Most of us know of harm we have directly caused another person. Many also recognize we have shared in doing harm, perhaps by benefiting from injustice others suffer. Even as people of faith who wish to make ourselves and our world better, we still may struggle to name and accept our responsibility. Even when we wish to make amends, we can get stuck on how to make things right.

In *On Repentance and Repair* (Beacon Press, 2022) RABBI DANYA RUTTENBERG provides a fresh, transformative perspective on how we make ourselves accountable to others. This Common Read offers a glimpse into Judaism, one of our faith’s foundational sources, as we follow Rabbi Ruttenberg’s dive into prescriptions on accountability offered by the twelfth-century Jewish physician and scholar Maimonides. The book unpacks Maimonides’ five-step process: owning the harm we have done, starting to change, making restitution and accepting consequences, apologizing, and going forward in life as a changed person who will make different choices.

Using Maimonides’ writing as a framework, Ruttenberg points us toward modern day practices of repentance that can really make a difference in our relationships. The UU Common Read selections invite us to follow our faith into transformative atonement, whether a harm has been done with family or friends, within a congregation or other community, or by sweeping wrongs such as genocide and racial oppression.

The UU Common Read builds community in our congregations and our movement by giving diverse people a shared platform for reflection and a shared focus for action. A common read can take us on a powerful journey as we explore what it is to be human and accountable in a pain-filled world.
Seeds of a New Way
Nurturing Authentic and Diverse Religious Leadership
Manish Mishra-Marzetti & Nancy McDonald-Ladd

What will it take for diverse leadership within Unitarian Universalism to truly thrive and contribute to a radiant and inclusive future? In *Seeds of a New Way*, editors Manish Mishra-Marzetti and Nancy McDonald Ladd and contributors explore how to foster and nourish diverse and authentic leadership within congregations.

Building on the foundations of *Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity, and Power in Ministry*, this collection offers a glimpse into the forming edge of the shared journey happening right now to make diverse leadership more survivable and vibrant. Rather than presenting one definitive pathway, *Seeds of a New Way* recognizes that the specific context and relationships within any given setting will shape the journey and so brings together a diverse array of perspectives, experiences, and strategies to illustrate a range of considerations and possibilities.

As communities strive to live into the potential and joy of Beloved Community, these essays will inspire them to seed and nourish a new way.

REV. MANISH MISHRA-MARZETTI is senior minister of the First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor, Michigan. He has served extensively in denominational leadership, including as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee and the UUA. He is co-editor of *Justice on Earth* and *Conversations with the Sacred: A Collection of Prayers*.

NANCY MCDONALD LADD is senior minister of the River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Bethesda, Maryland. She is a national leader in broad-based community organizing and has served on the adjunct faculty at Meadville Lombard Theological School. She is the author of *After the Good News: Progressive Faith Beyond Optimism*.
This is a story of becoming and unbecoming. When the living waters that crisscrossed the Standing Rock reservation came under threat, Karen Van Fossan asked herself what it means to resist her own colonial culture. When another pipeline came to threaten Anishinaabe ways of life, the question became even more resounding.

_A Fire at the Center_ takes readers behind the scenes of the Dakota Access Pipeline conflict, to penitiaries where prisoners of war have carried the movement onward, to the jail cell where she was held for protesting Line 3, to a reimagining of decolonized family constellations, and to moments of collective hope and strength.

Guided by the generous teachings of Oceti Sakowin Camp near Standing Rock, Van Fossan investigates layers of colonialism—extractive industries, mass incarceration, broken treaties, disappearances of Indigenous people—and the boundaries of imperial whiteness.

For all those striving for liberation and meaningful allyship, Van Fossan’s learnings and practices of genuine, mutual solidarity and her thoughtful critique of whiteness will be transformational.

**KAREN VAN FOSSAN** is an abolitionist, ordained minister, licensed professional counselor, and former defendant in the Line 3 pipeline resistance. As director of Authentic Ministry, she serves as a street chaplain committed to relational spirituality and restorative justice. She has studied at Naropa University, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, and Pacific School of Religion. She lives in Fargo, North Dakota, on the traditional lands of Anishinaabe, Lakota/Dakota, and many other Indigenous peoples.
Through the Lens of Whiteness
Challenging Racialized Imagery in Pop Culture
Diane S. Grimes & Liz Cooney

An essential resource for anyone who wants to enter the next stage of their antiracist journey—recognizing, analyzing, and confronting the perpetuation of racism in our visual world.

