

Building a World that Includes Disability

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Summary

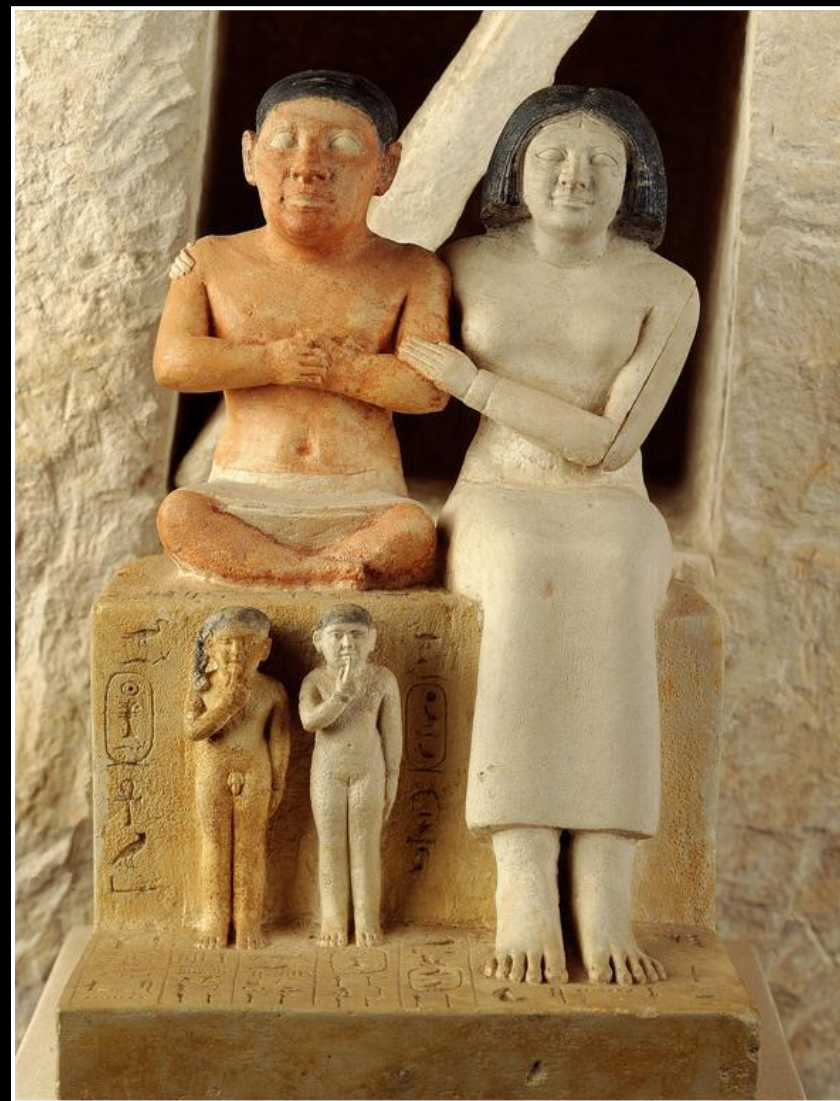
- Non-medical definitions of *disability*
- Cultural contributions made by people with disabilities
- *Disability's* evolution during civil rights movement
- Taking *disability* further: the potential of DEI initiatives

Disability is everywhere, once you know how to find it.



What is disability?

The human variations we think of as disabilities are part of the human condition that occur in every life and family and are a theme in all art and culture.



Funerary statue of Dwarf Seneb and his family, from Giza, c. 2456-2323 BCE

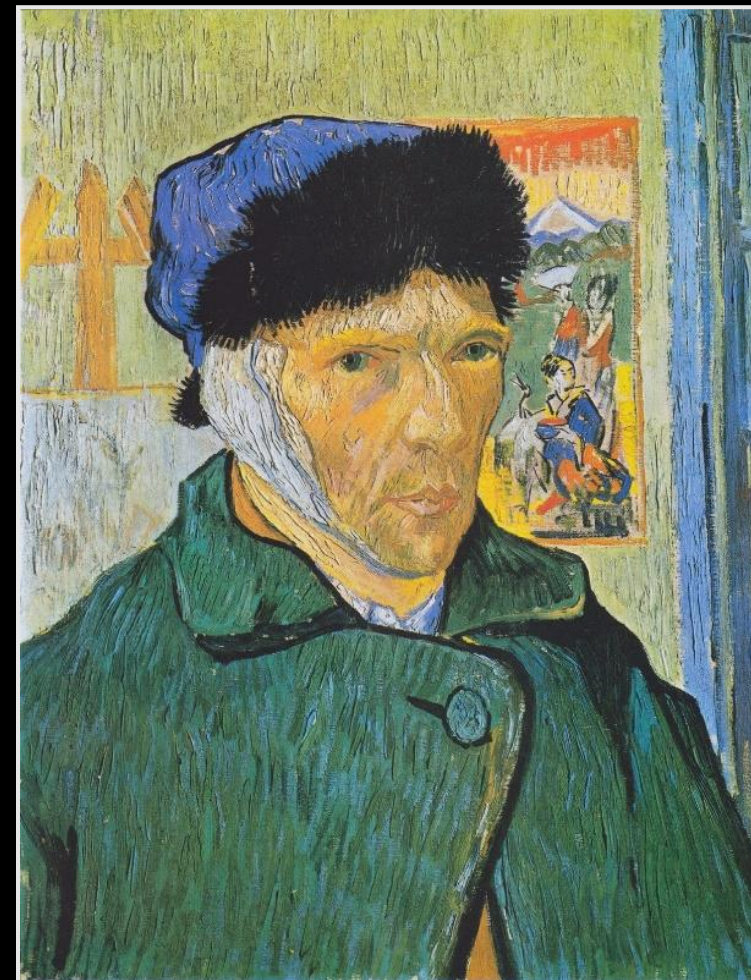
The lived experiences of disability give people and communities opportunities for expression, creativity, resourcefulness, relationships, and flourishing.



Disability is a set stories we receive and remake about human variations that scientific medicine considers as disability, disease, illness, and body-mind differences.



“Shayla” from Doug Auld’s series State of Grace: Portraits of Burn Survivors (2005)

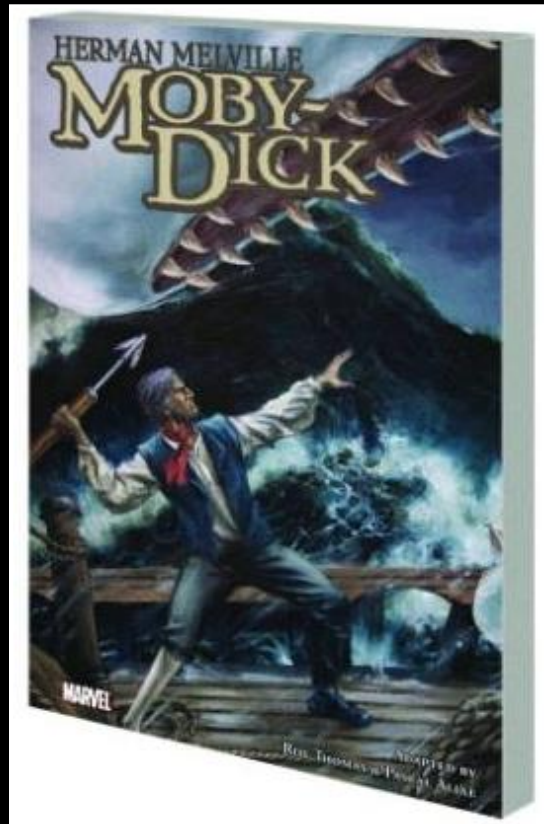


Vincent van Gogh, Self Portrait with Bandaged Ear (1889)

Where do we find
disability?

We find disability in:

- literature
- performance
- art
- design



Disability crosses all genre,
media, time periods, aesthetic
themes, and cultures.



What does finding
disability do?

