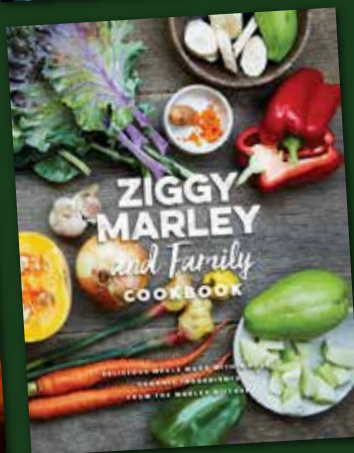
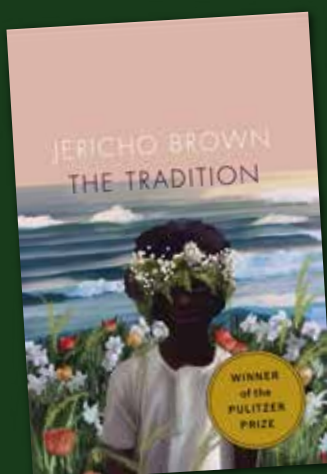
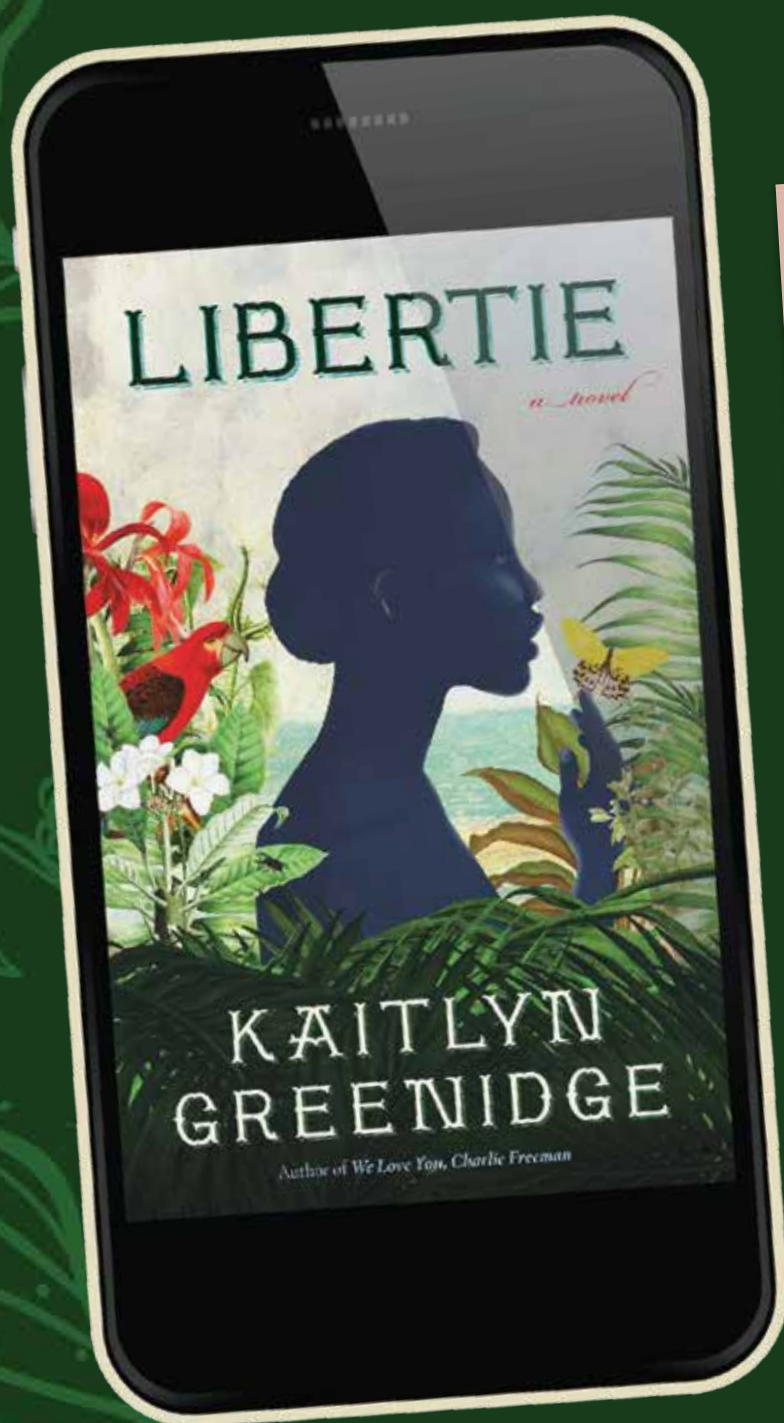




Discover. Read. Share.

