

# The Jubilee Reader

Recent books by African American writers, writers from the African diaspora,  
and on related topics.

Issue 4 – March/April 2023

## Fiction



### *Africa Risen: A New Era of Speculative Fiction*

An anthology of 32 original stories showcasing the breadth of fantasy and science fiction from Africa and the African diaspora.

### *Anywhere You Run*

by Wanda M. Morris

After the murder of a white man in Jim Crow Mississippi, two Black sisters run away to different parts of the country... but can they escape the secrets they left behind?

### *The Banned Bookshop of Maggie Banks*

by Shauna Robinson

Banned from selling books written in this century, bookstore manager Maggie Banks starts an underground book club that unearths a town secret that could upend everything.

### *Before I Let Go*

by Kennedy Ryan

After a devastating tragedy, Yasmen and Josiah discover love isn't enough to save their marriage – but their intense mutual attraction might be enough to bring them back together.

### *Behind Her Lives*

by Briana Cole

After she is called to identify the body of a suicide victim, a woman investigates her sister's disappearance.

### *Better Than Fiction*

by Alexa Martin

A book-hater who inherits a bookstore connects romantically with a bestselling author who visits the shop for a signing event.

### *Black Cake*

by Charmaine Wilkerson

Two estranged siblings try to reclaim the closeness they once shared while trying to piece together their late mother's life story and fulfilling her last request of sharing a traditional Caribbean black cake.

### *The Color Line*

by Igiaba Scego

The lives of two Black female artists born more than a century apart intertwine in this story inspired by true events.

### *The Confessions of Matthew Strong*

by Ousmane K. Power-Greene

Professor Allegra Douglass, trying to make a case against white supremacist Matthew Strong, whom she believes is responsible for the disappearances of young Black women, is kidnapped by Strong, who seeks to ignite a race war.

### *Counterfeit Courtship*

by Synithia Williams

When a kiss at a reality TV wedding is caught on camera, a paranormal promoter and a makeup artist begin a fake romance to save his reputation and her career.



### *Dr. No*

by Percival Everett

A professor who claims to be an expert at nothing partners with a brainwashed astrophysicist and an aspiring villain who wants to break into Fort Knox.

### *Even Though I Knew the End*

by C. L. Polk

Offered one last job before serving an eternity in hell, a magical detective in Chicago is given three days to track down the White City Vampire and win the chance to live out the rest of her life with the woman she loves.

### *Hold You Down*

by Tracy Brown

Two smart, young single mothers struggle to navigate life in 1980s Staten Island, their lives – and the lives of their sons – changed forever when one sister becomes involved in the drug trade.

### *Insatiable Love 2: When Broken Hearts Collide*

by Latoya Chandler

A married couple try to salvage their broken marriage, a process complicated by a history of infidelity, lies, and secrets.

### *The Keeper*

by Tananarive Due

In this graphic novel, a young girl and her friends must combat a dark spirit summoned by her dying grandmother.

### *Laws of Depravity*

by Eriq La Salle

Two NYPD detectives and an FBI agent race against the clock to stop a series of horrific murders masterminded by a serial killer who has plagued New York City for 30 years.

### ***Light Skin Gone to Waste***

by Toni Ann Johnson

In this collection of linked short stories about a Black family in a white, blue-collar New York town, a young girl must decide who she is.

### ***The Nanny Game***

by Zuri Day

When a casual weekend romp leaves a baby on his doorstep, a CEO enlists the services of a professional nanny who solves his child care problems and may just provide the cure for his playboy blues.

### ***Pride and Protest***

by Nikki Payne

A woman fighting a soulless property developer finds her life turned upside down when her protest results in a viral meme that changes everything – including her feelings for the developer.

### ***R.I.C.O.***

by C. J. Hudson

A 20-year-old is shocked to learn that her kingpin father has been grooming her to take over his drug empire, but quickly develops a thirst for the good life that power makes possible.

