

Further Reading

How to Be an Antiracist

Ibram X. Kendi (2019)

POLITICS KEN

This book is a bracingly original approach to understanding and uprooting racism and inequality in our society—and in ourselves. Ibram X. Kendi’s concept of antiracism reenergizes and reshapes the conversation about racial justice in America—but even more fundamentally, points us toward liberating new ways of thinking about ourselves and each other.

Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks

Jason Reynolds (2019)

TEEN BLACK

A whimsical exploration of the role detours play in life follows a group of students who become so engaged in everyday activities while taking 10 different routes home from school that they fail to notice a school bus that has dropped from the sky.

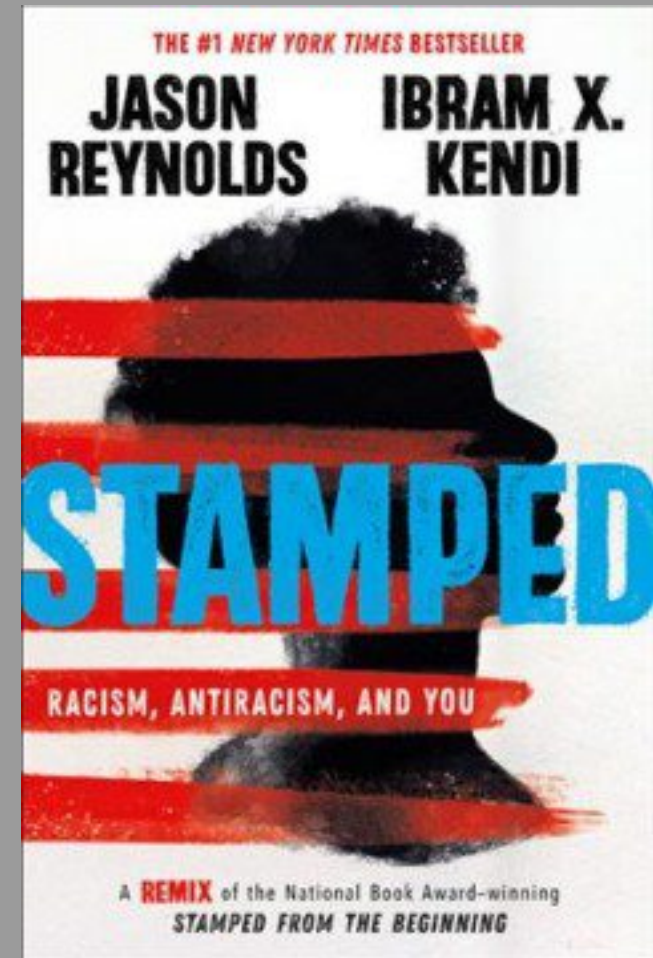
The Water Dancer

Ta-Nehisi Coates (2019)

COATES

A Virginia slave narrowly escapes a drowning death through the intervention of a mysterious force that compels his escape and personal underground war against slavery.

Book Discussion Guide



About the Book

The construct of race has always been used to gain and keep power, to create dynamics that separate and silence. *Stamped* reveals the history of racist ideas in America, and inspires hope for an antiracist future. It takes you on a race journey from then to now, shows you why we feel how we feel, and why the poison of racism lingers.

Discussion Questions

1. The first chapter defines segregationists, assimilationists, and antiracists. Were you familiar with these terms before you read *Stamped*? Did your understanding of these words change by the end?
2. What are examples of racism that you've encountered or experienced? Referencing the list of racist ideas in Chapter 6, explain why and how your personal experiences with racism are tied to racist ideas that are hundreds of years old.
3. As seen with movies like *Tarzan*, *Planet of the Apes*, and *Rocky*, pop culture and media have played a large role in reinforcing racist ideas, whether their stories are overtly racist or are a bit sneakier in their propagation of racist ideas. What current movies, TV shows, and stories promote racist ideas, and how?
4. How do race, gender, and sexual orientation intersect and create different barriers for queer women of color?
5. Why is Angela Davis a champion of antiracist thought and practice? Discuss the ways in which Davis fought for antiracism at different points in her life.
6. The authors note how Richard Nixon would demean Black people in his speeches without ever saying "Black" and "White" by using words like "urban" and "ghetto" (pages 191-192). What are other ways we invoke race without overtly mentioning race?
7. Abraham Lincoln, W.E.B. Du Bois, and Booker T. Washington are remembered as defenders of Black liberation. How did these figures propel antiracist thought and enforce racist ideas? Can a person have racist, segregationist, and antiracist ideas all at once? How?
8. Jason Reynolds introduces the concept of double consciousness: "A two-ness. A self that is Black and a self that is American" (page 124). Why might people of color feel this way?
9. Though published as a book for young people, how do readers of all ages benefit from *Stamped*?
10. Research interviews with Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi. How do they speak to the book? Why is it such an important work to them?
11. What surprised you in this book? What angered you or made you sad? What other emotions did you experience while reading?
12. After finishing *Stamped*, how do you feel about the history of racism? What habits and actions can you implement to promote antiracism?

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