonymous publication in 1926 and only recently rediscovered, <i>When Washington Was in Vogue</i> is an acclaimed love story written and set during the Harlem Renaissance. When bobbed-hair flappers were in vogue and Harlem was hopping, Washington, D.C., did its share of roaring, too. Davy Carr, a veteran of the Great War and a new arrival in the nation's capital, is welcomed into the drawing rooms of the city's Black elite. Through letters, Davy regales an old friend in Harlem with his impressions of race, politics, and the state of Black America as well as his own experiences as an old-fashioned bachelor adrift in a world of alluring modern women -- including sassy, dark-skinned Caroline. – Publisher
Nonfiction			
Author	Title	Publication	Annotation
Alexander, Michelle	The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness	New Press; The; 1 edition (January 5, 2010)	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 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. – Publisher
Angelou, Maya	I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings	Ballantine Books; Reissue edition (April 21, 2009)	Sent by their mother to live with their devout, self-sufficient grandmother in a small Southern town, Maya and her brother, Bailey, endure the ache of abandonment and the prejudice of the local "powhitetrash." At eight years old and back at her mother's side in St. Louis, Maya is attacked by a man many times her age—and has to live with the consequences for a lifetime. Years later, in San Francisco, Maya learns about love for herself and the kindness of others, her own strong spirit, and the ideas of great authors ("I met and fell in love with William Shakespeare") will allow her to be free instead of imprisoned. – Publisher
Arnsen, Eric	Black Protest and the Great Migration: A Brief History with Documents	Bedford/St. Martin's; First Edition edition (November 6, 2002)	Eric Arnsen's unique collection of articles from a variety of northern, southern, black, and white newspapers, magazines, and books explores the "Great Migration," focusing on the economic, social, and political conditions of the Jim Crow South, the meanings of race in general — and on labor in particular — in the urban North, the grassroots movements of social protest that flourished in the war years, and the postwar "racial counterrevolution." – Publisher
Baldwin, Davarian L	Chicago's New Negroes: Modernity, the Great Migration, and Black Urban Life	The University of North Carolina Press (April 2, 2007)	As early-twentieth-century Chicago swelled with an influx of at least 250,000 new black urban migrants, the city became a center of consumer capitalism, flourishing with professional sports, beauty shops, film production companies, recording studios, and other black cultural and communal institutions. Davarian Baldwin argues that this mass consumer marketplace generated a vibrant intellectual life and planted seeds of political dissent against the dehumanizing effects of white capitalism. Pushing the traditional boundaries of the Harlem Renaissance to new frontiers, Baldwin identifies a fresh model of urban culture rich with politics, ingenuity, and entrepreneurship. – Publisher
Berlin, Ira	The Making of African America: The Four Great Migrations	Viking Adult (January 21, 2010)	Four great migrations defined the history of black people in America: the violent removal of Africans to the east coast of North America known as the Middle Passage; the relocation of one million slaves to the interior of the antebellum South; the movement of more than six million blacks to the industrial cities of the north and west a century later; and since the late 1960s, the arrival of black immigrants from Africa, the Caribbean, South America, and Europe. These epic migrations have made and remade African American life. Ira Berlin's magisterial new account of these passages evokes both the terrible price and the moving triumphs of a people forcibly and then willingly migrating to America. – Publisher
Black, Timuel D. Jr.	Bridges of Memory Volume 2: Chicago's Second Generation of Black Migration	Northwestern University Press; 1 edition (April 16, 2008)	In their first great migration to Chicago that began during World War I, African Americans came from the South seeking a better life--and fleeing a Jim Crow system of racial prejudice, discrimination, and segregation. What they found was much less than what they'd hoped for, but it was much better than what they'd come from--and in the process they set in motion vast changes not only in Chicago but also in the whole fabric of American society. This book, the first of three volumes, revisits this momentous chapter in American history with those who lived it. – Publisher
