

**AFRICAN AMERICAN FICTION
TEXAS TALKING BOOK PROGRAM**

Title: ADDICTED

Author: ZANE

Original Date: 2003

Zoe Reynard has the seemingly perfect life - marriage to a man she has loved since childhood, three children, and a successful company. But she has a dark side - an addiction to sex. It leads her to men who may threaten her life and world. Violence, strong language, and explicit descriptions of sex. 1998.

DB 80730

Title: AFTERBURN

Author: ZANE

Original Date: 2005

Yardley Brown is entranced by bank clerk Rayne Waters, but figures she must be attached. He searches for romance but only finds disappointment after disappointment. Finally, he asks Rayne out—and he may have found the woman of his dreams. Violence, strong language, and explicit descriptions of sex. 2005.

DB 80808 DX 80808

Title: BLANCHE CLEANS UP

Author: NEELY, BARBARA

Original Date: 1998

When Blanche White reluctantly agrees to fill in as housekeeper for a vacationing friend, she encounters a family in chaos. Mr. Brindle's campaign for governor is disrupted by a murder and a suicide in his household. Some of his African American supporters are particularly scornful and suspicious of Blanche. Strong language, violence, and descriptions of sex. 1998.

BR 11910 DB 47262 DLD DX 47262

**AFRICAN AMERICAN FICTION
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Title: COLDEST WINTER EVER

Author: SOULJAH, SISTER

Original Date: 1999

Gritty portrayal of the coming-of-age of Winter Santiago, born in 1977 to a fourteen-year-old mother and a drug-dealing father in Brooklyn's projects. The family's lavish lifestyle falls apart when Winter's mother is shot and her father is imprisoned, sending Winter to the streets. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. 1999. Followed by Midnight: A Gangster Love Story (DB 68016); Midnight and the Meaning Of Love (DB 73978); and Deeper Love Inside: The Porsche Santiago Story (DB 76278).

DB 57412 DLD DX 57412

Title: CUTTING SEASON

Author: LOCKE, ATTICA

Original Date: 2012

Single mom Caren has returned home to manage Belle Vie, the Louisiana plantation where her ancestors toiled as slaves. When a migrant worker is found dead on the property, the investigation uncovers a link to the long-ago disappearance of a slave. Some strong language. 2012.

DB 75690

Title: DESTINY'S EMBRACE

Author: JENKINS, BEVERLY, 1951-

Original Date: 2013

1885. African American seamstress Mariah Cooper leaves her abusive home in Philadelphia for a housekeeping job at a California cattle ranch. In Sacramento, she meets black rancher Logan Yates and the two attempt to deny their mutual attraction. Some explicit descriptions of sex. 2013.

DB 76763

**AFRICAN AMERICAN FICTION
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Title: DON'T TELL A SOUL

Author: WARREN, TIFFANY L.

Original Date: 2013

Three friends find strength and solace in their Sister-to-Sister Christian ministry. Pam's husband wasted their fortune, and she suspects he is having an affair; Taylor's ex is released from prison; and Yvonne discovers the true meaning of friendship.

Descriptions of sex. 2013.

DB 78684

Title: EXPOSED, DECEPTION, BETRAYAL

Author: CHASE, NAOMI

Original Date: 2011

Urban fiction trilogy on one cartridge. In Exposed, advertising executive Tamia Luke keeps up the pretense of perfection for her privileged boyfriend Brandon. But when a client blackmails Tamia over her porn star past, she agrees to his sexual demands.

Strong language, explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence. 2011.

DB 78749

Title: FAMILY AFFAIR

Author: BILLINGSLEY, RESHONDA TATE

Original Date: 2013

Olivia Dawson dreams of studying dance at Julliard, but its tuition is beyond her mother Lorraine's reach. After tragedy strikes, Lorraine reveals that Olivia's father is still alive—and very wealthy. Olivia goes looking for answers about why he abandoned them.

Some strong language. 2013.

