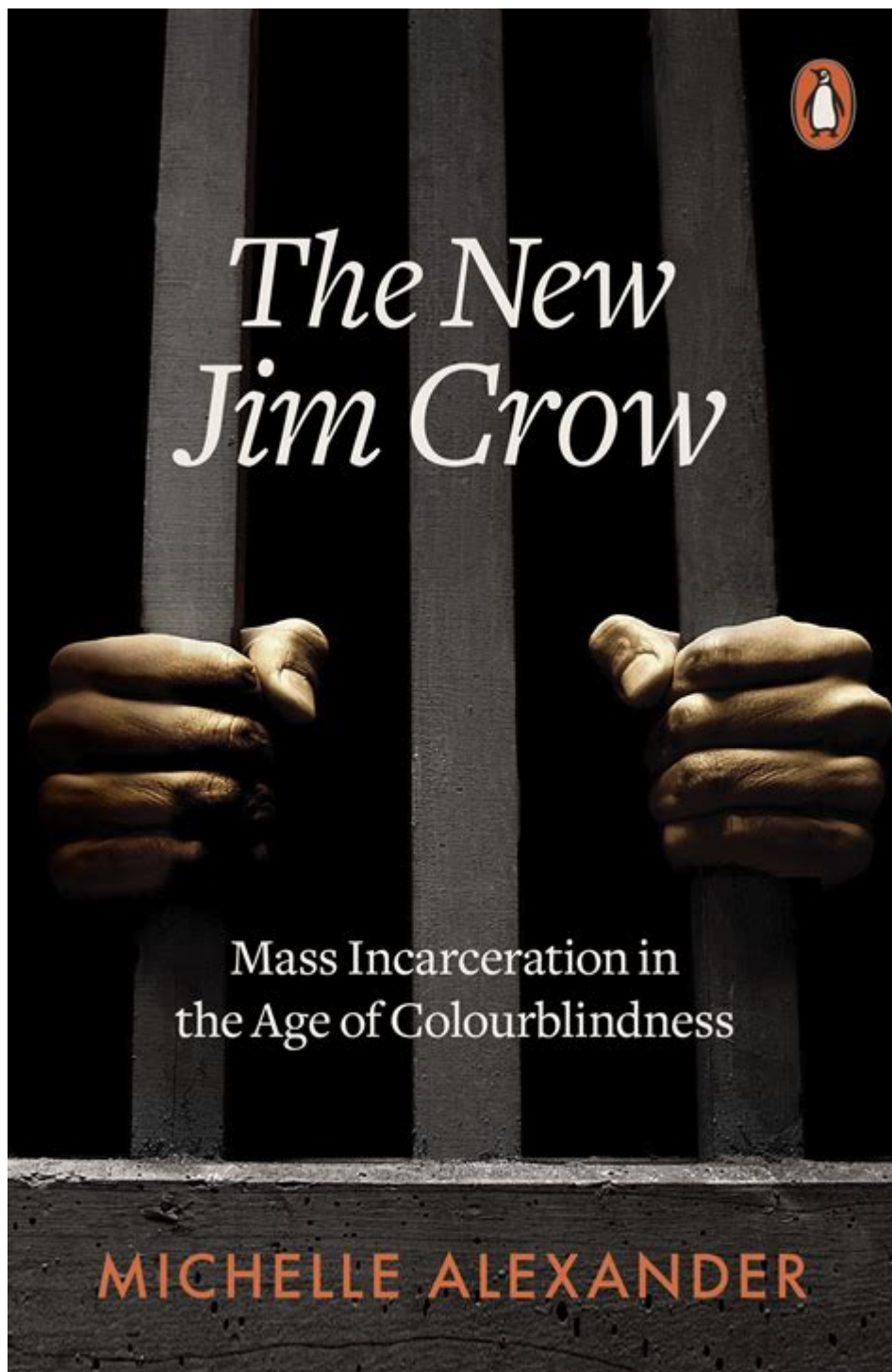


## The New Jim Crow Alexander



**The New Jim Crow: Understanding Michelle Alexander's Powerful Argument**

The phrase "The New Jim Crow" has become synonymous with a chilling critique of the American justice system. Michelle Alexander's seminal work, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, isn't just a book; it's a call to action. This post delves deep into Alexander's arguments, exploring the core tenets of her thesis, its impact, and the ongoing debates it has sparked. We'll examine how mass incarceration disproportionately affects African Americans and the insidious ways it perpetuates racial inequality, creating a modern-day system mirroring the historical injustices of Jim Crow. Prepare to have your understanding of the American criminal justice system challenged.

## **The Core Argument: Mass Incarceration as a System of Racial Control**

Alexander's central thesis posits that mass incarceration in the United States functions as a contemporary system of racial control, subtly yet effectively replicating the oppressive structures of the Jim Crow era. While explicitly racist laws are largely absent, she argues that a series of policies and practices - from the War on Drugs to discriminatory sentencing - have created a racially biased system that overwhelmingly targets and imprisons black Americans. This isn't simply about individual instances of prejudice; Alexander meticulously lays out a systemic argument, demonstrating how seemingly neutral policies have profoundly discriminatory effects.

## **The War on Drugs: A Catalyst for Mass Incarceration**

A cornerstone of Alexander's argument is the role of the War on Drugs in fueling mass incarceration. She details how the aggressive targeting of crack cocaine, a drug disproportionately used in Black communities, led to harsher sentencing guidelines and an explosion in the prison population. This wasn't accidental; Alexander contends that the policy decisions were consciously or unconsciously fueled by racial bias, leading to the incarceration of millions of black Americans.

## **Beyond the War on Drugs: The Cumulative Impact of Systemic Racism**

Beyond the War on Drugs, Alexander examines other contributing factors: the militarization of police forces, racial profiling, and the pervasive influence of implicit bias in policing and the courts. She highlights how seemingly minor infractions can lead to arrests, convictions, and lengthy prison sentences, especially for Black individuals. This cumulative effect creates a cycle of poverty, limited opportunities, and further criminalization.

# **The "Colorblindness" Paradox: The Illusion of Racial Neutrality**

A key aspect of Alexander's analysis is the concept of "colorblindness." She argues that the claim of a post-racial society ignores the deeply entrenched racial biases embedded within the criminal justice system. While overt racism may be less prevalent, the consequences are the same: a disproportionate number of black Americans are incarcerated, stripped of their rights, and marginalized in society. This creates a new form of caste system, effectively relegating millions to a second-class citizenship.

