

# Blacker Than A Thousand Midnights A Novel

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*The Missouri Review* - 1994

The Gettin Place - Susan Straight 1997-07-14

Susan Straight's most powerful novel yet is framed by two race riots: the little known Tulsa riots of the 1920s, in which white Tulsa burned down the town's black enclave; and the notorious L. A. riots of the 1990s. Straight's brilliant story of the effects of violence in America on three generations of a family is told through the lives of the Thompsons, a large clan who live in Treetown, above downtown Rio Seco, California, and operate a car towing and repair business. Patriarch Hosea is a proud man, and a hardened one, whose father was killed in the violence that erupted in Tulsa many years earlier. All Hosea's memories come flooding back with ferocious force when the bodies of two white women are found engulfed in flames in an abandoned car on his property. These are the first signs that someone wants Hosea off his land; it is up to his son Marcus, the only one of the six children of Hosea and his half-Mexican wife who can negotiate with the white world, to help the family hold on to their home and their livelihood. But it is only when Marcus' nephew Motrice—a young man infatuated with guns and the power that they bring—comes back to Rio Seco from gang-ridden Los Angeles that the real secrets of the bodies found on Thompson land are revealed, as Rio Seco erupts in the same wave of trashing and looting that has engulfed the nearby metropolis. *The Gettin Place* is a powerful portrait of a family struggling to defend its turf in a changing world, to hold on to the gettin place, the source from which they derive the tools for survival.

Little Women - Louisa May Alcott 2019-11-19

Louisa May Alcott shares the innocence of girlhood in this classic coming of age story about four sisters—Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy. In picturesque nineteenth-century New England, tomboyish Jo, beautiful Meg, fragile Beth, and romantic Amy are responsible for keeping a home while their father is off to war. At the same time, they must come to terms with their individual personalities—and make the transition from girlhood to womanhood. It can all be quite a challenge. But the March sisters, however different, are nurtured by their wise and beloved Marmee, bound by their love for each other and the feminine strength they share. Readers of all ages have fallen instantly in love with these *Little Women*. Their story transcends time—making this novel endure as a classic piece of American literature that has captivated generations of readers with their charm, innocence, and wistful insights. This Signet Classics edition contains *Little Women* in its entirety, including Parts I and II. With an Introduction by Regina Barecca and an Afterword by Susan Straight

*Highwire Moon* - Susan Straight 2019-06-25

A young Mexican mother struggles to reconnect with her child in America—a “heartrending, take-no-prisoners” novel (Publishers Weekly) and National Book Award finalist. A vital and unsparing vision of America from National Book Award finalist Susan Straight. At three years Elvia was placed in foster care when her mother, Serafina, an undocumented migrant worker, was deported. Twelve years later, Serafina risks everything to return to the United States and the daughter she was forced to abandon.

Race Manners - Bruce A. Jacobs 2011-08-01

“An enlightening and balanced view of racial conflict. *Race Manners* is a ‘must-read’ for those who wish to clarify racial dilemmas.” —Los Angeles Times On a plane, a black passenger nervously scrutinizes an

Arab-American passenger. In front of a store, a white woman clutches her purse as a black man walks by. In conversation, the topic of race comes up and both people wonder what they are willing to say—and what they are not. Each scenario reveals that how we act and react to each other on a daily basis stems from racial assumptions, biases, and misunderstandings. Some we acknowledge, others we overlook. In the wake of 9/11, confronting race relations in America is as daunting as it is necessary. *Race Manners* shows us how we can begin a civilized, meaningful dialogue—not with evasive abstractions, but with practicality and candor. Bruce A. Jacobs, a tireless speaker, has traveled the country over the past six years, learning and listening as people reacted to the first edition of this book and told him their own stories. In this newest edition, here is a candid assessment of and guide to improving race relations that offers honest clarity on fear of crime and terrorism, the role of “rage talk media,” the problem with tolerance, race in pop music from Elvis to Eminem and beyond, the “N-word,” and much more. “Provides the clearest road map for what each of us can do to lower suspicion by examining how our own preconceptions lead to actions which block meaningful dialogue . . . a call to extraordinary action.” —Raleigh News & Observer