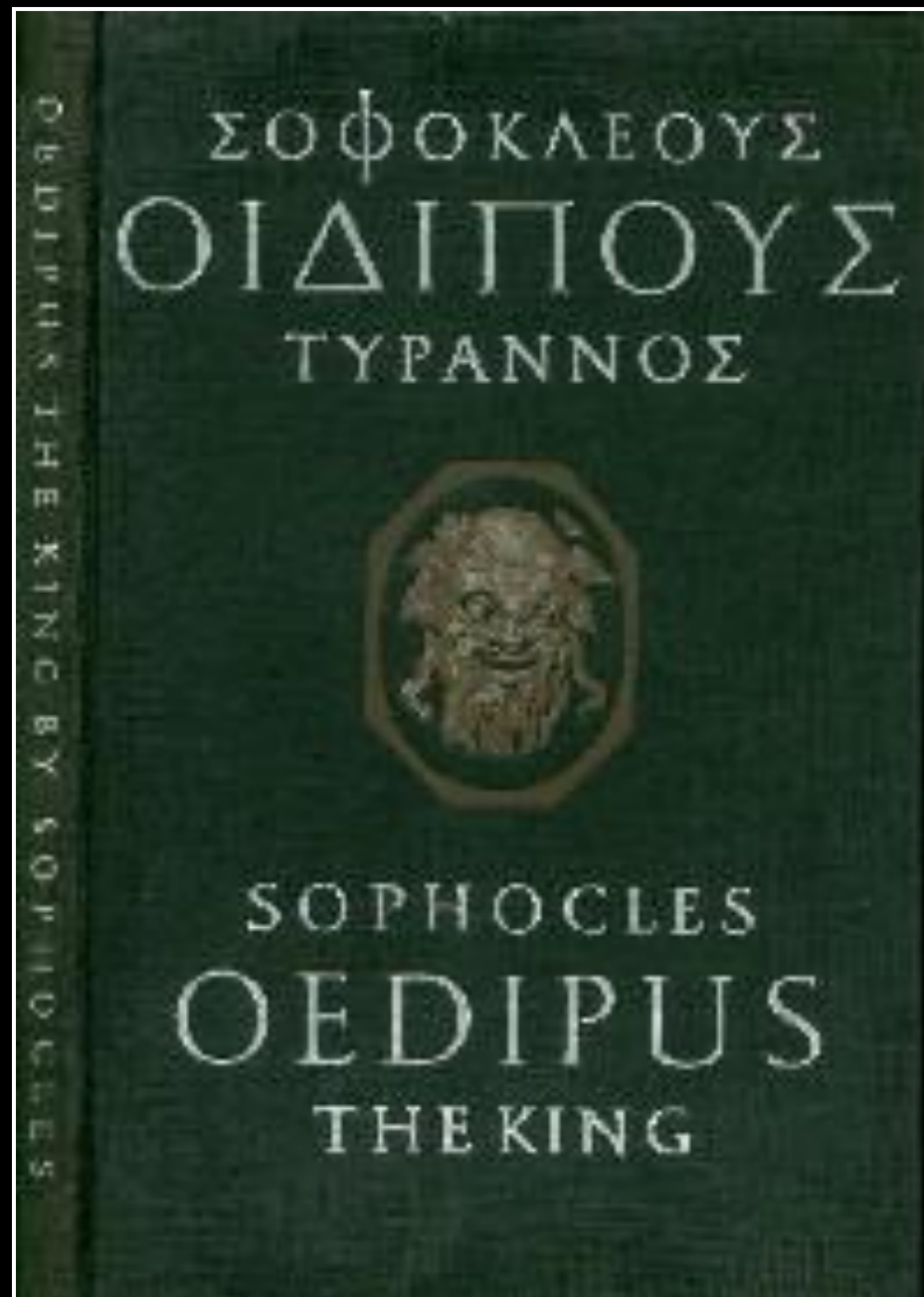
Finding disability is an opportunity to explore, redefine, and make new stories about what it means to be human.



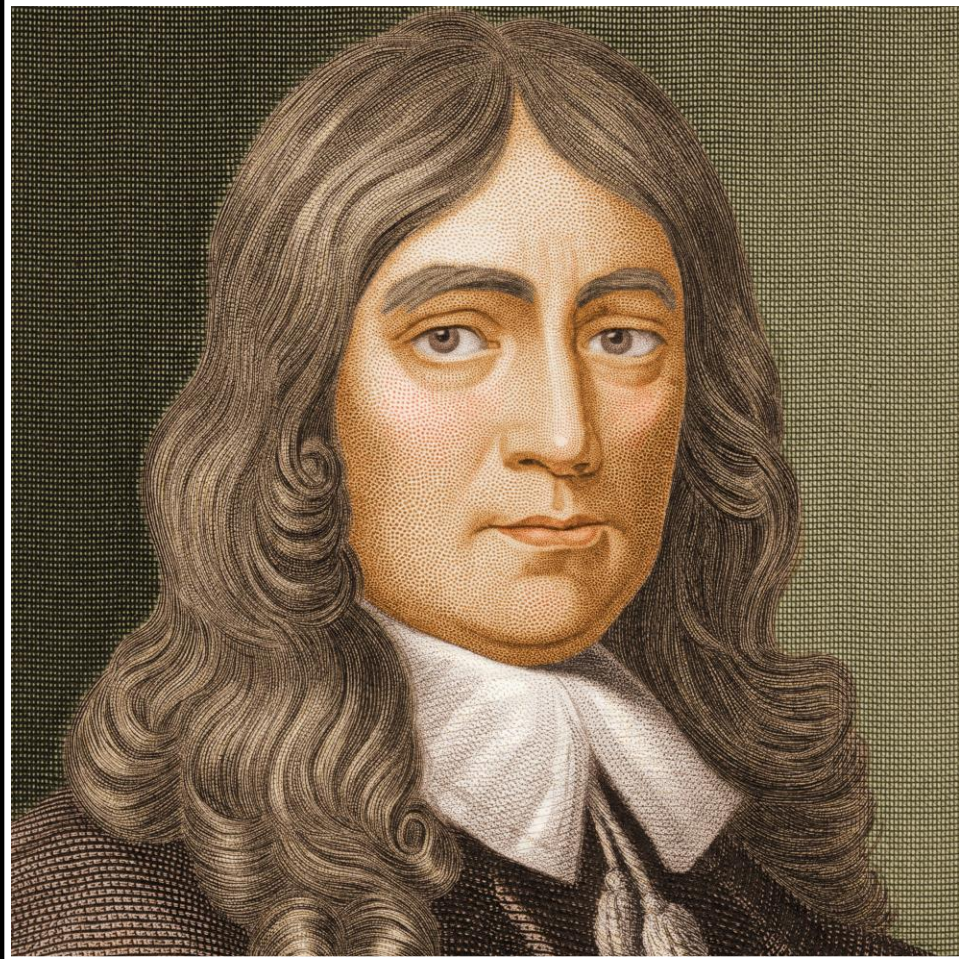
Finding disability helps us understand how communities make and unmake the human variations we think of as disabilities.