## **The Collateral Consequences of Incarceration**

Alexander brilliantly illustrates the lasting impact of incarceration on individuals and their communities. The loss of voting rights, employment opportunities, housing options, and access to education creates a permanent underclass, perpetuating the cycle of poverty and inequality. These "collateral consequences" are not merely individual hardships; they are systemic barriers that reinforce racial disparities.

## **The Ongoing Debate and Impact of "The New Jim Crow"**

Since its publication, *The New Jim Crow* has sparked intense debate and spurred significant social and political movements. While some criticize certain aspects of Alexander's analysis, the book has undeniably raised awareness of the systemic racism within the criminal justice system. It has become essential reading for anyone seeking to understand the complexities of race and inequality in contemporary America. The book's influence can be seen in ongoing reform efforts, calls for criminal justice reform, and the growing awareness of the need for systemic change.

## **Conclusion**

Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow* is a powerful and essential work. It provides a compelling and well-documented argument regarding the systemic nature of racial inequality within the American criminal justice system. By illuminating the intricate web of policies and practices that contribute to mass incarceration, Alexander challenges us to confront the uncomfortable realities of our society and actively work towards creating a more just and equitable future. Understanding her arguments is not just about academic discourse; it's about acknowledging a profound moral imperative to address systemic racism and dismantle the structures that perpetuate injustice.

# Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is "The New Jim Crow" solely about the War on Drugs? No, while the War on Drugs is a critical component of Alexander's argument, the book explores a broader range of factors contributing to mass incarceration, including racial profiling, discriminatory sentencing, and the collateral consequences of incarceration.
2. Are all criticisms of "The New Jim Crow" invalid? No, while the book has had a significant positive impact, some criticisms regarding specific data points or interpretations have been raised. A critical engagement with diverse perspectives is essential for a complete understanding of the issue.
3. What practical solutions does Alexander propose? Alexander advocates for comprehensive criminal justice reform, including reducing mandatory minimum sentences, addressing racial bias in policing and sentencing, and investing in communities disproportionately affected by mass incarceration.
4. How does "The New Jim Crow" relate to other forms of systemic inequality? The book highlights how mass incarceration intersects with and exacerbates existing inequalities related to poverty, education, healthcare, and housing, creating a cycle of disadvantage.
5. Is "The New Jim Crow" relevant today? Absolutely. While published over a decade ago, the issues raised in the book remain highly relevant, given the ongoing struggles for criminal justice reform and the persistent racial disparities within the American justice system. The systemic problems highlighted by Alexander persist and require ongoing attention.

**the new jim crow alexander: The New Jim Crow** Michelle Alexander, 2020-01-07 One of the New York Times's Best Books of the 21st Century Named one of the most important nonfiction books of the 21st century by Entertainment Weekly, Slate, Chronicle of Higher Education, Literary Hub, Book Riot, and Zora A tenth-anniversary edition of the iconic bestseller—one of the most influential books of the past 20 years, according to the Chronicle of Higher Education—with a new preface by the author It is in no small part thanks to Alexander's account that civil rights organizations such as Black Lives Matter have focused so much of their energy on the criminal justice system. —Adam Shatz, London Review of Books Seldom does a book have the impact of Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow*. Since it was first published in 2010, it has been cited in judicial decisions and has been adopted in campus-wide and community-wide reads; it helped inspire the creation of the Marshall Project and the new \$100 million Art for Justice Fund; it has been the winner of numerous prizes, including the prestigious NAACP Image Award; and it has spent nearly 250 weeks on the New York Times bestseller list. Most important of all, it has spawned a whole generation of criminal justice reform activists and organizations motivated by Michelle Alexander's unforgettable argument that we have not ended racial caste in America; we have merely redesigned it. As the Birmingham News proclaimed, it is undoubtedly the most important book published in this century about the U.S. Now, ten years after it was first published, The New Press is proud to issue a tenth-anniversary edition with a new preface by Michelle Alexander that discusses the impact the book has had and the state of the criminal justice reform movement today.

**the new jim crow alexander: The New Jim Crow** Michelle Alexander, 2012 Argues that the War on Drugs and policies that deny convicted felons equal access to employment, housing, education and public benefits create a permanent under-caste based largely on race. Reprint. 12,500 first printing.

**the new jim crow alexander:** Building a Movement to End the New Jim Crow: an organizing guide Daniel Hunter, 2015 Seeks to focus people in the direction of dismantling our nation's huge and egregious prison industrial systems, the old but new Jim Crow. In it, Daniel Hunter describes key organizing principles and offers an array of examples that describe concrete ways that individuals, organizations, and coalitions are achieving significant successes, which cultivate the soil for more and more significant campaigns in this crucial struggle--

**the new jim crow alexander: An Analysis of Michelle Alexander's the New Jim Crow** Ryan Moore, 2017-07-15 The United States has the world's largest prison population, with more than two million behind bars. Alexander says this is mainly due to America's 'war on drugs,' launched in 1982. In *The New Jim Crow*, she explains how this government initiative has led to America's black citizens being imprisoned on a colossal scale. She compares this mass detention--with black men up to 50 times more likely to be jailed than white men--to the Jim Crow era segregation that once pervaded the American South. Though the Civil Rights Movement supposedly ended segregation in the early 1960s, the war on drugs opened the door to a new racial caste system.

