

Title	Author	Kiplinger Call Number*	Ethnic Background	Description
A Gathering of Old Men	Ernest Gaines	FIC GAINES	African-American	Set on a sugarcane plantation in the 1970's, this novel explores the racial tensions arising over the death of a Cajun farmer at the hands of a black man.
A Good Scent From a Strange Mountain	Robert Olen Butler	FIC BUTLER	Vietnamese-American	15 stories mixing folklore, American pop culture, and family life about the Vietnam War from the perspective of the Vietnamese.
A Hero Ain't Nothing But a Sandwich	Alice Childress		African-American	Originally published in 1973, this novel centers around 13-year old Benjie, and how his addiction to heroin affects those around him.
A Lesson Before Dying	Ernest Gaines	FIC GAINES	African-American	A young black man, who participated in a robbery, is sentenced to die for the murder of a white shopkeeper in 1940's Louisiana, even though he was unarmed, and hadn't pulled the trigger.
America is in the Heart	Carlos Bulosan	921 BULOSAN	Filipino	A Filipino poet describes his experience growing up in the Philippines and his subsequent emigration to America, where he worked as a day laborer.
Amongst Women	John McGahern		Irish	McGahern's novel tells the story of Moran, an aging veteran of the Irish War of Independence, who vents his anger over the past on his three teenage daughters and second wife.
And the Earth Did Not Part	Tomas Rivera		Hispanic	This novel, translated from Spanish, tells the stories of poor migrant farm workers, and their struggle to survive.
Beloved	Toni Morrison	FIC MORRISON	African-American	A black woman and her family living in 1870's Ohio are haunted by the ghost of their dead baby girl and by their memories of slavery.
Betsey Brown	Ntozake Shange	FIC SHANGE	African-American	Novel told through the eyes of a 13-year old living in segregated St. Louis in 1957, whose parents separate over the issue of integration.
Black Like Me	John Howard Griffin	305.896 GRIFFIN	African-American	Reporter Griffin goes undercover as a black man in the 1950's by darkening his skin. He travels to the deep south and experiences segregation
Boat People: A Novel	Mary Gardner	FIC GARDNER	Vietnamese-American	Vietnamese immigrants struggle with the burden of faraway loved ones, unfamiliar customs, and the scars of their flight from home in this novel set in Galveston, Texas.

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Bone: A Novel	Fae Myenne Ng	FIC NG	Asian-American	This novel explores the hopes and griefs of two generations of a family living in San Francisco's Chinatown.
Breath, Eyes, Memory	Edwidge Danticat	FIC DANTICAT	Haitian	Set in Haiti, this novel focuses on Sophie, a girl who is a product of rape, and is raised by her aunt, and later goes to the United States to live with her mother.
Call It Sleep	Henry Roth		Jewish	A young Eastern European Jewish boy struggles to live up to his father's expectations amid the intensity of life of New York's slums during the early 20th century.
Cane	Jean Toomer	FIC TOOMER	African-American	Poetry, prose, sketches and imagery come together to create this portrait of African-American life during the first decades of the 20th century.
Captains and the Kings	Taylor Caldwell	FIC CALDWELL	Irish-American	Joseph Aramagh, an Irish immigrant arrives in the U. S., poor and fleeing from the potato famine in the 1800's. Gradually he becomes wealthy and powerful, and vows to make his son President of the United States at any cost.
Ceremony	Leslie Marmon Silko	FIC SILKO	Native American	Tayo, a Native American who is scarred by his experience as a prisoner of war in World War II, finds healing through the rituals and ceremonies of his tribe.
China Boy	Gus Lee	FIC LEE	Chinese-American	A 7-year old boy growing up in San Francisco's Chinatown in the 1950's faces neighborhood bullies and a cruel stepmother.
China Men	Maxine H. Kingston	305.8951 KIN	Chinese-American	The author uses storytelling to chronicle the lives of three generations of Chinese men in America.
Crossing the River	Cayl Phillips	FIC PHILLIPS	African-American	Novel about the African Diaspora, spanning four eras in African-American history, centering around three children who are sold into slavery.
De Donde?	Mary Gallagher	808.82 GAL	Latin American	This play with more than forty characters is about lives of illegal immigrants who flee north to the United States from the politically and economically oppressed countries of Latin America.
Down These Mean Streets	Piri Thomas	305.896 THO	Puerto-Rican	A Puerto Rican boy growing up in Spanish Harlem during 1940's encounters conflict and crime.