**The Midnights** - Sarah Nicole Smetana 2018-03-06

This voice-driven coming-of-age YA novel is perfect for fans of Katie Cotugno and *Playlist for the Dead*. Susannah Hayes has never been in the spotlight, but she dreams of following her father, a former rock star, onto the stage. As senior year begins, she’s more interested in composing impressive chord patterns than college essays, certain that if she writes the perfect song, her father might finally look up from the past long enough to see her. But when he dies unexpectedly, her dreams—and her reality—shatter. While Susannah struggles with grief, her mother uproots them to a new city. There, Susannah realizes she can reinvent herself however she wants: a confident singer-songwriter, member of a hip band, embraced by an effortlessly cool best friend. But Susannah is not the only one keeping secrets, and soon, harsh revelations threaten to unravel her life once again. Set against the scintillating landscape of Southern California, *The Midnights* is an evocative coming-of-age debut about loss, creativity, and finding your voice while you’re still finding yourself.

*Blacker Than a Thousand Midnights* - Susan Straight 1994-06-09

A look at a black man who attempts to live within convention chronicles the life of Darnell Tucker, a firefighter, who attempts to fulfill his wife, his family, and his attraction to the dark destructiveness of fire.

Running with Scissors - Augusten Burroughs 2010-04-01

Now including an excerpt from *Lust & Wonder*, a new memoir coming in March 2016. *Running with Scissors* is the true story of a boy whose mother (a poet with delusions of Anne Sexton) gave him away to be raised by her psychiatrist, a dead-ringer for Santa and a lunatic in the bargain. Suddenly, at age twelve, Augusten Burroughs found himself living in a dilapidated Victorian in perfect squalor. The doctor's bizarre family, a few patients, and a pedophile living in the backyard shed completed the tableau. Here, there were no rules, there was no school. The Christmas tree stayed up until summer, and Valium was eaten like Pez. And when things got dull, there was always the vintage electroshock therapy machine under the stairs.... *Running with Scissors* is at turns foul and harrowing, compelling and maniacally funny. But above all, it chronicles an ordinary boy's survival under the most extraordinary circumstances.

**Best of Times, Worst of Times** - Wendy Martin 2011-04-04

A collection of short stories depicting and analyzing key issues in America's "New Gilded Age", a phrase that embodies the glitz and glamour of one of the wealthiest countries in the world but also suggests the greed, corruption, and inequalities teeming just below the surface.

**Mothers Who Think** - Kate Moses 2013-08-07

From the editors of the cutting-edge online magazine Salon come provocative essays that take an unflinching look at the gritty truths and unreserved pleasures of contemporary motherhood. Mothers Who Think: Tales of Real-Life Parenthood, which grew out of Salon's popular daily department of the same name, comprises nearly forty essays by writers grappling with the new and compelling ideas that motherhood has dangled before them. Elevating the discussion of motherhood above the level of tantrum control and potty training, this collection covers an unparalleled range of topics, from the impossibility of loving your children equally to raising a son without a father, from worrying that your privileged black child is becoming too "white" to the free-floating anger most mothers feel but wouldn't dare admit--except to other mothers. The intelligent, candid essays in Mothers Who Think are a testament to the notion that motherhood gives women more to think about, not less. Coeditors Camille Peri and Kate Moses have assembled the best writing from the website's first two years, including works by "Mothers Who Think" regulars Anne Lamott, Chitra Divakaruni, Susie Bright, and Stephanie Coontz; eloquent new essays by Jayne Anne Phillips, Sallie Tisdale, Susan Straight, Jane Lazarre, Nora Okja Keller, Beth Kephart, Ariel Gore, and Alex Witchel; and more than a dozen un-forgettable new voices. Irreverent, wistful, hilarious, fierce, tender, these essays offer an unsparing look at the myths and realities, serious and silly sides, and thankless and supremely satisfying aspects of being a mother. WRITERS Erin Aubry, Karen Grigsby Bates, Susie Bright, Stephanie Coontz, Chitra Divakaruni, Celeste Fremon, Mona Gable, Leslie Goodman-Malamuth, Ariel Gore, Arlene Green, Nora Okja Keller, Beth Kephart, Anne Lamott, Jane Lazarre, Lori Leibovich, Ceil Malek, Joyce Millman, Kate Moses, Beth Myler, Debra S. Ollivier, Camille Peri, Jayne Anne Phillips, Elizabeth Rapoport, Jennifer Reese, Rahna Reiko Rizzuto, Cynthia Romanov, Catherine A. Salton, Sandi Kahn Shelton, Rose Stoll, Susan Straight, Sallie Tisdale, Kim Van Meter, Cathy Wilkinson, Alex Witchel ON MOTHERHOOD Adoption, Babysitters, Baths, Birth, Blenders, Bodies, Boys Without Men, Brothers, Car Pools, Cold Coffee, College, Cupcakes, Custody, Daughters, Death, Diapers, Divorce, Dramas, Dreams, Escape, Expectations, Experience, Fantasies, Fathers, Food, Grandmothers, Growing Up, Gumbo, Home, Hunger, Kiddie Pools, Language, Lists, Love, Memories, Mothers, Nursing, Pets, Pregnancy, Pride, Princesses, Rage, School, Separation, Sex, Single Mothers, Sippy Cups, Sisters, Sleep Deprivation, Smells, Soccer Moms, Sons, Stepmothers, Tantrums, Teenagers, Time, Vibrators, Waterbeds, Working Mothers, Writing Mothers