**the new jim crow alexander: Halfway Home** Reuben Jonathan Miller, 2021-02-02 A persuasive and essential (Matthew Desmond) work that will forever change how we look at life after prison in America through Miller's stunning, and deeply painful reckoning with our nation's carceral system (Heather Ann Thompson). Each year, more than half a million Americans are released from prison and join a population of twenty million people who live with a felony record. Reuben Miller, a chaplain at the Cook County Jail in Chicago and now a sociologist studying mass incarceration, spent years alongside prisoners, ex-prisoners, their friends, and their families to understand the lifelong burden that even a single arrest can entail. What his work revealed is a simple, if overlooked truth: life after incarceration is its own form of prison. The idea that one can serve their debt and return to life as a full-fledge member of society is one of America's most nefarious myths. Recently released individuals are faced with jobs that are off-limits, apartments that cannot be occupied and votes that cannot be cast. As *The Color of Law* exposed about our understanding of housing segregation, *Halfway Home* shows that the American justice system was not created to rehabilitate. Parole is structured to keep classes of Americans impoverished, unstable, and disenfranchised long after they've paid their debt to society. Informed by Miller's experience as the son and brother of incarcerated men, captures the stories of the men, women, and communities fighting against a system that is designed for them to fail. It is a poignant and eye-opening call to arms that reveals how laws, rules, and regulations extract a tangible cost not only from those working to rebuild their lives, but also our democracy. As Miller searchingly explores, America must acknowledge and value the lives of its formerly imprisoned citizens. PEN America 2022 John Kenneth Galbraith Award for Nonfiction Finalist Winner of the 2022 PROSE Award for Excellence in Social Sciences 2022 PROSE Awards Finalist 2022 PROSE Awards Category Winner for Cultural Anthropology and Sociology An NPR Selected 2021 Books We Love As heard on NPR's Fresh Air

**the new jim crow alexander:** *The New Jim Crow* Instaread, 2016-04-06 *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander | Summary & Analysis Preview: *The New Jim Crow* argues that the ongoing "War on Drugs" and the resulting mass incarceration of African Americans is the moral equivalent of Jim Crow. Beginning in the seventeenth century, institutions emerged in colonial America that contributed to the creation of a racial caste system. America's current racial caste system builds upon the legacy of both chattel slavery that existed in the United States prior to the Civil War and on the system of Jim Crow laws that designated African Americans to second-class citizenship in many parts of the American South prior to the civil rights movement. This racial caste system is perpetuated across the country by members of both political parties. It has resulted in a large number of African American men who cannot vote, serve on juries, or find employment and housing. Discrimination against convicts is legally accepted and widespread... PLEASE NOTE: This is key takeaways and analysis of the book and NOT the original book. Inside this Instaread Summary of *The New Jim Crow* · Overview of the book · Important People · Key Takeaways · Analysis of Key Takeaways About the Author With Instaread, you can get the key takeaways, summary and analysis

of a book in 15 minutes. We read every chapter, identify the key takeaways and analyze them for your convenience.

**the new jim crow alexander:** The Fire This Time Jesmyn Ward, 2016 Ward takes James Baldwin's 1963 examination of race in America, The Fire Next Time, as a jumping off point for this ... collection of essays and poems about race from ... voices of her generation and our time--

**the new jim crow alexander:** The Rage of Innocence Kristin Henning, 2021-09-28 A brilliant analysis of the foundations of racist policing in America: the day-to-day brutalities, largely hidden from public view, endured by Black youth growing up under constant police surveillance and the persistent threat of physical and psychological abuse Storytelling that can make people understand the racial inequities of the legal system, and...restore the humanity this system has cruelly stripped from its victims." —New York Times Book Review Drawing upon twenty-five years of experience representing Black youth in Washington, D.C.'s juvenile courts, Kristin Henning confronts America's irrational, manufactured fears of these young people and makes a powerfully compelling case that the crisis in racist American policing begins with its relationship to Black children. Henning explains how discriminatory and aggressive policing has socialized a generation of Black teenagers to fear, resent, and resist the police, and she details the long-term consequences of racism that they experience at the hands of the police and their vigilante surrogates. She makes clear that unlike White youth, who are afforded the freedom to test boundaries, experiment with sex and drugs, and figure out who they are and who they want to be, Black youth are seen as a threat to White America and are denied healthy adolescent development. She examines the criminalization of Black adolescent play and sexuality, and of Black fashion, hair, and music. She limns the effects of police presence in schools and the depth of police-induced trauma in Black adolescents. Especially in the wake of the recent unprecedented, worldwide outrage at racial injustice and inequality, The Rage of Innocence is an essential book for our moment.

**the new jim crow alexander:** North Webster Ann Morris, Henrietta Ambrose, 1993 Ten miles west of St. Louis, in the town of Webster Groves ... there is an old black community. It is called North Webster because it covers the hill which rolls to the northern boundary of Webster Groves--P. 2

**the new jim crow alexander:** American Apartheid Douglas S. Massey, Nancy A. Denton, 1993 This powerful and disturbing book clearly links persistent poverty among blacks in the United States to the unparalleled degree of deliberate segregation they experience in American cities. American Apartheid shows how the black ghetto was created by whites during the first half of the twentieth century in order to isolate growing urban black populations. It goes on to show that, despite the Fair Housing Act of 1968, segregation is perpetuated today through an interlocking set of individual actions, institutional practices, and governmental policies. In some urban areas the degree of black segregation is so intense and occurs in so many dimensions simultaneously that it amounts to hypersegregation. The authors demonstrate that this systematic segregation of African Americans leads inexorably to the creation of underclass communities during periods of economic downturn. Under conditions of extreme segregation, any increase in the overall rate of black poverty yields a marked increase in the geographic concentration of indigence and the deterioration of social and economic conditions in black communities. As ghetto residents adapt to this increasingly harsh environment under a climate of racial isolation, they evolve attitudes, behaviors, and practices that further marginalize their neighborhoods and undermine their chances of success in mainstream American society. This book is a sober challenge to those who argue that race is of declining significance in the United States today.

**the new jim crow alexander:** The Cushion in the Road Alice Walker, 2013-04-09 The National Book Award- and Pulitzer Prize-winning author of The Color Purple explores our modern world with "compassion, courage, and humor" (Booklist). Alice Walker once ached for retirement, but in the turmoil of the Democratic primaries and the economic collapse of 2008, she realized she simply had a great deal more to say. Leaving her meditation cushion behind, she found herself traveling the world once again to speak of our intertwined personal, spiritual, and political destinies through

ruminations, poems, essays, and letters. At the height of her literary powers, this revered American novelist, poet, essayist, and activist invites readers on a journey of political awakening and spiritual insight. While visiting subjects she has addressed throughout her career—including racism, Africa, Palestinian solidarity, and Cuba—as well as addressing emergent issues, such as the presidency of Barack Obama and health care, Walker explores her conflicting impulses to retreat into inner contemplation and to remain deeply engaged with the world. Rich with humor and wisdom, and informed by Walker's unique eye for the details of human and natural experience, *The Cushion in the Road* is “a heartfelt response to a new generation's yearning for public service” (Kirkus Reviews). “Walker's concern for the state of humanity and the planet comes through as impassioned and genuine.” —Publishers Weekly “Quintessential Alice Walker: edgy, demanding, prayerful, loving, and aware. An essential companion for those who wish to be a force for positive change in our perpetually challenging world.” —ForeWord Magazine “Infused with a quiet grace and gentle resolve to act responsibly.” —Kirkus Reviews