### ***The Sleeping Car Porter***

by Suzette Mayr

It's 1929, and Baxter is lucky enough, as a Black man, to have a job as a sleeping car porter on a cross-country train. However, a rigged system and his own secrets threaten his dream of going to dentistry school.

### ***Someday, Maybe***

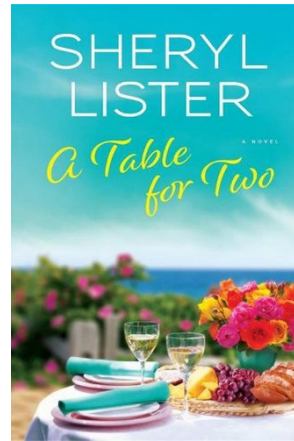
by Onyi Nwabineli

After her husband commits suicide, a woman finds the strength to move on with the help of her tight-knit Nigerian family and happy memories of the man she'll never forget.

### ***A Sweet Lowcountry Proposal***

by Preslaysa Williams

A woman and her ex-fiance, an archivist at Charleston's black history museum, reunite to help save the museum, which is facing closure.



### ***A Table for Two***

by Sheryl Lister

Sparks fly when an overworked software developer taking time off from work to take care of his ailing grandmother and a nurse recovering from a bad breakup meet.

### ***To Fill a Yellow House***

by Sussie Anie

An aging second-hand shop owner and an artistic young boy develop an unexpected friendship.

### ***Vacation Crush***

by Yahrah St. John

A lifelong crush leads to a weeklong affair at a resort. The problem is, can Natalie make Jonathan see her as more than a vacation fling?

### *A Valentine for Christmas*

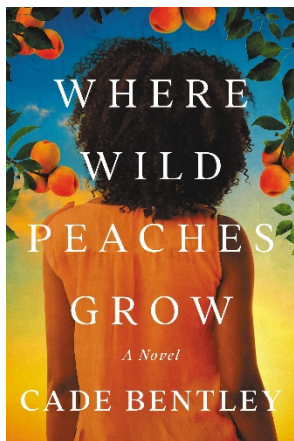
by Reese Ryan

A career-focused woman agrees to pose as the girlfriend of the sexy, young doctor who has rescued her twice and hopes to turn their fake romance into a scorching affair.

### *What We Found in Hallelujah*

by Vanessa Miller

Two sisters must find the strength to work through financial and relationship troubles when they reunite with their mother in South Carolina during hurricane season.



### *Where Wild Peaches Grow*

by Cade Bentley

Abandoned and betrayed, a woman leaves her Mississippi home. She returns 15 years later, when her father's death forces her to face all that she's tried to forget.

### *Work-Love Balance*

by Nicki Night

A high-profile social media influencer mixes business with pleasure when a gorgeous producer offers her the work opportunity of a lifetime.

### *The World We Make*

by N. K. Jemisin

In this sequel to *The City We Became*, the human avatars who embody the heart and

magic of New York City battle an enemy that would like to see their city destroyed.

## Non-Fiction

### Arts and Literature

#### *Chuck Berry: An American Life*

by R. J. Smith

A comprehensive new portrait of one of the great American entertainers, guitarists, and lyricists of the twentieth century.

#### *Come Back in September: A Literary Education on West Sixty-Seventh Street, Manhattan*

by Darryl Pinckney

Novelist, playwright, and essayist Pinckney recalls his friendship and apprenticeship with Elizabeth Hardwick and Barbara Epstein, and the introduction they offered him to the New York literary world of the 1970s.

#### *Dickens and Prince: A Particular Kind of Genius*

by Nick Hornby

An exploration of the links between Prince and Charles Dickens, each of whom electrified their different disciplines and whose legacy resounded far beyond their own times.

#### *Jimi*

by Janie Hendrix

A visual celebration of the life and career of Jimi Hendrix, featuring photographs, memorabilia, and handwritten lyrics.

***Soul Culture: Black Poets, Books, and Questions That Grew Me Up***

by Remica Bingham-Risher

Poet and essayist Bingham-Risher interweaves personal essays and interviews with 10 distinguished Black poets to explore the impact of identity, joy, love, and history on the artistic process.