BR 20322 DB 77627

**AFRICAN AMERICAN FICTION
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Title: GETTING TO HAPPY

Author: MCMILLAN, TERRY

Original Date: 2010

Phoenix, Arizona. Middle-aged Savannah, Gloria, Bernadine, and Robin, from Waiting to Exhale (DB/DX 35862), cope with problems in their love lives and with their older children. The four decide it's time to shake their addictions to food, shopping, and pills and "get happy." Strong language. Bestseller. 2010.

BR 19138 DB 72448

Title: GOD DON'T LIKE UGLY

Author: MONROE, MARY

Original Date: 2000

Annette Goode is a shy, overweight, sexually abused adolescent when beautiful, confident Rhoda Nelson befriends her in the 1960s. Annette, taken into Rhoda's eccentric family, confides to Rhoda about her abuse. Their friendship helps Annette to blossom and to overcome her attacker. Descriptions of sex, violence, and strong language. 2000.

DB 59534 DLD DX 59534

Title: GOD HELP THE CHILD

Author: MORRISON, TONI

Original Date: 2015

Bride, who was rejected by her light-skinned mother when she was born for being too black, has made her life into one that many envy. She has her own company, a fortune, and a lover. Dark secrets from the past are coming home to roost, however. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. Bestseller. 2015.

DB 81605 DX 81605

**AFRICAN AMERICAN FICTION
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Title: GOODNESS AND MERCY

Author: GRIGGS, VANESSA DAVIS

Original Date: 2009

Twenty-six-year-old African American Gabrielle Mercedes joins a church for the first time as an adult and assists in forming a dance ministry. But conflict arises when someone spreads rumors about her past—and she discovers that her new boyfriend might be married. Gabrielle prays for guidance. 2009.

DB 78218

Title: IF I SHOULD DIE: A MALI ANDERSON MYSTERY

Author: EDWARDS, GRACE F. (GRACE FREDERICA)

Original Date: 1997

Harlem. En route to her nephew's Uptown Children's Chorus rehearsal, African American ex-NYPD cop Mali Anderson thwarts a kidnapping but discovers the body of chorus tour director Erskin Harding. Mali tracks the killer as anonymous warnings escalate into violence. Strong language, some descriptions of sex, and some violence. 1997.

DB 61853 DLD DX 61853

Title: INVENTION OF WINGS

Author: KIDD, SUE MONK

Original Date: 2014

Charleston, 1803. Eleven-year-old Sarah Grimke is given a ten-year-old slave girl named Handful as a gift. They become close friends and are both punished when Handful learns to read. Sarah grows up to become an abolitionist, and Handful retains her independent spirit. Some violence and some strong language. Bestseller. 2014.

DB 78079

**AFRICAN AMERICAN FICTION
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Title: LIKE THE FIRST TIME

Author: RAY, FRANCIS

Original Date: 2004

Charleston, South Carolina. When Claire Bennett and Brooke Dunlap lose their jobs to downsizing, housewife Lorraine Averhart suggests they open a business selling bath and body products. With Lorraine's finances, Claire's creativity, and Brooke's savvy, their venture and friendship flourish. Some explicit descriptions of sex. 2004.

DB 62376 DLD DX 62376

Title: LOVE AFTER WAR

Author: HODGES, CHERIS F.

Original Date: 2013

After two years, Dana Singleton returns to Los Angeles only to run into her charming ex-boyfriend, Adrian Bryant. Adrian never explained their breakup or his obsessive vendetta against his father, but seeing Dana again fires up old passions. Explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. 2013.

DB 78391

Title: LOVE IN THE LIMELIGHT, VOLUME ONE

Author:

Original Date: 2010

In Brenda Jackson's "Star of His Heart," actress Rachel Wellesley falls for her sexy co-star Ethan Chambers on TV's hit drama. In A.C. Arthur's "Sing Your Pleasure," singer Charlene Quinn lands a new contract with a hot record label and pines for music producer Akil Hutton. Explicit descriptions of sex. 2010.