**the new jim crow alexander: Prison Profiteers** Tara Herivel, Paul Wright, 2011-05-10 “No country in history has ever handed over so many inmates to private corporations. This book looks at the consequences” (Eric Schlosser, bestselling author of *Fast Food Nation*). In *Prison Profiteers*, coeditors Tara Herivel and Paul Wright “follow the money to an astonishing constellation of prison administrators and politicians working in collusion with private parties to maximize profits” (Publishers Weekly). From investment banks, guard unions, and the makers of Taser stun guns to health care providers, telephone companies, and the US military (which relies heavily on prison labor), this network of perversely motivated interests has turned the imprisonment of 1 out of every 135 Americans into a lucrative business. Called “an essential read for anyone who wants to understand what's gone wrong with criminal justice in the United States” by ACLU National Prison Project director Elizabeth Alexander, this incisive and deftly researched volume shows how billions of tax dollars designated for the public good end up lining the pockets of those private enterprises dedicated to keeping prisons packed. “An important analysis of a troubling social trend” that is sure to inform and outrage any concerned citizen, *Prison Profiteers* reframes the conversation by exposing those who stand to profit from the imprisonment of millions of Americans (Booklist). “Indispensable . . . An easy and accessible read—and a necessary one.” —The San Diego Union-Tribune “This is lucid, eye-opening reading for anyone interested in American justice.” —Publishers Weekly “Impressive . . . A thoughtful, comprehensive and accessible analysis of the money trail behind the prison-industrial-complex.” —The Black Commentator

**the new jim crow alexander: The Lost Education of Horace Tate** Vanessa Siddle Walker, 2018-07-31 A Publishers Weekly Best Book of 2018 “An important contribution to our understanding of how ordinary people found the strength to fight for equality for schoolchildren and their teachers.” —Wall Street Journal In the epic tradition of *Eyes on the Prize* and with the cultural significance of John Lewis's March trilogy, an ambitious and harrowing account of the devoted black educators who battled southern school segregation and inequality For two years an aging Dr. Horace Tate—a former teacher, principal, and state senator—told Emory University professor Vanessa Siddle Walker about his clandestine travels on unpaved roads under the cover of night, meeting with other educators and with Dr. King, Georgia politicians, and even U.S. presidents. Sometimes he and Walker spoke by phone, sometimes in his office, sometimes in his home; always Tate shared fascinating stories of the times leading up to and following *Brown v. Board of Education*. Dramatically, on his deathbed, he asked Walker to return to his office in Atlanta, in a building that was once the headquarters of another kind of southern strategy, one driven by integrity and equality. Just days after Dr. Tate's passing in 2002, Walker honored his wish. Up a dusty, rickety staircase, locked in a concealed attic, she found the collection: a massive archive documenting the underground actors and covert strategies behind the most significant era of the fight for educational justice. Thus began Walker's sixteen-year project to uncover the network of educators behind countless battles—in courtrooms, schools, and communities—for the education of black children. Until now, the courageous story of how black Americans in the South won so much and subsequently

fell so far has been incomplete. The Lost Education of Horace Tate is a monumental work that offers fresh insight into the southern struggle for human rights, revealing little-known accounts of leaders such as W.E.B. Du Bois and James Weldon Johnson, as well as hidden provocateurs like Horace Tate.

**the new jim crow alexander: Congressional Record** United States. Congress, 1968

**the new jim crow alexander: Incarceration Nations** Baz Dreisinger, 2016-02-09 Baz Dreisinger travels behind bars in nine countries to rethink the state of justice in a global context Beginning in Africa and ending in Europe, Incarceration Nations is a first-person odyssey through the prison systems of the world. Professor, journalist, and founder of the Prison-to-College-Pipeline, Dreisinger looks into the human stories of incarcerated men and women and those who imprison them, creating a jarring, poignant view of a world to which most are denied access, and a rethinking of one of America's most far-reaching global exports: the modern prison complex. From serving as a restorative justice facilitator in a notorious South African prison and working with genocide survivors in Rwanda, to launching a creative writing class in an overcrowded Ugandan prison and coordinating a drama workshop for women prisoners in Thailand, Dreisinger examines the world behind bars with equal parts empathy and intellect. She journeys to Jamaica to visit a prison music program, to Singapore to learn about approaches to prisoner reentry, to Australia to grapple with the bottom line of private prisons, to a federal supermax in Brazil to confront the horrors of solitary confinement, and finally to the so-called model prisons of Norway. Incarceration Nations concludes with climactic lessons about the past, present, and future of justice.

**the new jim crow alexander: The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America** Richard Rothstein, 2017-05-02 New York Times Bestseller • Notable Book of the Year • Editors' Choice Selection One of Bill Gates' "Amazing Books" of the Year One of Publishers Weekly's 10 Best Books of the Year Longlisted for the National Book Award for Nonfiction An NPR Best Book of the Year Winner of the Hillman Prize for Nonfiction Gold Winner • California Book Award (Nonfiction) Finalist • Los Angeles Times Book Prize (History) Finalist • Brooklyn Public Library Literary Prize This "powerful and disturbing history" exposes how American governments deliberately imposed racial segregation on metropolitan areas nationwide (New York Times Book Review). Widely heralded as a "masterful" (Washington Post) and "essential" (Slate) history of the modern American metropolis, Richard Rothstein's The Color of Law offers "the most forceful argument ever published on how federal, state, and local governments gave rise to and reinforced neighborhood segregation" (William Julius Wilson). Exploding the myth of de facto segregation arising from private prejudice or the unintended consequences of economic forces, Rothstein describes how the American government systematically imposed residential segregation: with undisguised racial zoning; public housing that purposefully segregated previously mixed communities; subsidies for builders to create whites-only suburbs; tax exemptions for institutions that enforced segregation; and support for violent resistance to African Americans in white neighborhoods. A groundbreaking, "virtually indispensable" study that has already transformed our understanding of twentieth-century urban history (Chicago Daily Observer), The Color of Law forces us to face the obligation to remedy our unconstitutional past.