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Dreaming in Cuban	Cristina Garcia	FIC GARCIA	Cuban-American	Three generations of the Del Pino family experience life in Cuba and in exile in the United States following Castro's revolution.
Empress of the Splendid Season	Oscar Hijuelos	FIC HIJUELOS	Cuban-American	Lydia, a wealthy Cuban, is exiled from her family and moves to New York, where she becomes a cleaning woman, and experiences a vastly different life from the way she was raised
Evergreen	Belva Plain	FIC BELVA	Immigrants/1800's	Story of four generations of a family of immigrants.
Fallen Angels	Walter Myers	FIC MYERS	African-American	When his dreams of attending college fall through, Perry, a Harlem teenager, volunteers for the service and is sent to Vietnam. Soon, he begins questioning the war, and why the U.S. is in Vietnam.
Farwell to Manzanar	Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston	921 HOUSTON	Japanese-American	Classic memoir of a young Japanese-American internee at Manzanar, a Japanese internment camp, during World War II.
Father and the Glorious Descendent	Pardee Lowe		Chinese-American	Novel about the experiences and struggles of a Chinese-American boy.
Fools Crow	James Welch	FIC WELCH	Native American	A band of Blackfeet Indians watch their way of life crumble as whites take over their land following the Civil War.
Giants in the Earth	O. E. Rolvaag	FIC ROLVAAG	Norwegian-American	A community of Norwegian farmers struggle to make a living off the land in Dakota Territory in the late 1800's.
Growing Up Asian-American	Maria Hong, ed.	810.8 GRO	Asian-American	32 Asian-American writers tell stories of childhood, adolescence, and coming of age in America, from the 1800's to the 1900's.
How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents	Julia Alvarez	FIC ALVAREZ	Hispanic	Four sisters must adjust to life in America after having to flee from the Dominican Republic
In Search of Bernabe	Graciela Limon	FIC LIMON	Salvadoran	Novel set in El Salvador during the civil strife of the 1980's. A woman gives birth to two sons-one becomes a colonel in the army and heads the death squads, and the other joins the guerillas.
Invisible Man	Ralph Ellison	FIC ELLISON	African-American	Novel about the disillusionment of a black man in 1950's America, as he travels from the Deep South to Harlem
Jazz	Toni Morrison	FIC MORRISON	African-American	A couple's marriage dissolves in violence in this novel set in Harlem amid the Jazz scene of the 1920's

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Jubilee	Margaret Walker	FIC WALKER	African-American	Walker writes about her grandmother, Vyry, daughter of a house slave and a plantation master, and her life before and after the Civil War.
Kaffir Boy in America	Mark Mathabane	921 MATHABANE	South African	After experiencing a childhood under apartheid in South Africa, Mathabane comes to the United States as a college student and speaks out against apartheid.
Liliane	Ntozake Shange	FIC SHANGE	African-American	Novel about Liliane, a black female artist, and her childhood friends and lovers.
Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven	Sherman Alexie	FIC ALEXIE	Native American	A collection of 22 short stories about Spokane Indian life.
Love Medicine	Louise Erdrich	FIC ERDICH	Latin American	A collection of interrelated stories focusing on a Chippewa family from the 1930's to the 1980's.
Manchild in the Promised Land	Claude Brown	921 BROWN	African-American	Brown grows up in Harlem during the 1940's and '50's amid a backdrop of other children, parents, drugs, and violence.
Messengers in the Wind: Native American Women Tell Their Life Stories	Jane Katz	920 MES	Native American	Twenty-five Native American women: artists, craftswomen, healers, teachers, and leaders, tell their life stories
Monkey Bridge	Lan Cao	FIC CAO	Vietnamese-American	A mother and daughter flee Saigon for America in 1975. The "bridge" in the title refers to the author's narrative, which connects the characters' pasts in Vietnam with their new life in America.
Native Son	Richard Wright	FIC WRIGHT	African-American	Wright's novel about a black man in 1930's Chicago who accidentally murders a white woman.
Nisei Daughter	Monica Itoi Sone	921 SONE	Japanese-American	Monica Sone, a Japanese-American woman, tells what it was like to grow up on Seattle's waterfront in the 1930's and be subjected to "relocation" during WWII
Obasan	Joy Kogawa	FIC KOGAWA	Japanese	During the 1940's, young Naomi lives in Canada with her mother, who returns to Japan to visit some relatives. But when Pearl Harbor is bombed, Naomi's mother is refused entrance back into Canada, and the family is "relocated" by the Canadian government.
Our House in the Last World	Oscar Hijuelos	FIC HIJUELOS	Cuban-American	Born in New York City to Cuban immigrants, Hector learns about his parents' native country and heritage through their stories.