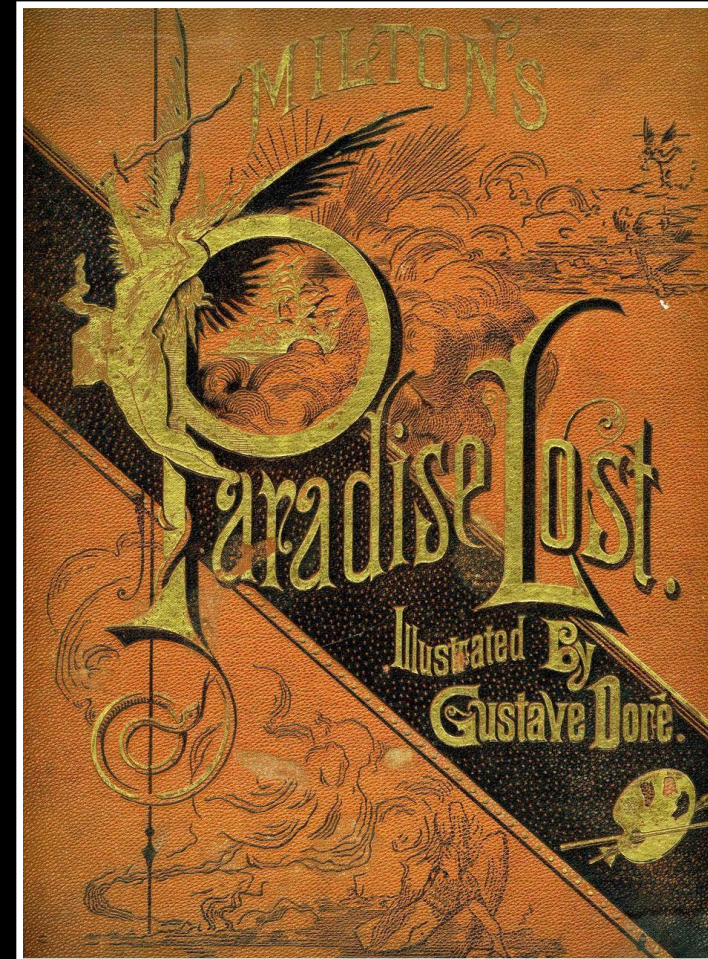
literature and
performing arts



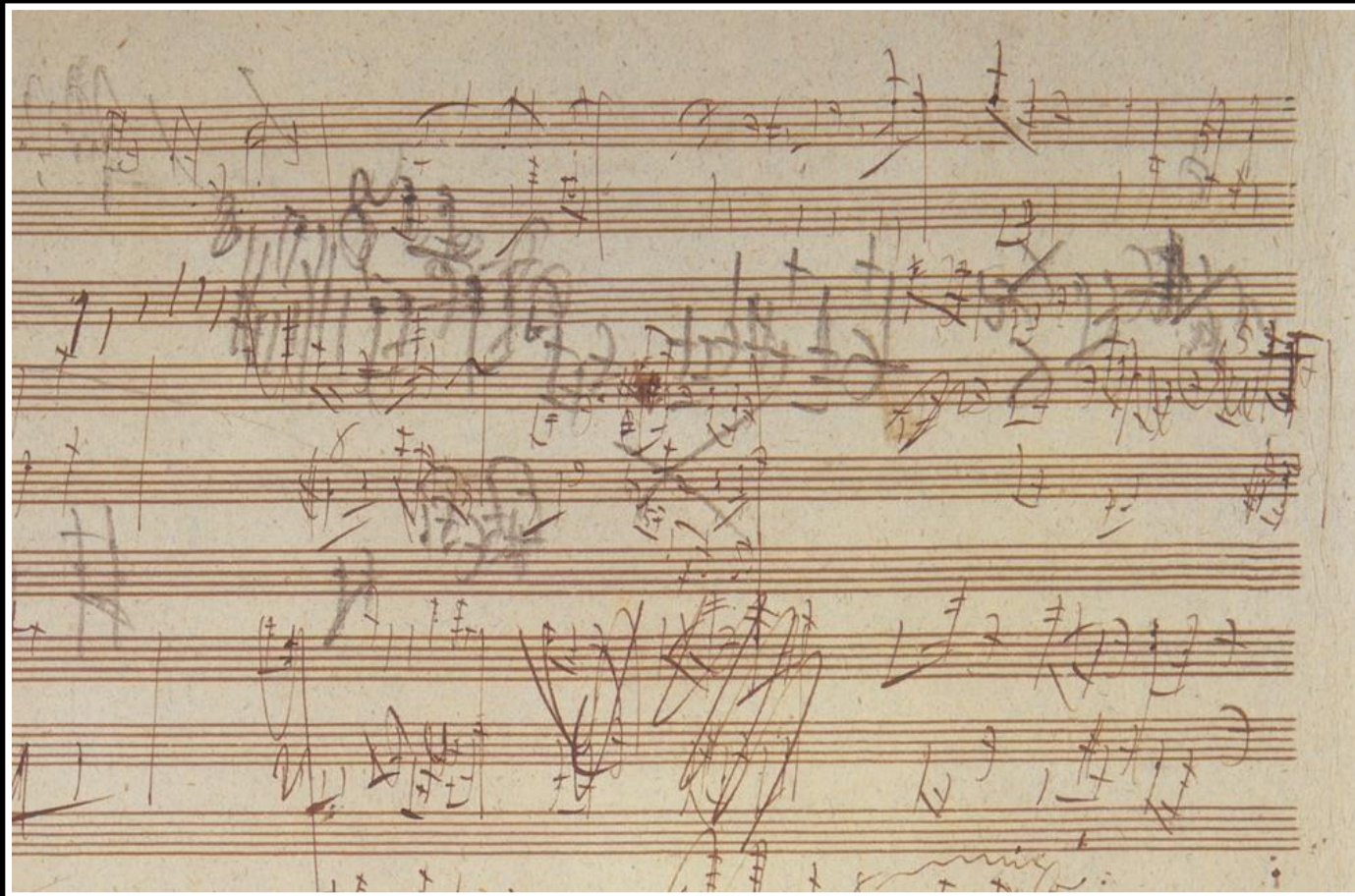
Albert Greiner as Oedipus
in 1896



Portrait of John Milton (circa
17th century)



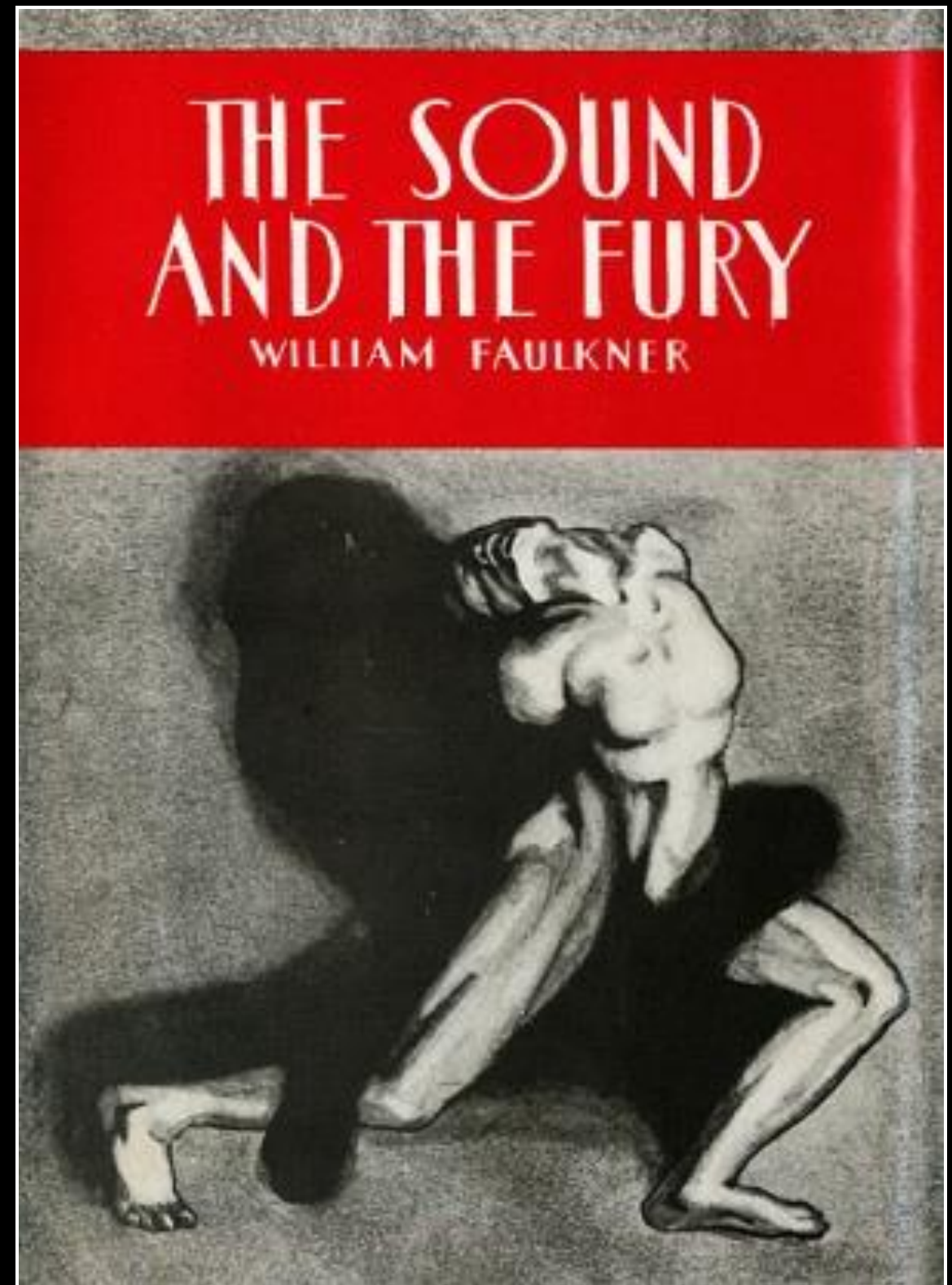
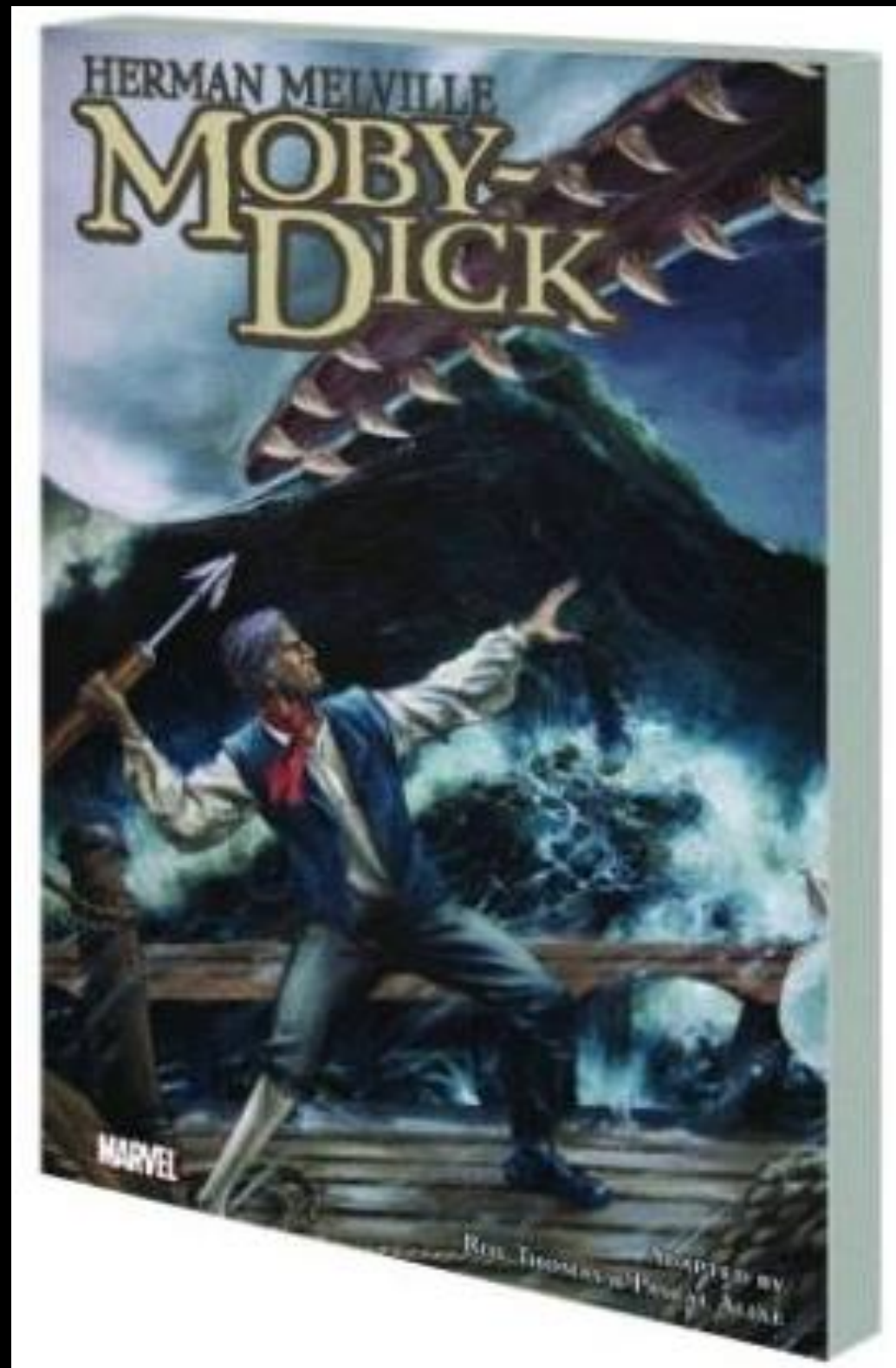
Cover of Milton's
Paradise Lost (1667)



