

Educational Resources for Individual, Church, & Community

Reading List: Books by Refugees and Immigrants of Color

Source: Church World Service (CWS) <https://cwsglobal.org/blog/reading-list-books-by-refugees-and-immigrants-of-color/>

- *Call me American*, by Abdi Nor Iftin
- *Slowly is the Journey*, by Bluegrass Community and Technical College ESL Students,
- *The Girl Who Smiled Beads*, by Clemantine Wamariya
- *Life in Exile: The Untold Story of Civil War and Refugee Life*, by Dekow Diriye Sagar
- *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*, by Dinaw Mengestu
- *My New American Dream: A Personal Story and Perspective of a South Sudanese American Refugee*, by Gatluak Ter Thach
- *Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust*, by Immaculee Illibagiza
- *Behold the Dreamers*, by Imbolo Mbue
- *A Long Way Gone*, by Ishmael Beah
- *The Shadow King*, by Maaza Mengiste
- *Maps*, by Nuruddin Farah,
- *Foreign Gods, Inc.*, by Okey Ndibe
- *Every Day is for the Thief*, by Teju Cole
- *When Stars Are Scattered*, by Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed
- *Homegoing*, by Yaa Gyasi

Learning Resources

Source: Tucson Samaritan email or website <https://www.tucsonamaritans.org/who-we-are>

Podcasts & Websites

- Radiolab's *Border Trilogy* Over three episodes, Radiolab investigates Prevention Through Deterrence, its surprising origins, and the people whose lives were changed forever because of it.
- *The Border Chronicle* provides regular reporting on migration and its impact on the borderlands.
- *Which Way Home: Child Migrants Journey to the United States* <https://youtu.be/dMDk5LgFCAY?si=CRtP-Mu2dwa7If8h>

Books

- *The Land of Open Graves* by Jason De Leon
- *A Stranger At My Door* by Peg Bowden
- *Crossing with the Virgin* by Tucson Samaritans Kathryn Ferguson, Norma A. Price, and Ted Parks
- *The Devil's Highway* by Luis Alberto Urrea
- *Enrique's Journey* by Sonia Nazario
- Tucson-based journalist Todd Miller has written a number of books about migration based on extensive research, including *Border Patrol Nation: Dispatches from the Front Lines of Homeland Security*; *Storming the Wall: Climate Change, Migration, and Homeland Security*; *Empire of Borders: The Expansion of the U.S. Border Around the World*; and *Build Bridges, Not Walls*.
- *Against the Wall: My Journey From Border Patrol Agent to Immigrant Rights Activist*, by former Border Patrol agent Jenn Budd.
- *The Line Becomes a River: Dispatches from the Border*, by former Border Patrol agent Francisco Cantú.
- *Solito: A Memoir*, by Javier Zamora.
- *Everyone Who is Gone is Here: The United States, Central America, and the Making of a Crisis*, by Jonathan Blitzer.
- *Along the Migrant Trail – A Borderlands Portrait*. Photographs by Tucson Samaritan Michael Hyatt. Forward by Rebecca Fowler, Ph.D.

21 Must-Read Books About Immigration

Source: Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services)

<https://www.globalrefuge.org/books-about-immigration/>

NOTE: Synopsis of each book can be found on the website; duplicates removed

Books About Immigration from Global Refuge Virtual Author Series

- *Separated: Inside an American Tragedy*, by Jacob Soboroff
- *One Mighty and Irresistible Tide*, by Jia Lynn Yang
- *After the Last Border*, by Jessica Goudeau
- *The Next Great Migration*, by Sonia Shah
- *The God Who Sees*, by Karen Gonzales

Books About Immigration & Dreamers

- *The Undocumented Americans*, by Karla Cornejo Villavicencio
- *Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen*, by Jose Antonio Vargas

Other Books About Immigration & Immigrants

- *The Ungrateful Refugee*, by Dina Nayeri
- *The Good Immigrant*, 26 Writers reflect on America.
- *Once I Was You*, by Maria Hinojosa
- *The Warmth of Other Suns*, by Isabel Wilkerson

Books About Immigration: Novels

- *The Beekeeper of Aleppo*, Christy Lefteri
- *Americanah*, by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
- *Exit West*, by Mohsin Hamid
- *The Sympathizer*, by Viet Thanh Nguyen

Young Adult Books About Immigration

- *American Street*, by Ibi Zoboi
- *The Sun is Also a Star*, by Nicola Yoon
- *Americanized: Rebel Without a Green Card*, by Sara Saedi

Recommended Books (Not Already Listed)

Source: World Relief

<https://worldrelief.org/content/uploads/2023/06/Recommended-Books-and-Films-.pdf>

