

PAOCC Suggested Reading List 2025

The Black Utopians, by Aaron Robertson

(The roots of Black Christian Nationalism as a paradigm shift for black struggle. . . Rev. Cleage's deep commitment to social struggle, change and communalism)

Erasing History, by Jason Stanley

(A global call to action that tells us why the past is a frontline in the struggle for a future free of fascism or an authoritarian government; as the far right continues to rewrite history and undo a century of progress on race, gender, class, etc.)

Overthrow, by Stephen Kinzer

("Regime change" has been an integral part of U.S. foreign policy for more than one hundred years. Overthrowing small governments that stand in the way of America's political and economic goals.)

Confessions of an Economic Hit Man (3rd Edition), by John Perkins

(An economic hit man exposes corruption on an international scale, and offers much-needed solutions for curing the degenerative Death Economy.)

The Burning Earth, by Sunil Amrith

(Deals with the earth's ecological plight in the context of human exploitation, and our attitudes about our relationship to the natural world.)

Madness, by Antonia Hylton

(The history of a segregated asylum in 1911, Crownsville, the Hospital for the Negro Insane of Maryland. How endemic racial violence and its legacy still shapes America today)

The Invention of Good and Evil, by Hanno Sauer

(Our definition of good and evil started five million years ago in East Africa, our ancestors learned to cooperate in order to survive, but today we've become fixated on microaggressions and cultural appropriations rather than human survival and our need for cooperation.)

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The Migrant's Jail, by Brianna Nofil

(U.S. long history of mistreatment of immigrants via jails. Building jails to get contracts, and to warehouse the non-white refugees of America)

Golden Years, by James Chappel

(As life expectancy in the U.S. increased seniors themselves revised the narrative about aging and organizations like AARP took on crucial roles. Reframing old age as continued youth, with the help of artificial joints, Viagra and botox, has come with many consequences)

The Indian Card (Who Gets to be Native In America), by Carrie Schuettelpelz
(How becoming a member of one's own Tribe became a tool of political, economic and social exploitation in America. Native Americans must continue to reapply for tribal membership and fight the forces of assimilation, extermination, subjugation and disenfranchisement.)

Good Reasonable People (The Psychology Behind America's Dangerous Divide) by Keith Payne

(How our political beliefs are shallow, but we share a psychological bottom line: we are good and reasonable people. This (not politics) is at the root of our national turmoil!

Lovely One, by Kejanji Brown Jackson (biographical)

John Lewis, by David Greenberg
(biography)

Taming Silicon Valley, by Gary F. Marcus

(How to put stricter regulations around A.I. and the problems of generative A.I.)

Playing With Reality, by Kelly Clancy

(The roles games have played in medicine, economic thought, moral philosophy, A.I., etc.)

Combee, by Edda L. Fields-Black

(The story of Harriet Tubman's raid of Confederate rice plantations on the Combahee River, in Lowcountry South Carolina)