

## Catalog Items

### Docent # 14 B – Books

***“Up From Slavery: An Autobiography of Booker T. Washington”***

***By Booker T. Washington***

***1937***

During the years 1900-1901, Washington began publishing *Up from Slavery*, a serialized account of his life in the popular magazine Outlook, which reached a more diverse audience. This account was then published as a book and in both forms; it gained Washington significant White support. In *Up from Slavery*, Washington traces his journey from slave to educator. The early sections document his childhood as a slave and his efforts to get an education, and he directly credits his education with his later success as a man of action in his community and the nation. Washington details his transition from student to teacher, and outlines his own development as an educator and founder of the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. He tells the story of Tuskegee's growth, from classes held in a shantytown to a campus with many new buildings. In the final chapters of *Up From Slavery*, Washington describes his career as a public speaker and civil rights activist. Washington includes the address he gave at the Atlanta Cotton States and International Exposition in 1895, which made him a national figure. He concludes his autobiography with an account of several recognitions he has received for his work, including an honorary degree from Harvard, and two significant visits to Tuskegee, one by President McKinley and another by General Samuel C. Armstrong.

(4B)

***“Negro Digest: A magazine of Negro Comment.”***

***August 1944***

***Publisher and Managing Editor, John H. Johnson***

John H. Johnson, editor and publisher of Ebony & Jet magazines, borrowed \$500 against his mother's furniture and started Johnson Publishing Company. He got idea for *Negro Digest*, the forerunner of *Ebony*, while selecting articles for the Pace Insurance Company to keep abreast of current events of interest to blacks. In 1942, Johnson launched the *Negro Digest*, which took a serious look at racial issues and featured articles from prominent black and white writers.

(8B)

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***“Uncle Tom’s Cabin or Life Among the Lowly”***

***By Harriet Beecher Stowe***

***Copyright by Henry Altemus***

***1894***

This story lies among a race hitherto ignored by the associations of polite and refined society. An exotic race whose ancestors born beneath a tropic sun, brought with them, and perpetuated to their descendants, a character so essentially unlike the hard and dominant Anglo-Saxon race as for many years to have won from it only misunderstanding and contempt.

(10B)

***“Candle Lightin’ Time”***

***By Paul Lawrence Dunbar***

***First Edition***

***1901***

Charles W. Chesnutt, America's first great Black novelist said this of “Candle Lightin’ Time” “this is Paul Lawrence Dunbar's most beautiful work. It is a perfect gem. The Hampton Institute Camera Club furnished the photographs from which the illustrations are made, while the decorations are from the very artistic drawings of Margaret Armstrong. There is real music in these poems. As a first-class gift book, this ranks among the very best. If our readers would present their friends with gifts of permanent value, these are the books that will meet every demand. Have we not reason to rejoice that our race is now able to write such books?”

(12B)

***“The Negro In Sports”***

***By Edwin Bancroft Henderson***

***1939***

This revolutionary work lists the individual successes of African-Americans in sport, while also detailing the positive attributes gained in the African-American community from athletic achievements. In an effort to reach the African-American youth, Henderson states in the introduction, “this book is hopefully a beginning of a serious effort to put before the youth the story of a few of the outstanding athletes, and is also intended to encourage young people to maintain the racial vigor and health handed down to them by our ancestors ...”.

(13B)

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***“Uncle Remus”***

***By Joel Chandler Harris***

***1896***

**Uncle Remus** was a fictional character, the title character and fictional narrator of a collection of African American folktales adapted and compiled by Joel Chandler Harris, published in book form from 1881. A journalist in post-reconstruction Atlanta, Georgia, Harris produced seven Uncle Remus books. *Uncle Remus* is a collection of animal stories, songs, and oral folklore, collected from Southern United States blacks. Many of the stories are didactic, much like those of the African Aesop's fables and Jean de La Fontaine. Uncle Remus is a kindly, old slave who serves as a storytelling device, passing on the folktales to white children gathered around him.

(14B)

***“Little Black Sambo”***

***By Helen Bannerman***

***1898***

Helen Bannerman, who wrote the story for her two daughters when they were away at school, introduced the character of Little Black Sambo in 1898. This children's tale is set in India, and vividly describes a young boy's encounters with four tigers. Each threatens to make a meal of him, but Sambo wins them over by giving up one garment after another from his fine wardrobe.

(15B)

***“Frederick Douglass”***

***By Benjamin Quarles***

***1942***

This book is about one of the great men of all times. Frederick Douglass was an outstanding liberal advocating, among other reforms, woman's suffrage, temperance, and practical education, in addition to his major cause, The abolition of the Negro Slave.

(2B)