Freshwater
by Akwaeke Emezi
Traces the experiences of a deeply troubled young woman who alarms her devout Nigerian family as she succumbs to multiple personality disorder and begins to display increasingly dark and dangerous traits in accordance with her fractured personalities.

The Hired Man
by Aminatta Forna
A British woman and her two children move into a small Croatian village after the War of Independence and befriend a local handyman who helps shield them from the locals' hostilities towards strangers.

When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir
by Patrisse Khan-Cullors
A lyrical memoir by the co-founder of the Black Lives Matter movement urges readers to understand the movement's position of love, humanity and justice, challenging perspectives that have negatively labeled the movement's activists while calling for essential political changes.

Secrets We Kept: Three Women of Trinidad
by Krystal A. Sital
An award-winning writer describes her Trinidad upbringing in the shadow of her revered grandfather, a wealthy Hindu landowner who tyrannized over three generations of women in the author's family and whose life reflected their tranquil island home's history of violence, suppression and racial tension.

Authors of Color

Tram 83
by Fiston Mwanza Mujila
Exceptional debut Congolese novel uses jazz rhythm to evoke the frenzied exploitation of land and people in contemporary Africa

The Poet X
by Elizabeth Acevedo
The daughter of devout immigrants discovers the power of slam poetry and begins participating in a school club as part of her effort to understand her mother's strict religious beliefs and her own developing relationship to the world.

Binti
by Nnedi Okorafor
When Binti is offered a place at Oomza University, the finest institution of higher learning in the galaxy, she must rely on the gifts of her people and the wisdom found within the school.

Black Leopard, Red Wolf
by Marlon James
In the first novel in Marlon James's Dark Star trilogy, mythology, fantasy, and history come together to explore what happens when a mercenary is hired to find a missing child.

Rise and Grind: Out-Perform, Out-Work, and Out-Hustle Your Way to a More Successful and Rewarding Life
by Daymond John
The best-selling author of The Power of Broke and star of Shark Tank explores the importance of courage, persistence and old-fashioned hard work in every successful business and individual, tracing the story of his own rise from obscurity while citing the examples of professionals who achieved their goals through a determined work ethic.

The Wedding Date
by Jasmine Guillory
Stranded together in an elevator during a power outage, Drew and Alexa agree to pose as a couple at an ex's wedding and discover afterwards that they are unable to forget each other.

Last Updated 1 February 2019
The Last Thing You Surrender: a Novel of World War II
by Leonard Pitts
A historical novel of race and war that follows three characters from the Jim Crow South as they face the enormous changes World War II triggers in the United States.

American Spy
by Lauren Wilkinson
A Cold War FBI intelligence officer joins an undercover task force to seduce a revolutionary African Communist president she secretly admires and comes to love, in a story inspired by true events.

How Not to Get Shot: and Other Advice from White People
by D. L. Hughley
The comedian host of the nationally syndicated radio program, The Original Kings of Comedy, builds on conversations he had with his children in a cutting satire of race relations in the era of Trump and Black Lives Matter.

Every Day is for the Thief
by Teju Cole
Returning to Lagos after several years in New York City, a young Nigerian writer rediscovers his hometown as both a foreigner and a local while reconnecting with old friends, comparing Lagos to the home of his memory and realizing how he himself has changed.

The Source of Self-Regard: Selected Essays, Speeches, and Meditations
by Toni Morrison
An anthology of the Nobel Prize-winning writer’s essays, speeches and commentary on society, culture and art includes her powerful prayer for the dead of 9/11, her searching meditation on Martin Luther King, Jr. and her poignant eulogy for James Baldwin.

White is for Witching
by Helen Oyeyemi
Suffering from pica, a malady that causes her to eat nonedible items, sixteen-year-old Miranda helps to run the family bed-and-breakfast while witnessing her community’s hostilities toward outsiders, a malice that erupts in violent and destructive ways.

I Can’t Date Jesus: Love, Sex, Family, Race, and Other Reasons I’ve Put My Faith in Beyoncé
by Michael Arceneaux
This collection of humorous and contemplative essays from one of today’s boldest writers on social issues discusses coming out to his mother, growing up in Houston, fire ants, fleas and being approached to join the priesthood.

This Mournable Body
by Tsitsi Dangarembga
The protagonist of Nervous Conditions struggles to make a life for herself in Harare, Zimbabwe, eventually taking an ecotourism job that forces her to return to her parents’ impoverished homestead, leading to an unforgivable betrayal.

All Our Names
by Dinaw Mengestu
Coming of age during an African revolution, a brilliant university student-turned-fighter eventually flees the escalating violence of his country to resettle in America, where he is haunted by his past and the memory of a charismatic leader’s devastating sacrifice.

Not That Bad: Dispatches from Rape Culture
by Roxane Gay
Covering a vast array of topics and experiences, from an exploration of the rape epidemic embedded in the refugee crisis to accounts of child molestation, a series of authors, in this thought-provoking collection of first-person essays edited by the author of Bad Feminist, tackle rape, assault and harassment head on.

Easy Motion Tourist
by Leye Adenle
Easy Motion Tourist is a compelling crime novel set in contemporary Lagos. It features Guy Collins, a British hack who stumbles by chance into the murky underworld of the city. A modern thriller featuring a strong female protagonist, prepared to take on the Nigerian criminal world on her own.