Beethoven's original manuscript from Piano Sonata in E Major, Op. 109, marked up to the point it is almost unreadable (1820)



Portrait of Ludwig van Beethoven by Joseph Karl Stieler (circa 1820)



INCIDENTS IN THE
Life of a Slave Girl

Written by Herself



Harriet A. Jacobs

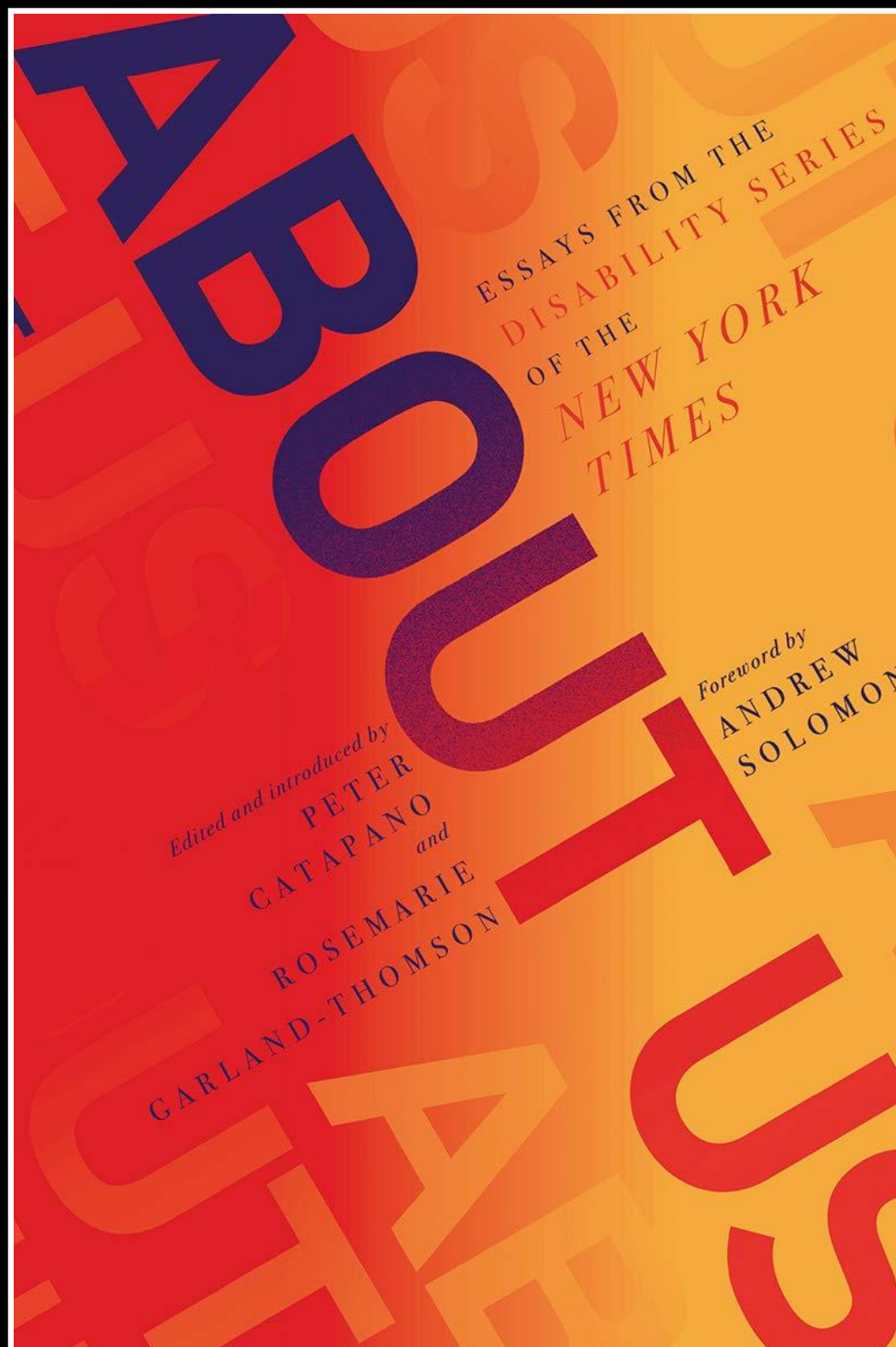
EDITED BY JEAN FAGAN YELLIN

Cover of Harriet Jacobs' book
*Incidents in the Life of a Slave
Girl* (1861)