DB 81663

**AFRICAN AMERICAN FICTION
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Title: LOVE IN THE LIMELIGHT, VOLUME TWO

Author:

Original Date: 2014

In Ann Christopher's "Seduced on the Red Carpet," supermodel Livia Blake yearns for family and finds an unlikely passion with a sexy single father. In Adrienne Byrd's "Lovers Premiere," Hollywood agency rivals find a common ground in love and heal the rift. Explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. 2014.

DB 81754 DX 81754

Title: MERCY

Author: MORRISON, TONI

Original Date: 2008

Colonial North America, 1680s. An Anglo-Dutch trader reluctantly accepts a young slave girl named Florens as payment for a bad debt. Her mother hopes the transaction will prove a mercy to Florens, but subsequent years in Jacob Vaark's household reveal the harsh reality of being under another's dominion. Some violence. Bestseller. 2008.

BR 18095 DB 69148

Title: MIDDLE PASSAGE

Author: JOHNSON, CHARLES RICHARD, 1948-

Original Date: 1990

In 1830, Rutherford Calhoun, a witty, well-educated freed slave eking out a living as a petty thief in New Orleans, hops aboard a square-rigger to evade the prim Boston teacher who wants to marry him. But the Republic turns out to be a slave clipper bound for Africa. Calhoun hates himself for acting as henchman to the ship's captain, a dwarfish tyrant. Before the crew can mutiny, African captives stage a revolt. National Book Award. 1990.

BR 09054 DB 32593 DLD DX 32593

**AFRICAN AMERICAN FICTION
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Title: MONEY CAN'T BUY LOVE

Author: BRISCOE, CONNIE

Original Date: 2011

Magazine photographer Lenora Stone is broke with an uncommitted boyfriend when she wins the lottery. Suddenly, everything changes: Gerald wants to marry her, and Lenora can buy a mansion and her own studio. But can money bring happiness? Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. 2011.

DB 74554

Title: MORGAN MAN NOVELS, BOOKS 1-3

Author: DAY, ZURI

Original Date: 2014

Books one through three, written between 2012 and 2014, featuring the romances of the three Morgan brothers. In *Love on the Run*, sports manager Michael Morgan falls for his newest client, a sprinter. Also includes *A Good Dose of Pleasure* and *Bad Boy Seduction*. Strong language and explicit descriptions of sex. 2014.

DB 81277 DX 81277

Title: NOWHERE TO RUN

Author: GUNN, GAY G.

Original Date: 1997

California, 1849. Wealthy ex-slave Exum Taylor sends his best friend Solomon Hawk back to Georgia to buy an African woman. Solomon returns with beautiful Cassie Lee, who is eager to experience freedom and love but will not settle for Exum's brutishness. Explicit descriptions of sex and some violence. 1997.

DB 50067 DLD DX 5006

**AFRICAN AMERICAN FICTION
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Title: OTHER WOMAN

Author: DICKEY, ERIC JEROME

Original Date: 2003

An unnamed African American news producer is contacted by David Lawrence, a stranger who tells her that her husband is having an affair with his wife. The producer and David meet and have a brief fling, which their cheating spouses soon discover. Explicit descriptions of sex, strong language, and some violence. Bestseller. 2003.

DB 56284 DLD DX 56284

Title: PUSH

Author: SAPPHIRE, 1950-

Original Date: 1996

Illiterate and overweight, sixteen-year-old Claireece Precious Jones is pregnant again by her abusive father. After being suspended from school, Precious finds hope in Ms. Rain's Pre-GED reading class, where Precious begins keeping a journal. Violence, strong language, and explicit descriptions of sex. BCALA Literary Award. 1996.

BR 18590 DB 71038

Title: QUEEN SUGAR

Author: BASZILE, NATALIE

Original Date: 2014

A Los Angeles African American woman unexpectedly inherits a sugarcane farm in

Louisiana. Charley Bordelon and her eleven-year-old daughter, Micah, arrive just in time for growing season. Charley must deal with her homesick daughter, a bitter brother, and a Louisiana that is mired in the past. 2014.

