

**National Book Critics Circle Award Winner**  
**New York Times Bestseller**

# WHITE RAGE

**The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide**

**By Carol Anderson**

"[*White Rage*] is an extraordinarily timely and urgent call to confront the legacy of structural racism bequeathed by white anger and resentment, and to show its continuing threat to the promise of American democracy."

—**Editor's Choice, *New York Times Book Review*, selected as a Notable Book of the Year**

"[A] slim but persuasive volume ... A sobering primer on the myriad ways African American resilience and triumph over enslavement, Jim Crow and intolerance have been relentlessly defied by the very institutions entrusted to uphold our democracy."

—***Washington Post*, selected as a Notable Nonfiction Book of the Year**

"[A] powerful survey of American history as seen in the violent white reactions to black progress, from Reconstruction to the great migration to the current political landscape."

—***Boston Globe*, selected as a Best Book of 2016**

"Anderson has shown, with her well-sourced (she has several hundred detailed footnotes) and readable book, why the fights over race and access to the perquisites of American citizenship grind on ... *White Rage* lends perspective and insight for those of us who are willing to confront, study and learn from the present situation in this country."

—***St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, selected as a Best Book of 2016**

"Bracing ... It might all seem very conspiratorial and cloak-and-dagger, were it not also true. Reading through all the frightfully inventive ways in which America makes racial inequality a matter of law (and order) has a dizzying effect: like watching a quick-cut montage of social injustice spanning nearly half a millennium."

—***The Globe and Mail*, selected as a Best Book of 2016**

"Truly, I couldn't put it down. [*White Rage*] draws a razor-sharp line from the Civil War to Trayvon Martin with all the stops in between. If you want context for ... the life we're living in this country right this minute, I urge you to pick up a copy. [Its] 160 pages have the power to change your life." —**Ann Patchett, *Parnassus Musing***

"*White Rage* is a riveting and disturbing history that begins with Reconstruction and lays bare the efforts of whites in the South and North alike to prevent emancipated black people from achieving economic independence, civil and political rights, personal safety, and economic opportunity." —***The Nation***

"An unflinching look at America's long history of structural and institutionalized racism, *White Rage* is a timely and necessary examination of white anger and aggression towards black America ... A compelling look at American history, *White Rage* has never seemed more relevant than it does today."

—***Bustle*, "17 Books On Race Every White Person Needs To Read"**

"*White Rage* belongs in a place of honor on the shelf next to other seminal books about the African-American experience such as James Baldwin's *The Fire Next Time*, Isabel Wilkerson's *The Warmth of Other Suns*, and Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow*."

—**Santa Barbara Independent**

"In every episode of *White Rage* Anderson amplifies and elongates this initial claim [white America's seething resistance to African Americans' sociopolitical advancements] into a striking argument about the nation's failure to recognize African Americans as full members the citizenry. Though stretching a stand-alone essay into an extended study doesn't work very often, *White Rage* operates efficiently and elegantly, offering readers new intelligence about American experience. Following Anderson, one gains insight by accrual." —**Walton Muyumba, Lit Hub**

"It's shocking, beautifully written, and, with white supremacy knocking on the White House door, more important than ever. Some books are great, some books are essential. *White Rage* is the latter." —**Ed Yong, The Millions**

"Powerful ... Like a meticulous prosecutor assembling her case, Anderson lays out a profoundly upsetting vision of an America driven to waves of reactionary white anger whenever it's confronted with black achievement." —**Bookforum**

"[F]or readers who want to understand the sense of grievance and pain that many African Americans feel today, *White Rage* offers a clearly written and well-thought-out overview of an aspect of U.S. history with which the country is still struggling to come to terms."

—**Foreign Affairs**

"Prescient ... provides necessary perspective on the racial conflagrations in the U.S."

—**Kirkus Reviews**

"Anderson's mosaic of white outrage deserves contemplation by anyone interested in understanding U.S. race relations, past and present." —**Library Journal**

"[An] engaging, thought-provoking work ... Anderson's clear, ardent prose detailing the undermining of America's stated ideals and democratic norms is required reading for anyone interested in the state of American social discourse." —**Booklist**

"Anderson's book is a breezy history of give-and-take, looking at how the advances of Reconstruction, school desegregation and busing, the civil-rights era, and Obama's election were all targeted and slowly dismantled by whites wary of black advancement. A backlash is always waiting; the main difference over time is that expressions of racism tend to grow subtler, cloaked in softer language and innocuous-seeming legislation, allowing all who are not 'sheet-wearing goons' to keep their heads in 'a cloud of racial innocence'."

—**The New Yorker**

"This is a timely 'must read' for those trying to grapple with the ubiquitous racial divide in our society. Anderson compellingly tears off our country's thin scab of racial harmony to reveal the deep wound of racial mistrust that drains so much creativity and innovation from our culture and our economy ... *White Rage* deserves consideration by anyone trying to understand race relations in America. The reader will appreciate her clear, graceful, writing style and the intellectual rigor with which she approaches this complex matter." —**The Missourian**

"Carol Anderson's fine book, *White Rage*, is less about the current upsurge of white resentment than it is a concise recapitulation of more than 150 years of black efforts to attain full citizenship and economic uplift, and how each effort was crushed by a reassertion of institutional white power ... If you need a refresher course in this shameful history, Anderson, chair of the African American Studies Department at Emory University, provides it with passion and precision."

—**Robert Kuttner, The American Prospect**

"[*White Rage* is] all the more powerful for its controlled passion." —**Financial Times**