Images in the news, social media, advertisements, memes, websites, and selfies shape how we understand ourselves, our society, and our world. Even the images we don’t see have an impact on our daily lives. But images are not innocent. Our racial identities, assumptions, histories, and biases filter the images we absorb and affect how we interpret them. Are they problematic? How can you tell? Why should you care?

Through the Lens of Whiteness: Challenging Racialized Imagery in Pop Culture teaches readers visual literacy tools that expose racist messages, conventions, and symbols in images.

Authors Diane S. Grimes and Liz Cooney help readers understand these patterns with detailed analysis of images and personal stories to dismantle existing biases and develop an antiracist perspective. Grimes and Cooney are guided by the principle that white people bear the responsibility for dismantling racist structures and so primarily address white readers, but also offer this book in the hope that it will be a powerful tool of resistance for all readers.

Diane S. Grimes is an associate professor of communication and rhetorical studies at Syracuse University. Her scholarship has been published in various organizational and communication journals, including Management Communication Quarterly and Tamara: Journal of Critical Postmodern Organization Science, among others.

Liz Cooney is a queer author from Des Moines, Iowa. Her work focuses on helping people communicate more effectively through valuing differences and navigating difficult conversations.
The Tending Years
Understanding Your Child’s Earliest Rituals
J. L. Shattuck

Have you ever wondered why your toddler will only drink from a specific cup, or only eat if you turn mealtime into a game? Have you ever found yourself following along with your child’s increasingly elaborate bedtime routines?

In *The Tending Years*, J. L. Shattuck argues that these behaviors are not just habits but rituals—patterns of behavior young children naturally develop to reassure themselves they are safe and loved. Shattuck draws on child developmental theory and decades of experience as a teacher, religious educator, and parent to explore the spiritual roots of this behavior. She demonstrates how adults and young children instinctively work together to support each other’s growth during this unique developmental period.

Unlike parenting books that ask you to change the way you interact with your child, this easy-to-read volume details the ways in which you’re already tending to your child’s needs and offers inspiration and support to help you through the preschool years and beyond.

J. L. SHATTUCK has worked with preschoolers for more than twenty years. A lifelong UU, she supports congregations to meet the spiritual needs of the very young. She currently serves as family worship coordinator at Sanctuary Boston and is a religious educator at the Unitarian Church of Barnstable. She is also the creator of a curriculum of digital resources, *POP!* (Parents of Preschoolers), that helps families explore and support their children’s spiritual development.
**Authentic Selves**
Celebrating Trans and Nonbinary People and Their Families
Interviews by Peggy Gillespie

Groundbreaking in its depictions of joy and community, *Authentic Selves* celebrates trans and nonbinary people and their families in stunning photographs and their own words. Foreword by transgender activist Jazz Jennings and her mom and fellow activist, Jeanette Jennings.

*Authentic Selves* is a sweeping compilation of life stories and portraits of trans and nonbinary people, as well as their partners, parents, children, siblings, and chosen family members.

The compelling stories here provide a glimpse into the real lives, both the challenges and the triumphs, of these remarkable people and their families—people like Senator Sarah McBride, disability justice advocate Parker Glick, drag entertainer TAYLOR ALXNDR, September 11th first responder Jozeppi Morelli, model Lana Patel, youth activist Elliott Bertrand, and so many others—all of whom are working to create a more just, diverse, and compassionate world.

PEGGIE GILLESPIE, MA, CSW, is the cofounder and director of Family Diversity Projects, a nonprofit organization devoted to helping eliminate prejudice, stereotyping, bullying, and harassment of people who are discriminated against due to sexual orientation, gender identity, race, national origin, religion, and disabilities of all kinds. Gillespie is also an actor and performed recently in the award-winning show *A 24-Decade History of Popular Music* starring Taylor Mac.
In *The Rough Side of the Mountain: Black Women’s Ministries in Unitarian Universalism*, editor and scholar Qiyamah Rahman collects and explores the unique journeys of Black Unitarian Universalist clergywomen, celebrating their wisdom, resilience, and contributions within and beyond Unitarian Universalism. This singular anthology lifts up the stories of Black Unitarian Universalist clergywomen past and present, whose contributions to this faith are just beginning to be recognized.