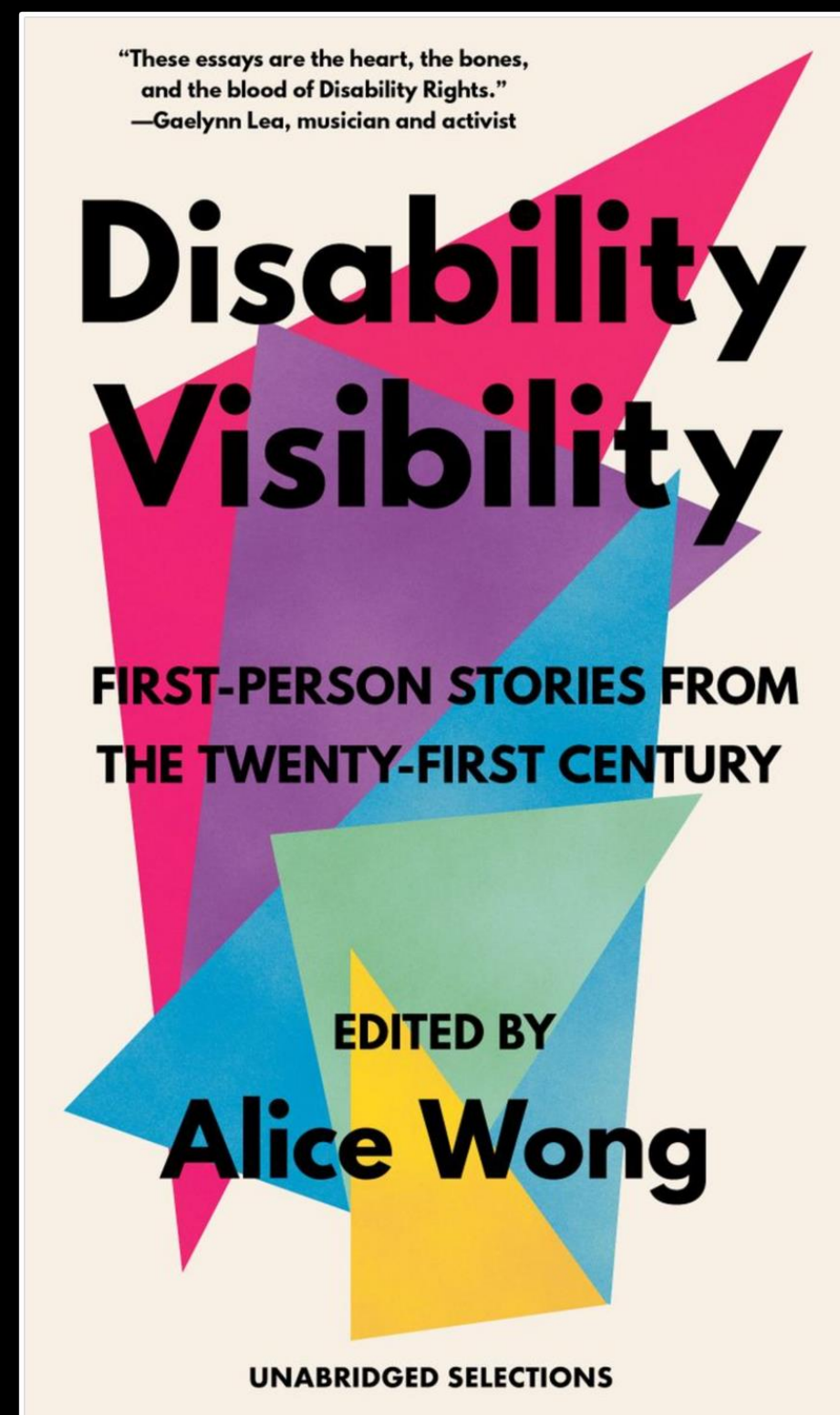
NARRATIVE
OF THE
LIFE
OF
FREDERICK
DOUGLASS,
AN
AMERICAN SLAVE.

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

Cover of Frederick Douglass' *Narrative of the Life*
(1845)

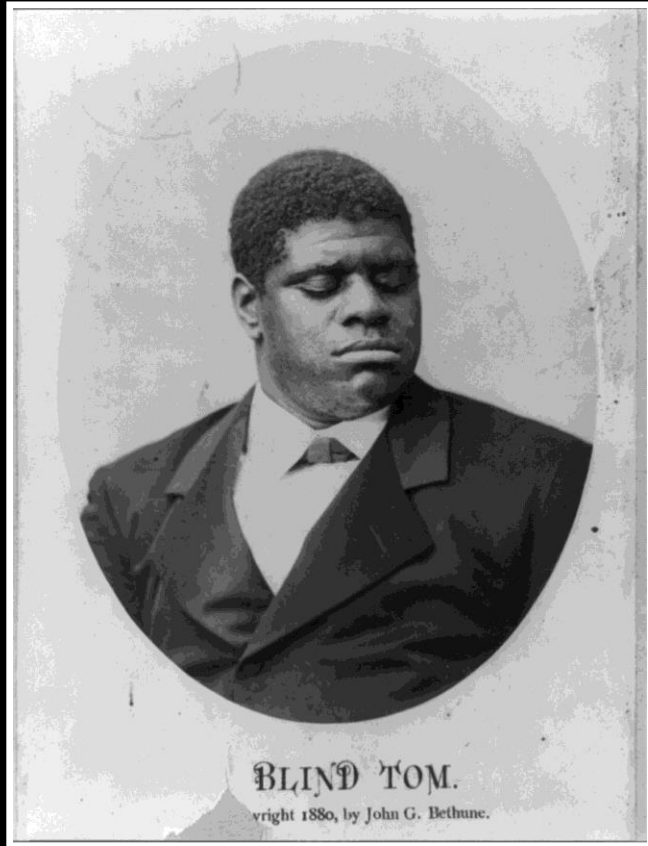


Cover of Peter Catapano and Rosemarie Garland-Thomson's book *About Us* (2019)

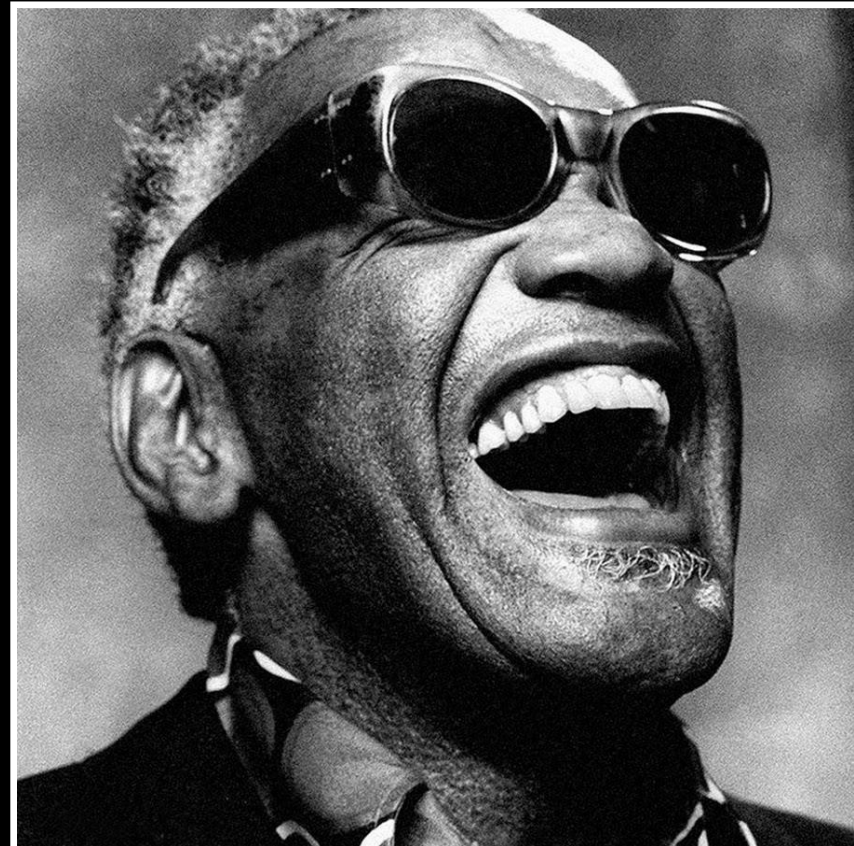


Cover of Alice Wong's book *Disability Visibility* (2020)

