



Diversity Month – CEDI Recommendations

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Books (fiction)

Breasts and Eggs - Mieko Kawakami	Mieko Kawakami's internationally bestselling novel about three contemporary Japanese women struggling to find peace and futures they can call their own.
Call Me By Your Name -André Aciman	Call Me by Your Name is the story of a sudden and powerful romance that blossoms between an adolescent boy and a summer guest at his parents cliffside mansion on the Italian Riviera. Each is unprepared for the consequences of their attraction, when, during the restless summer weeks, unrelenting currents of obsession, fascination, and desire intensify their passion and test the charged ground between them. Recklessly, the two verge toward the one thing both fear they may never truly find again: total intimacy. It is an instant classic and one of the great love stories of our time.
Convenience Store Woman - Sayaka Murata	Keiko has never fit in, neither in her family, nor in school, but when at the age of eighteen she begins working at the Hiiromachi branch of “Smile Mart,” she finds peace and purpose in her life. In the store, unlike anywhere else, she understands the rules of social interaction—many are laid out line by line in the store’s manual—and she does her best to copy the dress, mannerisms, and speech of her colleagues, playing the part of a “normal” person excellently, more or less. Keiko is very happy, but the people close to her, from her family to her coworkers, increasingly pressure her to find a husband, and to start a proper career, prompting her to take desperate action...
Girl, Woman, Other - Bernardine Evaristo	Girl, Woman, Other is the eighth novel by Bernardine Evaristo. Published in 2019 by Hamish Hamilton, it follows the lives of 12 characters in the United Kingdom over the course of several decades.
Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit - Jeannette Winterson	Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit is a coming-of-age story about a lesbian who grows up in an English Pentecostal community. Key themes of the book include transition from youth to adulthood, complex family relationships, same-sex relationships, organised religion and the concept of faith.
Pachinko – Min Jin Lee	Pachinko is an epic historical fiction novel following a Korean family who immigrates to Japan. The story features an ensemble of characters who encounter racism, discrimination, stereotyping, and other aspects of the 20th-century Korean experience of Japan.
Sonny Boy - Annejet van der Zijl	Autumn 1928: a young Surinamese student moves in as a boarder in The Hague with a divorced Dutch woman with four children. When she turns out to be pregnant by him six months later, the scandal becomes incalculable. But despite poverty and discrimination, the

	<p>couple manages to build a happy and prosperous life in the years that follow with their son Waldy, alias Sonny Boy. Then the Second World War breaks out, and they decide to take Jews into their home - with all the consequences that entails.</p>
<p>Tell Me How It Ends: An Essay in Forty Questions - Valeria Luiselli</p>	<p>A moving, eye-opening polemic about the US-Mexico border and what happens to the tens of thousands of unaccompanied Mexican and Central American children arriving in the US without papers.</p>
<p>The Bluest Eye - Toni Morrison</p>	<p>Pecola Breedlove longs for blond hair and blue eyes, so that she will be as beautiful and beloved as all the blond, blue-eyed children in America. In the autumn of 1941, the marigolds in her garden will not bloom, and her wish will not come true. Pecola's life is about to change in other painful and devastating ways. A powerful interrogation of what it means to conform to an idea of beauty, The Bluest Eye asks vital questions about race, class and gender and remains one of Toni Morrison's most unforgettable works.</p>
<p>The End of Eddy - Edouard Louis</p>	<p>An autobiographical novel about growing up gay in a working-class town in Picardy. Growing up in a poor village in northern France, all Eddy Bellegueule wanted was to be a man in the eyes of his family and neighbors. But from childhood, he was different--"girlish," intellectually precocious, and attracted to other men. The End of Eddy captures the violence and desperation of life in a French factory town. It is also a sensitive, universal portrait of boyhood and sexual awakening.</p>
<p>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time – Mark Haddon</p>	<p>Christopher John Francis Boone knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. He relates well to animals but has no understanding of human emotions. He cannot stand to be touched. And he detests the color yellow. This improbable story of Christopher's quest to investigate the suspicious death of a neighborhood dog makes for one of the most captivating, unusual, and widely heralded novels in recent years.</p>
<p>The Fixer - Bernard Malamut</p>	<p>The Jewish Jakov Bok leaves his native village to look for work in Kiev. He is the 'fixer' of small jobs, with little chance of getting ahead in the world. After his arrival, a Russian boy is killed in Kiev, and through leaflets the mysterious organization 'Black Hundred' accuses the Jews of the ritual murder. Jakow Bok is arrested and spends two years in prison awaiting trial, where he is humiliated and abused. However, he does not give in and stubbornly maintains his innocence. His triumph over almost unbelievable cruelty makes him a moral knight.</p>
<p>The Happening - Annie Ernaux</p>	<p>In 1963, Annie Ernaux, 23 and unattached, realizes she is pregnant. Shame arises in her like a plague: understanding that her pregnancy will mark her and her family as social failures, she knows she cannot keep that child. This is the story, written forty years later, of a trauma Ernaux never overcame.</p>
<p>The Hate U Give - Angie Thomas</p>	<p>Sixteen-year-old Starr lives in two worlds: the poor neighbourhood where she was born and raised and her posh high school in the suburbs. The uneasy balance between them is shattered when Starr is the only witness to the fatal shooting of her unarmed best friend, Khalil, by a police officer. Now what Starr says could destroy her community. It could also get her killed. Inspired by the Black Lives</p>

