



Racial Reconciliation Awareness Book Club Summer Reading 2025

James: A Novel by Percival Everett

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER NATIONAL BOOK AWARD WINNER A brilliant, action-packed reimagining of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, both harrowing and darkly humorous, told from the enslaved Jim's point of view

"Genius"—*The Atlantic* "A masterpiece that will help redefine one of the classics of American literature, while also being a major achievement on its own."—*Chicago Tribune* "A provocative, enlightening literary work of art."—*The Boston Globe* "Everett's most thrilling novel, but also his most soulful."—*The New York Times*

When the enslaved Jim overhears that he is about to be sold to a man in New Orleans, separated from his wife and daughter forever, he decides to hide on nearby Jackson Island until he can formulate a plan. Meanwhile, Huck Finn has faked his own death to escape his violent father, recently returned to town. As all readers of American literature know, thus begins the dangerous and transcendent journey by raft down the Mississippi River toward the elusive and too-often-unreliable promise of the Free States and beyond.

While many narrative set pieces of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* remain in place (floods and storms, stumbling across both unexpected death and unexpected treasure in the myriad stopping points along the river's banks, encountering the scam artists posing as the Duke and Dauphin...), Jim's agency, intelligence and compassion are shown in a radically new light.

Brimming with the electrifying humor and lacerating observations that have made Everett a "literary icon" (*Oprah Daily*), and one of the most decorated writers of our lifetime, *James* is destined to be a cornerstone of twenty-first century American literature.

Book Club Discussion of James	7:00 PM on Zoom	2 Options
Option # 1	Wednesdays June 25, July 30, August 27	
Option # 2	Thursdays June 26, July 31, August 28	

Reading Schedule:

June	Part 1 of James	Pages 9 – 185
July	Part 2 of James	Pages 189 – 247
August	Part 3 of James	Pages 251 – 303

Contact C.F. Hoffman to register for one of the discussion groups:

Email: cfhoffman@windstream.net; Cell: 724-417-9626 Home: 724-336-4103