**REV. DR. QIYAMAH RAHMAN** is a Unitarian Universalist minister residing in St. Croix, Virgin Islands. She devotes her primary research to the richly diverse narratives of Black Unitarian Universalist women and girls. Her scholarship and writing have appeared in *Darkening the Doorways, Voices from the Margins*, and *BLUU Notes*. 
Incantations for Rest
Poems, Meditations and Other Magic
Atena O. Danner

“I don’t really comprehend the age and size of the world, but I know I am a part of it. A single life among billions is as big as any star.”

Incantations for Rest is an invitation to slow down and explore every kind of rest, providing sacred space for those exhausted by the demands of a racist, ableist society. This stunning collection of poems, meditations, and magic by poet-activist Atena O. Danner is an examination of spiritual spaces, a love letter to Black well-being, and medicine for BIPOC people.

ATENA O. DANNER is an unapologetically Black, time-traveling poet-activist who dwells in the past to survive the future. She writes toward Beloved Community, Black liberation, and collective imagination. Atena Danner lives near the traditional homelands of the people of the Council of the Three Fires and of the Menominee, Miami, and Ho-Chunk nations with her partner, pets, and two free Black children.
When Rev. Nathan Detering shared the story of his brother’s death from a drug overdose with the members of his congregation, many of them shared their own addiction stories with him. Realizing the healing power of sharing stories and questions in community, Rev. Detering conducted interviews to identify and address the common questions that haunt us when we love someone with addiction. Weaving together his own and others’ deeply felt experiences of addiction, Rev. Detering responds to sometimes desperate questions such as: Why can’t I fix it? And while the answers to these questions aren’t easily found, *Why Can’t I Fix It?* encourages those of us who are struggling with our loved one’s addictions to practice self-care and self-compassion, understand the cultural context for emotional responses and expectations of ourselves and others, and reach out for support.

**REV. NATHAN DETERING** serves as the senior minister of the Unitarian Universalist Area Church at First Parish in Sherborn, Massachusetts, a position he has held since 2003. He lives in Holliston, Massachusetts, with his family.
In *Care for the World: Reflections on Community Ministry*, editor Erin J. Walter and contributors offer essays, interviews, and resources to revolutionize our understanding of ministry, lifting up the rich diversity of community ministries—both lay and ordained and led by religious leaders with a broad range of life experiences, identities, and communities of care—within Unitarian Universalism. These reflections show the immense and vital work that Unitarian Universalists are doing in the world and will inspire readers to live a spirited, purposeful life, rooting their daily work in their deepest values and faith.

**REV. ERIN J. WALTER** serves as the minister and executive director for the Texas Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry and a coach for Beloved Conversations. Rev. Walter is the singer/songwriter/bassist for the band Parker Woodland and teaches dance as a joy practice. She is affiliated with Wildflower Church in Austin, Texas, and the Church of the Larger Fellowship.
Little Did I Know
An Anthology on Loving and Companioning Young Lives
Vanessa Rush Southern, Editor

Inspired by the pandemic and her own teenage daughter’s upcoming departure from home, editor Vanessa Rush Southern set out to collect an anthology of reflections on the spiritual gifts and challenges of raising young people. In talking with others, she found joy and deep meaning pressed up against all the hard parts. This inclusive and diverse anthology includes all kinds of families: chosen and biological, extended families, single parents, divorced parents, and more—a beautiful spectrum of people reflecting on the role children and young people have played in their lives and in their larger search for meaning.

VANESSA RUSH SOUTHERN is the senior minister of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco and has served congregations in Boston; Washington, D.C.; and Summit, New Jersey. She is the author of two books, This Piece of Eden and Miles of Dream, and has been published in the Dallas Morning News, Scroll India, and Woman’s Day Magazine.
BLUU Notes
An Anthology of Love, Justice, and Liberation
Takiyah Nur Amin & Mykal Slack, Editors

BLUU Notes is a collection of original poems, prayers, and short prose pieces by Black Unitarian, Universalist, and UU writers, musicians, worship leaders, and liturgists. This powerful collection can be used for personal study, private meditation, and worship that amplifies a Black UU perspective and worldview.

