The works of 75 novelists, 14 dramatists, 16 short story writers, and 20 poets are included in this partially annotated bibliography based on available materials. Most entries consist of the author's name, the title of the work, and the date of publication. (SW)
SELECTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY ON AFRO-AMERICAN LITERATURE (300 YEARS)

ARRANGED CHRONOLOGICALLY BY GENRE

AND

PARTIALLY ANNOTATED

Note: This bibliography has been in preparation for approximately three years. Annotations are, for the most part, based upon available copies of materials. Although a number of lists already are available, they do not serve well the purpose of developing integrated themes in American Literature.

Virginia P. Redd, Assistant Professor
University of Maryland Baltimore County
AFRO-AMERICAN NOVELISTS

Brown, William Wells
_Clotel_ (1853) The first published novel by an Afro-American, this is a narrative of slave life in the United States.

Webb, Frank J.
The_Caries and Their Friends_ (1857)

Bond, James H.W.
_Bend and Free_ (1886)

Harper, Frances Ellen Watkins
_Lola Leroy_ (1892) Significant for its attempt to combat stereotypes created by white authors of the time

"Sanda" (Walter H. Stovers and William H. Anderson)
_Appointed_ (1894)

Jones, J. McHenry
_Hearts of Gold_ (1896)

Dunbar, Paul Lawrence
_The Uncalled_
The_Love of Landry_
The_Fanatics_
The_Sport of the Gods_

Dunbar, remembered primarily for his poetry and short stories, wrote generally poor novels.

Griggs, Sutton E.
_Imperium in Imperio_ (1899)

Besides opposing miscegenation, oppression, and Jim Crow-ism, this novel attacks exploitation of the Negro and espouses a protective agency for Negro interests.

_Overshadowed_ (1901)
_Unfettered_ (1902)
The_Hindered Hand_ (1905)
_Pointing the Way_ (1908)

Chesnutt, Charles W.
_The House Behind the Cedars_ (1900) - Deals with the tragic mulatto
_The Marrow of Tradition_ (1901) - Retaliation of Blacks against brutality
_The Colonel's Dream_ (1905) - Southern post-war reform

Hopkins, Pauline E.
_Contending Forces_ (1900) Writes of Boston middle class families

Grant, J.W.
_Out of the Darkness_ (1909)

Walker, Thomas H.B.
_Bebbly_ (1910)

Waring, Robert L.
_As We See It_ (1910) Belittles poor Southern whites and is complimentary to the aristocrat and the progressive Black
Du Bois, W.E.B.
The Quest of the Silver Fleece (1911) A sociological novel, apparently influenced by Frank Norris (Octopus and the Pit)
Dark Princess (1928)
The Black Flame Trilogy:
  Ordeal of Mansart (1957)
  Mansart Builds a School (1959)
  Worlds of Color (1961)

Johnson, James Weldon
Autobiography of an Ex-Coloured Man (1912)

Jones, York
The Climbers: A Story of Sun-Kissed Sweethearts

Michaux, Oscar
The Conquest: The Story of a Negro Pioneer (1913) First novel dealing with a Negro pioneer
The Forged Note (1915)
The Homesteader (1917)
The Case of Mrs. Wingate (1945)
The Story of Dorothy Stanfield (1946)

Ashby, William M.
Redder Blood (1915)

Gilmore, F. Grant
The Problem: A Military Novel (1915) Extols the virtues of the Black soldier in the Spanish American War

Shackleford, Otis M., Lillian Simmons (1915) Treats interracial strife resulting from Black migration to the North

Downing, Henry F.
The American Cavalrymen (1917)

Fleming, Sarah Lee Brown
Hope's Highway (1918)

Dreer, Herman,
The Immediate Jewel of His Soul (1919) Reveals the new militance of the Black American

Schuyler, George
Slaves Today (1931)
Black No More (1931) Satirizes attitudes of Blacks and whites

