

SELF-GUIDED LEARNING

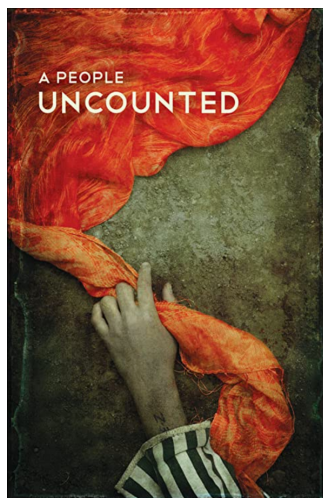
THINGS FALL APART

By Chinua Achebe

In *Things Fall Apart*, Chinua Achebe details pre colonial tradition in Nigeria and the arrival of Europeans in the late 1800s. The book's protagonist is Okonkwo of the Igbo or "Ibo" ethnic group who is the wrestling champion and warrior of the fictional Umuofia clan. Rejecting the leadership of his father, who in passing, left the family with unsettled debts, Okonkwo adopts an intense masculinity to rule his family and village. But often this masculinity results in extreme, violent actions that appall members of the clan. The book explores the unique challenges Okonkwo faces in constantly striving towards an ordered masculinity, both in fatherhood and leadership. However, instead of demonstrating his prowess constructively, by protecting his clan, he meets his dread for "weakness", when he is exiled to his motherland for certain violations of tradition, and fails to successfully confront Christian missionaries, who are determined to convert members of their village to their faith, including his own son. Achebe captures the beauty of language, both verbally and rhythmically by including the symbol of drums throughout the book, and allows his audience to witness the the clan's reverence for nature, ritual and community, while expertly navigating the tragedy that is born from generational wounds, colonialism, assimilation, repression, loss of tradition, and patriarchy.

Want to read more, find an excerpt of the book, [here](#).

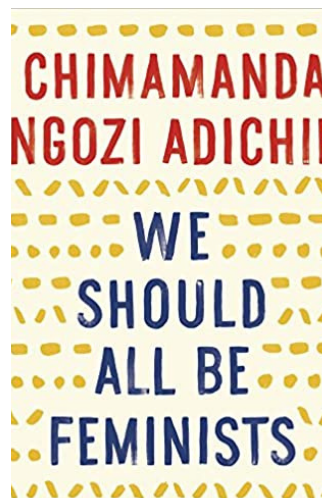
MOVIES



A People Uncounted

Detailing the lives and history of the Romani people, this documentary explores the after effects of the Holocaust and global ethnic intolerance of the Romani people, contrasted with celebrations of their culture and their lives.

BOOKS



We Should All Be Feminists

This short book is based on Ngozi's Ted Talk in 2012. Ngozi writes from personal experience, including her own stories while also unpacking the word feminism and it's real world applications.

PODCASTS

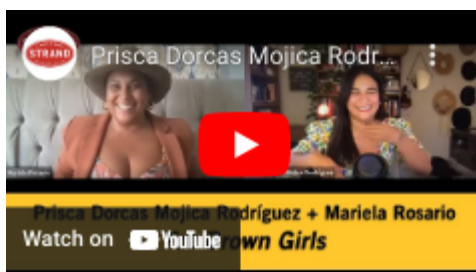


About Race



Asian Enough

For Brown Girls with Sharp Edges and Tender Hearts: A Love Letter to Women of Color



Prisca Dorcas Mojica Rodriguez

In this part memoir, part manifesto, author Mojica Rodriguez touches on subjects from colorism, to sexism, racism, and classism, in hopes that her stories and research will "democratize knowledge" and provide a space for Latinas and brown, women to join together. Her book is a call to action for her audience to decolonize their ideologies and view of one another by forming a sisterhood.

[Find the book here.](#)

Did you know?

During Lunar New Year in China, families and businesses typically hang Chinese characters “揮 fai” and “春 chun” written in gold or black lettering, upside down on red, square shaped paper. The character “揮 fai” means good fortune and “春 chūn” means Spring. The symbols bring good luck and prosperity. This is just one example of many couplets hung during the New Year.