DB 80375 DX 80375

**AFRICAN AMERICAN FICTION
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Title: RUBY

Author: BOND, CYNTHIA, 1961-

Original Date: 2014

Ruby Bell runs off to New York to discover what happened to her mother, but then is called back home to Texas. She realizes that the pain and bad memories she had fled remain, threatening to drag her down. A chance at love waits. Some violence and some strong language. 2014.

DB 81110 DX 81110

Title: SALVAGE THE BONES

Author: WARD, JESMYN

Original Date: 2011

Mississippi, August 2005. Young black teenager Esch Batiste—pregnant, hungry, and rejected—helps her widowed father and three brothers prepare for the approaching hurricane. When the storm arrives, the family seeks refuge in the attic. Violence, strong language, and some explicit descriptions of sex. National Book Award. 2011.

BR 19453 DB 74033

Title: SANCTUARY COVE: A CAVANAUGH ISLAND NOVEL

Author: ALERS, ROCHELLE

Original Date: 2012

Suddenly widowed bookstore owner Deborah Robinson returns with her children to Sanctuary Cove on Cavanaugh Island, South Carolina. She meets Dr. Asa Monroe and they begin to fall in love. But Asa is hiding secrets about his past. Explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. 2012.

DB 74558

**AFRICAN AMERICAN FICTION
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Title: SEE NO EVIL: MARTI MACALISTER MYSTERY

Author: BLAND, ELEANOR TAYLOR

Original Date: 1998

Detective Marti MacAlister of the Lincoln Prairie, Illinois police department, investigates the murder of a young woman found alongside Lake Michigan. A homeless man is also missing from the area. While working, Marti is unaware that an intruder is entering her house regularly and stalking her family. Some strong language. 1998.

DB 48050 DLD DX 48050

Title: SELLOUT

Author: BEATTY, PAUL

Original Date: 2015

In this satirical novel, a black man raised by a radical sociologist on the outskirts of Los Angeles attempts to segregate the local school and keep a slave. His efforts lead to a lawsuit heard before the Supreme Court. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. Bestseller. 2015.

DB 81300 DX 81300

Title: SOMEWHAT SAVED

Author: G'ORGE-WALKER, PAT

Original Date: 2008

At a Las Vegas conference, Sister Betty of Crossing Over Sanctuary Temple runs for president of Mothers Board against incumbent Sasha Pray Onn of the disbanded Ain't Nobody Right but Us—All Others Goin' to Hell Church. The face-off gives both women a deeper understanding of themselves and their faith. 2008.

DB 67641 DX 67641

**AFRICAN AMERICAN FICTION
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Title: THEIR EYES WERE WATCHING GOD

Author: HURSTON, ZORA NEALE

Original Date: 1937

This classic novel tells the story of Janie, a handsome black woman, and her three marriages: to middle-aged Logan Killicks, a prosperous farmer; to Joe Starks, a go-getter who makes Janie Mrs. Mayor Starks of Eatonville, Florida; and to Tea Cake Woods, who teaches Janie, at forty, the reality of love and happiness. 1937.

BR 16074 DB 35745 DLD DX 35745

Title: UP JUMPED THE DEVIL: A DARRYL BILLUPS MYSTERY

Author: WALKER, BLAIR S.

Original Date: 1997

Inept racists plan an attack, unaware that someone has infiltrated their group. Meanwhile, Baltimore Herald cop reporter Darryl Billups has been receiving anonymous messages warning that the NAACP national headquarters is going to be bombed. Violence, strong language, and some explicit descriptions of sex. 1997.

DB 75652

Title: WHEN DEATH COMES STEALING: A TAMARA HAYLE MYSTERY

Author: WESLEY, VALERIE WILSON

Original Date: 1994

Now a private detective, Tamara Hayle quit her job on the police force when her young son, Jamal, was harassed by cops just because he was black. Her ex-husband, DeWayne Curtis, has four other sons all by different women. When two of the sons die, DeWayne begs Tamara to find out if someone killed them.

BR 10429 DB 64426 DLD DX 64426