**the new jim crow alexander: Becoming Ms. Burton** Susan Burton, Cari Lynn, 2017-05-09 Winner of the 2018 National Council on Crime & Delinquency's Media for a Just Society Awards Winner of the 2017 Goddard Riverside Stephan Russo Book Prize for Social Justice "Valuable . . . [like Michelle] Alexander's The New Jim Crow." —Los Angeles Review of Books "Susan Burton is a national treasure . . . her life story is testimony to the human capacity for resilience and recovery . . . [Becoming Ms. Burton is] a stunning memoir." —Nicholas Kristof, in The New York Times Winner of the prestigious NAACP Image Award, a uniquely American story of trauma, incarceration, and the breathtaking resilience of the human spirit (Michelle Alexander) Widely hailed as a stunning memoir, Becoming Ms. Burton is the remarkable life story of the renowned activist Susan Burton. In this stirring and moving tour-de-force (John Legend), Susan Burton movingly recounts her own journey through the criminal justice system and her transformation into a life of advocacy. After a childhood of immense pain, poverty, and abuse in Los Angeles, the tragic loss of her son led her into



addiction, which in turn led to arrests and incarceration. During the War on Drugs, Burton was arrested and would cycle in and out of prison for more than fifteen years. When, by chance, she finally received treatment, her political awakening began and she became a powerful advocate for a more humane justice system guided by compassion and dignity (Booklist, starred review). Her award-winning organization, A New Way of Life, has transformed the lives of more than one thousand formerly incarcerated women and is an international model for a less punitive and more effective approach to rehabilitation and reentry. Winner of an NAACP Image Award and named a Best Book of 2017 by the Chicago Public Library, here is an unforgettable book about the breathtaking resilience of the human spirit (Michelle Alexander).

**the new jim crow alexander: The Strange Career of Jim Crow** The late C. Vann Woodward, 2001-11-29 C. Vann Woodward, who died in 1999 at the age of 91, was America's most eminent Southern historian, the winner of a Pulitzer Prize for *Mary Chestnut's Civil War* and a Bancroft Prize for *The Origins of the New South*. Now, to honor his long and truly distinguished career, Oxford is pleased to publish this special commemorative edition of Woodward's most influential work, *The Strange Career of Jim Crow*. *The Strange Career of Jim Crow* is one of the great works of Southern history. Indeed, the book actually helped shape that history. Published in 1955, a year after the Supreme Court in *Brown v. Board of Education* ordered schools desegregated, *Strange Career* was cited so often to counter arguments for segregation that Martin Luther King, Jr. called it the historical Bible of the civil rights movement. The book offers a clear and illuminating analysis of the history of Jim Crow laws, presenting evidence that segregation in the South dated only to the 1890s. Woodward convincingly shows that, even under slavery, the two races had not been divided as they were under the Jim Crow laws of the 1890s. In fact, during Reconstruction, there was considerable economic and political mixing of the races. The segregating of the races was a relative newcomer to the region. Hailed as one of the top 100 nonfiction works of the twentieth century, *The Strange Career of Jim Crow* has sold almost a million copies and remains, in the words of David Herbert Donald, a landmark in the history of American race relations.

**the new jim crow alexander: Locked In** John Pfaff, 2017-02-07 A groundbreaking reassessment of the American prison system, challenging the widely accepted explanations for our exploding incarceration rates In *Locked In*, John Pfaff argues that the factors most commonly cited to explain mass incarceration -- the failed War on Drugs, draconian sentencing laws, an increasing reliance on private prisons -- tell us much less than we think. Instead, Pfaff urges us to look at other factors, especially a major shift in prosecutor behavior that occurred in the mid-1990s, when prosecutors began bringing felony charges against arrestees about twice as often as they had before. An authoritative, clear-eyed account of a national catastrophe, *Locked In* is a must-read for anyone who dreams of an America that is not the world's most imprisoned nation (Chris Hayes, author of *A Colony in a Nation*). It transforms our understanding of what ails the American system of punishment and ultimately forces us to reconsider how we can build a more equitable and humane society.

**the new jim crow alexander: The First Civil Right** Naomi Murakawa, 2014 In *The First Civil Right* is a groundbreaking analysis of root of the conflicts that lie at the intersection of race and the legal system in America. Naomi Murakawa inverts the conventional wisdom by arguing that the expansion of the federal carceral state—a system that disproportionately imprisons blacks and Latinos—was, in fact, rooted in the civil-rights liberalism of the 1940s and early 1960s, not in the period after.

**the new jim crow alexander: Race to Incarcerate** Marc Mauer, Sabrina Jones, 2013-04-02 Do not underestimate the power of the book you are holding in your hands. —Michelle Alexander More than 2 million people are now imprisoned in the United States, producing the highest rate of incarceration in the world. How did this happen? As the director of The Sentencing Project, Marc Mauer has long been one of the country's foremost experts on sentencing policy, race, and the criminal justice system. His book *Race to Incarcerate* has become the essential text for understanding the exponential growth of the U.S. prison system; Michelle Alexander, author of the

bestselling *The New Jim Crow*, calls it utterly indispensable. Now, Sabrina Jones, a member of the World War 3 Illustrated collective and an acclaimed author of politically engaged comics, has collaborated with Mauer to adapt and update the original book into a vivid and compelling comics narrative. Jones's dramatic artwork adds passion and compassion to the complex story of the penal system's shift from rehabilitation to punishment and the ensuing four decades of prison expansion, its interplay with the devastating War on Drugs, and its corrosive effect on generations of Americans. With a preface by Mauer and a foreword by Alexander, *Race to Incarcerate: A Graphic Retelling* presents a compelling argument about mass incarceration's tragic impact on communities of color—if current trends continue, one of every three black males and one of every six Latino males born today can expect to do time in prison. The race to incarcerate is not only a failed social policy, but also one that prevents a just, diverse society from flourishing.