*Aquaboogie* - Susan Straight 2019-10-22

"Aquaboogie is a love story in fragments . . . A book by a writer whose love for her characters infuses her work with the dignity and urgency they so clearly deserve." —The New York Times Book Review Full of defiance and tenderness, Aquaboogie chronicles the triumphs and tragedies of the residents of Rio Seco. In "Aquaboogie," art student Nacho finances his class out East by working as a janitor, subject to torment by his white coworkers. In "Back," elderly Pashion sleeps wrapped around the body of her dying husband L. C., all the while recalling their 49 years of marriage and thinking about the sleeping pills she has secreted away for when life becomes unbearable. In "The Box," Shawan carries her radio everywhere; since her best friend was gunned down, music is the only thing that can get her through the day. In these and other stories in this powerful collection, the author gives voice to those on the margins while demonstrating her great affection for her characters.

**The Sea Came in at Midnight** - Steve Erickson 2013-04-30

"If you read one philosophical-doomsday kinky-sex road-trip novel this year, make it this one." —Salon It's New Year's Eve 1999, and the members of a powerful cult are about to commit ritual suicide. Fleeing their ranks at the final moment, teenager Kristin lands in Tokyo, where she gains employment listening to clients' stories in a "memory hotel" designed to address the decay of Japanese collective memory after the Second World War. But Kristin herself has a startling odyssey: Among other things, it involves answering a personal ad only to wind up imprisoned, naked, in an empty house presided over by a man known as the Occupant, hard at work on a millennial calendar that has serious implications for the future. The Sea Came

in at Midnight is a breathtaking fable of redemption and one of Erickson's most impressive visions to date.

**Flight** - Walter White 1998-04-01

Published amid controversy in 1926, Flight focuses on the dilemma of Mimi Daquin, a light-complexioned African American woman who passes, for a time, as white. In the New Orleans of her birth, Mimi never encountered the hierarchies of skin color that existed elsewhere. But when her family moves to Atlanta, she embarks on a lifelong lesson about what it really means to belong to a people. From the Atlanta riot of 1906 to her shameful expulsion from black bourgeois society because of an out-of-wedlock pregnancy, to her working-class status in Philadelphia and Harlem, Mimi eventually decides to escape her miseries by passing for white in New York City. There, her success exceeds her expectations but even so cannot quell a recurrent yearning.

**Sequels** - Janet Husband 2009

A guide to series fiction lists popular series, identifies novels by character, and offers guidance on the order in which to read unnumbered series.

**The Black Midnight** - Kathleen Y'Barbo 2020-08-01

Two Series of Murders Seem Mysteriously Connected Step into True Colors -- a series of Historical Stories of Romance and American Crime Three years before Jack the Ripper began his murderous spree on the streets of London, women were dying in their beds as The Midnight Assassin terrorized the citizens of Austin, Texas. Now, with suspicion falling on Her Majesty's family and Scotland Yard at a loss as to who the Ripper might be, Queen Victoria summons her great-granddaughter, Alice Anne von Wettin, a former Pinkerton agent who worked the unsolved Austin case, and orders her to discreetly form a team to look into the London matter. The prospect of a second chance to work with Annie just might entice Isaiah Joplin out of his comfortable life as an Austin lawyer. If his theories are right, they'll find the The Midnight Assassin and, by default, the Ripper. If they're wrong, he and Annie are in a bigger mess than the one the feisty female left behind when she departed Austin under cover of darkness three years ago. Can the unlikely pair find the truth of who is behind the murders before they are drawn into the killer's deadly game? From Texas to London, the story navigates the fine line between truth and fiction as Annie and Isaiah ultimately find the hunters have become the hunted.

