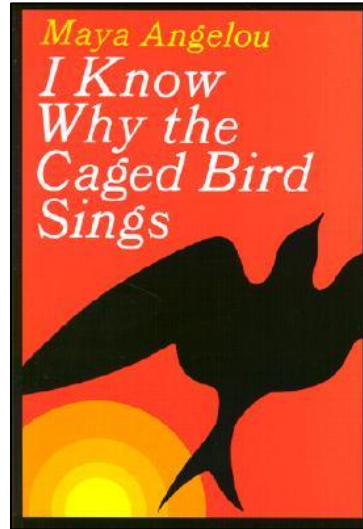
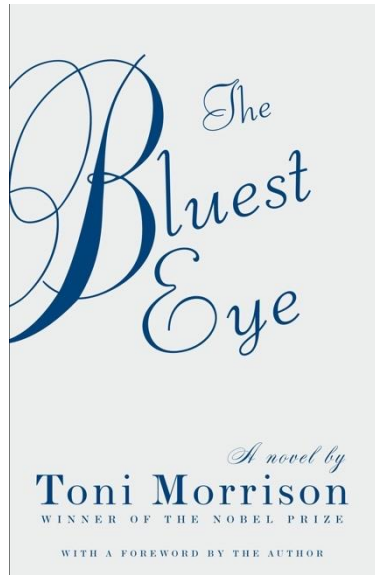
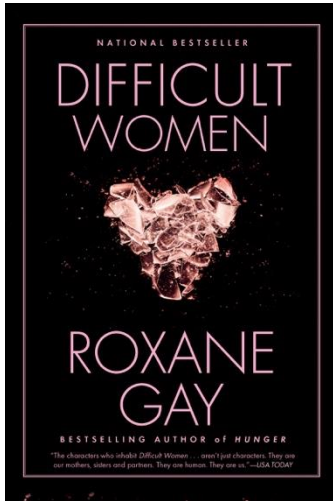
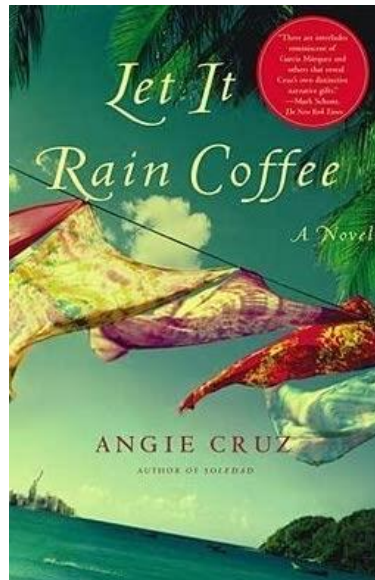
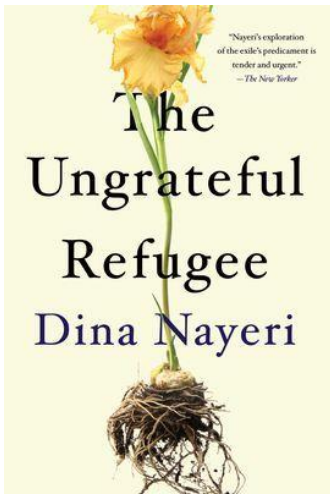
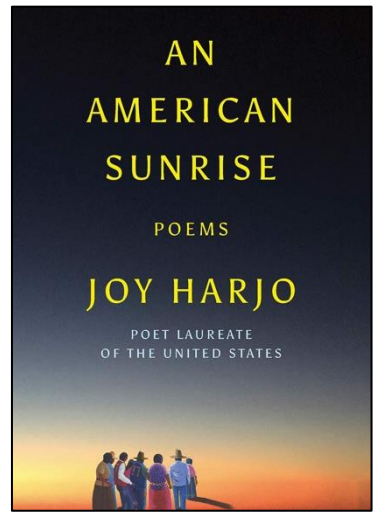