**the new jim crow alexander:** From the War on Poverty to the War on Crime Elizabeth Hinton, 2016-05-02 Co-Winner of the Thomas J. Wilson Memorial Prize A New York Times Notable Book of the Year A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice A Wall Street Journal Favorite Book of the Year A Choice Outstanding Academic Title of the Year A Publishers Weekly Favorite Book of the Year In the United States today, one in every thirty-one adults is under some form of penal control, including one in eleven African American men. How did the "land of the free" become the home of the world's largest prison system? Challenging the belief that America's prison problem originated with the Reagan administration's War on Drugs, Elizabeth Hinton traces the rise of mass incarceration to an ironic source: the social welfare programs of Lyndon Johnson's Great Society at the height of the civil rights era. "An extraordinary and important new book." —Jill Lepore, New Yorker "Hinton's book is more than an argument; it is a revelation...There are moments that will make your skin crawl...This is history, but the implications for today are striking. Readers will learn how the militarization of the police that we've witnessed in Ferguson and elsewhere had roots in the 1960s." —Imani Perry, New York Times Book Review

**the new jim crow alexander:** White Like Me Tim Wise, Kevin Myers, 2010-10-29 Flipping John Howard Griffin's classic *Black Like Me*, and extending Noel Ignatiev's *How The Irish Became White* into the present-day, Wise explores the meanings and consequences of whiteness, and discusses the ways in which racial privilege can harm not just people of color, but also whites. Using stories instead of stale statistics, Wise weaves a narrative that is at once readable and yet scholarly; analytical and yet accessible.

**the new jim crow alexander: Summary and Analysis of The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness** Worth Books, 2016-11-29 So much to read, so little time? This brief overview of *The New Jim Crow* tells you what you need to know—before or after you read Michelle Alexander's book. Crafted and edited with care, Worth Books set the standard for quality and give you the tools you need to be a well-informed reader. This short summary and analysis of *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander includes: Historical context Chapter-by-chapter summaries Detailed timeline of key events Profiles of the main characters Important quotes Fascinating trivia Glossary of terms Supporting material to enhance your understanding of the original work About *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander: Legal scholar and civil rights lawyer Michelle Alexander's invaluable and timely work, *The New Jim Crow*, examines what she calls the new racial caste system in United States: mass incarceration. Following the practices of slavery and institutional discrimination, Alexander argues, mass incarceration is part of America's legacy to dehumanize and disenfranchise African Americans and Latinos. According to Alexander, "we have not ended racial caste in America; we have merely redesigned it." Thanks in a large part to the War on Drugs, more than two million people are in America's prisons today—an overwhelming majority of them are people of color who've been jailed for minor drug charges. When these adults leave prison, they are often denied employment, housing, the right to vote, and a quality education. As a result, they are rarely able to integrate successfully into society. *The New Jim Crow* is a well-argued call to dismantle a system of policies that continues to deny civil rights, decades after the passing of the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts. The summary and analysis in this ebook are intended to

complement your reading experience and bring you closer to a great work of nonfiction.

**the new jim crow alexander: Chokehold** Paul Butler, 2018-09-18 Finalist for the 2018 National Council on Crime & Delinquency's Media for a Just Society Awards Nominated for the 49th NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work (Nonfiction) A 2017 Washington Post Notable Book A Kirkus Best Book of 2017 "Butler has hit his stride. This is a meditation, a sonnet, a legal brief, a poetry slam and a dissertation that represents the full bloom of his early thesis: The justice system does not work for blacks, particularly black men." —The Washington Post "The most readable and provocative account of the consequences of the war on drugs since Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow* . . ." —The New York Times Book Review "Powerful . . . deeply informed from a legal standpoint and yet in some ways still highly personal" —The Times Literary Supplement (London) With the eloquence of Ta-Nehisi Coates and the persuasive research of Michelle Alexander, a former federal prosecutor explains how the system really works, and how to disrupt it Cops, politicians, and ordinary people are afraid of black men. The result is the Chokehold: laws and practices that treat every African American man like a thug. In this explosive new book, an African American former federal prosecutor shows that the system is working exactly the way it's supposed to. Black men are always under watch, and police violence is widespread—all with the support of judges and politicians. In his no-holds-barred style, Butler, whose scholarship has been featured on 60 Minutes, uses new data to demonstrate that white men commit the majority of violent crime in the United States. For example, a white woman is ten times more likely to be raped by a white male acquaintance than be the victim of a violent crime perpetrated by a black man. Butler also frankly discusses the problem of black on black violence and how to keep communities safer—without relying as much on police. Chokehold powerfully demonstrates why current efforts to reform law enforcement will not create lasting change. Butler's controversial recommendations about how to crash the system, and when it's better for a black man to plead guilty—even if he's innocent—are sure to be game-changers in the national debate about policing, criminal justice, and race relations.

**the new jim crow alexander: White Fragility** Dr. Robin DiAngelo, 2018-06-26 The New York Times best-selling book exploring the counterproductive reactions white people have when their assumptions about race are challenged, and how these reactions maintain racial inequality. In this "vital, necessary, and beautiful book" (Michael Eric Dyson), antiracist educator Robin DiAngelo deftly illuminates the phenomenon of white fragility and "allows us to understand racism as a practice not restricted to 'bad people' (Claudia Rankine). Referring to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially, white fragility is characterized by emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt, and by behaviors including argumentation and silence. These behaviors, in turn, function to reinstate white racial equilibrium and prevent any meaningful cross-racial dialogue. In this in-depth exploration, DiAngelo examines how white fragility develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what we can do to engage more constructively.

**the new jim crow alexander: How to Be a (Young) Antiracist** Ibram X. Kendi, Nic Stone, 2023-09-12 The #1 New York Times bestseller that sparked international dialogue is now a book for young adults! Based on the adult bestseller by Ibram X. Kendi, and co-authored by bestselling author Nic Stone, *How to be a (Young) Antiracist* will serve as a guide for teens seeking a way forward in acknowledging, identifying, and dismantling racism and injustice. The New York Times bestseller *How to be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi is shaping the way a generation thinks about race and racism. *How to be a (Young) Antiracist* is a dynamic reframing of the concepts shared in the adult book, with young adulthood front and center. Aimed at readers 12 and up, and co-authored by award-winning children's book author Nic Stone, *How to be a (Young) Antiracist* empowers teen readers to help create a more just society. Antiracism is a journey--and now young adults will have a map to carve their own path. Kendi and Stone have revised this work to provide anecdotes and data that speaks directly to the experiences and concerns of younger readers, encouraging them to think critically and build a more equitable world in doing so.