[Darker After Midnight \(with bonus novella A Taste of Midnight\)](#) - Lara Adrian 2012-01-24

The climactic novel in the bestselling Midnight Breed series, of which BookPage raves: "If you like romance combined with heart-stopping paranormal suspense, you're going to love this book." In the dark of night, a blood war escalates within the hidden world of the Breed. After maintaining a fragile peace with the humans who walk beside them unaware, a single act of retaliation has put the vampire nation at risk of discovery. It falls to the Order—a cadre of Breed warriors pledged to protect their own and humankind alike—to stop Dragos, the power-mad vampire, before his push for domination explodes into catastrophe. At the center of the Order's quest is Sterling Chase, whose biggest battle is the one he wages against his own savage nature. But when his eyes meet those of Tavia Fairchild, Chase finds himself drawn to the woman—and convinced she is something much more than she seems. And while everything logical warns Tavia against getting close to Chase, she cannot deny that he stirs something ravenous within her. As the Order's enemy mobilizes for the battle of the ages, Chase and Tavia are thrust into the heart of the violence. With time running out, they must find a way to defeat Dragos once and for all—or die trying.

BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from Lara Adrian's Edge of Dawn and the novella, "A Taste of Midnight." "Stunning . . . filled with passion, treachery, and danger . . . Adrian pulls out all the stops."—RT Book Reviews

*The Seven Secrets* - John Hagee 2005-07-22

Those looking for suggestions about improving personal effectiveness and personal growth will both enjoy and benefit from "The Seven Secrets."

**Ready for Revolution** - Stokely Carmichael 2003

The personal story of the civil rights leader's work and life, published to coincide with the fifth anniversary of his death, discusses his witness to and experiences with the prison farms and lynch mobs of Mississippi, the firefights and political activism of the African liberation wars, and the efforts of Black Power and Pan-Africanism. 40,000 first printing.

**A Million Nightingales** - Susan Straight 2008-11-26

From National Book Award finalist Susan Straight comes a haunting historical novel about a Louisiana slave girl's perilous journey to freedom. Daughter of an African mother and a white father she never knew, Moinette is a house maid on a plantation south of New Orleans. At fourteen she is sold, separated from her mother without a chance to say goodbye. Bright, imaginative and well aware of everything she risks, Moinette at once begins to prepare for an opportunity to escape. Inspired by a true story, *A Million Nightingales* portrays Moinette's experience—and the treacherous world she must navigate—with uncommon richness, intricacy, and drama.

**Hijacking of the American Presidency** - Assad R. Wright 2016-06-20

In the stunning novel *Hijacking of the American Presidency*, a disaffected faction of a major evangelical religious group seeks to put its own man in the White House, allowing it the ability to launch a preemptive nuclear strike on nations believed to be the future enemy of America. To accomplish this, they are willing to assassinate political figures, including the sitting president. Disillusioned and fed up with what they consider the Twiddle-Dum, Twiddle-Dee syndrome of Washington politics, which has led to a never-ending dysfunctionality and the erosion of America's ethical and moral foundation, this ultra-conservative splinter group has picked the perfect candidate for the White House. The group is prepared to subvert the Constitution of the United States and assassinate anyone in its way to achieve its divine mandate. In a plot that includes the manipulation of the nation's leading scientists in nano-technology, the subversives plan to deliver time-delayed poisons to those in opposition. Faced with such an unprecedented threat, the religious unit of the Department of Homeland Security Anti-Terrorism Task Force has been called on to thwart the plot.