Blackmon, Douglas A	Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II	Anchor; Reprint edition (January 13, 2009)	In this groundbreaking historical expose, Douglas A. Blackmon brings to light one of the most shameful chapters in American history—an "Age of Neoslavery" that thrived from the aftermath of the Civil War through the dawn of World War II. Using a vast record of original documents and personal narratives, Douglas A. Blackmon unearths the lost stories of slaves and their descendants who journeyed into freedom after the Emancipation Proclamation and then back into the shadow of involuntary servitude shortly thereafter. By turns moving, sobering, and shocking, this unprecedented account reveals the stories of those who fought unsuccessfully against the re-emergence of human labor trafficking, the companies that profited most from neoslavery, and the insidious legacy of racism that reverberates today. – Publisher
Clark-Lewis, Elizabeth	Living In, Living Out: African American Domestic Workers in Washington, D.C., 1910–1940	Smithsonian Books; Reprint edition (July 6, 2010)	This oral history portrays the lives of African American women who migrated from the rural South to work as domestic servants in Washington, DC in the early decades of the twentieth century. In <i>Living In, Living Out</i> Elizabeth Clark-Lewis narrates the personal experiences of eighty-one women who worked for wealthy white families. These women describe how they encountered—but never accepted—the master-servant relationship, and recount their struggles to change their status from "live in" servants to daily paid workers who "lived out." – Publisher
	Northern Migration and the Harlem Renaissance (Researching American History)	History Compass (December 1, 2001)	The migration of over six million Southern blacks to the Northeast and Midwest had a tremendous impact on life in the U.S. Leaving natural disasters, sharecropping, Jim Crow laws, and racism, they were soon confronted by new problems and challenges in the North. At the same time, many African Americans came together in the arts, centered in Harlem, with a spirit of hope and pride. This volume presents the philosophies of Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois, and Marcus Garvey, along with excerpts from Zora Neale Hurston, Jessie Fauset, Langston Hughes, and more. – Publisher
Gregory, James N	The Southern Diaspora: How the Great Migrations of Black and White Southerners Transformed America	The University of North Carolina Press (January 17, 2007)	Twenty million southerners moved north and west between 1900 and the 1970s. Working together for the first time the histories of black and white migrants, Gregory traces their paths and experiences in a groundbreaking study that demonstrates how this regional diaspora reshaped America by "southernizing" communities and transforming important cultural institutions such as music, religion, and politics. – Publisher
Hahn, Steven	A Nation under Our Feet: Black Political Struggles in the Rural South from Slavery to the Great Migration	Belknap Press (November 10, 2003)	Emphasizing the importance of kinship, labor, and networks of communication, <i>A Nation under Our Feet</i> explores the political relations and sensibilities that developed under slavery and shows how they set the stage for grassroots mobilization. Hahn introduces us to local leaders, and shows how political communities were built, defended, and rebuilt. He also identifies the quest for self-governance as an essential goal of black politics across the rural South, from contests for local power during Reconstruction, to emigrationism, biracial electoral alliances, social separatism, and, eventually, migration. – Publisher
Haywood, John	Great Migrations	Quercus (July 3, 2008)	From the movement of homo erectus out of Africa one million years ago to the Aboriginal settlement of Australia around 50,000 BC, and from the barbarian invasions of early medieval Europe to the diaspora of African slaves in the early modern period, the migration of peoples has been a critical motor of change throughout human history. The Wanderers brings together 50 epic accounts of the mass movement of peoples. Each account not only describes the migration itself, but also examines in detail its causes, and its short- and long-term consequences. – Publisher
Hillstrom, Kevin	Defining Moments: The Harlem Renaissance	KWS Publishers (April 1, 2011)	Detailing the emergence and development of the cultural movement known as the Harlem Renaissance, this factual account explores the factors that transformed Harlem into the Capital of Black America in the 1920s. It explains how civil rights activism of the early 20th century made the Renaissance possible and discusses the myriad ways in which African American literature, art, and music from the era illuminated black culture and changed the course of American race relations. Biographical information is provided on leading figures involved in the movement, including civil rights philosopher W. E. B. Du Bois, controversial actor and singer Paul Robeson, jazz legend Duke Ellington, and Langston Hughes, the poet laureate of the Harlem Renaissance. A primary source section presents essential documents from the period such as Hughes's famous manifesto of artistic independence, "The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain," dancer Frankie Manning's recollections of the glamorous Savoy Ballroom; Alain Locke's influential essay "Enter the New Negro," and a selection of poems written by some of the movement's leading literary voices. – Publisher
