



Resource Guide -VAOPERA's *A Loving Community*

Published adult literature (fiction)

1. Robinson, Marilynne. *Jack*. New York, NY: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2020.

Published juvenile literature (fiction)

1. Bolden, Tanya. *Saving Savannah*. New York, NY: Bloomsbury, 2020.
2. Hiranandani, Veera. *How to Find What You're Not Looking For*. New York: Kokila, 2021.

Published adult literature (non-fiction)

1. André, Naomi, Denise von Glahn, Josephine R.B. Wright, et al. "Colloquy: Shadow Culture Narratives: Race, Gender, and American Music Historiography." *Journal of the American Musicological Society* 73, no. 3 (2020): 711-784.
2. Baer, Judith A. *Equality under the Constitution: Reclaiming the Fourteenth Amendment*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1983.
3. Bartels, Brandon L. and Christopher D. Johnston. "On the Ideological Foundations of Supreme Court Legitimacy in the American Public." *American Journal of Political Science* 57, no. 1 (2013): 184-199.
4. Bowie, Jennifer and Elisha Carol Savchak. "State Court Influence on US Supreme Court Opinions." *Journal of Law and Courts* 10, no. 1 (2022): 139-165.
5. Carrington, Adam M. "Free and Happy Bonds: *Loving v. Virginia*'s Nineteenth-Century Precedent on Marriage and the Pursuit of Happiness." *Perspectives on Political Science* 45, no. 2 (2016): 87-96.
6. Chabon, Michael and Ayelet Waldman, eds. *Fight of the Century: Writers Reflect on 100 Years of Landmark ACLU Cases*. New York: Avid Reader Press, 2020.
7. _____. "Mildred Loving: The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Woman." In *Virginia Women: Their Lives and Times*. Edited by Cynthia A. Kierner and Sandra Gioia Treadway, vol. 2. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2016: 313-332.
8. Coleman, Arica L. *That the Blood Stay Pure: African Americans, Native Americans, and the Predicament of Race and Identity in Virginia*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2013.
9. Epps, Garrett. *Democracy Reborn: The Fourteenth Amendment and the Fight for Equal Rights in post-Civil War America*. New York, NY: Henry Holt & Co., 2006.
10. Feldstein, Ruth. *How It Feels to Be Free: Black Women Entertainers and the Civil Rights Movement*. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.
11. Fernandes, Rachel. "Listening to Loving: Mildred Loving and the Case for Quiet Activism." *Resonance* 3, no. 3 (2022): 288-308.
12. Greenberg, Ellen. *The Supreme Court Explained*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1997.
13. Greenhouse, Linda. *The U.S. Supreme Court: A Very Short Introduction*. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020.

14. Guice-Mendel, Merrin and Damien Geter. *Music in Historical Context: An Examination of Western European Music through a Socio-political Lens*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing, 2014.
15. Holloway, Pippa. *Other Souths: Diversity and Difference in the U.S. South: Reconstruction to Present*. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2008.
16. Hutcheon, Linda and Michael Hutcheon. "The Inward Turn: American Opera Revisits America's Past." *Canadian Review of American Studies* 44, no. 2 (2014): 178-193.
17. Kernodle, Tammy L. "'I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel to Be Free': Nina Simone and the Redefining of the Freedom Song of the 1960s." *Journal of the Society for American Music* 2, no. 3 (2008): 295-317.
18. Kim, Robert. *Elevating Equity and Justice: Ten U.S. Supreme Court Cases Every Teacher Should Know*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann, 2019.
19. Lash, Kurt T. *The Fourteenth Amendment and the Privileges and Immunities of American Citizenship*. New York and Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014.
20. _____. *Soul on Soul: The Life and Music of Mary Lou Williams*. Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2020.
21. Meyer, Howard N. *The Amendment that Refused to Die: Equality and Justice Deferred: The History of the Fourteenth Amendment*. Lanham, MD: Madison Books, 2000.
22. Newbeck, Phyl. *Virginia Hasn't Always Been for Lovers: Interracial Marriage Bans and the Case of Richard and Mildred Loving*. Carbondale, IL: Southern Illinois University Press, 2008.
23. Pascoe, Peggy. "Miscegenation Law, Court Cases, and the Ideologies of 'Race' in Twentieth-Century America." *Journal of American History* 83, no. 1 (1996): 44-69.
24. Powell, Patricia Hruby. *Loving vs. Virginia: A Documentary Novel of the Landmark Civil Rights Case*. Illustrated by Shadra Strickland. San Francisco, CA: Chronicle Books, 2017.
25. Sherman, Richard B. "'The Last Stand': The Fight for Racial Integrity in Virginia in the 1920s." *The Journal of Southern History* 54, no. 1 (1988): 69-92.
26. Smith, J. Douglas. "The Campaign for Racial Purity and the Erosion of Paternalism in Virginia, 1922-1930: 'Nominally White, Biologically Mixed, and Legally Negro.'" *The Journal of Southern History* 68, no. 1 (2002): 65-106.
27. Tillerson-Brown, Amy J. "Black Women in Prince Edward County: Grassroots Education and the Fight for Public Schools, 1959-1964." In *Virginia Women: Their Lives and Times*. Edited by Cynthia A. Kierner and Sandra Gioia Treadway, vol. 2. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2016: 290-312.
28. Turner, Kristen M. "Class, Race, and Uplift in the Opera House: Theodore Drury and His Company Cross the Color Line." *The Journal of Musicological Research* 34, no. 4 (2015): 320-351.