***The Wind at My Back: Resilience, Grace, and Other Gifts from My Mentor, Raven Wilkinson***

by Misty Copeland

Copeland, the first Black principal ballerina at the American Ballet Theatre, tells the story of her friendship with her trailblazing mentor, Raven Wilkinson, who fought to be taken seriously as a Black ballerina in the 1950s and 60s.

## Biography & Memoir

***A Coastline is an Immeasurable Thing: A Memoir Across Three Continents***

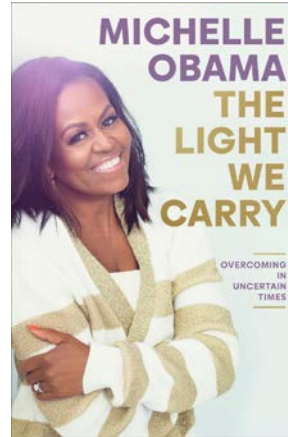
by Mary-Alice Daniel

A poetic coming-of-age memoir that probes the legacies and myths of family, race, and religion – from Nigeria to England to America.

***The Grimkes: The Legacy of Slavery in an American Family***

by Kerri Greenidge

In this biography of the Grimke family, historian Greenidge looks at the complicated relationship between two white abolitionist sisters and their Black relatives.



***The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times***

by Michelle Obama

Drawing from her experiences as a mother, daughter, spouse, and friend, the former First Lady shares the habits and principles she

developed to successfully adapt to change and overcome various obstacles.

***Marked for Life: One Man's Fight for Justice from the Inside***

by Isaac Wright, Jr.

The memoir of a man wrongfully imprisoned for life who educated himself in law and helped overturn the wrongful convictions of fellow inmates before representing himself and proving his own innocence.

***The White Mosque: A Memoir***

by Sofia Samatar

In this memoir, Samatar, the daughter of a Swiss-Mennonite and a Somali-Muslim, retraces the 19th-century journey from Russia into Central Asia by a group of German-speaking Mennonites led by a charismatic leader who predicted the return of Christ.

***Uphill: A Memoir***

by Jemele Hill

*SportsCenter* co-anchor Hill, who was born to a teen mother and heroin-addicted father, shares the story of her work, the women of her family, and her complicated relationship with God.

***Vigilance: The Life of William Still, Father of the Underground Railroad***

by Andrew K. Diemer

Known during his lifetime as the "Father of the Underground Railroad," this biography traces the life of antislavery activist and desegregation advocate Still.

## Careers

***The Other: How to Own Your Power at Work as a Woman of Color***

by Daniela Pierre-Bravo

Author and MSNBC producer Pierre-Bravo explores how to embrace one's differences with confidence and use them to advance in the workplace without losing one's sense of identity.

***Playing a New Game: A Black Woman's Guide to Being Well and Thriving in the Workplace***

by Tammy L. Wilborn

A mental health expert offers advice on how women of color can be high-performing and successful professionally, without sacrificing their physical, mental, and emotional wellness.

## Cooking

***Cook As You Are: Recipes for Real Life, Hungry Cooks, and Messy Kitchens***

by Ruby Tandoh

*Great British Bake Off* finalist Tandoh shares more than 100 accessible, affordable, and achievable recipes for homey, globally inspired dishes.

***Eat Plants, B\*tch: 91 Vegan Recipes That Will Blow Your Meat-Loving Mind***

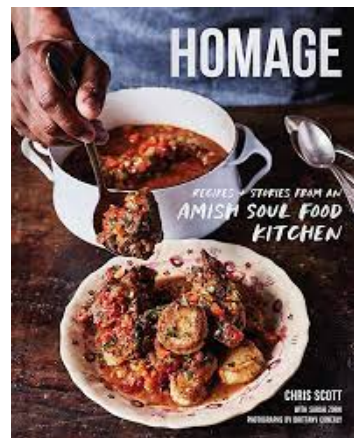
by Pinky Cole

Cole, founder of the Atlanta-based Slutty Vegan restaurant chain, provides 91 vegan comfort food recipes.

