

A Selected Multicultural Fiction Reading List

some with annotations

-all books available at the Melrose Public Library-

(also check the shelves for additional books by the same authors)

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| <u>The Hand I Fan With</u> Romantic, sexy, magical story set in the fictional smalltown of Mulberry, Georgia. | 1996 Tina McElroy Ansa |
| <u>Go Tell it on the Mountain</u> | 1953 James Baldwin |
| <u>Cloudsplitter</u> Historical novel about abolitionist John Brown from the perspective of his son, Owen. | 1998 Russell Banks |
| <u>Theory of War: A Novel</u> | 1993 Joan Brady |
| <u>A Dry White Season</u> | 1989 Andre P. Brink |
| <u>Big Girls Don't Cry</u> One woman's search for love and purpose in a world where it's difficult to have both. | 1996 Connie Briscoe |
| <u>The Good Earth</u> | 1947 Pearl Buck |
| <u>Gorilla, My Love: Short Stories</u> | 1972 Toni Cade Bambara |
| <u>Brothers and Sisters</u> A black/white friendship in post-riot L.A. | 1994 Bebe Moore Campbell |
| <u>Monkey King</u> Cultural conflict in a Chinese-American family | 1997 Patricia Chao |
| <u>Rattlebone</u> Life in a 1950's all black town as described by 3 of its citizens | 1994 Maxine Clair |
| <u>The Crown of Columbus</u> Adventure novel of the quest for Christopher Columbus' lost diary | 1991 Michael Dorris Louise Erdrich |
| <u>Invisible Man</u> Story of a young black man's journey of self discovery in the South and North. | 1952 Ralph Ellison |
| <u>Spartacus</u> Story of the great slave revolt against the Roman Republic. | 1958 Howard Fast |
| <u>A Lesson Before Dying</u> Two black men struggle to live and die with dignity in 1940s Cajun Louisiana. | 1993 Ernest Gaines |
| <u>The Shadow Lines</u> Story of two Indian families, one in Calcutta and one in London. | 1990 Amitav Ghosh |
| <u>Burger's Daughter</u> A young woman's slowly evolving identity in apartheid South Africa. | 1979 Nadine Gordimer |
| <u>Free Man of Color</u> | 1997 Barbara Hambly |
| <u>Presumed Dead</u> Mystery set in the Chicago Police Dept. where the author is a lieutenant. | 1994 Hugh Holton |
| <u>Short Stories of Langston Hughes</u> | 1996 edited by Harper |

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| <u>Novels and Stories</u> (including <u>Their Eyes Were Watching God</u>) | 1995 Zora Neale Hurston |
| <u>Typical American</u> Life on the road with a Chinese immigrant family. | 1991 Gish Jen |
| <u>Middle Passage</u> Fictional account of a free black man who is mistakenly put on a slave ship. | 1990 Charles Johnson |
| <u>The Floating World</u> A coming of age story through the eyes of a 12 year old Japanese American girl. | 1989 Cynthia Kadohata |
| <u>Lucy (1990)</u> Journey of a 19 year old girl from rural West Indies to North America. | Jamaica Kincaid |
| <u>The Poisonwood Bible</u> A white family's story of undoing and remarkable reconstruction after arriving as missionaries to the Belgian Congo in 1959. | 1998 Barbara Kingsolver |
| <u>Tripmaster Monkey: His Fake Book</u> | 1989 Maxine H. Kingston |
| <u>To Kill a Mockingbird</u> | 1960 Harper Lee |
| <u>And All Our Wounds Forgiven</u> Love story about a charismatic black civil rights leader. | 1994 Julius Lester |
| <u>Spring Moon</u> Set in China from the 1890's through the 1970s. | 1981 Bette Bao Lord |
| <u>Palace Walk</u> First of a trilogy depicting the life of a Muslim family in Cairo during the British occupation of the early 1900s. | 1990 Naguib Mahfouz |
| <u>Dreams of My Russian Summers</u> | 1997 Andrei Makine |
| <u>Wooden Fish Songs</u> Three women telling the story of a Chinese immigrant to America. | 1995 Ruthanne L. McCunn |
| <u>Praisesong for the Widow</u> | 1983 Paule Marshall |
| <u>How Stella Got Her Groove Back</u> | 1996 Terry McMillan |
| <u>Fragments of the Ark</u> A South Carolina slave escapes from Confederate Charleston to the Union Navy. | 1994 Louise Meriwether |
| <u>Song of Solomon</u> Novel exploring family bond and conflict through 4 generations of black life in America. | 1977 Toni Morrison |
| <u>Devil in a Blue Dress: An Easy Rawlins Novel</u> | 1990 Walter Mosley |
| <u>The Flight of the Tiger</u> Surreal humor used to expose oppression in the village of Hualacato, Argentina. | 1981 Daniel Moyano |
| <u>The Holder of the World</u> Intriguing meeting of two very different worlds - Puritan America and India. | 1993 Bharati Mukherjee |
| <u>The Women of Brewster Place</u> audio recording | 1993 Gloria Naylor |

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| <u>Blanche Among the Talented Tenth</u> Domestic turned detective Blanche White confronts murderous secrets among the black upper class. | Barbara Neely |
| <u>The God of Small Things</u> | 1997 Arundhati Roy |
| <u>Betsey Brown: A Novel</u> Lyrical coming of age novel, set in 1957 St. Louis, about a teenaged black girl who endures the trials of school integration. | 1985 Ntozake Shange |
| <u>The Joy Luck Club</u> | 1989 Amy Tan |
| <u>The Do Right Man</u> A black man's search for love and career. | 1997 Omar Tyree |
| <u>The Good Negress</u> A teenager struggles to rise above her family's oppressive expectations. | 1995 A.J. Verdelle |
| <u>Possessing the Secret of Joy</u> | 1992 Alice Walker |
| <u>Jubilee</u> Civil War plantation life through the eyes of a black woman. | 1966 Margaret Walker |
| <u>The Wedding</u> Issues confronting a black upper middle class family on Martha's Vineyard. | 1995 Dorothy West |
| <u>The Homewood Trilogy</u> | 1985 John Edgar Wideman |
| <u>Devil's Gonna Get Him</u> Murder mystery. | 1995 Valerie Wesley |
| <u>Native Son</u> | 1940 Richard Wright |
| <u>Red Sorghum</u> Three generations caught in the brutal unrest of 1920s-1930s rural China. | |