TAKIYAH NUR AMIN, PHD, is a dance scholar, educator, and academic success strategist. Dr. Amin has been a member of the BLUU Organizing Collective Board of Directors since 2016.

REV. MYKAL SLACK is a speaker, trainer, worship leader, and congregational life specialist. He has been a member of the BLUU Organizing Collective Board of Directors since 2017 and serves as BLUU’s community minister for worship and spiritual Care.

Trusting Change
Finding Our Way Through Personal and Global Transformations
Karen Hering

Minister and award-winning author Karen Hering invites readers on the cusp of great change—which is all of us today—to explore the new possibilities emerging in our times.

Sharing wisdom found in the body, in nature, and in metaphors, these reflections include exercises that invite readers into a larger story of change. This book is meant to also stir conversations between readers as we learn to live into and through our transformative times together.

KAREN HERING is an ordained minister in St. Paul, Minnesota, and serves as a threshold guide to people and communities on the cusp of change. She is the author of Writing to Wake the Soul, named one of the best spiritual books of the year by Spirituality & Practice.
Beyond Welcome
Building Communities of Love
Linnea Nelson, Editor

How do we go beyond welcome to build compassionate, authentic, and equitable communities? In *Beyond Welcome: Building Communities of Love*, editor Linnea Nelson and contributors dream of a future Unitarian Universalism that upholds abundant love and universal justice within every community. Through personal and collective reflections, these heartfelt essays tell stories of how it feels to be in Beloved Community while prompting readers to imagine what it will take to get us there.

**LINNEA NELSON** is a certified spiritual director companioning adults, youth, and children on their life journeys. She served as president of the Liberal Religious Educators Association (LREDA) and is the executive director of UU Wellspring.

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The Darkness Divine
A Loving Challenge to My Faith
Kristen Harper

In *The Darkness Divine*, minister and poet Kristen L. Harper confronts the language, imagery, and cultural touchstones that demean and dehumanize Black people but can easily escape notice. More importantly, Rev. Harper lifts up the strength, beauty, and resilience of Black people and invites readers to explore what they have learned and assimilated so they might de-center whiteness and stretch their understanding and imagination to radically transform their perceptions of blackness.

**REV. KRISTEN L. HARPER** is minister of the Unitarian Church of Barnstable, Massachusetts, where she has served for 18 years. She received her D.Min from Meadville Lombard Theological School in 1999, and was only the second Black woman to be called to a Unitarian Universalist Congregation as sole minister.
Swinging on the Garden Gate
A Memoir of Bisexuality and Spirit
Elizabeth Jarrett Andrew

A stunning memoir of coming of age and coming out, *Swinging on the Garden Gate: A Memoir of Bisexuality and Spirit* describes a period of time in award-winning writer and teacher Elizabeth Jarrett Andrew’s life when she came to know bisexuality as an embodied manifestation of divinity. Andrew not only reconciles her United Methodist faith with her sexuality but realizes that her body is holy, her sexuality is holy, and the word she carried within her has always been holy.

ELIZABETH JARRETT ANDREW is the author of the novel, *Hannah, Delivered*; the essay collection *On the Threshold: Home, Hardwood, and Holiness*, and two books for writers: *Writing the Sacred Journey: The Art and Practice of Spiritual Memoir* and *Living Revision: A Writer’s Craft as Spiritual Practice*, which received a Nautilus Award in 2018.

Held
Showing Up for Each Other’s Mental Health
Barbara Meyers

In *Held: Showing Up for Each Other’s Mental Health*, mental health advocate Barbara Meyers illustrates how members of congregations can be supportive to those living with mental health problems and their loved ones, in our congregations and society at large. Meyers addresses the fundamental elements of spiritual support with stories from real life situations and suggestions for how parishioners can provide and advocate for support in their congregations. A study guide for congregations and a list of resources for more information round out this thoughtful and necessary resource.