**"Making a Way Out of No Way"** - Wolfgang Mieder 2010

In barely forty years of life Martin Luther King (1929-1968) distinguished himself as one of the greatest social reformers of modern times: civil rights leader, defender of nonviolence in the struggle of desegregation, champion of the poor, anti-war proponent, and broad-minded visionary of an interrelated world of free people. His many verbal and written communications in the form of sermons, speeches, interviews, letters, essays, and several books are replete with Bible proverbs as «Love your enemies», «He who lives by the sword shall perish by the sword», and «Man does not live by bread alone» as well as folk proverbs as «Time and tide wait for no man», «Last hired, first fired», «No gain without pain», and «Making a way out of no way». He also delighted in citing quotations that have become proverbs, to wit «No man is an island», «All men are created equal», and «No lie can live forever». King recycles these bits of traditional wisdom in various contexts, varying his proverbial messages as he addresses the multifaceted issues of civil rights. His rhetorical prowess is thus informed to a considerable degree by his effective use of his repertoire of proverbs which he frequently uses as leitmotifs or amasses into set pieces of fixed phrases to be employed repeatedly.

*Blacker Than a Thousand Midnights* - Susan Straight 2019-10-22

"A writer of exceptional gifts and grace." —Joyce Carol Oates A young fireman battles to provide for his family—and struggles to avoid the traps of crime and poverty that surround him. A resident of impoverished Rio Seco, California, Darnell Tucker works part-time as the lone black member of the fire department. Cutbacks to the state budget force him to search for new work, and the low-paying positions he finds rival firefighting in their peril. His path blocked by economics, institutionalized racism, and the dangers of the place he lives, Darnell must find a way to persevere. *Blacker Than a Thousand Midnights* is a stark and thoroughly convincing portrait of life on the margins.

*Poetically Correct* - Jimi Sheryl Bufkin 2022-04-30

The information about the book is not available as of this time.

**Race Manners for the 21st Century** - Bruce A. Jacobs 2006

"In the wake of 9/11, confronting race relations in American is as daunting as it is necessary. *Race Manners* shows us how we can begin a civilized, meaningful dialogue—not with evasive abstractions, but with practicality and candor. The second edition, completely revised and updated, is a guide to improving race relations."—From source other than the Library of Congress

**I Married My Mother-In-Law** - Ilena Silverman 2007-01-02

In-laws are the inescapable consequence of marriage. Whether they're kindly or malevolent, helpful or crazy, they're unavoidable. The relationship can be traumatic, rewarding, maddening, and hilarious—sometimes all at once. In *I Married My Mother-in-Law and Other Tales of In-Laws We Can't Live With—and Can't Live Without*, Ilena Silverman brings together a collection of talented, successful writers who plumb their own experiences for extraordinary and unexpected wisdom about this prickly and often misunderstood relationship. We hear from some of today's best authors, including Michael Chabon, who writes movingly about the lessons he learned from his first father-in-law; Kathryn Harrison, whose relationship with her father-in-law was far more rewarding and less complicated than the one she had with her own father; Matt Bai, who struggled across cultural barriers to learn more about the lives of his reserved Japanese-American in-laws; Martha McPhee, who explores the difficulty in fully knowing her husband without ever having known his parents; Susan Straight, who recounts her experience as the first white woman to marry into her African-American husband's extended family; and Ayelet Waldman, who ponders the competition between wives and their mothers-in-law for the attention of their husbands/sons. By turns blunt and poignant, horrifying and touching, the essays reflect the rich complexities of these bewildering and life-changing relationships. Remarkable for both the quality of its prose and the scope of its emotional insight, *I Married My Mother-in-Law* is an unforgettable anthology about the struggles and rewards of life with our other families.

*The Gettin' Place* - Susan Straight 2013-06-18

In the third novel by the author of *Blacker Than a Thousand Midnights*, the Thompson clan tries to deal with the chaos after their family patriarch finds the burning bodies of two white women on his property and is then accidentally gunned down by police.