READ



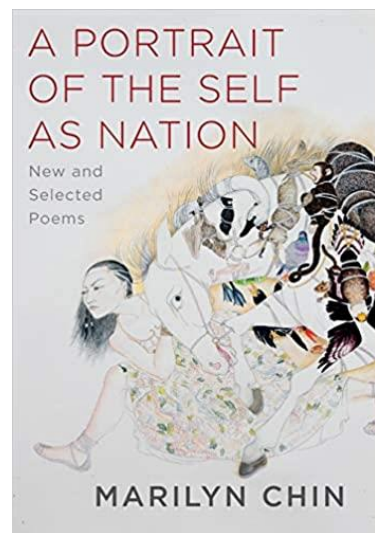
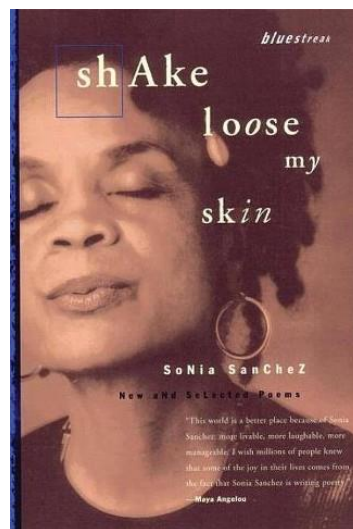
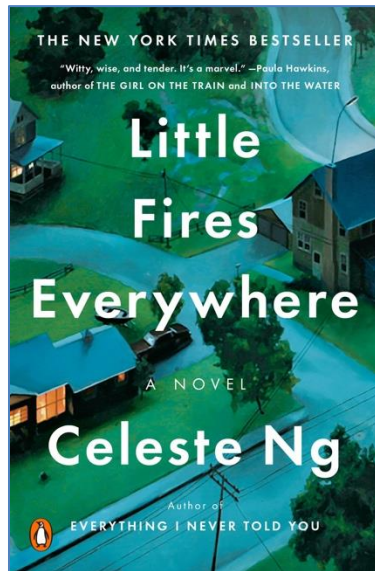
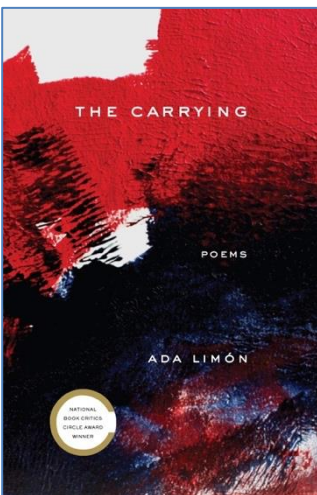
TRAILBLAZERS



PBS TRAILBLAZING AMERICAN

WOMEN WRITERS LIST #1

2021



EXPLORE





## SUGGESTED READING LIST

Trailblazing Women: 2020 marked an important year for U.S. Democracy. America Celebrated the 100-year anniversary of the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, officially granting women the right to vote. PBS has launched multiplatform programming focused on “Trailblazers” in order to commemorate the fight for women’s suffrage in the US and the stories of modern women, who continue to shatter the glass ceiling and transform modern history. The authors featured on this book list have made a difference in the literary world and will continue to do so with their work and activism.

### Trailblazing Women Writers Booklist

#### **Difficult Women**

<< **Roxane Gay\***

Gay has never been afraid to explore complex issues in her writing, and she does just that in this piece. A collection of short stories, this book highlights the many different ways women can push against the boundaries of being a “perfect woman”.

#### **The Ungrateful Refugee: What Immigrants Never Tell You**

<< **Dina Nayeri**

At eight years old, Nayeri fled Iran with her mother and brother. She eventually made her way to the US, where she attended Princeton University. This work combines the happenings of Nayeri’s own life with that of refugees she met.

#### **The Carrying**

<< **Ada Limón\***

Limón’s most recent book of poetry is full of discovery of both oneself and the world that surrounds us. While Limón’s work hits hardest from the writer’s lips, this book allows us a glance at her most personal work yet.

#### **The Bluest Eye << Toni Morrison**

Morrison’s iconic first novel follows Pecola Breedlove through a journey of yearning and a hope for change. Morrison commands attention with her work, part of the reason for her wonderful success.

#### **Let it Rain Coffee**

<< **Angie Cruz**

A criticism of the forced idea of the American Dream from the view of a Dominican immigrant. This novel beautifully covers the struggles that strong women experience when trying to make a new life for themselves and their families.

#### **Little Fires Everywhere**

<< **Celeste Ng\***

From the bestselling author Ng, this story explores a riveting story that traces the intertwined fates of the picture-perfect Richardson family and the enigmatic mother and daughter. It delves into issues of race, class, and privilege.

#### **Shake Loose My Skin\***

<< **Sonia Sanchez**

A collection of new and old poems by Sanchez, full of pieces that speak on resilience and compassion. Sanchez’ powerful use of rhythm showcases the change she has made to the world of poetry in her time. An interview will take place on **March 18<sup>th</sup>** with Sonia Sanchez on PBS Books Facebook Live.

#### **I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings**

<< **Maya Angelou**

Angelou’s first of seven autobiographical works is a moving collection of childhood stories from the poet. In this work, Angelou explores the struggles of racism, traumas, and her experiences.

#### **An American Sunrise**

<< **Joy Harjo\***

The newest collection from the current US Poet Laureate, An American Sunrise gives us a closer look at Harjo’s connection with the Muskogee Creek Nation and the land of her ancestors. An Virtual Event will take place on **April 27<sup>th</sup>** with Joy Harjo on PBS Books Facebook Live.

#### **A Portrait of the Self as Nation**

<< **Marilyn Chen\***

A collection of Chin’s work full of emotional depth, reflecting on her extremely anti-colonialist feminist career. Chin pulls in the reader through her work, often using song like rhythm, and this collection showcases many of her beloved pieces.

**\*Past interviews with these authors available on PBSBooks.org or on PBS Books’ Youtube page.**