Lemann, Nicholas	The Promised Land: The Great Black Migration and How It Changed America	Vintage; 1st Edition Books ed edition (March 31, 1992)	A New York Times bestseller, the groundbreaking authoritative history of the migration of African-Americans from the rural South to the urban North. A definitive book on American history, <i>The Promised Land</i> is also essential reading for educators and policymakers at both national and local levels. – Publisher
Nelson, Kadir	Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans	Balzer + Bray (September 27, 2011)	Kadir Nelson, one of this generation's most accomplished, award-winning artists, has created an epic yet intimate introduction to the history of America and African Americans, from colonial days through the civil rights movement. Written in the voice of an "Everywoman," an unnamed narrator whose forebears came to this country on slave ships and who lived to cast her vote for the first African American president, heart and soul touches on some of the great transformative events and small victories of that history. This inspiring book demonstrates that in gaining their freedom and equal rights, African Americans helped our country achieve its promise of liberty and justice—the true heart and soul of our nation. – publisher
Norris, Michele	The Grace of Silence: A Family Memoir	Vintage (September 6, 2011)	While exploring the hidden conversation on race unfolding throughout America in the wake of President Obama's election, Michele Norris discovered that there were painful secrets within her own family that had been willfully withheld. These revelations—from her father's shooting by a Birmingham police officer to her maternal grandmother's job as an itinerant Aunt Jemima in the Midwest—inspired a bracing journey into her family's past, from her childhood home in Minneapolis to her ancestral roots in the Deep South. – Publisher
Rutkoff, Peter M.	Fly Away: The Great African American Cultural Migrations	The Johns Hopkins University Press (June 2, 2010)	Broad in scope and original in its interpretation, <i>Fly Away</i> illuminates the origins, development, and transformation of national culture during an important chapter in twentieth-century American history. – Publisher
Schomburg Center For Research;Dodson, Howard;Diouf, Sylviane A.	In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience	National Geographic (January 1, 2005)	Although the Atlantic slave trade has created an enduring image of black people as transported commodities, and is usually considered the single element in the construction of the African Diaspora, it is centuries of additional migrations that have given shape to the nation we know today, a nation different from that forged solely by the dreadful transportation of the Africans against their will. And it is this vast array of migrations that truly defines the African American experience. Always on the move, resourceful, and creative, men and women of African origin have been risk-takers in an exploitative and hostile environment. Their survival skills, efficient networks, and dynamic culture have enabled them to thrive and spread, and to be at the very core of the settling and development of the Americas. – Publisher
Skloot, Rebecca	The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks	Crown; First Edition edition (February 2, 2010)	Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor Southern tobacco farmer who worked the same land as her slave ancestors, yet her cells—taken without her knowledge—became one of the most important tools in medicine. The first "immortal" human cells grown in culture, they are still alive today, though she has been dead for more than sixty years. And though the cells had launched a multimillion-dollar industry that sells human biological materials, her family never saw any of the profits. As Rebecca Skloot so brilliantly shows, the story of the Lacks family—past and present—is inextricably connected to the dark history of experimentation on African Americans, the birth of bioethics, and the legal battles over whether we control the stuff we are made of. – Publisher
Wilkerson, Isabel	The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration	Vintage; Reprint edition (October 4, 2011)	A magisterial work, taking its title from a poem by Richard Wright, this chronicles the movement of the six million African Americans who left the Jim Crow South starting in the early 20th century and spread throughout the country – National Book Critic Circle Award for Nonfiction
Children's			
Author	Title	Publication	Annotation
Dillon, Leo and Diane	Jazz on a Saturday Night		Through muted illustrations and staccato text, readers are drawn into a spectacular evening of jazz featuring some of the greatest musicians of the twentieth century: John Coltrane, Charlie Parker, and Ella Fitzgerald. Jazz CD and Mini Jazz Musician Biographies. (AC) I, II, IV. – National Council for the Social Studies Notable Trade Book