29. Wallenstein, Peter. "Race, Marriage, and the Supreme Court from *Pace v. Alabama* (1883) to *Loving v. Virginia* (1967)." *Journal of Supreme Court History* 23, no. 2 (1998): 65–86.
30. Ware, Jennifer, Geri Alunit Zeldes, and Jennifer Hoewe. "News as a Cultural Mirror: Historically Black Newspapers Reflecting Public Views of *Loving v. Virginia* (1967)." *Journal of Social Issues* 71, no. 4 (2015): 693–711.

Published juvenile literature (non-fiction)

1. Alko, Selina. *The Case for Loving: The Fight for Interracial Marriage*. Illustrated by Selina Alko and Sean Qualls. New York: Arthur A. Levine Books, 2015.
2. Bajramovic, Hana. *Whose Right is It? The Fourteenth Amendment and the Fight for Equality*. New York, NY: Henry Holt & Co., 2024.
3. Brimner, Larry Dane. *Finding a Way Home: Mildred and Richard Loving and the Fight for Marriage Equality*. Honesdale, PA: Calkins Creek Books, 2020.
4. Mihaly, Christy. *The Supreme Court and Us*. Illustrated by Neely Daggett. Chicago, IL: Albert Whitman & Company, 2022.
5. Panchyk, Richard. *Our Supreme Court: A History with 14 Activities*. Chicago, IL: Chicago Review Press, 2007.
6. Taylor-Butler, Christine. *The Supreme Court*. New York, NY: Children's Press, 2008.

Online resources

1. Coleman, Arica L. "What You Didn't Know About *Loving v. Virginia*." *Time*. 10 June 2016. <https://time.com/4362508/loving-v-virginia-personas/>.
2. Encyclopedia Virginia's full text of the [Racial Integrity Act of 1924](#).
3. Encyclopedia Virginia's [summary](#) of Virginia's racial integrity laws, 1924–1930.
4. Livingston, Gretchen and Anna Brown. "Intermarriage in the U.S. 50 Years After *Loving v. Virginia*." *Pew Research Center*. 18 May 2017. <https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2017/05/18/intermarriage-in-the-u-s-50-years-after-loving-v-virginia/>.
5. [The Loving Project](#), a podcast that documents experiences of mixed-race couples in the United States.
6. *The Loving Project* episode-by-episode [study guide](#).
7. "Loving v. Virginia at 50," *We the People*. Podcast. Hosted by Steve Calabresi. Aired 15 June 2017. <https://constitutioncenter.org/news-debate/podcasts/loving-v.-virginia-at-50>.
8. "Mildred Loving, Key Figure in Civil Rights Era, Dies." *PBS NewsHour*. 6 May 2008. <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/mildred-loving-key-figure-in-civil-rights-era-dies>.
9. Oyez's [multimedia archive](#) of the *Loving v. Virginia* case.¹

¹ Oyez is a free, online multimedia archive of the cases of the Supreme Court of the United States.