***Ghetto Gastro Black Power Kitchen***

by Jon Gray

In this celebration of Black food and Black culture, interviews and photographs accompany 75 mostly plant-based recipes drawing on the Bronx-based authors' cultural heritage and travels.



***Homage: Recipes and Stories from an Amish Soul Food Kitchen***

by Chris Scott

In this tribute to Amish soul food, Chef Chris Scott

shares 100 dishes born of a unique blend of Southern, German, and Dutch cuisines.

***Justice of the Pies: Sweet and Savory Pies, Quiches, and Tarts + Inspirational Stories from Exceptional People***

by Maya-Camille Broussard

*Bake Squad* star Broussard shares 85 recipes for the sweet and savory pies and other mouthwatering creations that put her social mission-based bakery on the map.

***Northern Soul: Southern-Inspired Home Cooking from a Northern Kitchen***

by Justin Sutherland

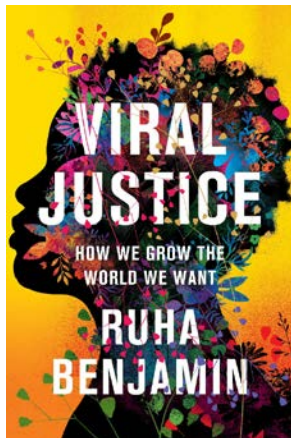
*Top Chef* contestant and restaurateur Sutherland shares more than 90 recipes that meld Northern Midwest flair with traditional Southern cooking.

***Tanya Holland's California Soul: Recipes from a Culinary Journey West***

by Tanya Holland

The host of *Tanya's Kitchen Table* showcases more than 80 modern soul food recipes for every season.

## Current Affairs



***Viral Justice: How We Grow the World We Want***

by Ruha Benjamin

In this manifesto/memoir, Benjamin, a professor of African American Studies at Princeton University, explores how we can

transform society through the choices we make every day.

***We'll Fight It Out Here: A History of the Ongoing Struggle for Health Equity***

by David Chanoff

The story of the coalition formed by a group of health professions schools at Historically Black Colleges and Universities in order to fight for health equity for Black Americans.

***Young, Gifted and Diverse: Origins of the New Black Elite***

by Camille Zubrinsky Charles

An in-depth look at the rising American generation entering the Black professional class.

## Essays

***The Arc of Truth: The Thinking of Martin Luther King Jr.***

by Lewis V. Baldwin

Drawing on Martin Luther King Jr.'s published and unpublished sermons, speeches, and writings, Baldwin explores King's lifelong pilgrimage in pursuit of truth.

***The Essential Dick Gregory***

by Dick Gregory

An anthology of selected writings, including previously unavailable transcriptions and excerpts taken from Gregory's books, albums, audio compilations, and more than 1,200 hours of archival video.

***I Wish My Dad: The Power of Vulnerable Conversations Between Fathers and Sons***

by Romal Tune

Social entrepreneur Tune explores the relationships between fathers and sons, using a series of interviews with friends and colleagues about what each man wished for from his relationship with his father.

### *Inciting Joy: Essays*

by Ross Gay

A collection of essays on joy, in which the author turns his mind to everything from skateboarding and cover songs, basketball and race, death, laughter, and the natural world.

### *The World Record Book of Racist Stories*

by Amber Ruffin

In this follow-up to *You'll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey*, comedian and television host Ruffin recounts outrageous tales of everyday racism experienced by her parents, siblings, and extended family.

## Health

### *The Anti-Viral Gut: Tackling Pathogens from the Inside Out*

by Robynne Chutkan

From the author of *Gutbliss*, a plan for strengthening the gut immune system.

## History

### *Enslaved: The Sunken History of the Transatlantic Slave Trade*

by Simcha Jacobovici

An intrepid team of divers seeks to reclaim the stories of their ancestors in this historical exploration of the transatlantic slave trade.