**the new jim crow alexander: Understanding E-Carceration** James Kilgore, 2022-01-18 A riveting primer on the growing trend of surveillance, monitoring, and control that is extending our

prison system beyond physical walls and into a dark future—by the prize-winning author of *Understanding Mass Incarceration* “James Kilgore is one of my favorite commentators regarding the phenomenon of mass incarceration and the necessity of pursuing truly transformative change.” —Michelle Alexander, author of *The New Jim Crow* In the last decade, as the critique of mass incarceration has grown more powerful, many reformers have embraced changes that release people from prisons and jails. As educator, author, and activist James Kilgore brilliantly shows, these rapidly spreading reforms largely fall under the heading of “e-carceration”—a range of punitive technological interventions, from ankle monitors to facial recognition apps, that deprive people of their liberty, all in the name of ending mass incarceration. E-carceration can block people’s access to employment, housing, healthcare, and even the chance to spend time with loved ones. Many of these technologies gather data that lands in corporate and government databases and may lead to further punishment or the marketing of their data to Big Tech. This riveting primer on the world of techno-punishment comes from the author of award-winning *Understanding Mass Incarceration*. Himself a survivor of prison and e-carceration, Kilgore captures the breadth and complexity of these technologies and offers inspiring ideas on how to resist.

**the new jim crow alexander:** *Promises I Can Keep* Kathryn Edin, Maria Kefalas, 2005-03-08 The authors provide a wholly new framework for understanding why poor women have lower rates of marriage and have children outside of wedlock.

**the new jim crow alexander: The Legacy of Jim Crow** Clarence A. Haynes, Jennifer Sabin, 2022-02-15 “A powerful series that fills in the cracks and illuminates the shadows of the past.” —Sherri L. Smith, award-winning author of *Flygirl* Introducing a new nonfiction series for the next generation of activists, uncovering the hidden history of the United States through an anti-racist lens. The true story of the discriminatory laws and ideas that affected African American life for generations. In the late nineteenth century, white lawmakers in the United States created a set of policies, collectively called “Jim Crow,” that created segregated facilities, like schools and parks, for African Americans in the South. But Jim Crow-type policies didn’t just affect the South. These policies have had far-reaching effects across America, impacting where Black people live, how they’re treated by the criminal justice system, and how they’re portrayed in TV and film. *The Legacy of Jim Crow* explores the details that have far too often been covered up, along with exclusive interviews with experts, including Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jeffrey C. Stewart.

**the new jim crow alexander: White Rage** Carol Anderson, 2020-07-23 THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER From the Civil War to our combustible present, *White Rage* reframes the continuing conversation about race in America, chronicling the history of the powerful forces opposed to black progress. Since the abolishment of slavery in 1865, every time African Americans have made advances towards full democratic participation, white reaction has fuelled a rollback of any gains. Carefully linking historical flashpoints – from the post-Civil War Black Codes and Jim Crow to expressions of white rage after the election of America's first black president – Carol Anderson renders visible the long lineage of white rage and the different names under which it hides. Compelling and dramatic in the history it relates, *White Rage* adds a vital new dimension to the conversation about race in America. 'Beautifully written and exhaustively researched' CHIMAMANDA NGOZI ADICHIE 'An extraordinarily timely and urgent call to confront the legacy of structural racism' NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW 'Brilliant' ROBIN DIANGELO, AUTHOR OF *WHITE FRAGILITY*

**the new jim crow alexander:** *When Work Disappears* William Julius Wilson, 2011-06-08 Wilson, one of our foremost authorities on race and poverty, challenges decades of liberal and conservative pieties to look squarely at the devastating effects that joblessness has had on our urban ghettos. Marshaling a vast array of data and the personal stories of hundreds of men and women, Wilson persuasively argues that problems endemic to America's inner cities—from fatherless households to drugs and violent crime—stem directly from the disappearance of blue-collar jobs in the wake of a globalized economy. Wilson's achievement is to portray this crisis as one that affects all Americans, and to propose solutions whose benefits would be felt across our society. At a time

when welfare is ending and our country's racial dialectic is more strained than ever, *When Work Disappears* is a sane, courageous, and desperately important work. Wilson is the keenest liberal analyst of the most perplexing of all American problems...[This book is] more ambitious and more accessible than anything he has done before. --The New Yorker

**the new jim crow alexander: The New Black** Kenneth Mack, Guy-Uriel Charles, 2012-07-24 Since the election of President Barack Obama, Americans have struggled to understand a world of race relations that has changed profoundly since the 60s-era struggles for equality. For this incisive, accessible volume, a group of the nation's eminent public intellectuals explore what, in fact, has changed—or not. The contributors, including Lani Guinier, Glenn Loury, Paul Butler, Melissa Harris-Lacewell, Elizabeth Alexander, Orlando Patterson, Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, Lawrence Bobo, and many others, took this as an invitation to think well beyond the debates prompted by the civil rights movement and its aftermath, challenging conventional wisdom on all fronts. In a book with relevance for all Americans, *The New Face of Race* shows how the deep social transformations since the 1960s, in such areas as immigration patterns, the image of black women, and the changing political power of African Americans and other groups, have shifted the ground beneath our feet even as the terms of debate over race and inequality have largely stayed the same. A major new effort to move this debate forward—and to address the real and persistent inequalities more effectively—this book offers a vital set of fresh ideas and intellectual tools for facing the new century.

**the new jim crow alexander: Racism without Racists** Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, 2006-08-03 In this book, Bonilla-Silva explores with systematic interview data the nature and components of post-civil rights racial ideology. Specifically, he documents the existence of a new suave and apparently non-racial racial ideology he labels color-blind racism. He suggests this ideology, anchored on the decontextualized, ahistorical, and abstract extension of liberalism to racial matters, has become the organizational matrix whites use to explain and account for racial matters in America.

**the new jim crow alexander: Weapons of Math Destruction** Cathy O'Neil, 2016 A former Wall Street quantitative analyst sounds an alarm on mathematical modeling, a pervasive new force in society that threatens to undermine democracy and widen inequality,--NoveList.