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Our Parents' Lives: The Americanization of Eastern European Jews	Neil M.Cohen and Ruth Schwartz Cohen	305.8924 COW	Jewish	Stories of Eastern Europeans who immigrated to the United States between 1895 and 1915, and how they adjusted to life in the United States.
Parrot in the Oven: Mi Vida	Victor Martinez	FIC MARTINEZ	Hispanic	Manuel Hernandez comes of age in a small town in California, dealing with his dysfunctional family.
Pushing the Bear: A Novel of the Trail of Tears	Diane Glancy	FIC GLANCY	Native American	Preachers, white soldiers and Cherokees are some of the voices in this novel about the forced march of the Cherokee Indians from North Carolina to Oklahoma during the winter of 1838-1839.
Ragtime	E.L. Doctorow	FIC DOCTOROW	African-American/Jewish	This portrait of America at the dawn of the 20th century focuses on the experiences of African-Americans, immigrants, anarchists, and their relationship with a well-to-do white family.
Red Ribbon on a White Horse	Anzia Yezierska	921 YEZIERSKA	Polish	Writer Anzia Yezierska's life story, from the Polish ghetto, to the sweatshops of New York, to success as a writer in Hollywood during the 1920's.
Reinventing the Enemy's Language: Contemporary Native American Women's writings of North America	Joy Harjo and Gloria Bird	811 HAR	Native American	An anthology of fiction, poetry, and memoir from over 80 Native American writers, representing 50 nations.
Reservation Blues	Sherman Alexie	FIC ALEXIE	Native American	Novel of a Native American garage band in Spokane, and their life on and off the Indian reservation.
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry	Mildred Taylor	FIC TAYLOR	African-American	Nine-year old Cassie Logan grows up in Mississippi during the Depression, sheltered by her loving family, and fighting to stay strong in the face of illness, poverty, and racist attacks.
Roots	Alex Haley		African-American	Haley traces back seven generations of his family starting with Kunta Kinte, a young man who is captured by slave traders in 1750
Snow Falling on Cedars	David Guterson	FIC Guterson	Japanese-American	Racial tensions and memories of the Japanese internment are stirred up in a small island town when a Japanese-American man stands accused of murder.
The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man	James Johnson	FIC JOHNSON	African-American	First published in 1912. A mulatto man ends up a failure in his own eyes when he chooses to pass for white after witnessing a black man being set on fire by a white mob.

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The Autobiography of Malcolm X	Malcolm X w/Alex Haley	921 X	African-American	Malcolm X's story of his transformation from self-destructive petty criminal to empowered intellectual political activist
The Bean Trees	Barbara Kingsolver	FIC KINGSOLVER	Native American	Taylor, a young woman, leaves Kentucky to find her fortune and ends up in Arizona with an abandoned Cherokee baby in tow.
The Bingo Palace	Lousie Erdich	FIC ERDICH	Native-American	A Chippewa man at a crossroads in his life returns to his reservation and comes to terms with his heritage, future, and first true love.
The Blacker the Berry	Wallace Thurman		African-American	A dark-skinned African-American woman born to a family of mulattos moves to Harlem during the 1920's to escape her family's prejudice.
The Bluest Eye	Toni Morrison	FIC MORRISON	African-American	Novel set in 1941 Ohio about a black 11 year-old girl raised in an ugly, abusive family, and wishes to be the opposite--a white girl with the blodest hair and the bluest eye.
The Bread Givers	Anzia Yeziarska	FIC YEZIERSKA	Jewish	Without a brother in the family, Sarah and her three sisters make numerous sacrifices and struggle to support their scholarly, demanding father in this novel about a Jewish family at the turn of the 20th century.
The Chosen	Chiam Potok	FIC POTOK	Jewish	Two Jewish boys--one Hasidic, another Orthodox become unlikely friends in 1940's Brooklyn.
The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to his White Mother	James McBride		African-American	McBride's story of his mother, a former Orthodox Jew, who left her family to move to New York City where she married two black men, and bore 12 children
The Color Purple	Alice Walker	FIC WALKER	African-American	A woman who is abused by both her father and husband blossoms after she befriends her husband's mistress.
The Fortunate Pilgrim	Mario Puzo	FIC PUZO	Italian-American	A young woman leaves Italy for New York to marry a man she knows barely anything about.
The Gangster We Are All Looking For	Thi Diem Thuy Le	FIC THUY	Vietnamese-American	A Vietnamese refugee family arrives in San Diego, confronted with an unfamiliar environment and further hindered by the uneasy relationships between its members.