10. Peñaloza, Maria. “‘Illicit Cohabitation’: Listen to 6 Stunning Moments from *Loving v. Virginia*.” *NPR*. 12 June 2017. <https://www.npr.org/2017/06/12/532123349/illicit-cohabitation-listen-to-6-stunning-moments-from-loving-v-virginia>.
11. Pérez-Peña, Richard. “Upbeat Interracial Ad for Old Navy Leads to Backlash. Twice.” *The New York Times*. 4 May 2016. <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/05/05/us/upbeat-interracial-ad-for-old-navy-leads-to-backlash-twice.html>.
12. Smithsonian Folkways Recordings [playlist](#), “My Song Is My Weapon: The Long Sonic History of Black Resistance.” Curated by Dr. Tammy L. Kernodle.
13. Smithsonian Folkways Recordings [playlist](#), “Voices of the Civil Rights Movement: Black American Freedom Songs 1960–1966.”
14. The Southern Poverty Law Center’s [study guide](#) to be paired with the 2011 documentary film, *The Loving Story*.
15. Stearns, David Patrick. “The New American Canon: What are the traits of our flourishing national repertoire?” *Opera America*. 19 December 2024. <https://www.operaamerica.org/r/repertoire-productions/15238/the-new-american-canon-what-are-the-traits-of>.
16. Topic’s four-part series on [The Loving Generation](#), the generation of multiracial children born shortly after the 1967 decision of *Loving v. Virginia*.
17. Tupponce, Joan. “The Arc of Loving.” *Richmond Magazine*. 14 November 2016. <https://richmondmagazine.com/news/features/the-arc-of-loving/>.
18. U.S. Supreme Court’s [activity pages](#) for students and families.
19. Virginia Opera’s [playlist](#) containing music selections inspired by the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s.
20. Virginia Opera. “Composer Damien Geter’s remarks on *Loving v. Virginia* opera announcement.” YouTube. 10 June 2022. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W4CfKe_H0mM.
21. Virginia Opera. “Librettist Jessica Murphy Moo’s remarks on *Loving v. Virginia* opera announcement.” YouTube. 10 June 2022. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7gnRd88GuAM>.
22. Virginia Rules’ [introduction](#) to the Virginia judicial system.

Audiovisual resources

1. *Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner*. Directed by Stanley Kramer. DVD. 2008. Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.²
2. *Loving*. Directed by Jeff Nichols. DVD. 2017. Universal Pictures Home Entertainment.
3. *The Loving Story*. Directed by Nancy Buirski. DVD. 2013. Icarus Films.
4. *Mr. and Mrs. Loving*. Directed by Richard Friedenberg. DVD. 2005. Echo Bridge.

² This film was originally released in 1967, the same year as the *Loving v. Virginia* decision.

Musical works

1. Davis, Anthony (composer) and Thulani Davis (librettist). *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X*. 1985–1986. Premiered at the American Music Theater Festival in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1985. The revised version premiered at the New York City Opera in 1986.
2. _____ and Richard Wesley (librettist). *The Central Park Five*. 2019. Premiered at the Long Beach Opera Company in Long Beach, California in 2019.
3. Hailstork, Adolphus (composer) and Shauneille Perry (librettist). *Paul Robeson, the Opera*. 2013. Premiered at the Trilogy Opera Company in Newark, New Jersey in 2013.
4. Moore, Dorothy Rudd (composer and librettist). *Frederick Douglass*. 1985. Premiered at City College of New York's Aaron Davis Hall by Opera Ebony in 1985.
5. Moravec, Paul (composer) and Mark Campbell (librettist). *Sanctuary Road*. 2017. Premiered at Carnegie Hall in New York City in 2018.
6. Okoye, Nkeiru (composer and librettist). *Harriet Tubman: When I Crossed That Line to Freedom*. 2014. Premiered at the Irondale Center in Brooklyn, New York in 2014.³
7. Ragland, Dave (composer) and Mary McCallum (librettist). *One Vote Won*. 2020. Premiered virtually at the Nashville Opera in 2020.

Visual art works

1. Villet, Grey (photographer) and Barbara Villet (author). *The Lovings: An Intimate Portrait*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton Architectural Press, 2017.

³ You can watch the full opera on YouTube [here](#).