**the new jim crow alexander: Go-Go Live** Natalie Hopkinson, 2012-05-22 Go-go is the conga drum-inflected black popular music that emerged in Washington, D.C., during the 1970s. The guitarist Chuck Brown, the Godfather of Go-Go, created the music by mixing sounds borrowed from church and the blues with the funk and flavor that he picked up playing for a local Latino band. Born in the inner city, amid the charred ruins of the 1968 race riots, go-go generated a distinct culture and an economy of independent, almost exclusively black-owned businesses that sold tickets to shows and recordings of live go-gos. At the peak of its popularity, in the 1980s, go-go could be heard around the capital every night of the week, on college campuses and in crumbling historic theaters, hole-in-the-wall nightclubs, backyards, and city parks. *Go-Go Live* is a social history of black Washington told through its go-go music and culture. Encompassing dance moves, nightclubs, and fashion, as well as the voices of artists, fans, business owners, and politicians, Natalie Hopkinson's Washington-based narrative reflects the broader history of race in urban America in the second half of the twentieth century and the early twenty-first. In the 1990s, the middle class that had left the city for the suburbs in the postwar years began to return. Gentrification drove up property values and pushed go-go into D.C.'s suburbs. The Chocolate City is in decline, but its heart, D.C.'s distinctive go-go musical culture, continues to beat. On any given night, there's live go-go in the D.C. metro area.

**the new jim crow alexander: Pushout** Monique W. Morris, 2016-03-29 Fifteen-year-old Diamond stopped going to school the day she was expelled for lashing out at peers who constantly harassed and teased her for something everyone on the staff had missed: she was being trafficked for sex. After months on the run, she was arrested and sent to a detention center for violating a court order to attend school. Just 16 percent of female students, Black girls make up more than

one-third of all girls with a school-related arrest. The first trade book to tell these untold stories, *Pushout* exposes a world of confined potential and supports the growing movement to address the policies, practices, and cultural illiteracy that push countless students out of school and into unhealthy, unstable, and often unsafe futures. For four years Monique W. Morris, author of *Black Stats*, chronicled the experiences of black girls across the country whose intricate lives are misunderstood, highly judged—by teachers, administrators, and the justice system—and degraded by the very institutions charged with helping them flourish. Morris shows how, despite obstacles, stigmas, stereotypes, and despair, black girls still find ways to breathe remarkable dignity into their lives in classrooms, juvenile facilities, and beyond.

**the new jim crow alexander:** *American Gods* Neil Gaiman, 2002-04-30 Shadow is a man with a past. But now he wants nothing more than to live a quiet life with his wife and stay out of trouble. Until he learns that she's been killed in a terrible accident. Flying home for the funeral, as a violent storm rocks the plane, a strange man in the seat next to him introduces himself. The man calls himself Mr. Wednesday, and he knows more about Shadow than is possible. He warns Shadow that a far bigger storm is coming. And from that moment on, nothing will ever be the same...

**the new jim crow alexander: Policing Under Fire** Ronald John Weitzer, 1995-01-01 This is a study of the conditions present in an ethnically divided society that affect police-community relations.

**the new jim crow alexander:** *The 1619 Project* Nikole Hannah-Jones, The New York Times Magazine, 2024-06-04 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • NAACP IMAGE AWARD WINNER • A dramatic expansion of a groundbreaking work of journalism, *The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story* offers a profoundly revealing vision of the American past and present. “[A] groundbreaking compendium . . . bracing and urgent . . . This collection is an extraordinary update to an ongoing project of vital truth-telling.”—Esquire NOW AN EMMY-NOMINATED HULU ORIGINAL DOCUSERIES • FINALIST FOR THE KIRKUS PRIZE • ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: The Washington Post, NPR, Esquire, Marie Claire, Electric Lit, Ms. magazine, Kirkus Reviews, Booklist In late August 1619, a ship arrived in the British colony of Virginia bearing a cargo of twenty to thirty enslaved people from Africa. Their arrival led to the barbaric and unprecedented system of American chattel slavery that would last for the next 250 years. This is sometimes referred to as the country’s original sin, but it is more than that: It is the source of so much that still defines the United States. The New York Times Magazine’s award-winning 1619 Project issue reframed our understanding of American history by placing slavery and its continuing legacy at the center of our national narrative. This book substantially expands on that work, weaving together eighteen essays that explore the legacy of slavery in present-day America with thirty-six poems and works of fiction that illuminate key moments of oppression, struggle, and resistance. The essays show how the inheritance of 1619 reaches into every part of contemporary American society, from politics, music, diet, traffic, and citizenship to capitalism, religion, and our democracy itself. This book that speaks directly to our current moment, contextualizing the systems of race and caste within which we operate today. It reveals long-glossed-over truths around our nation’s founding and construction—and the way that the legacy of slavery did not end with emancipation, but continues to shape contemporary American life. Featuring contributions from: Leslie Alexander • Michelle Alexander • Carol Anderson • Joshua Bennett • Reginald Dwayne Betts • Jamelle Bouie • Anthea Butler • Matthew Desmond • Rita Dove • Camille T. Dungy • Cornelius Eady • Eve L. Ewing • Nikky Finney • Vievee Francis • Yaa Gyasi • Forrest Hamer • Terrance Hayes • Kimberly Annece Henderson • Jeneen Interlandi • Honorée Fanonne Jeffers • Barry Jenkins • Tyehimba Jess • Martha S. Jones • Robert Jones, Jr. • A. Van Jordan • Ibram X. Kendi • Eddie Kendricks • Yusef Komunyakaa • Kevin M. Kruse • Kiese Laymon • Trymaine Lee • Jasmine Mans • Terry McMillan • Tiya Miles • Wesley Morris • Khalil Gibran Muhammad • Lynn Nottage • ZZ Packer • Gregory Pardlo • Darryl Pinckney • Claudia Rankine • Jason Reynolds • Dorothy Roberts • Sonia Sanchez • Tim Seibles • Evie Shockley • Clint Smith • Danez Smith • Patricia Smith • Tracy K. Smith • Bryan Stevenson • Nafissa Thompson-Spires • Natasha Trethewey • Linda Villarosa • Jesmyn Ward

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