**When Race Becomes Real** - Bernestine Singley 2008-09-05

*When Race Becomes Real* is a critically acclaimed collection that pushes the boundaries of current discussions about race. In these personal and evocative essays, thirty contemporary black and white writers describe their own intimate experiences with race and discrimination, taking an unflinching look at both society and themselves. The result is an incisive and powerful anthology that rethinks what it means to be black—and white—in the modern world. Only through frank and tough conversation, Singley tells us, can America hope to realize its goals of justice and racial equality. This collection opens that much needed honest dialogue, exploring a wide range of racial experiences in relation to a myriad of topics: from crime and religion to humor, history, and desire. Readers will find within these pages examinations of the roots of racial beliefs and the origins of the language and rules that have heretofore governed discussion; analysis of the reasons behind our reticence to discuss the subject openly; and suggestions for solutions to the problems that plague open racial discourse. The writers of *When Race Becomes Real* demonstrate the progress that can be made when our ingrained wariness on the subject of race is abandoned, and we instead confront the issue openly and personally. Included are contributions by a variety of authors, from Pulitzer Prize winners such as Robert Coles, Leonard Pitts, and Natalie Angier to popular writers and emerging voices. In each essay the author sweeps aside the cautious rules that often dominate racial discussions to address what race really means in the twenty-first century. *When Race Becomes Real* directly tackles one of our most taboo subjects with bravery, wit, and emotion. Sometimes shocking, sometimes amusing but always honest, this collection encourages readers to move beyond the ineffective reluctance and objectivity that hinder contemporary conversations and in doing so forge a new path in racial consciousness.

*Benny to Beyonce* - Jerry Stitt 2012-04-01

*Benny to Beyonce*—Finding God's Perfect Pitch for Your Life Is your life out of tune? Meet the Master Tuner 396 pages of history, humor, and healing in troubled times I have thoroughly enjoyed reading *Benny to Beyonce*. Your insights take me to a new level of understanding His perfect plan and a new feeling of comfort for being one of God's crazy musicians. Dr. Aubrey Tucker, Chairman Dept. of Fine Arts, and big band program, Houston Community College, N.W. One cannot fail to be inspired by the potential of a changed life after finding God's perfect pitch for your life. Douglas Yeo, bass trombonist, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Faculty New England Conservatory of Music to introduce us to the One and only Maestro. I trust you will enjoy this unique and creative devotional book, and in so doing, find God's Perfect Pitch for Your

Life. Dr. Ed Young, Pastor 2nd Baptist Church, Houston; World TV Broadcast The Winning Way Author Profile Jerry Stitt, an accomplished musician and public speaker, is well established in the Houston music scene. He was guest columnist for The Houston Musician, local 65-699, selflessly worked with youth and adult musicians/singers for more than fifty years. His performances covering four continents include a congressional dinner, an audience of 18,000 in Vienna, Austria, and many years as a symphony tuba player. He plays gospel sax with his vocalist daughter, Merribeth Deaton and can be heard on their CD, A Love Like This. Stitt is a recent inductee into Houston's Gospel Music Legends, on the 42nd anniversary of the Gospel Music Workshops of America. You will enjoy reading Benny to Beyonce Finding God's Perfect Pitch for your Life, a collection of 53 popular song titles and biographies from the Benny Goodman big band era to the contemporary.

Naming the World - Bret Anthony Johnston 2008-12-24

You already have the tools to become a gifted writer; what you need is the spark. Harvard creative writing professor and acclaimed author Bret Anthony Johnston brings you an irresistible interactive guide to the craft of narrative writing. From developing characters to building conflict, from mastering dialogue to setting the scene, Naming the World jump-starts your creativity with inspiring exercises that will have you scrambling for pen and paper. Every chapter is a master class with the country's most eminent authors, renowned editors, and dedicated teachers. • Infuse emotion into your fiction with three key strategies from Margot Livesey. • Christopher Castellani dumps the "write what you know" maxim and challenges you to really delve into the imagination. • A point-of-view drill from Susan Straight can be just the breakthrough you need to flesh out your story. • Jewell Parker Rhodes shares how good dialogue is not just about what is being said but about what is being left unsaid. Brimming with imaginative springboards and hands-on exercises, Naming the World has everything you need to become a stronger, more inventive writer. "A delicious book. Imagine yourself at a cocktail party crammed with literary lions. You have the chance to spend a few moments with each of them. Wit and wisdom abound." -Julia Cameron, author of The Artist's Way "A highly useful and perceptive book. With charm and intelligence it touches on nearly every teachable aspect of the devilishly difficult art of writing." -Ethan Canin, professor of creative writing at the Iowa Writers Workshop, and author of Carry Me Across the Water "These entertaining and useful exercises, intelligently organized, are a boon for both beginning and experienced writers." -Andrea Barrett, National Book Award-winning author of The Air We Breathe "Forget about getting an MFA! For any writer struggling with his craft, here is the equivalent of a master class in writing by some of the best writer/teachers around." -Betsy Lerner, author of The Forest for the Trees: An Editor's Advice to Writers