REV. BARBARA F. MEYERS is a Unitarian Universalist community minister whose ministry focuses on mental health issues, affiliated with Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Fremont, California.

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Widening the Circle of Concern
Commission on Institutional Change

Appointed by the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations in 2017, the UUA Commission on Institutional Change served through June 2020. *Widening the Circle of Concern: Report of the UUA Commission on Institutional Change* represents the culmination of the Commission’s work analyzing structural and systemic racism and white supremacy culture within Unitarian Universalism and makes recommendations to advance long-term cultural and institutional change that redeems its essential promise and ideals.

The members and staff of the UUA COMMISSION ON INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE were Rev. Leslie Takahashi (chair), Mary Byron, Cir L’Bert Jr., Rev. Natalie Fenimore, Elias Ortega, Caitlin Breedlove, DeReau K. Farrar, and Rev. Gianni Fogliano (project manager).

Unlocking the Power of Covenant
Commission on Appraisal

The 2021 Commission on Appraisal report, *Unlocking the Power of Covenant*, examines the nature, substance, and structure of covenants within Unitarian Universalism. Through reading, focus groups, interviews, and surveys, the Commission describes and interprets the role that covenants do, can, and should play in the individual lives of Unitarian Universalists, as well as in our relationships with other congregations, other faith traditions, and the Unitarian Universalist Association.

The members and staff of the UUA COMMISSION ON APPRAISAL were Rev. Carol Thomas Cissel (interim chair), Virginia M. Abraham, Victor Ashear, Rev. Madelyn Campbell, Kathleen Henry, David Friedman, and Rev. Rodney Lemery.
Youth Ministry Advising, Second Edition
UUA Office of Lifespan Faith Engagement

The second edition of this comprehensive guide presents tools and strategies for youth advisors and religious educators, ministers, and all those committed to a dynamic vision of youth ministry. Topics include recruiting and supporting advisors, youth group management, creating a safer space, leadership training and programming ideas, and fostering multicultural and anti-oppressive programs.

The LIFESPAN FAITH ENGAGEMENT staff team of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) puts a justice-seeking, radically inclusive faith in action by creating experiences for meaning-making and faithful living, accompanying people to make a home in our faith, and advocating for youth engagement and lifespan faith development.

Worship for Young Adults
UUA Office of Lifespan Faith Engagement

The spirit-centered, alternative worship of young adult communities is at the core of how young people live out our faith. Worship for Young Adults offers a practical guide to shaping these engaging and inspirational young adult worship gatherings, whether in a congregation, with a community group, or on a campus. Find tips for getting started, advice for managing the structure and flow of worship, and guidance on making worshipful space that’s accessible and inclusive.

The LIFESPAN FAITH ENGAGEMENT office of the Unitarian Universalist Association puts a justice-seeking, radically inclusive faith in action by creating experiences for meaning-making and faithful living, accompanying people to make a home in our faith, and advocating for youth engagement and lifespan faith development.
Explores the terror, grace, and beauty of coming of age as a Black person in contemporary America and what it means to parent our children in a persistently unjust world.

Hardcover 184 pages Item 6922 $18.00 Beacon Press

Winner of the 2022 National Book Award for non-fiction. An essential, surprising journey through the history, rituals, and landscapes of the American South—and a revelatory argument for why you must understand the South in order to understand America.

Paperback 432 pages Item 9202 $19.99 Ecco

A revealing portrait of one of the most gifted and charismatic, yet least understood, Black artists and intellectuals of the twentieth century.

Paperback 256 pages Item 6919 $17.99 Beacon Press


Paperback 272 pages Item 9102 $17.99 Mariner Books

order online uua.org/bookstore
A Space for Us
Michelle Cassandra Johnson

The first comprehensive guide for leading BIPOC affinity groups for challenging white supremacy, healing racial trauma, and taking collective action.

Meeting in racial affinity groups is a common practice in antiracist, social justice, diversity, and similar forms of educational endeavor. These groups provide a structured space in which participants can explore how racism personally impacts them; process specific experiences of racism; receive validation and support from their peers; heal; and strategize next steps for challenging racism, white supremacy, and internalized racial oppression.

Comprehensive and accessible, A Space for Us offers practical guidance for facilitating effective BIPOC racial affinity groups.