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Books (non-fiction)

<p>Divergent Mind: Thriving in a World That Wasn't Designed for You – Jenara Nerenberg</p>	<p>A paradigm-shifting study of neurodivergent women—those with ADHD, autism, synesthesia, high sensitivity, and sensory processing disorder—exploring why these traits are overlooked in women and how society benefits from allowing their unique strengths to flourish. When it comes to women, sensory processing differences are often overlooked, masked, or mistaken for something else entirely. Between a flawed system that focuses on diagnosing younger, male populations, and the fact that girls are conditioned from a young age to blend in and conform to gender expectations, women often don't learn about their neurological differences until they are adults, if at all. As a result, potentially millions live with undiagnosed or misdiagnosed neurodivergences, and the misidentification leads to depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, and shame. Meanwhile, we all miss out on the gifts their neurodivergent minds have to offer.</p>
<p>Easy Beauty – Chloé Cooper Jones</p>	<p>“I am in a bar in Brooklyn, listening to two men, my friends, discuss whether my life is worth living.” So begins Chloé Cooper Jones’s bold, revealing account of moving through the world in a body that looks different than most. Jones learned early on to factor “pain calculations” into every plan, every situation. Born with a rare congenital condition called sacral agenesis which affects both her stature and gait, her pain is physical. But there is also the pain of being judged and pitied for her appearance, of being dismissed as “less than.” The way she has been seen—or not seen—has informed her lens on the world her entire life. She resisted this reality by excelling academically and retreating to “the neutral room in her mind” until it passed. But after unexpectedly becoming a mother (in violation of unspoken social taboos about the disabled body), something in her shifts, and Jones sets off on a journey across the globe, reclaiming the spaces she’d been denied, and denied herself.</p>
<p>Invisible Women: Data Bias in a World Designed for Men – Caroline Criado Pérez</p>	<p>Data is fundamental to the modern world. From economic development, to healthcare, to education and public policy, we rely on numbers to allocate resources and make crucial decisions. But because so much data fails to take into account gender, because it treats men as the default and women as atypical, bias and discrimination are baked into our systems. And women pay tremendous costs for this bias, in time, money, and often with their lives.</p>
<p>Hood Feminism – Mikki Kendall</p>	<p>The fights against hunger, homelessness, poverty, health disparities, poor schools, homophobia, transphobia, and domestic violence are feminist fights. Kendall offers a feminism rooted in the livelihood of everyday women. Mainstream feminists rarely talk about meeting basic needs as a feminist issue, argues Mikki Kendall. All too often, the focus is not on basic survival for the many, but on increasing privilege for the few.</p>
<p>It's Not About the Burqa – Mariam Khan (editor)</p>	<p>It's Not About the Burqa is an anthology of frank and insightful essays by Muslim women about the contemporary Muslim female experience. What does it mean, exactly, to be a Muslim woman in the West today?</p>

	<p>According to the media, it's all about the burqa. Here's what it's really about.</p>
<p>The Second Sex – Simone de Beauvoir</p>	<p>Everyone who cares about freedom and justice for women should read the Second Sex Guardian Simone de Beauvoir famously wrote, One is not born, but rather becomes, woman. In this groundbreaking work of feminism she examines the limits of female freedom and explodes our deeply ingrained beliefs about femininity. Liberation, she argues, entails challenging traditional perceptions of the social relationship between the sexes and, crucially, in achieving economic independence. Drawing on sociology, anthropology and biology, the Second Sex is as important and relevant Today as when it was first published in 1949.</p>
<p>Thinking, Fast and Slow - Daniel Kahneman</p>	<p>In the highly anticipated Thinking, Fast and Slow, Kahneman takes us on a groundbreaking tour of the mind and explains the two systems that drive the way we think. System 1 is fast, intuitive, and emotional; System 2 is slower, more deliberative, and more logical. Kahneman exposes the extraordinary capabilities—and also the faults and biases—of fast thinking, and reveals the pervasive influence of intuitive impressions on our thoughts and behavior. The impact of loss aversion and overconfidence on corporate strategies, the difficulties of predicting what will make us happy in the future, the challenges of properly framing risks at work and at home, the profound effect of cognitive biases on everything from playing the stock market to planning the next vacation—each of these can be understood only by knowing how the two systems work together to shape our judgments and decisions.</p>
<p>We Should All Be Feminists - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie</p>	<p>With humor and levity, here Adichie offers readers a unique definition of feminism for the twenty-first century—one rooted in inclusion and awareness. She shines a light not only on blatant discrimination, but also the more insidious, institutional behaviors that marginalize women around the world, in order to help readers of all walks of life better understand the often masked realities of sexual politics. Throughout, she draws extensively on her own experiences—in the U.S., in her native Nigeria, and abroad—offering an artfully nuanced explanation of why the gender divide is harmful for women and men, alike.</p>
<p>White Innocence - Gloria Wekker</p>	<p>Wekker explores a central paradox of Dutch culture: the passionate denial of racial discrimination and colonial violence coexisting alongside aggressive racism and xenophobia. Accessing a cultural archive built over 400 years of Dutch colonial rule, Wekker fundamentally challenges Dutch racial exceptionalism by undermining the dominant narrative of the Netherlands as a gentle and ethical nation. Wekker analyzes the Dutch medias portrayal of black women and men, the failure to grasp race in the Dutch academy, contemporary conservative politics (including gay politicians espousing anti-immigrant rhetoric), and the controversy surrounding the folkloric character Black Pete, showing how the denial of racism and the expression of innocence safeguards white privilege. Wekker uncovers the postcolonial legacy of race and its role in shaping the white Dutch self, presenting the contested, persistent legacy of racism in the country.</p>