Cullen, Countee
One Way to Heaven (1932) Satirizes upper class life in Harlem

Hill, John H.
Princess Malah (1933)
Hurston, Zora Neale
   *Jonah's Gourd Vine* (1934)
   *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (1937)
   *Seraph on the Suwanee* (1948)

Henderson, George Wylie
   *Ollie Miss* (1935)
   *Julie* (1946)

Lee, George W.
   *River George* (1937)

Gilbert, Mercedes
   *Aunt Sarah's Wooden God* (1938)

Turpin, Waters Edward
   *These Low Grounds* (1937)
   *O Canaan* (1939)
   *The Rootless* (1957)

   Dr. Turpin's special appeal was as a chronicler of Black families in Maryland.

Attaway, William
   *Let Me Breathe Thunder* (1939)
   *Blood on the Forge* (1941) Treats problems of the migrant worker

Wright, Richard
   *Native Son* (1940) One of the most important and influential works by an Afro-American
   *The Outsider* (1953)
   *The Long Dream* (1958)
   *Laud Today* (1903)
   *Savage Holiday* (1954) Published posthumously

Offord, C.R.
   *The White Face* (1943)

Himes, Chester B.
   *If He Hollers, Let Him Go* (1945)
   *Lonely Crusade* (1947)
   *Cast the First Stone* (1952)

Lucas, Curtis
   *Third Ward Newark* (1946)

Toomer, Jean
   *Cane* (1923) A potpourri of stories, sketches, poetry, and drama,
   *Cane* is one of the most significant productions of the Black Renaissance and in heralding a new era in contemporary American literature.

Dorsey, John T.
   *The Lion of Judah* (1924)
Fairset, Jessie
There Is Confusion (1924) First nationally recognized novel by a Black woman
Plum Bun (1929)
The Chinaberry Tree (1931)
Comedy: American Style (1933)

Jones, Joshua Henry
By Sanction of Law (1924)

White, Walter
The Fire in the Flint (1924)
Flight (1926)

Van Vechten, Carl
Nigger Heaven (1926) A major influence on contemporary writers

Larsen, Nella
Quicksand (1928)
Passing (1929)

Fisher, Rudolph
The Walls of Jericho (1928)
The Conjure-Man Dies (1932) First full-length detective novel by a Black writer

McKay Claude
Home to Harlem (1928)
Banjo
Banana Bottom (1933)

Thurman, Wallace
The Blacker the Berry (1929)
Infants of the Spring (1932)

Paynter, John H.
Fugitives of the Pearl (1930) Early attempt at historical fiction

Fontemps, Arna
God Sends Sunday (1931)
Black Thunder (1936) The Prosser slave revolt in Virginia in 1800
Drums of Dusk (1939)

Hughes, Langston
Not Without Laughter (1930) Depicts life in a small Mid-Western town

Petry, Ann
The Street (1946)
Country Place (1947)
The Narrows (1953)
Yerby, Frank
The Foxes of Harrow (1946)
The Vixens (1947)
The Golden Hawk (1948)
Pride's Castle (1949)
Floodtide (1950)
A Woman Called Fancy (1951)
The Saracen's Blade (1952)
Devil's Laughter (1953)
Benton's Row (1954)
Treasure of Pleasant Valley (1955)
Captain Rebel (1950)
Fairoaks (1957)
Serpent and the Staff (1958)
Cullican (1960)
Garfield Honor (1961)
Griffin's Way (1962)
Old Guards Laugh (1964)
Odor of Sanctity (1965)
Judas, My Brother (1968)

Bland, Alden
Behold a Cry (1947)

Motley, Willard
Knock on Any Door (1947)
We Fished All Night (1951)

Thomas, Will
God Is for White Folks (1947)

Smith, William Gardner
Last of the Conquerors (1948)
Anger at Innocence (1950)

West, Dorothy
The Living Is Easy (1948)

Savoy, Willard
Alien Land (1949)

Demby, William
Beetlecreek (1950)
The Catacombs (1965)

Kaye, Phillip B.
Taffy (1950)

Redding, J. Saunders
Stranger and Alone (1950)

Brown, Floyd
Iron City (1951)
Dodson, Owen
Boy at the Window (1951)

Dickens, Dorothy Lee
Black on the Rainbow (1952)

Ellison, Ralph
Invisible Man (1952) In 1965, a Book Week poll of authors, editors and critics judged this book to be the most distinguished single work published in America since 1945.