Duggleby, John	Story Painter: The Life of Jacob Lawrence	Chronicle Books (October 1, 1998)	The paintings of Jacob Lawrence tell stories. Stories of enslavement and freedom, of human migration and renaissance, of struggle and of triumph. A collection of these stunning paintings provides the backdrop for this exceptional biography which tells the story of one of our finest living painters—from his family's experience in the great migration North, to his growing up in the midst of the Harlem Renaissance, to his rise as one of the most renowned painters of African American life. With over twenty-five full-color reproductions and an insightful glossary, not only is this an easy-to-read, engaging biography, it's also an excellent starting point for discussions about American history. – Publisher
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Greenfield, Eloise	The Great Migration: Journey to the North	Amistad (December 21, 2010)	In this collection of poems and collage artwork, award winners Eloise Greenfield and Jan Spivey Gilchrist gracefully depict the experiences of families like their own, who found the courage to leave their homes behind and make new lives for themselves elsewhere. – Publisher
Hughes, Langston	My People	Atheneum Books for Young Readers (January 6, 2009)	Langston Hughes's spare yet eloquent tribute to his people has been cherished for generations. Now, acclaimed photographer Charles R. Smith Jr. interprets this beloved poem in vivid sepia photographs that capture the glory, the beauty, and the soul of being a black American today. – Publisher
Hughes, Langston	The Dream Keeper and Other Poems	Knopf Books for Young Readers (November 13, 2007)	The <i>Dream Keeper</i> , the great African-American writer Langston Hughes's only collection of poems for children, includes some of his best loved works. It is being reissued in a handsome hardcover edition in celebration of its 75th anniversary. Filled with elegant scratchboard illustrations by Caldecott Honor winner Brian Pinkney, and featuring an introduction by noted children's poet Lee Bennett Hopkins, this gift edition is sure to be cherished by young readers and longtime poetry lovers alike. – Publisher
Laban, Carrick Hill	Harlem Stamp!: A Cultural History Of The Harlem Renaissance	Little, Brown Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (January 1, 2009)	When it was released in 2004, <i>Harlem Stamp!</i> was the first trade book to bring the Harlem Renaissance packed with poetry, prose, photographs, full-color paintings, and reproductions of historical documents. Now, after more than three years in hardcover, three starred reviews and a National Book Award nomination, <i>Harlem Stamp!</i> is being released in paperback. – Publisher
Lawrence, Jacob	The Great Migration: An American Story	HarperCollins (September 15, 1995)	Around the time of WWI, large numbers of African Americans began leaving their homes in the rural South in search of employment in the industrial cities of the North. In 1940, Lawrence chronicled their journey of hope in a flowing narrative sequence of paintings. This stirring picture book brings together the sixty panels of Lawrence's epic narrative Migration series, which he created in 1940–1941. They tell of the journey of African-Americans who left their homes in the South around World War I and traveled in search of better lives in the northern industrial cities. – Publisher
McKissack, Lisa Beringer	Women of the Harlem Renaissance (We the People)	We the People (January 2007)	Women of the Harlem Renaissance (We the People) (We the People In the 1920s and 1930s, New York City's community of Harlem was filled with creative work in literature, art, and music. At the heart of this cultural explosion were talented women who took their experiences of being black females and shaped them into meaningful careers as writers, artists, and musicians. Having been fortunate enough to pursue educational and career opportunities, the women of the Harlem Renaissance moved beyond typical female roles of the time. Today, they are remembered and respected not only for their work but also for their ability to inspire. Publisher
McKissack, Patricia	Color Me Dark: The Diary of Nellie Lee Love--The Great Migration North, Chicago, Illinois, 1919	Scholastic, Incorporated; First Edition edition (April 1, 2000)	Twelve-year-old Nellie Lee's family moves north to Chicago in search of a better life. Like many other African Americans, they hope to escape the racism of the rural south and take advantage of the opportunities in the city. Instead, they find themselves faced with a more sinister form of prejudice -- hatred within their own race. – Publisher
Myers, Walter Dean	Harlem Summer		Harlem Summer. Written by Walter Dean Myers. This coming-of-age novel chronicles the summer adventures of 16-year-old Mark Purvis, working in the publishing office of W.E.B. Dubois's during <i>The Crisis</i> in 1925 Harlem. The author skillfully interweaves fiction with historical events and figures. – National Council for the Social Studies Notable Trade Book
Myers, Walter Dean	Ida B. Wells: Let the Truth Be Told	Amistad; First Printing edition (October 28, 2008)	This is the story of activist, educator, journalist, and suffragist Ida B. Wells who risked her life to educate the world about the horrors of lynching and about the unequal treatment of African Americans. Timeline, Quotations. – National Council for the Social Studies Notable Trade Book



