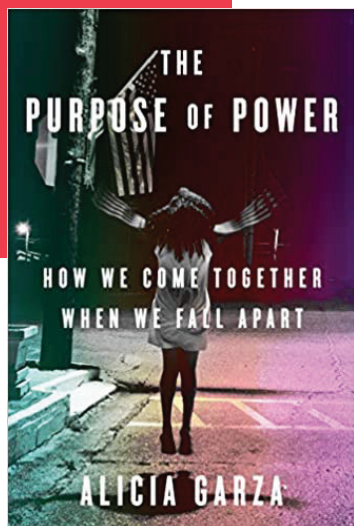


2021 SUMMER READING LIST

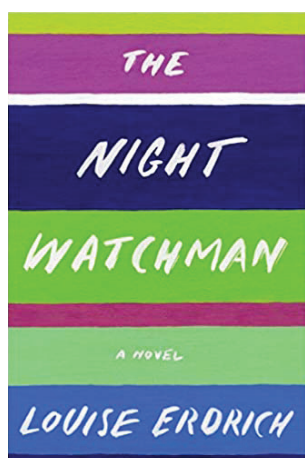
The ACLU of New Mexico is pleased to share our annual list of summer reading recommendations. This year, our staff has curated a list of books across a variety of subjects, written by authors of color. These works represent a small, but powerful faction of story tellers whose creative and intellectual perspectives are shaping the contemporary literary landscape.

Featured Book



The Purpose of Power: How We Come Together When We Fall Apart by Alicia Garza

In this essential guide to building transformative social justice movements, author and co-creator of Black Lives Matter, Alicia Garza, reflects on how making room for those who are still awakening can inspire and activate more people to fight for the world we all deserve.

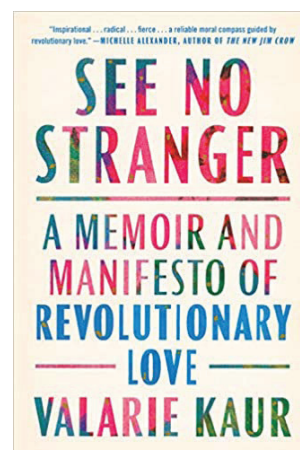


The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich

Based on the life of author Louise Erdrich's grandfather who worked as a night watchman and carried the fight against Native dispossession from rural North Dakota to Washington, D.C., *The Night Watchman* is filled with powerful characters who are forced to grapple with the worst and best impulses of human nature.

See No Stranger: A Memoir and Manifesto of Revolutionary Love by Valarie Kaur

Valarie Kaur, renowned Sikh activist, filmmaker, and civil rights lawyer, describes revolutionary love as the call of our time. In sharing her own journey, Kaur helps us imagine new ways of being with each other—and with ourselves—so that together we can begin to build the world we want to see.



Feminism, Interrupted: Disrupting Power by Lola Olufemi

Lola Olufemi explores state violence against women, the fight for reproductive justice, transmisogyny, gendered Islamophobia and solidarity with global struggles, showing that the fight for gendered liberation can change the world for everybody when we refuse to think of it solely as women's work.

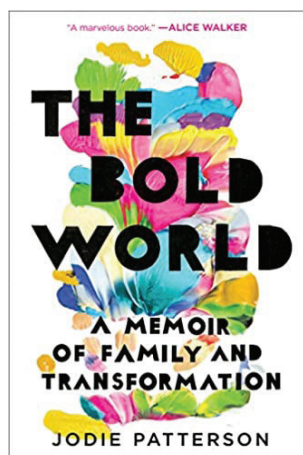
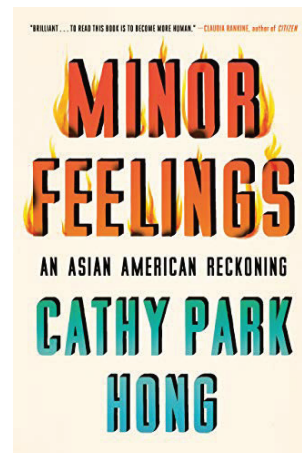
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New Mexico

Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning

by Cathy Park Hong

In *Minor Feelings*, Hong, a Korean American poet and writer, explores the Asian American consciousness both through her essay collection and her recent New York Times article about the racism against Asians the coronavirus pandemic has unmasked. *Minor Feelings* is brutally honest about the self-hatred some Asian Americans experience and brings validation to what we are told are “minor feelings” from this tension between the American dream and the reality Asian Americans face.



The Bold World: A Memoir of Family and Transformation

by Jodie Patterson

A mother of five and beauty entrepreneur, Jodie Patterson has her world turned upside down when her determined toddler, Penelope, reveals, “Mama, I’m not a girl. I am a boy.” In *The Bold World*, Patterson reshapes her own beliefs and biases and learns how to meet the needs of her transgender son. In doing so, she opens the minds of those who raised and fortified her, all the while challenging cultural norms and gender expectations. Patterson finds that the fight for racial equality in which her ancestors were so prominent helped pave the way for the current gender revolution.