**Mecca** - Susan Straight 2022-03-15

"A wide and deep view of a dynamic, multiethnic Southern California . . . Susan Straight is an essential voice in American writing and in writing of the West." —The New York Times Book Review A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice and an NPR Staff Pick. One of The Washington Post's 21 Books to Read this Summer. Named a Most Anticipated Book of March 2022 by the Los Angeles Times, USA Today, and Alta. From the National Book Award finalist Susan Straight, Mecca is a stunning epic tracing the intertwined lives of native Californians fighting for life and land Johnny Frías has California in his blood. A descendant of the state's Indigenous people and Mexican settlers, he has Southern California's forgotten towns and canyons in his soul. He spends his days as a highway patrolman pulling over speeders, ignoring their racist insults, and pushing past the trauma of his rookie year, when he killed a man assaulting a young woman named Bunny, who ran from the scene, leaving Johnny without a witness. But like the Santa Ana winds that every year bring the risk of fire, Johnny's moment of action twenty years ago sparked a slow-burning chain of connections that unites a vibrant, complex cast of characters in ways they never see coming. In Mecca, the celebrated novelist Susan Straight crafts an unforgettable American epic, examining race, history, family, and destiny through the interlocking stories of a group of native Californians all gasping for air. With sensitivity, furor, and a cinematic scope that captures California in all its injustice, history, and glory, she tells a story of the American West through the eyes of the people who built it—and continue to sustain it. As the stakes get higher and the intertwined characters in Mecca slam against barrier after barrier, they find that when push comes to shove, it's always better to push back.

I Been in Sorrow's Kitchen and Licked Out All the Pots - Susan Straight 2019-10-22

"Straight's portrayal of a black woman's life is nearly miraculous in its astonishing richness of detail, its emotional honesty and its breadth of human thought and feeling." —USA Today Evoking the Gullah-speaking 1950s community of Pine Gardens, South Carolina, I Been in Sorrow's Kitchen and Licked Out All the Pots follows Marietta Cook, a maid with a growing interest in the civil rights movement, as she raises talented twin boys destined for pro football glory and comes to find peace in an often unjust world. Imbued with extraordinary resilience and joy, Susan Straight's debut is a celebration of an extraordinary soul and a novel with a beautifully vivid sense of place.

**New York Times Saturday Book Review Supplement** - 1995-06

**Dog Is My Co-Pilot** - Bark Editors 2009-02-04

Dogs have been our muses, our mentors, and our playful and noble co-pilots. They've had a profound influence on us as healers and spiritual guides, and also as co-workers, helping to guide, hunt, herd, search, and rescue. Our bond with dogs is deep and unbreakable, and there's no better source a reader can turn to for a richer understanding of that complex and wonderful relationship than The Bark. The Bark began as a newsletter in Berkeley, California, that advocated for an off-leash area where dogs could cavort and play. Within a few years it had become a full-fledged, award-winning glossy magazine that published work by some of the best writers in America today. And as it grew, the magazine embraced a much larger canvas: to cover the emerging phenomenon of "dog culture" that has been developing over the past decade, as dogs have moved out of the backyard and into our homes, communities, and, indeed, the very center of our lives. As editor Claudia Kawczynska writes, "The implications of integrating another species into society's daily fabric go well beyond how we nurture our dogs. It calls for a revamping of the standard etiquette—respecting the concerns and interests of society at large. This new relationship, along with an appreciation for our rich and unbounded future, comprises what we call dog culture. This is what The Bark set out to chronicle." Dog Is My Co-Pilot is an anthology of essays, short stories, and expert commentaries that explores every aspect of our life with dogs. Fifty percent of the material here has never been published before. The book is divided into four sections: Beginnings explores that first meeting, "the initial murmurings when a dog-human relationship is formed." Pack investigates the theme of "togetherness" and pays tribute to the dynamic of multiple personalities in the canine-human relationship. Lessons examines what dogs teach us, from love to enlightenment. The final section, Passages, reflects on the themes of true friendship, transformation, and loss. Included are pieces by Lynda Barry, Rick Bass, Maeve Brennan, Margaret Cho, Carolyn Chute, Alice Elliott Dark, Lama Surya Das, Pam Houston, Erica Jong, Tom Junod, Caroline Knapp, Donald McCaig, Nasdijj, Ann Patchett, Michael Paterniti, Charles Siebert, Alexandra Styron, Elizabeth Marshall Thomas, and Alice Walker. In selections that are humorous, poignant, truthful, sometimes surprising, and frequently uplifting, Dog Is My Co-Pilot embraces the full experience of the world's oldest friendship. For people who love great writing and, yes, great dogs, it's a book to be both shared and treasured.

