Diversify Your Reading
Inclusive Historical Fiction

The Boston Girl by Anita Diamant
Born to Jewish immigrants in 1900 Boston, it’s the story of a woman & how she and her sisters grew up in a multi-cultural area of America within a family steeped in old ways.

Citizens Creek by Lalita Tademy
Buying his freedom after serving as a translator during the American Indian wars, Cow Tom builds a remarkable life and legacy that is sustained by his courageous granddaughter.

The Gods of Tango by Carolina de Robertis
Struggling to make her way in Buenos Aires after the murder of her husband, seventeen-year-old Leda masters the violin and disguises herself as a man so that she can join a tango troupe of musicians and perform in public.

Love in the Time of Cholera by Gabriel García Márquez
In their youth, Florentino and Fermina love each other but Fermina marries a wealthy doctor. For the next 50 years, Florentino has 622 affairs but never loses his heart again. When Fermina’s husband dies, he will declare his love to her again—50 years later.

Pachinko by Min Jin Lee
In Korea in the early 1900s, a young, unwed woman becomes pregnant and brings shame to her family. When a minister agrees to marry her, she starts a new life in Japan. So begins a family’s saga about life in exile from its homeland and how history tests the bonds that keep generations together.

The Prince's Boy by Paul Bailey
A young Romanian man is sent to Paris in 1927 by his father and soon finds himself visiting the Bains du Ballon d’Alsace, a notorious establishment of unscrupulous activities. Soon, he is introduced to a fellow countryman that introduces him to a world he did not know exist.
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Romance in Marseille by Claude McKay
Set in Vieux Port of Marseille at the height of the Jazz Age, Lafala, a disabled and wealthy West African sailor lives among a rowdy troupe of dockworkers, prostitutes, and political organizers—collectively straight and queer, disabled and able-bodied, African, European, Caribbean, and American citizens.

Silence by Endō Shūsakū
Set in 17th-century Japan, two Portuguese Jesuits priests travel to Japan as missionaries but are captured by hostiles under feudal lords and forced to watch their fellow Japanese Christian brothers be tortured and killed for their beliefs.

An Unconditional Freedom by Alyssa Cole
Daniel is a member of the Loyal League—a secret group of Black spies. When Daniel is assigned to a new agent, sparks fly but he is suspicious of her motives. When they are assigned to infiltrate the Confederate government to stop Europe’s involvement in the War, oaths, vows, and personal truths are revealed and lives are at stake.

The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead
Set in pre-Civil War South, Cora is a slave in Georgia that is desperate to flee both her family and the plantation. After learning about the Underground Railroad, Cora joins a fellow slave on a horrific and terrifying journey north to find a new life.

The Weight of Ink by Rachel Kadish
A story about Jewish women separated between the centuries —Helen is a scholar living in London who is in a race to translate newly discovered 17th century Jewish documents. Ester is an immigrant from Amsterdam who is permitted to help a blind Rabbi transcribe documents in the 16th century. Separated by time but connected by the decisions they make in life, these women show how different lives and cultures intersect.