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The House on Mango Street	Sandra Cisneros	FIC CISNEROS	Latin American	Esperanza, a girl coming of age in the Hispanic quarter of Chicago, uses poems and stories to express thoughts and emotions about her oppressive environment.
The Hundred Secret Senses	Amy Tan	FIC TAN	Chinese-American	Olivia, a Chinese-American woman, meets her Chinese half-sister Kwan, who tries to introduce her to her Chinese heritage through stories and memories.
The Joy Luck Club	Amy Tan	FIC TAN	Chinese-American	Novel about four Chinese mothers and their American daughters
The Kitchen God's Wife	Amy Tan	FIC TAN	Chinese-American	A Chinese immigrant recounts the story of her adolescence and abusive marriage in China, to her American daughter.
The Namesake	Jhumpa Lahiri	FIC LAHIRI	Indian-American	The Ganguli family goes from their tradition-bound life in Calcutta, India to life in Cambridge, Massachusetts.
The No-No Boy	John Okada	FIC OKADA	Japanese-American	Ichiro, a Japanese-American man, struggles to find direction after being held in an internment camp during World War II.
The Pawnbroker	Edward L. Wallant	FIC WALLANT	Jewish	Wallant's 1960's novel about a man who has lost his family in the Holocaust and has now become a pawnbroker, indifferent to the suffering around him
The Soul of an Immigrant	Constantine Maria Pununzio		Italian-American	Novel about the experiences of an Italian-American man.
The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down	Anne Fadiman	306.46 FAD	Hmong (Laosian)	An account of a cultural clash between modern American health workers and a refugee Hmong family from Laos, whose infant daughter develops epilepsy.
The Walk into Morning	Mildred Herschler	FIC HERSCHLER	African-American	This novel about Louisiana circa 1862 focuses on the Civil War from the perspective of several slaves.
The Wedding	Dorothy West	FIC WEST	African-American	This novel set on Nantucket Island in the 1950's focuses on an exclusive enclave of African-Americans called the Oval, and the upcoming marriage of one of their most prominent members.
Their Eyes Were Watching God	Zora Neale Hurston	FIC HURSTON	African-American	Novel set in the black town of Eaton, Florida circa the 1930's, tells the story of Janie Crawford and her three husbands.

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Tis: A Memoir	Frank McCourt	921 MC COURT	Irish-American	McCourt, who wrote about his impoverished childhood in Ireland during the 1930's and 40's in <i>Angela's Ashes</i> , continues his story in this book with his immigration at 19 to New York.
Tracks	Louise Erdich	FIC ERDICH	Native American	This novel set in North Dakota in the early 1900's focuses on a Native American woman rumored to be a witch, and whose life mirrors that of a crumbling Indian culture and community.
Typical American	Gish Jen	FIC JEN	Chinese-American	In 1948, a Chinese immigrant comes to the United States to study engineering, but soon gets caught up in the "American dream" of money and success by starting a fast-food restaurant.
Visions of America	Collection	305.8 VIS	Collection	In this collection of essays, three dozen writers discuss their experiences and observations of America.
When I Was Puerto Rican	Esmeralda Santiago	921 SAN	Puerto Rican	Santiago recounts her childhood growing up poor in rural Puerto Rico, and her teenage years living with her grandmother in New York.
Woman Warrior	Maxine H. Kingston	921 KINGSTON	Chinese-American	Kingston remembers her childhood growing up as a Chinese-American in California with her mother, who tells her stories of China, and of "ghosts"-the white people in America.
Your Blues Ain't Like Mine	Bebe Campbell	FIC CAMPBELL	African-American	A fifteen-year old black teen in 1950's Mississippi is murdered by white men who are acquitted. This novel then follows the families involved, and the other citizens of that small town over the next forty years.