African-American fiction has always been *woke* (a term purportedly coined by William Melvin Kelley, whose first novel, *A Different Drummer*, we will read in this class). Our course will be organized around two sets of Black-authored narratives that centrally feature the topic of politics. One set will focus on imaginative works that figure various forms of Black political action against white supremacy, ranging from mass exodus to revolution. The other set will include more abstract works of fiction that, while still indirectly commenting on the politics of race, raise fundamental questions about the nature of political power and leadership. The class will include a diverse selection of genres, including romance, historical fiction, biblical parable, postmodernism, fantasy, science fiction, graphic fiction, and superhero film.