

Baldwin, James. (1962). *The fire next time*. New York: Vintage International.

Baldwin wrote the eloquent essays contained in this book in the early days of the civil rights movement. He exposes the physical, emotional, and spiritual toll racial injustice claims on lives of Americans - both Black and White. Rather than indicting White people for the racial violence of white supremacy, he showers pity on the white innocence that leads White people, unable to take responsibility for historical racial violence, to live in fear of Black people. Baldwin shatters the myth of whiteness that espouses Christian love, democracy and fairness and reminds us that White people can learn love from Black people who have survived centuries of racial oppression.

Group practitioners would gain insight into the spiritual, emotional, and physical impact of racial injustice.

Christine Schmidt, LCSW-R