performance



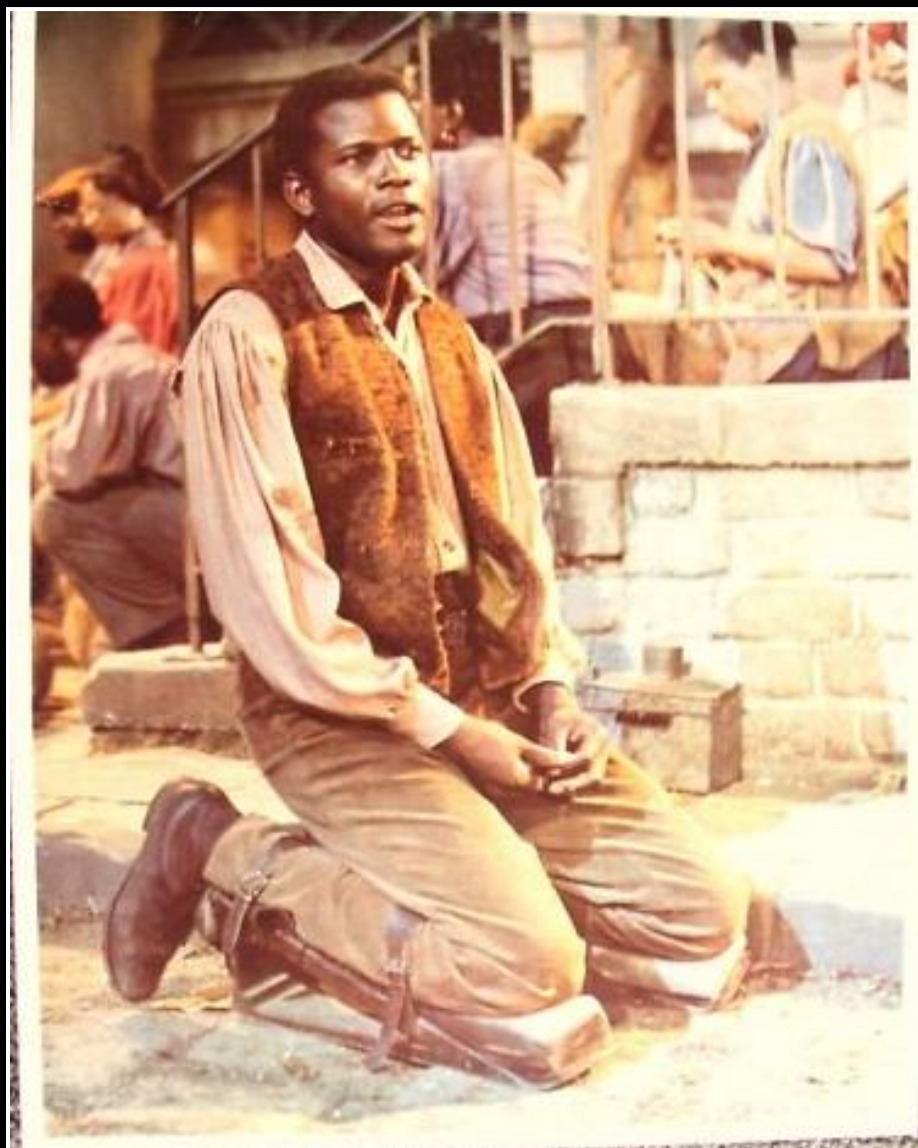
“Blind Tom” Wiggins
1849-1908



Ray Charles
1930-2004



Stevie Wonder
born 1950



Sidney Poitier as Porgy, “The Goat Cart Man,” in 1959 film, Porgy and Bess



Audra McDonald and Norm Lewis in *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*, ART, 2011



Peter Dinklage as Tyrion Lannister in HBO's "Game of Thrones" (above) and on Esquire (left)



Leroy F. Moore Jr., poet, creator of the Krip Hop movement, and co-founder of the disability performance art collective Sins Invalid



Alice Sheppard and Laurel Lawson in Kinetic Light performance (2017)

art & sculpture



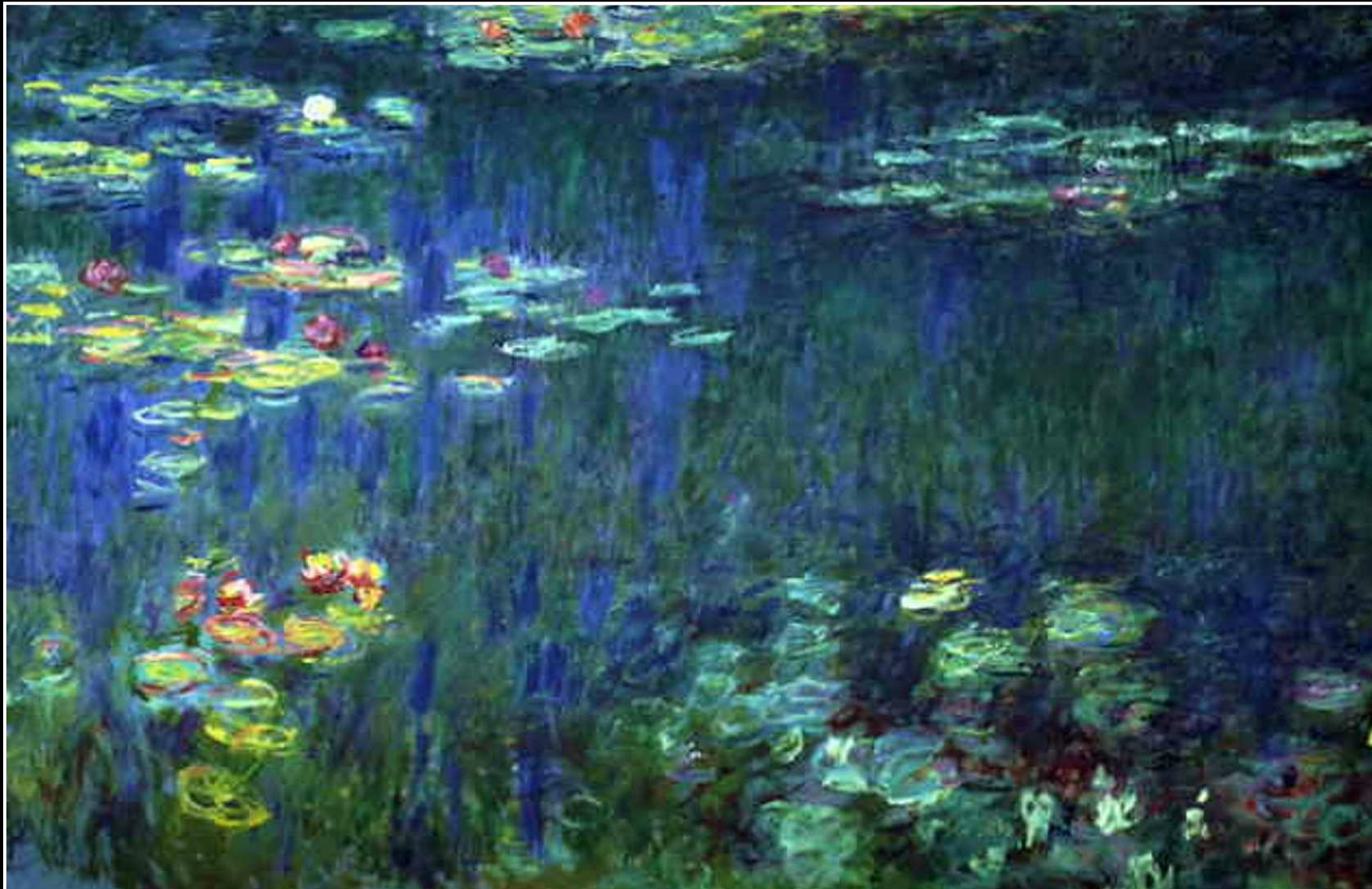
Michelangelo's *Pietà* in St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican



Sam Jinks
Still Life (Pieta) 2007



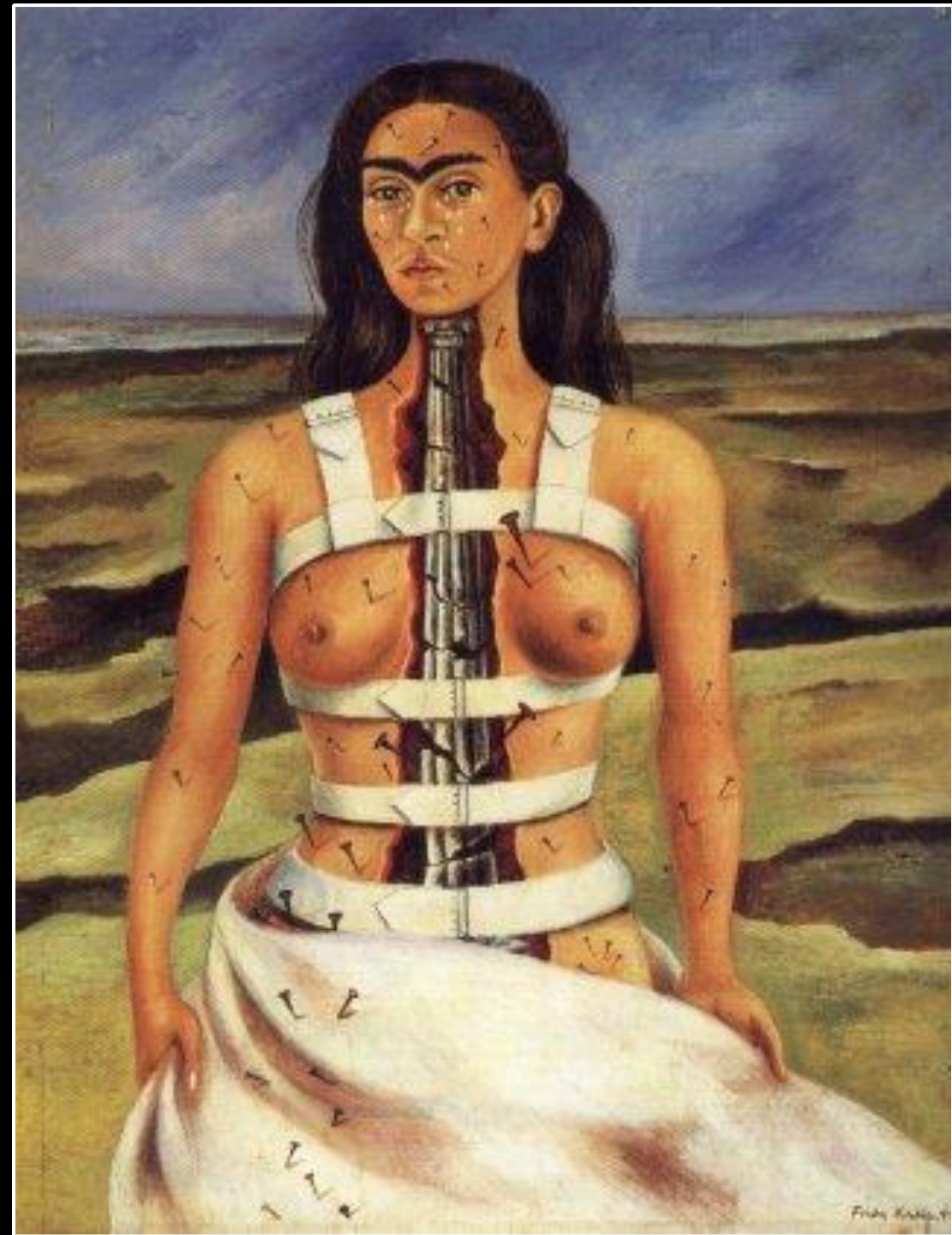
John Singer Sargent, *Gassed* (1918)



Claude Monet,
Water Lilies
(1914-26)



Frida Kahlo, self-portraits of disabled artist





Judith Scott (1943-2005)

Photograph by Leon Borensztein



Christine Sun Kim, sound art (2012)



66 Degrees (Self Portrait) by Riva Lehrer, 2019
<https://www.rivalehrerart.com/self-portraits>

accessible/inclusive
design

The Alternative Limb Project, Kiera Roche, chairperson for LimbPower, pictured.





MIT engineer Hugh Herr



Kathy D Woods, pioneer of disability fashion, with her apparel company logo



Ear Chair from Proff



tactile watch for blind people

wheeled mobility





Helical ramp at the Ed Roberts Campus, Berkeley, CA

Access is everywhere,
once you know how to
look for it.



Susanne Koefed, ICTA (1968)



Sara Hendren, *Abler* (2010)

International Symbol of Access

How did we get from
segregation to
inclusion?

the path from patient
to citizen

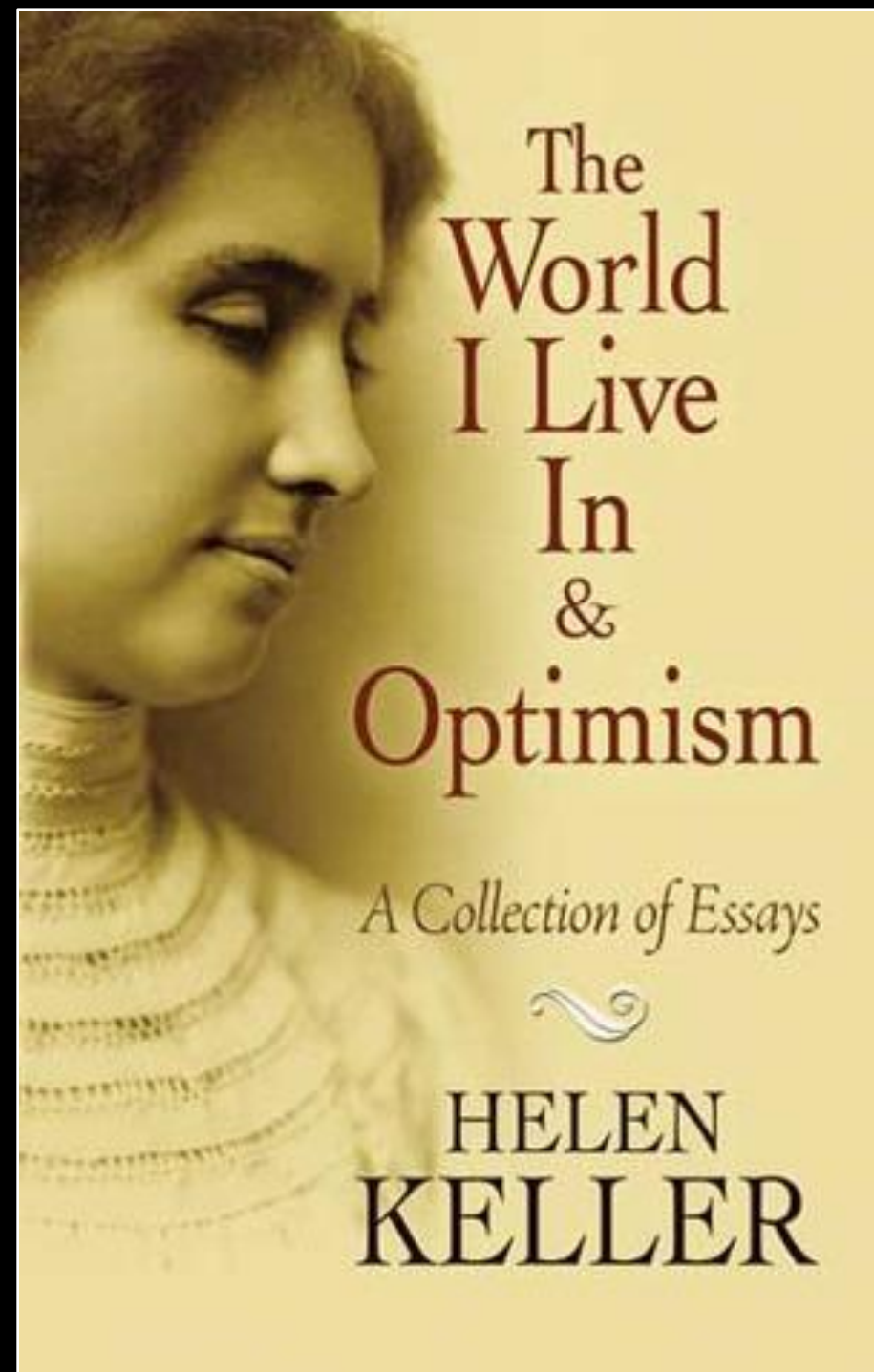
human and civil rights
1948-present



Eleanor Roosevelt holding the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights (1948)



Helen Keller holding a braille volume
(1956)





Disability rights advocates protest for accessibility

People with Disabilities
Forging a New Civil Rights Movement

NO PITY



JOSEPH P. SHAPIRO

"The primer for a revolution..." —Chicago Tribune

Joseph P. Shapiro, *No Pity: People with Disabilities Forging a New Civil Rights Movement* (1993)