Brooks, Gwendolyn
Maud Martha (1953)

Baldwin, James
Go Tell It on the Mountain (1953)
Giovanni's Room (1956)
Another Country (1963)
Tell Me How Long the Train's Been Gone (1968)

Killens, James Oliver
Youngblood (1954)
And Then We Heard Thunder (1963)

Mayfield, Julian
The Hit (1957)
The Long Night (1958)
The Ground Parade (1961)

Marshall, Paule
Brown Girl, Brownstones (1959)

Brown, Franklin
Trumball Park (1959)

Williams, John A.
The Angry Ones (1960)
Night Song (1961)
Sissie (1963)
The Man Who Cried I Am (1967)

Kelley, William Melvin
A Different Drummer (1962)
A Drop of Patience (1965)
Dem (1967)

Wright, Charles
The Messenger (1963)

Gaines, Ernest J.
Catherine Carmier (1964)
Of Love and Dust (1967)

Jones, LeRoi
System of Dante's Hell (1967)
AFRO-AMERICAN DRAMATISTS

Hughes, Langston

Mulatto 9 (1931)
Simply Heavenly (1957)
Jerico-Jim Crow (1954)
Tambourines to Glory (1958)

Wright, Richard (with Paul Green)

Native Son: Biography of a Young American (1941)

Hansberry, Lorraine

Raisin in the Sun (1959)
Sign in Sidney Brustein’s Window (1964)

Davis, Ossie

Purlie Victorious (1961)

Kennedy, Adrienne

Funnyhouse of a Negro (1962) Obie Award
The Owl Answers (1963)
Lesson in the Dead Language (1964)
The Rat’s Mass (1965)

Baldwin, James

Blues for Mr. Charlie (1964)
Amen Corner (1965)

Burgie, Irving and Lofton Mitchell

Ballad for Bimshire (1963)

Mitchell, Lofton

Land Beyond the River (1963)

Jones, LeRoi

Dutchman and the Slave (1964)
Baptism and The Toilet (1964)
Slave Ship (1967)

Ward, Douglas Turner

Day of Absence (1965)
Happy Ending (1965)

Miller, Ronald

Who’s Got His Own (1966)

Mackey, William Wellington

Behold! Cometh the Vanderkellans (1965)
Requiem for Brother X,
A Homage to Malcolm X (1968)
Bullins, Ed

The Electronic Nigger and Other Plays (1968)
In New England Winter (1968)

McIver, Ray

Cod Is a (Guess What?) (1968)

Shine, Ted

Contribution (1969)

AFRO-AMERICAN SHORT STORY WRITERS

Harper, Frances E.W.
"The Two Offers" (1859) Probably the first short story published by an Afro-American

Chesnutt, Charles W.
The Conjure Woman -- A collection of seven folk tales, published in 1899. However, the initial story had appeared in The Atlantic Monthly in 1887.
The Wife of His Youth and Other Stories of the Color Line (1899)

Dunbar, Paul Lawrence

Folks from Dixie (1898)
The Strength of Gideon and Other Stories (1900)
In Old Plantation Days (1903)
The Heart of Happy Hollow (1904)
Best Stories (1938)

McClellan, George Marion
Old Greenbottom Inn

Pickens, William
The Vengeance of the Gods (1922)

Walrond, Eric
Tropic Death (1926)

McKay, Claude
Gingertown (1932)