### *The Tuskegee Student Uprising: A History*

by Brian Jones

A history of student activism at the Tuskegee Institute, with a focus on the moment when students took the Board of Trustees hostage,

demanding that Tuskegee be transformed into a "Black University."

## Religion

### *Faith Still Moves Mountains: Miraculous Stories of the Healing Power of Prayer*

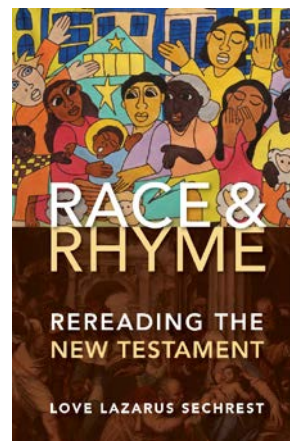
by Harris Faulkner

FOX News anchor Faulkner speaks with believers who testify to how God inspired hope even when all seemed lost in this collection of true-life stories of resilience, healing, rescue, and protection.

### *Killing Comparison: Reject the Lie You Aren't Good Enough and Live Confident in Who God Made You to Be*

by Nona Jones

Pastor Nona Jones provides a biblically rooted perspective on the all-too-human tendency to compare oneself with others, and explores how to break free of this trap.



### *Race & Rhyme: Rereading the New Testament*

by Love L. Sechrest

Sechrest, dean of faculty at Columbia Theological Seminary, reassesses passages in the New Testament that deal with ethnoracial

tension and power dynamics between dominant and minoritized groups.



## Self-Help

### *How Am I Doing?: 40 Conversations to Have With Yourself*

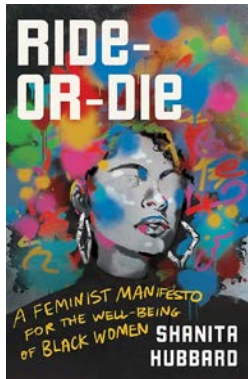
by Corey Yeager

Yeager, the psychotherapist for the Detroit Pistons, invites you into a series of conversations with yourself to help you discover your purpose, honor your story, and explore who you want to be.

### *Out of the Fire: Healing Black Trauma Caused by Systemic Racism Using Acceptance and Commitment Therapy*

by Jennifer Shepard Payne

Clinician and professor Payne presents culturally tailored acceptance and commitment therapy skills to help you heal from trauma, so you can live a life in tune with your values.



### *Ride-or-Die: A Feminist Manifesto for the Well-Being of Black Women*

by Shanita Hubbard

Hubbard examines how a "ride-or-die" mentality of self-sacrifice at the expense of one's own

well-being has left Black women exhausted, overworked, overlooked, and feeling depleted.

### *Two Old Broads: Stuff You Need to Know That You Didn't Know You Needed to Know*

by Whoopi Goldberg & M.E. Hecht

Goldberg and surgeon M.E. Hecht – the titular "old broads" – take a look at how to grow older with grace and positivity.

### *You Gotta Be You: How to Embrace This Messy Life and Step Into Who You Really Are*

by Brandon Kyle Goodman

Actor and activist Goodman reexamines messy but defining moments from his life in this guide to turning rejection (from others and yourself) into a roadmap to self-love.

## Sports

### *The Idealist: Jack Trice and the Battle for a Forgotten Football Legacy*

by Jonathan Gelber

The story of Iowa State's first Black football player, who died from injuries sustained during a 1923 game against the University of Minnesota.

### *The Last Folk Hero: The Life and Myth of Bo Jackson*

by Jeff Pearlman

A biography of the athletic powerhouse who became the first person to simultaneously star in two major professional sports and then vanished, seemingly overnight.

### *Running While Black: Finding Freedom in a Sport That Wasn't Built for Us*

by Alison Mariella Désir

Endurance athlete and mental health advocate Désir explores why the seemingly simple act of long-distance running for exercise has never been truly open to Black people.