## Book Club Companion: Meeting Planning Guide for Readers of *Libertie*



All titles highlighted in the Book Club Companion can be found here: <https://hoopladigital.com/collection/12579>



# BOOK CLUB COMPANION: PLANNING YOUR MEETING AROUND *LIBERTIE*

**"Greenidge delivers another genius work of radical historical fiction... This pièce de résistance is so immaculately orchestrated that each character, each setting, and each sentence sings." — Publishers Weekly, starred and boxed review**

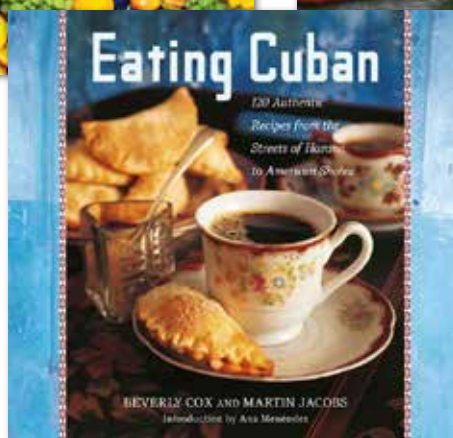
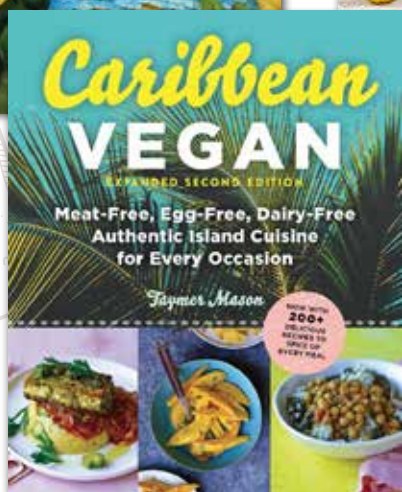
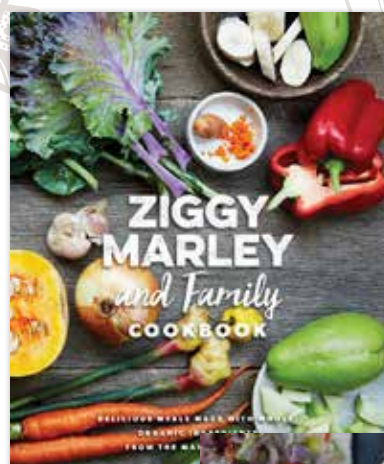
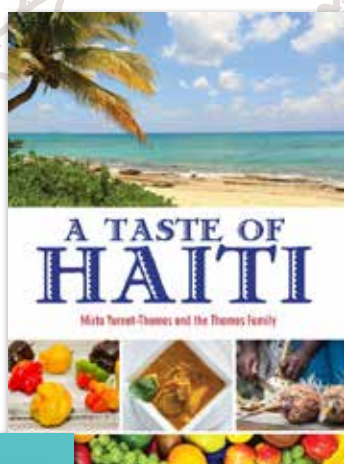
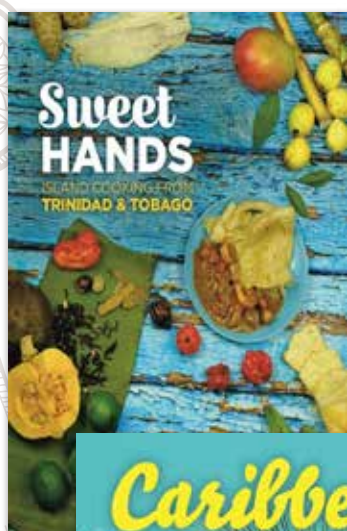
Looking for additional ways to connect with your book club? Whether you are meeting virtually or in person, hoopla has suggestions to expand your experience around *Libertie* with titles available instantly!

See the full collection of titles in this document here, or click each individual section for the titles mentioned within.



## CARIBBEAN FLAVOR

A book club party feels incomplete without good food to accompany it and fuel the great conversation. Even if your book club event is virtual, encourage everyone to borrow one of these great Caribbean cookbooks, test out a new recipe, and help bring the flavors and vibrancy of the islands alive. Get a sense of the Caribbean culture that *Libertie* experienced when she lived in Haiti.



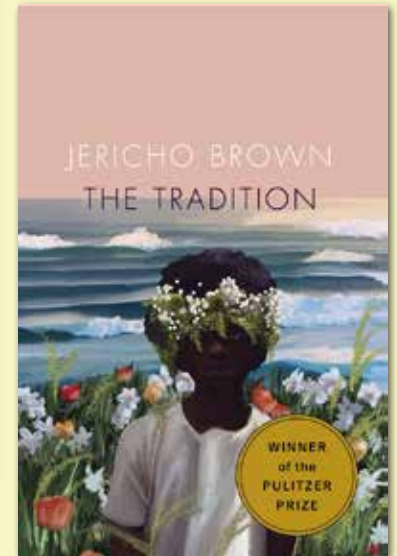
## BLACK POETRY

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Libertie's character differed so much from her mother's. Cathy Sampson didn't have time for the poetic talk and musings that she so often accused Libertie of spouting. As April is National Poetry Month, and because the creative and poetic thoughtfulness of Libertie's character is so much a part of who she is, we thought to honor that piece of her by compiling a collection of other Black poets available on hoopla.