Fisher, Rudolph (1897-1934)
No collection

Hughes, Langston
The Ways of White Folks (1934)
Simple Speaks His Mind (1950)
Simple Takes A Wife (1953)
Simple Stakes a Claim (1957)
Laughing to Keep from Crying (1952)
Simple's Uncle Sam (1965)
The Best of Simple (1961)
Something in Common and Other Stories (1963)
Wright, Richard

Uncle Tom's Children (1938)
Eight Men (1961)

Ellison, Ralph
No collection

Murray, Albert
No collection

Baldwin, James

Going to Meet the Man (1966)

Marshall, Paule

Soul Clap Hands and Sing (1961)

Gaines, Ernest J.,

Bloodline (1968)

Kelly, William Melvin

Dancers on the Shore

AFRO-AMERICAN POETS

Hammon, Jupiter (c. 1720 – ?)

Among Hammon's works is "An Evening Thought: Salvation by Christ with Penitential Cries," published in 1760. This eighty-eight line poem is believed to be the first published by a Negro.

Wheatley, Phyllis (c. 1754-1784)

Miss Wheatley's first published work in 1770 was "An Elegiac Poem on the Death of George Whitefield."

Horton, George Moses (1797-c.1880)

Hope of Liberty and Naked Genius are the two extant volumes of his poetry.

Harper, Frances E.W. (1825-?)

Her first volume of poems was Poems on Miscellaneous Subjects, 1854.

Whitman, Albery A. (1851-?)

"Not a Man, Yet a Man," his first long poem, was published in 1877.
Johnson, James Weldon (1871-1938)

Fifty Years and Other Poems (1917)
Cod'n Trombones (1927) The play "Amen Corner" is an adaptation of this work.
St. Peter Relates an Incident of the Resurrection Day (1930)

Dunbar, Paul Lawrence (1872-1936)

Oak and Ivy (1893)
Majors and Minors (1895)
Lyrics of Lowly Life (1896) This volume, with an introduction by William Dean Howells, established Dunbar's popularity.
Lyrics of the Hearthside (1899)
Lyrics of Love and Laughter (1903)
Lyrics of Sunshine and Shadow (1905)
Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar (1940)
Little Brown Baby (1940) This is an excellent collection of poems for young children.

McKay, Claude (1890-1948)

Constab Ballads (1912)
Songs from Jamaica (1912)
Spring in New Hampshire (1920)
Harlem Shadows (1922)

Tolson, Melvin B. (1900-1966)

Rendezvous with America (1944)
Harlem Gallery (1965)

Evans, Mari (19__- )

Where Is All the Music? (1968)

Brown, Sterling (1901- )

Southern Road (1932)

Hughes, Langston (1902-1967)

The Weary Blues (1926)
Fine Clothes to the Jew (1927)
Dear Lovely Death (1931)
The Dream Keeper (1932)
Shakespeare in Harlem (1942)
Fields of Wonder (1947)
One-Way Ticket (1949)
The Panther and the Lash (1967)
Bontemps, Arna (1902-1963)

Personal

Cullen, Countee (1903-1946)

Color (1925)
Copper Sun (1927)
The Ballad of the Brown Girl (1927)
The Medea and Other Poems (1935)
The Lost Zoo (1940)
My Nine Lives and How I Lost Them (1942)

Hayden, Robert E. (1913- )

A Ballad of Remembrance (1932)
Heart-Shape in the Dust (1940)
The Lion and the Archer (1948)
Selected Poems (1966)

Randall, Dudley (1914- )

Cities Burning (1968)

Walker, Margaret A. (1915- )

"For My People" (1942)

Brooks, Gwendolyn (1917- )

A Street in Bronzeville (1945)
Annie Allen (1949) Won 1950 Pulitzer Prize
Bronzeville Boys and Girls (1946)
The Bean Eaters (1960)
Selected Poems (1963)

Emanuel, James (1921- )

The Treehouse and Other Poems (1963)

Jones, LeRoi (1934- )

Preface to a Twenty-Volume Suicide Note (1961)
The Dead Lecturer (1964)
Black Art (1966) (Mimeograph)