Films & Series

Flee	Flee tells the extraordinary true story of a man, Amin, on the verge of marriage which compels him to reveal his hidden past for the first time. It is a beautiful and moving story about a gay Afghan refugee; a story that will live on.
Pachinko	Based on the book ‘Pachinko’ by Jin Min Lee (see ‘ Books (fiction) ’). Pachinko is an epic historical fiction novel following a Korean family who immigrates to Japan. The story features an ensemble of characters who encounter racism, discrimination, stereotyping, and other aspects of the 20th-century Korean experience of Japan.
Ray	The story of the life and career of the legendary rhythm and blues musician Ray Charles, from his humble beginnings in the South, where he went blind at age seven, to his meteoric rise to stardom during the 1950s and 1960s.
The hate U give	Based on the book ‘The hate U give’ by Angie Thomas (see ‘ Books (fiction) ’). Sixteen-year-old Starr lives in two worlds: the poor neighbourhood where she was born and raised and her posh high school in the suburbs. The uneasy balance between them is shattered when Starr is the only witness to the fatal shooting of her unarmed best friend, Khalil, by a police officer. Now what Starr says could destroy her community. It could also get her killed. Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, this is a powerful and gripping novel about one girl's struggle for justice.
The Swimmers	From war-torn Syria to the 2016 Rio Olympics, two young sisters embark on a harrowing journey as refugees, putting both their hearts and champion swimming skills to heroic use.
When They See Us	Based on a true story that gripped the country, When They See Us will chronicle the notorious case of five teenagers of color, labeled the Central Park Five, who were convicted of a rape they did not commit. The four part limited series will focus on the five teenagers from Harlem -- Antron McCray, Kevin Richardson, Yusef Salaam, Raymond Santana and Korey Wise. Beginning in the spring of 1989, when the teenagers were first questioned about the incident, the series will span 25 years, highlighting their exoneration in 2002 and the settlement reached with the city of New York in 2014.

Podcasts

1619 – The New York Times, Ep. 2: The Economy That Slavery Built	The institution of slavery turned a poor, fledgling nation into a financial powerhouse and the cotton plantation was America’s first big business. Behind the system, and built into it, was the whip.
52 Weeks of Health Equity with Conscious By Us	At Conscious By Us (CBU), we believe health impacts all aspects of life, especially our progress toward creating a diverse and inclusive world. We believe that conversations about health need to occur across a variety of industries with a diverse group of knowledge holders. With that in mind, we will be talking with guests from

	<p>various backgrounds with important insights and perspectives to share on health.</p>
<p>A Dog Called Diversity</p>	<p>Welcome to A Dog Called diversity. A podcast exploring the themes of diversity, equity and inclusion through sharing stories of personal and powerful lived experiences. Diversity and Inclusion Leader Lisa Mulligan, speaks with fascinating people and uncovers unique experiences with the purpose of building a more inclusive, accepting and kind world.</p>
<p>Encyclopedia Womanica</p>	<p>Thinking back to our history classes growing up, we had one question: Where the ladies at? Enter, Womanica. In just 5 minutes a day, learn about different incredible women from throughout history. On Wonder Media Network’s award-winning podcast, we’re telling the stories of women you may or may not know — but definitely should.</p>
<p>The Diversity Gap</p>	<p>The Diversity Gap Podcast explores the gap between our good intentions for diversity and the impact of those intentions. In this collection of conversations, you will be challenged to think about organizational culture and racial diversity in a fresh and nuanced way.</p>