So You Want to Talk About Race

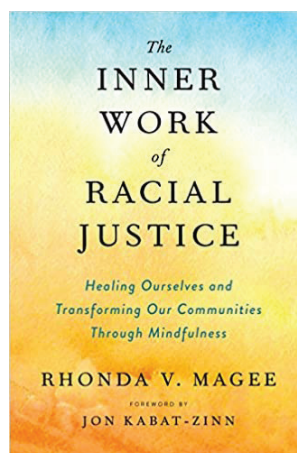
by Ijeoma Oluo

In *So You Want to Talk About Race*, Ijeoma Oluo guides readers of all races through subjects ranging from intersectionality and affirmative action to “model minorities” in an attempt to make the seemingly impossible possible: honest conversations about race and racism, and how they infect almost every aspect of American life.

The Inner Work of Racial Justice: Healing Ourselves and Transforming Our Communities Through Mindfulness

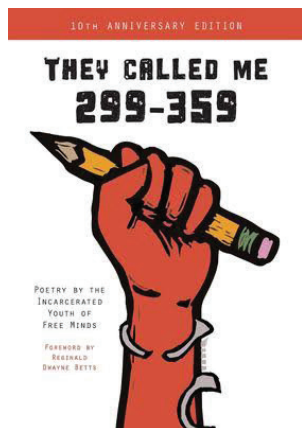
by Rhonda V. Magee

In her book *The Inner Work of Racial Justice*, Rhonda Magee shows that in order to have the difficult conversations required for working toward racial justice, inner work is essential. Through the practice of embodied mindfulness—paying attention to our thoughts, feelings, and physical sensations in an open, nonjudgmental way—we increase our emotional resilience, recognize our own biases, and become less reactive when triggered.



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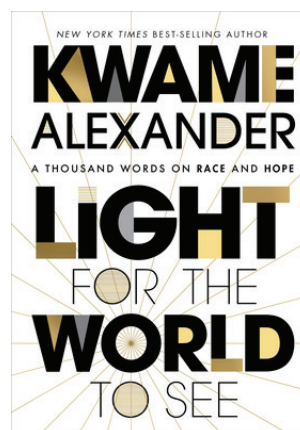
New Mexico



Light For The World to See

by Kwame Alexander

Light For the World to See is a powerful and provocative collection of poems that cut to the heart of the entrenched racism and oppression in America and eloquently explores ongoing events.

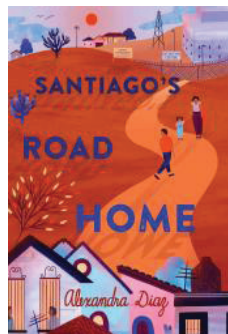


They Called ME 299-359: Poetry by The Incarcerated Youth of Free Minds

10th Anniversary Edition

They Called Me 299-359 is an anthology of poetry and essays written, edited, and compiled by incarcerated youth who are Free Minds Book Club members, held both at the DC Jail and in adult federal facilities across the country. Through moving personal testimony, these young writers explore the challenges and pain of incarceration as well as family, forgiveness, redemption, and dreams.

YOUNG READERS



Santiago's Road Home

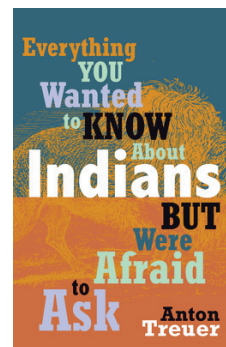
by Alexandria Diaz

The coins in Santiago's hand are meant for the bus fare back to his abuela's house. Except he refuses to return; he won't be missed. His future is uncertain until he meets the kind, maternal María Dolores and her young daughter, Alegría, who help Santiago decide what comes next: He will accompany them to el otro lado, the United States of America. They embark with little, just backpacks with water and a bit of food. To travel together will require trust from all parties, and Santiago is used to going it alone. None of the three travelers realizes that the journey through Mexico to the border is just the beginning of their story.

Everything You Wanted to Know about Indians But Were Afraid to Ask: Young Readers Edition

by Anton Treuer

From the acclaimed Ojibwe author and professor Anton Treuer comes an essential book of questions and answers for Native and non-Native young readers alike. Ranging from Why is there such a fuss about nonnative people wearing Indian costumes for Halloween? to Why is it called a 'traditional Indian fry bread taco'? to What's it like for natives who don't look native? to Why are Indians so often imagined rather than understood?, and beyond.



Our Skin: A First Conversation About Race

by Megan Madison, Jessica Ralli, and Isabel Roxas

Based on the research that race, gender, consent, and body positivity should be discussed with toddlers on up, this read-aloud board book series offers adults the opportunity to begin important conversations with young children in an informed, safe, and supported way.