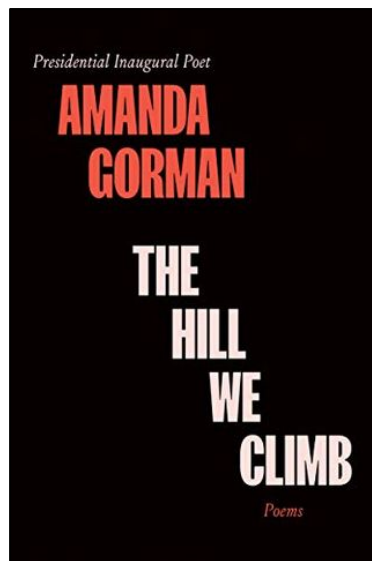
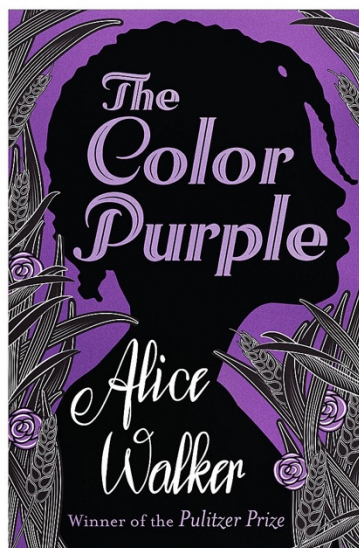
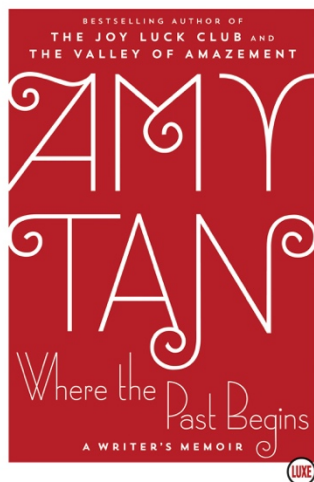
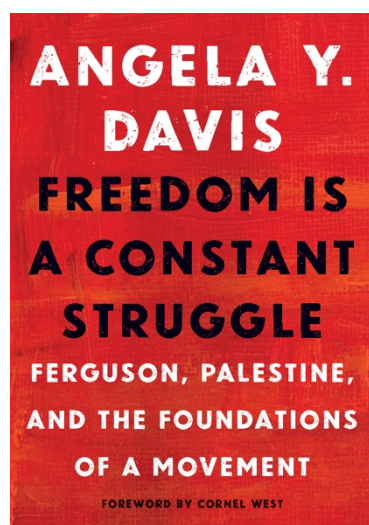
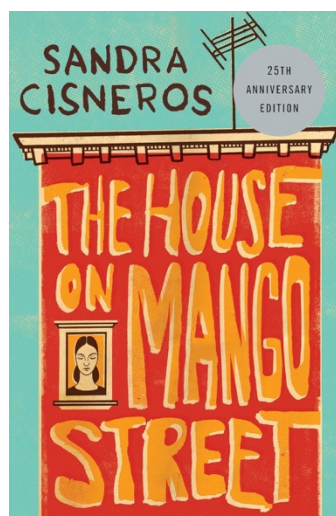
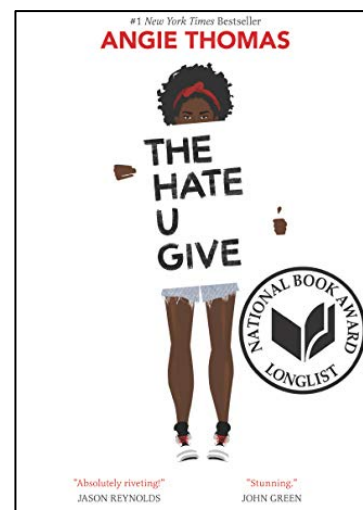