Rainbow Parenting
Your Guide to Raising Queer Kids and Their Allies
Lindz Amer

Rainbow Parenting is an indispensable stepping stone for adults who want to raise and teach kids in a queer and gender-affirming way, but might not know how. Lindz Amer is an expert guide, leading readers through practical applications, important LGBTQ+ history, key lessons in intersectionality, pronouns, social justice, and more. Divided by sections that address kids’ individual ages—from infancy to kindergarten—this joyful and approachable book shares a bit of hope and starts with the understanding that anyone can spread queer joy.

By giving parents and their kids a vocabulary to express themselves, Rainbow Parenting ultimately aims to create more empathetic adults—and spreads a message of radical acceptance in a world where it’s sometimes dangerous to just be yourself.
CONGREGATIONAL, FAMILY & COMMUNITY RESOURCES

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Mitra Rahnema, Editor
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Terasa Cooley
Paperback Item 8958 $22.00
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Michelle Richards
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(phone 1-800-215-9076) Prices subject to change
No Meat Required
The Cultural History and Culinary Future of Plant-Based Eating
Alicia Kennedy

A culinary and cultural history of plant-based eating in the United States that delves into the subcultures and politics that have defined alternative food.

In *No Meat Required*, author Alicia Kennedy chronicles the fascinating history of plant-based eating in the United States, from the early experiments in tempeh production undertaken by the Farm commune in the 70s to the vegan punk cafes and anarchist zines of the 90s to the chefs and food writers seeking to decolonize vegetarian food today.

*No Meat Required* brings depth and context to our understanding of vegan and vegetarian cuisine, and makes a passionate argument for retaining its radical heart.

Touched Out
Motherhood, Mysogyny, Consent, and Control
Amanda Montei

In this stunning blend of memoir, theory, and cultural criticism, a new mother examines the intersection between misogyny and motherhood, considering how caregivers can take back their bodies and pass on a language of consent to their children.

Drawing on classic feminist thinkers such as bell hooks, Silvia Federici, and Adrienne Rich, Amanda Montei draws connections between caregiving, consent, reproductive control, and the sacrifices women are expected to make throughout their lives. Exploring the stories we tell about psychology, childbirth, sexuality, the family, the overwhelm mothers feel trying to be “good,” and the tender bonds that form between parent and child, *Touched Out* delivers a powerful critique of American rape culture and its continuation in the institution of motherhood.

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Bill Ong Hing
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Beacon Press

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Rebecca Giblin & Cory Doctorow
Paperback Item 9311 $19.00
Beacon Press

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Our Migrant Souls
A Meditation on Race and Meanings and Myths of “Latino”
Héctor Tobar

Pulitzer Prize–winning writer Héctor Tobar delivers a definitive and personal exploration of what it means to be Latin* in the United States right now.

“Latino” is the most open-ended and loosely defined of the major race categories in the United States, and also one of the most rapidly growing. Taking on the impacts of colonialism, public policy, immigration, media, and pop culture, Our Migrant Souls decodes the meaning of “Latino” as a racial and ethnic identity in the modern United States, and gives voice to the anger and the hopes of young Latin* people who have seen Latinidad transformed into hateful tropes and who have faced insult and division.

Tobar translates his experience as not only a journalist and novelist but also a mentor, a leader, and an educator.

Loving Our Own Bones
Disability Wisdom and the Spiritual Subversiveness of Knowing Ourselves Whole
Julia Watts Belser

Open the Bible and disability is everywhere. Moses stutters and thinks himself unable to answer God’s call. Jesus heals the sick, the blind, the paralyzed, and the possessed. For centuries, these stories have been told and retold by commentators who treat disability as misfortune, as a metaphor for spiritual incapacity, or as a challenge to be overcome.

Loving Our Own Bones turns that perspective on its head. Drawing insights from the hard-won wisdom of disabled folks who’ve forged difference into fierce and luminous cultural dissent, Julia Watts Belser offers fresh and unexpected readings of familiar biblical stories, showing how disability wisdom can guide us all toward a powerful reckoning with the complexities of the flesh.
INSPIRATION/ MEMOIR/ ESSAYS

Try My Jesus
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