Many Peoples, One Land - Alethea Helbig 2001

Reviews and summarizes fiction, stories from oral tradition, and poetry from the four major ethnic groups in the U.S.—African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native Americans.

Take One Candle Light a Room - Susan Straight 2012-03-13

A WASHINGTON POST BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR From the author of A Million Nightingales ("a writer of exceptional gifts and grace"—Joyce Carol Oates) comes a luminous new novel about the forces that tear families apart and the ties that bind them together. Fantine Antoine is a travel writer, a profession that keeps her happily away from her Southern California home. When she returns to mark the fifth anniversary of the murder of her closest childhood friend, Glorette, she finds herself pulled into the tumultuous life of Glorette's twenty-two-year-old son—and Fantine's godson—Victor. After getting involved in a shooting, Victor has fled to New Orleans. Together with her father, Fantine follows Victor, determined to help him avoid the criminal future that he suddenly seems destined for. On this journey her father will reveal the wrenching secrets of his past, and Fantine will be compelled to question the most essential choices she's made in her life.

**The Creation (25th Anniversary Edition)** - James Weldon Johnson 2018-10-02

An award-winning retelling of the Biblical creation story from a star of the Harlem Renaissance and an acclaimed illustrator James Weldon Johnson, author of the civil rights anthem "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing," wrote this beautiful Bible-learning story in 1922, at the height of the Harlem Renaissance. Set in the Deep South, *The Creation* alternates breathtaking scenes from Genesis with images of a country preacher under a tree retelling the story for children. The exquisite detail of James E. Ransome's sun-dappled paintings and the sophisticated rhythm of the free verse pay tribute to Black American oral traditions of country sermonizing and storytelling: As far as the eye of God could see/ Darkness covered everything/ Blacker than a hundred midnights/ Down in a cypress swamp. . . . This beautiful new edition of the classic Coretta Scott King Award winner features a fresh, modern design, a reimagined cover, and an introduction of the remarkable life of James Weldon Johnson. Beneath the dust jacket, the case features a detail of Ransome's beautiful night sky, spangled with stars. A Junior Library Guild selection!

*Skin Deep* - Marita Golden 2011-05-11

Candid, poignant, provocative, and informative, the essays and stories in *Skin Deep* explore a wide spectrum of racial issues between black and white women, from self-identity and competition to childrearing and friendship. Eudora Welty contributes a bittersweet story of a one-hundred-year-old black woman whose spirit is as determined and strong as anything in nature. Bestselling author Naomi Wolf recalls her first exposure to racism growing up, examining the subtle forms it can take even among well-meaning people; bell hooks writes about the intersection between black women and feminist politics; and Joyce Carol Oates includes a one-act play in which racial stereotypes are reversed. Among the other writers

featured in the collection are Toni Morrison, Alice Walker, Susan Straight, Mary Morris, and Beverly Lowry. A groundbreaking anthology that reveals surprising insights and hidden truths to a subject too often clouded by misperceptions and easy assumptions, *Skin Deep* is a major contribution to understanding our culture.

*The African American Male, Writing, and Difference* - W. Lawrence Hogue 2012-02-01

Argues that African American literature must take into account the rich diversity of African American life and culture.

*The Creation* - James Weldon Johnson 1994-01

A poem based on the story of creation from the first book of the Bible.

*Book of Original Poems and Memoirs* - Jacqueline Ivey 2018-06-22

After high school, she became a student of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University in Tallahassee, Florida, to be with the love of her life before marrying him and then transferring to and graduating with honors from Bethune-Cookman University. She was the wife of the late Mark Ivey III MD, and they were parents to three sons. This marriage endured for forty-four years and one-half years until he met his demise. Jacqueline was an educator in public schools in Daytona Beach, Florida; Nashville, Tennessee; Akron, Ohio; and taught middle school language arts and reading exclusively in Lakeland, Florida. Prior to her retirement in 2006, she had taught in public schools for thirty-four years. Jacqueline is most enthusiastic about this book and yearns to share some of her writings and personal experiences with others.