# READ

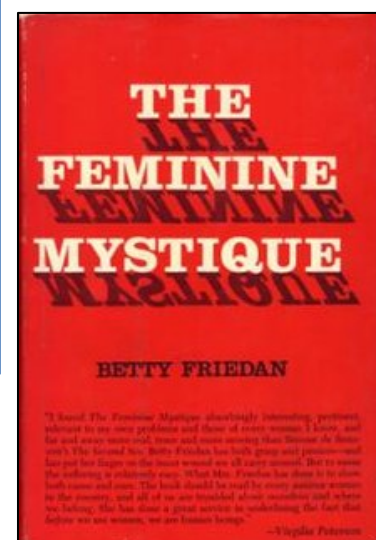
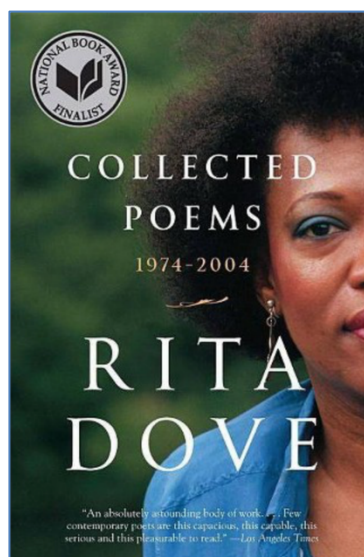
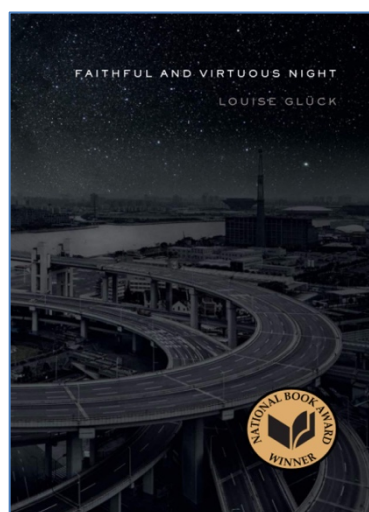
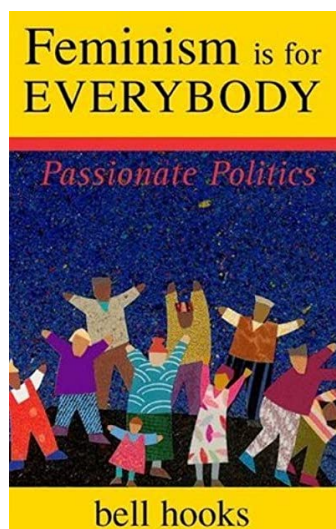


# TRAIL BLAZERS



## TRAILBLAZING AMERICAN WOMEN WRITERS LIST #2

## 2021



# EX PLORE



## 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 Books 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. This initiative is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.

### Trailblazing Book List #2

#### Where the Past Begins

<< **Amy Tan\***

In Tan’s most recent memoir, she shares her memories and personal experiences that influenced her creative work. Drawing upon her childhood, Tan explores her inspiration for writing and how one confronts and processes the complexities of memory. Amy Tan will be interviewed on **May 6<sup>th</sup>** on PBS Books Facebook Live.

#### The House on Mango Street

<< **Sandra Cisernos\***

A collection of vignettes based in part by Cisernos’s own experience, this book tells the story of a young Chicana girl growing up in Chicago. Wandering from subject to subject, Cisernos connects Esperanza to the reader in this deeply beautiful book.

#### Feminism is for Everybody

<< **Bell Hooks**

An engaging piece by Hooks, sharing a different perspective on feminism and the commitment to equality and justice. Hooks asks readers to take a look at the work of feminism in a fresh light, a movement to benefit everybody.

#### The Color Purple

<< **Alice Walker**

A powerful foundation of modern American literature, this award-winning novel focuses on the life of African American women in the rural Georgia in the 1930s. It addresses numerous issues including social disparity and injustice in the South.

#### Freedom is a Constant Struggle

<< **Angela Y. Davis**

A renowned activist, Davis uses this collection of essays, speeches, and interviews to examine the issues around prison abolition, the Black Lives Matter movement, and human liberation.

#### Faithful and Virtuous Night

<< **Louise Glück**

This work tells a story that is mysterious and fateful, heartbreaking and charged with wonder. Every new collection of Glück’s work brings the readers new revelations, through deeply poetic work.

#### The Hill We Climb

<< **Amanda Gorman**

The youngest inaugural poet in US History, Gorman will soon release her debut poetry collection filled with poems focusing on hope and healing. Gorman is a prime example of the energy that new voices in American Poetry will bring.

#### Collected Poems: 1974-2004

<< **Rita Dove\***

This book highlights the diverse work of Poet Laureate Dove, who has won Pulitzer Prize, a National Humanities Medal, and a National Medal of Art. This book creates fresh arrangements of her traditional and the experimental work.

#### The Hate U Give

<< **Angie Thomas**

Originally a short story inspired by the 2009 police killing of Oscar Grant, Thomas based the characters of her novel around many of the names we have heard in the news in recent years. Thomas covers the topics of police brutality, interracial dating, and systemic racism in this heartbreaking novel.

#### The Feminine Mystique

<< **Betty Friedan**

This list would not be complete without inclusion of the book widely credited for sparking the beginning of second-wave feminism. Full of first-hand knowledge, as well as information from interviewing women and girls alike, Friedan shares with us what exactly makes the “Feminine Mystique”.

**\*Past interviews with these authors**