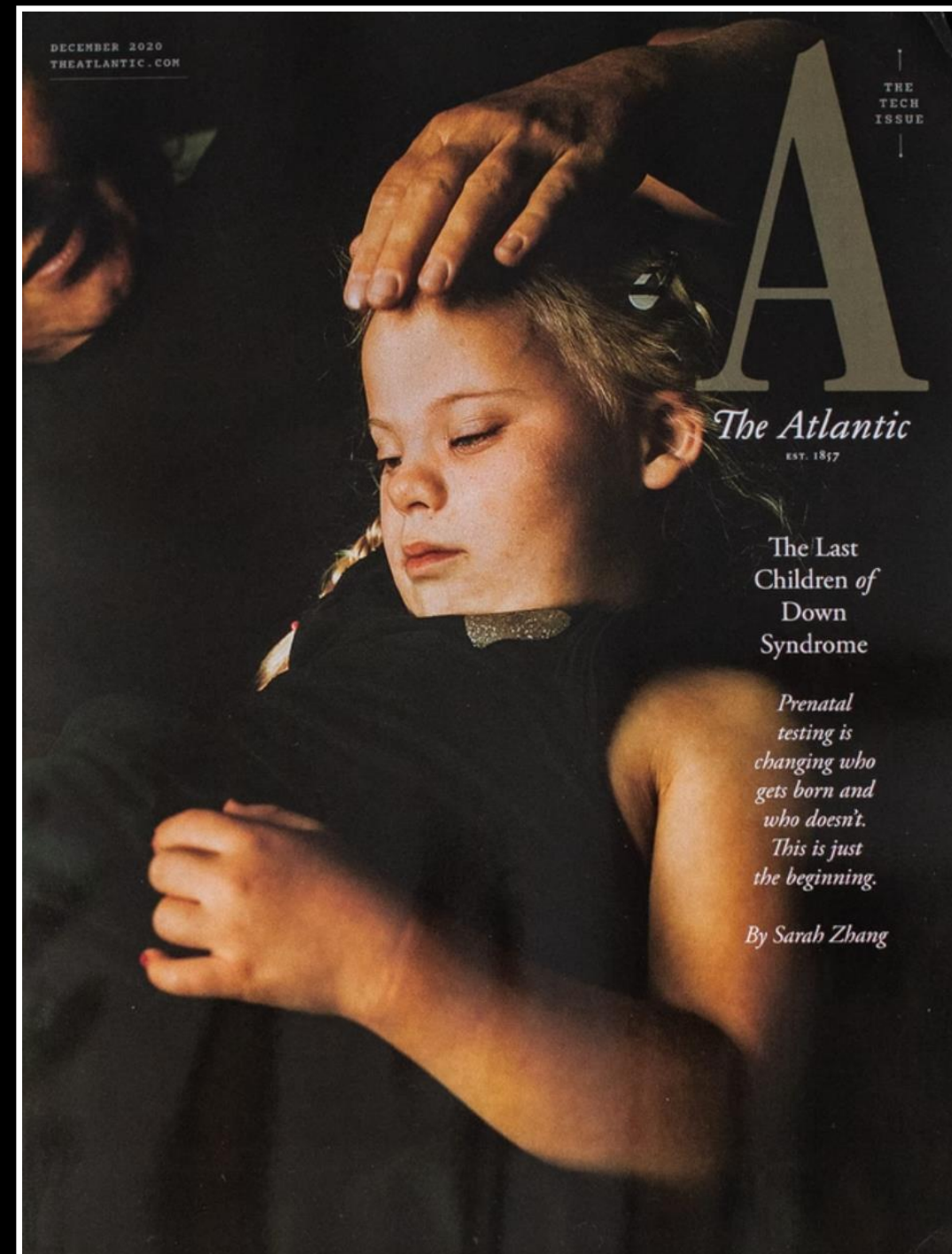
image of the Americans
with Disabilities Act (ADA)
of 1990 and 2009



CONVENTION on the RIGHTS of PERSONS with DISABILITIES

The United Nations Convention on the Rights
of Persons with Disabilities (2006)

Cover of *The Atlantic*'s
December 2020 issue titled "The
Last Children of Down
Syndrome"
(2020)



Disabled people are a politically created group of qualified individuals protected against discrimination by civil rights legislation and accorded the right to request reasonable accommodations.

What can disability
inclusion do?

accessible
design and
disability
cultural
consciousness
create inclusion
by changing
who we share
our world with

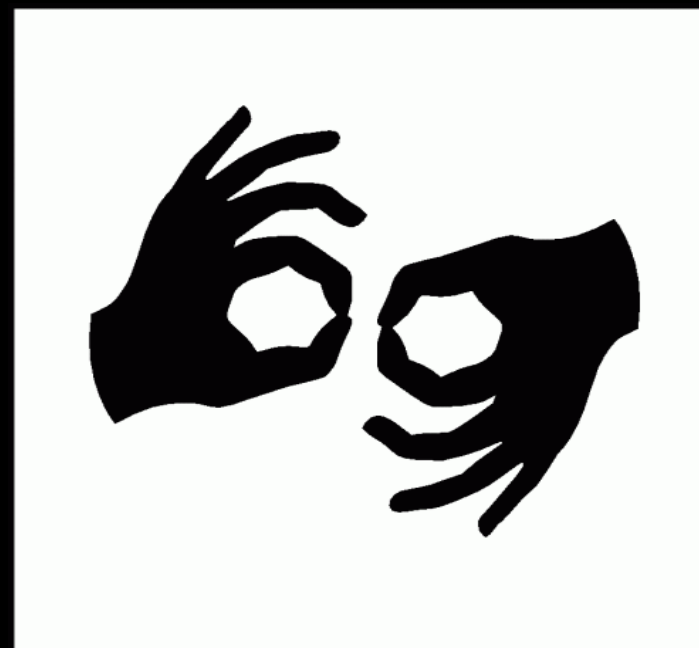


What can we do to
increase disability
inclusion?

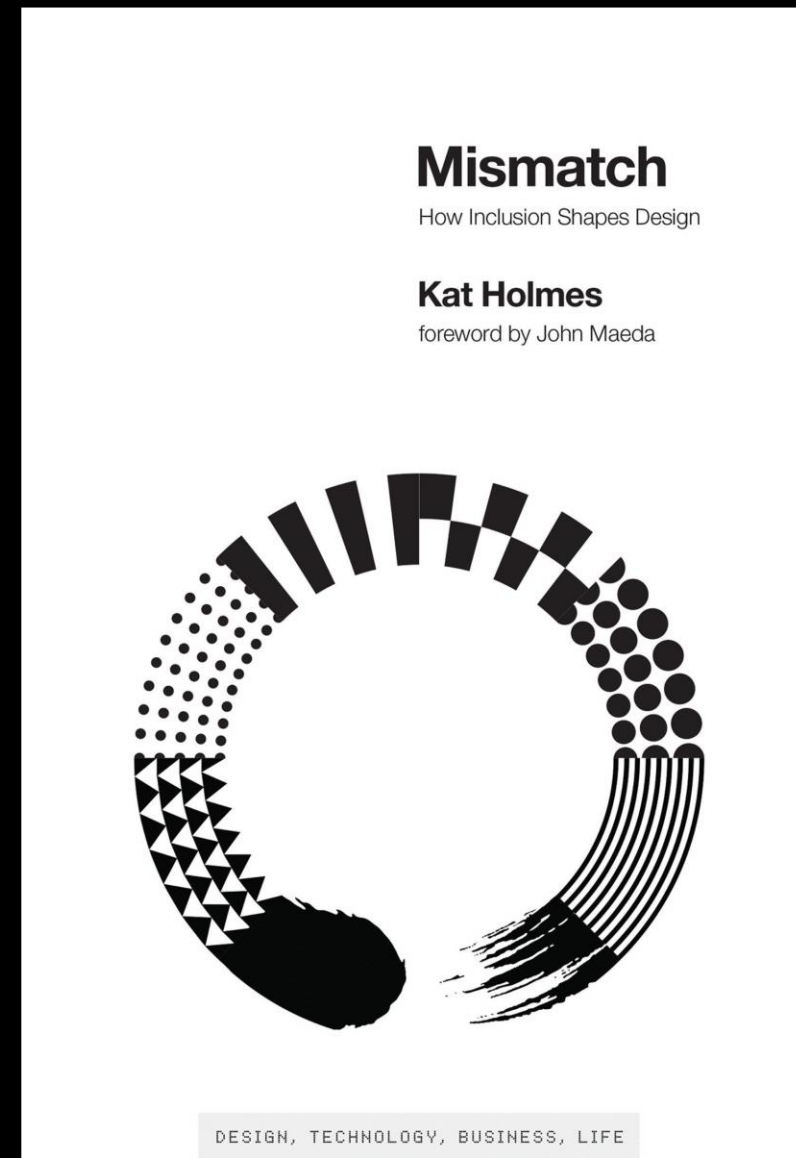
know disability history,
culture, and justice



know disability technologies
and use accommodations



practice disability inclusion in the workforce, workplace, and marketplace



find and support inclusive communities



Members of a Deaf church congregation using American Sign Language

connect with disability organizations



Joshua Miele, board member of the San Francisco Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired and creator of YouDescribe

- change attitudes
- increase access
- build community
- cultivate leadership



Disability Rights Advocate, Haben Girma, with President Barak Obama in 2015

thank you