The poetry in this collection ranges in theme from race and the Black experience in America to love and freedom. There is a Pulitzer Prize-winning collection of poems from Jericho Brown and poems from Alice Walker, the author of *The Color Purple* and social activist.

For an enriching book club discussion, consider choosing one or two poems to read aloud to the group. This could be an inspiring way to connect with *Libertie*, the poets, and each other!



## BLACK SPIRITUAL MUSIC

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Music and song played a big part in the celebration of Pinkster for both freeborn and enslaved Black people. The religious holiday celebrated in *Libertie* also celebrates spring, with a tradition for merriment and dancing. The name Pinkster is derived from the Dutch word for Pentecost, *Pinksteren*. The holiday was an opportunity for Blacks to gather with friends and family and a rare time to be free of work.

Music also would have been a large part of Libertie's experience while in church growing up in Kings County, and certainly was a part of her life when she performed with "The Graces" at Cunningham College in Ohio.

On hoopla, you'll find a collection of gospel and traditional music to enjoy, and while these artists are not from the late 1800s, their hymns and gospel music are reminiscent of the soulful songs and experiences of *Libertie*.





## NATURAL REMEDIES

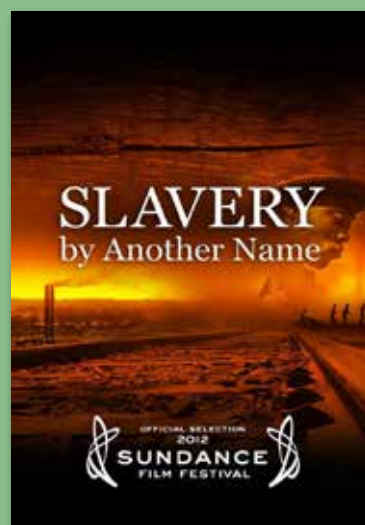
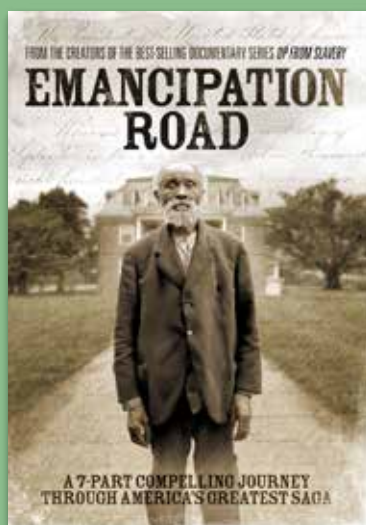
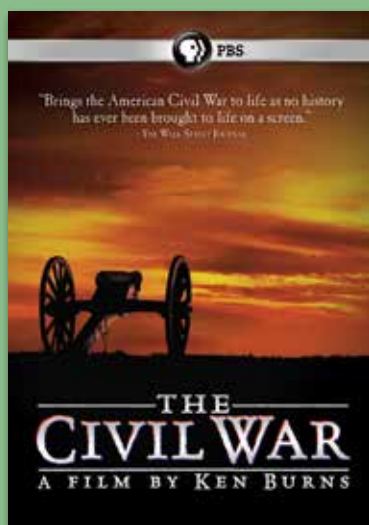
Libertie's mother's character, Cathy Sampson, was based on Susan Smith McKinney Steward, the first Black female doctor in New York State. At first, she practiced treating patients in her own home, but then she founded a clinic in their "all-colored town" of Kings County, NY. Much of Cathy Sampson's practice was centered on botany and homeopathic medicine.

While maybe not as common a practice today as it was in the late 1800s, people still find the healing powers of plant-based medicines to be powerful and effective. hoopla has some great resources to check out and discover how to make your own herbal remedies at home.



## SCREENING ROOM: A HISTORY LESSON

Rich in history, *Libertie* explores themes of racism, slavery, family, and freedom. For those book club members interested in diving deeper into the fraught history of race in America—including the Civil War era, slavery, and the experience of Black Americans—hoopla has curated these titles that may provide some insight into the novel's background.



For each and every hoopla Book Club Spotlight we've presented, you can find several materials at [theclub.hoopladigital.com](https://theclub.hoopladigital.com)—in addition to these Companion meeting planners, locate discussion guides, exclusive author interviews, Recommended Next Reads, and more! We'd love to know how your book club has used these—tag [@hoopladigital](https://twitter.com/hoopladigital) or [#hooplabookclub](https://twitter.com/hooplabookclub) to share with us and book clubs around the world!