Books and Memoirs

- *Welcoming the Stranger: Justice, Compassion...* by Matthew Soerens & Jenny Hwang Young, 2018
- *Seeking Refuge: On the Shores of the Global Refugee Crisis* by Issam Smeir, Matthew Soerens, Stephan Bauman, 2016
- *Refugees In the Bible* by Tabitha McDuffee
- *Refugees in America: Stories of Courage, Hope, and Resilience In Their Own Words* by Lee T. Bycel 2019
- *When You Can't Go Home: Portraits of Refugees in the Pacific NW* by Karisa Keasey, 2019
- *The Story of My Life: An Afghan Girl on the Other Side of the Sky* by Farah Ahmed with Tamim Ansary, 2005
- *Of Beetles and Angels: A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a Refugee Camp to Harvard* by Mawi Asgedom, 2002
- *Call Me American: A Memoir* by Abdi Nor Iftin, 2018
- *The Newcomers: Finding Refuge, Friendship, and Hope in America* by Helen Thorpe, 2018
- *Lost Boy No More: A True Story of Survival and Salvation* by Abraham Nhial & DiAnn Mills, 2004
- *The Middle of Everywhere: Helping Refugees Enter the American Community* by Mary Pipher, 2003
- *Strength in What Remains: A Journey of Remembrance and Forgiveness* by Tracy Kidder, 2009
- *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* by Anne Fadiman, 1997
- *What is the What?* by Dave Eggers, 2006
- *The Other Side of the Sky: A Memoir* by Farah Ahmed, 2012
- *The Lightless Sky* by Gulwali Passarlay, 2017
- *The New Odyssey: The Story of Europe's Refugee Crisis* by Patrick Kingsley, 2017
- *A Hope More Powerful than the Sea* by Melissa Fleming, 2017
- *I Live Here (Pantheon Graphic Library)* by Mia Kirshner et al, 2008
- *The Lemon Tree: An Arab, A Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East* by Sandy Tolan, 200

Books for Kids

- *Sea Prayer* by Khaled Hosseini, 2018
- *When Stars Are Scattered* by Victoria Jamieson & Omar Mohamed, 2020
- *The Sandwich Swap* by Queen Rania of Jordan Al Abdullah, 2010
- *Four Feet, Two Sandals* by Karen Lynn Williams, 2007
- *Brothers in Hope: The Story of the Lost Boys of Sudan* by Mary Williams, 2005
- *Azzi in Between* by Sarah Garland, 2012
- *My Two Blankets* by Irena Kobald, 2015
- *Teacup* by Rebecca Young, 2016
- *The Journey* by Francesca Sanna, 2016
- *My Beautiful Birds* by Suzanne Del Rizzo, 2017
- *One Good Thing About America* by Ruth Freeman, 2017
- *Where Will I Live?* by Rosemary McCarney, 2017

Other Book Offerings (Not Already Listed – Multicultural – Fiction/Non - Youth & Adult)

Sources: Immigration Working Group Members
First Congregational UCC – Eau Claire

- *The Proudest Blue*, by Ibtihaj Muhammad and S.K. Ali
- *Internment*, by Samira Ahmed
- *Furia*, by Yamile Saied Méndez
- *Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote*, by Duncan Tonatiuh
- *Darius the Great Is Not OK*, by Adib Khorram
- *The Bridge Home*, by Adib Khorram
- *Front Desk*, by Kelly Yang
- *The Hate U Give*, by Angie Thomas
- *Last Stop On Market Street*, by Matt de la Peña
- *How It Went Down*, by Kekla Magoon
- *The Song Poet: A Memoir of My Father*, by Kao Kalia Yang
- *The Latecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir*, by Kao Kalia Yang
- *Strangers No Longer*, by Sergio M. González

27 Must-See Movies About Immigrants & Refugees

Source: Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services)

<https://www.globalrefuge.org/movies-about-immigrants-refugees/>

NOTE: Synopsis of each movie can be found on the website

Oscar Winners & Nominees

- *Minari*
- *Persepolis*
- *Canto*
- *For Sama*
- *Flee*
- *More Movies About Immigrants and Refugees*
- *The Donut King*
- *The Visitor*
- *The Midnight Traveler*
- *Limbo*
- *Human Flow*
- *West Side Story*
- *The Kite*
- *Saint Judy*
- *Sin Nombre*
- *The Good Lie*
- *Amreeka*
- *The Namesake*
- *The Immigrant*
- *The Breadwinner*
- *The Joy Luck Club*
- *Avalon*
- *Tiger Tail*
- *Under the Same Moon*

Recommended Films (Not Already Listed)

Source: World Relief

<https://worldrelief.org/content/uploads/2023/06/Recommended-Books-and-Films-.pdf>

- *Between Earth and Sky* by Kalyanee Mam & David Mendez, 2009
- *Human Flow* by Ai Weiwei, 2017
- *Salam Neighbor* by Optimist and 1001 Media
- *All Saints* by Steve Gomer, 2017