

## **The Dirty Girls Social Club** by Alisa Valdes-Rodriguez

*Revolutionary Tales: African American Women's Short Stories, From the First Story to the Present*

(1995)

Stories by Alice Walker, Zora Neale Hurston, Dorothy West, Alice Childress, Terry McMillan, Frances Ellen Watkins Harper and more.

Briscoe, Connie *Sisters & Lovers*

(1996)

*Sisters & Lovers* is a novel of family and love, heartache and hope, and above all, the triumph of sisterhood.

Campbell, Bebe Moore *Singing in the Comeback Choir*

(1998)

This novel takes readers into the lives of two unforgettable women: Maxine, who thinks she has it all, and her grandmother Lindy, a once-brilliant singer who's about to give Maxine a lesson in faith, commitment and comebacks.

Cooper, J. California *Some Love, Some Pain, Sometime*

(1995)

Cooper's characteristic themes of romance, heartbreak, struggle and faith resonate in this collection of stories.

DeBerry, Virginia *Tryin' to Sleep in the Bed You Made*

(1997)

Gayle Saunders and Patricia Reid were total opposites who chose each other as best friends when they were children. Through the years they were raised together, as close as sisters. Gayle, the beauty pampered by her working-class parents, believes a man will make her world complete. Pat, the brainy one, is the hand-me-down child whose mystery parentage haunts her.

Ellis, Erika *Good Fences: A Novel*

(1997)

An upwardly mobile black family moves to Greenwich, Connecticut — with dramatic, sexy, funny and provocative consequences.

George, Nelson *One Woman Short: A Novel*

(2000)

A fast-paced, humorous and revealing novel in which a once-confirmed bachelor sets out to make one of three former girlfriends his wife.

Harris, E. Lynn *Any Way the Wind Blows: A Novel*

(2001)

John Basil is back at the top of his game (razzle-dazzling both the women and the men). All is well until Basil's picture-perfect life starts to unravel. Is someone out to get the unsinkable John Basil Henderson?

Jackson, Sheneska *Blessings: A Novel*

(1998)

There is no place quite like the local beauty salon, and Sheneska Jackson deftly uses this intimate setting as a backdrop for four women and their concerns about men, motherhood, and parenting.

McKinney-Whetstone, Diane *Blues Dancing: A Novel*

(1999)

Verdi, daughter of a Southern preacher, comes to Philadelphia in the 1970s and enrolls at the university. She meets Johnson, a poor, irresistible and militant student who teaches her about many things, including how to love heroin. Verdi is rescued by a professor who falls in love with her. Twenty years later, Johnson reenters Verdi's life.

Marshall, Paule *Daughters*

(1991)

Ursa is a well-educated, good-hearted, hard-working young black woman living in New York—a woman seeking to come to terms with herself, her life and her parents back home in the West Indies.

Ray, Francis *I Know Who Holds Tomorrow*

(2002)

A sudden tragedy turns the life of popular talk show host Madison Reed upside down. Her husband Wes is critically injured in a car accident and a woman is killed. Before he dies, Wes confesses that the woman who was killed was his mistress — and that he's the father of her nine-month-old daughter, Manda. He



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begs Madison to raise the child. Unsure if she can, Madison struggles to take charge of her fate and put her life back together. Overwhelmed, she accepts the help of Zachary Holman, her husband's best friend, only to discover that his life is also shrouded by lies.

Shange, Ntozake *Liliane: Resurrection of the Daughter*  
(1994)

The imaginative world of artist Liliane Lincoln is told from the perspectives of her childhood friends, lovers and psychoanalyst, and culminates in the young woman's realization that she must face the truth about herself.

Tyree, Omar *For the Love of Money: A Novel*  
(2000)

At 28, Tracy Ellison has achieved the fame and fortune she dreamed about as a teenager. Her over-the-top good looks, fierce ambition and feisty attitude made her a Hollywood star. Now she's coming back to Philadelphia to share her celebrity experiences with the students at her old high school. But Tracy's enviable status presents new challenges, including the need to confront lingering questions about family and friends, love and losses.

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