

Must Reads: books on refugee issues that will change your life

- *No More Heroes - Jordan Flaherty*

This incredible book breaks down the systemic ways savior mentalities cloud our judgment and can cause incredible harm to solidarity movements, advocacy efforts, and other well-intentioned but poorly-executed attempts to help people in need. It forces you to reflect on your role in structural violence and how to use your privilege to help combat it.

- *The Naked Don't Fear the Water - Matthieu Aikins*

Journalist Mattieu Aikins disguised himself as a refugee from Afghanistan to journey with his interpreter from Kabul to Europe. This is one of the most epic, page-turning books I have ever read. The best part about this book is the authentic, neutral voice that Aikins lends as a witness and subject to the global migration crisis. He simply states things as they are in this insightful but also heartachingly beautiful account of his journey with his friend.

- *The Lightless Sky - Gulwali Passarlay*

Written by a beloved friend and colleague, this book tells Gulwali's story as he journeyed to Europe as a child refugee. Mainstream media tries to paint the picture of "waves of migrants" being mostly young men seeking economic opportunities, but the reality is that many vulnerable people - men, women, children - make this journey alone. Their survival is a testament to their resilience as well as a reflection of the epic failure of the international community to support vulnerable people.

- *No Friend But the Mountains - Behrouz Boochani*

Many of us are not aware of the horrors of migrant detention. Boochani is a Kurdish refugee to Australia and this book - written in bits and pieces to a friend via WhatsApp - is a painful and deeply confrontational account of the violent and inhumane practices we implement in the name of border security.

Books about Displacement

- Hope Not Fear: Finding My Way from Refugee to Filmmaker to NHS Hospital Cleaner and Activist - Hassan Akkad (2021)
- No Friend But the Mountains - Behrouz Boochani (2018)
- War Child - Emmanuel Jal (2009)
- Call Me American - Abdi Nor Iftin (2018)
- The Displaced: Refugee Writers on Refugee Lives - Edited by Viet Thanh Nguyen (2018)

Books about the Migratory Pathway to help better understand displacement

- The Naked Don't Fear the Water - Matthieu Aikins (2022)
- The Lightless Sky - Gulwali Passarlay (2015)
- In the Sea there are Crocodiles - Fabio Geda (2010)
- The Devil's Highway: A True Story - Luis Alberto Urrea (2004)
- The New Odyssey: The Story of Europe's Refugee Crisis - Patrick Kingsley (2016)
- Exit West - Mohsin Hamid (2017)

Books About Migration Policy

- Refugee - Paul Collier and Alexander Betts (2017)

Books by Humanitarians

- Leaving Syria: Eyewitness Accounts of the Refugee Crisis in Greece - Bill Deinst and Madi Williamson (2017)
- Refugee - Jeanna Deswert (2020)
- The Heart and the Fist: The Education of a Humanitarian, the Making of a Navy SEAL - Eric Greitens (2011)
- Footprints in the Dust: Nursing, Survival, Compassion, and Hope with Refugees Around the World - Roberta Gately (2020)

Books for Young Adults

- Refugee - Alan Gratz
- We Are Displaced - Malala Yousafzai (and others)

Books for Kids

- The Sea Prayer - Khaled Housseini
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