

Maya Angelou

(April 4, 1928 – May 28, 2014)



Timeline

April 4, 1928, born Marguerite Ann Johnson to Bailey Johnson and Vivian Baxter Johnson, in St. Louis, MO; older brother, Bailey, Jr., gives her name of “Maya”

1931, sent to live with paternal grandmother, Annie Henderson, (“Momma”) in Stamps, AR

1937, raped by mother’s boyfriend; after his sudden and violent death, does not speak for five years

1941; moves with brother to San Francisco to live with mother; attends George Washington H.S.; studies dance and drama at California Labor School

1942, 1st African-Am. cable car conductor

1943, graduates from high school; gives birth to son, Clyde Johnson (later changed to Guy Johnson)

1948, has realization of her death & impossibility of thwarting it, experiences great release

1951, marries Enistasius (Tosh) Angelos, Greek sailor; takes name of Angelou

1954, divorces Angelos; works in “The Purple Onion;” studies with Martha Graham; dances with Alvin Ailey; meets James Baldwin in Paris

1958, moves to New York; joins Harlem Writers Guild; sings at clubs, including Apollo Theater in Harlem

1959, becomes involved in civil rights movement, part. Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)

1960, marries Vusumzi Make, lives in Cairo

1961, U. of Ghana’s School of Music & Drama

1964, returns to U.S. to assist Malcom X in Organization of African American Unity

Timeline (continued)

February 21, 1965, Malcom X assassinated; Martin Luther King appoints her coord. of northern SCLC

April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King, Jr. assassinated

1969, *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings*

1971, *Just Give Me a Cool Drink of Water 'fore I Diiie*

1972, writes movie script - "*Georgia, Georgia*"

1977, performs in television mini-series "*Roots*," nominated for an Emmy; marries Paul du Feu; moves to Sonoma, CA

1981, Reynolds Prof. of Am. Studies at Wake Forest U.

1984, meets Oprah Winfrey, becomes her friend/mentor

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January 20, 1993, delivers, "*On The Pulse of Morning*," inaugural poem, at President Clinton's inauguration

1995, delivers "*A Brave and Startling Truth*," commemorating 50th anniversary of U.N.

2000, receives National Medal of Arts

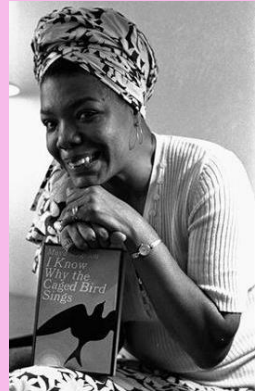
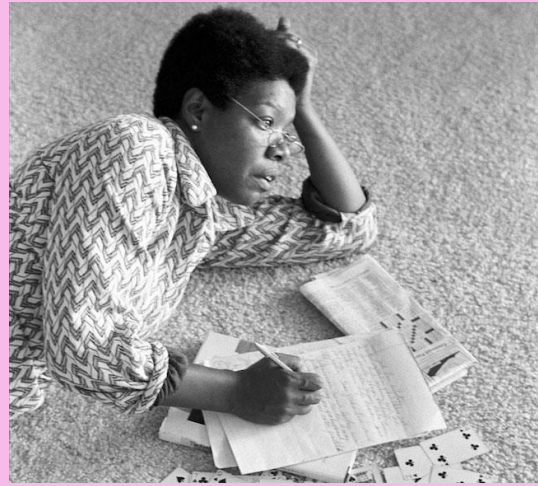
2011, receives Presidential Medal of Freedom

May 28, 2014, dies at home, Winston-Salem

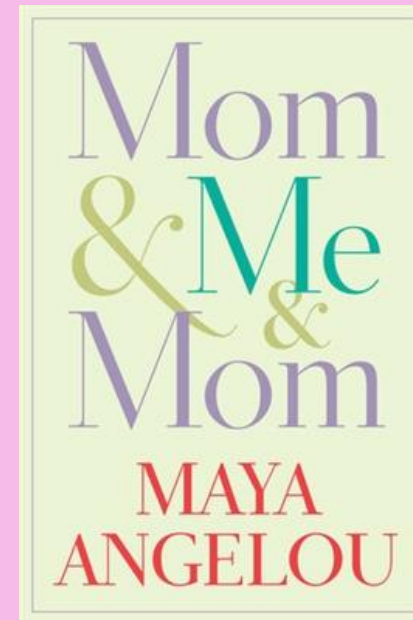
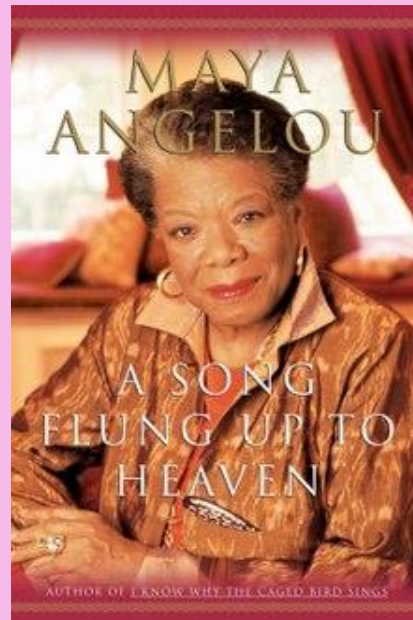
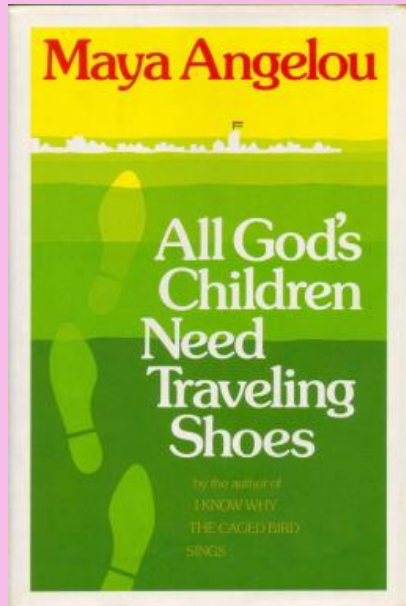
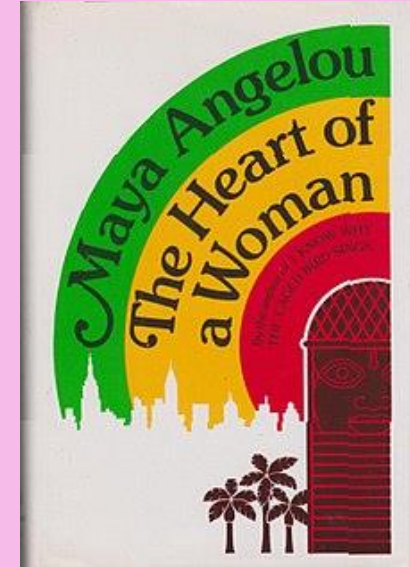
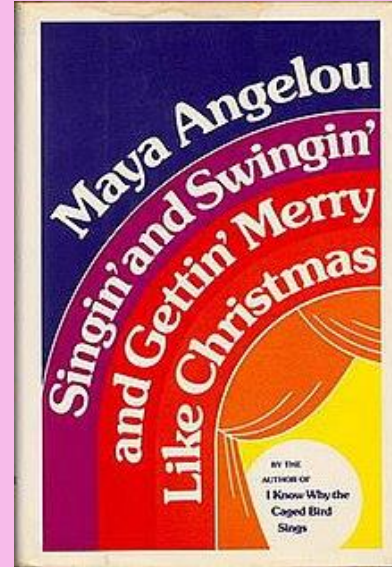
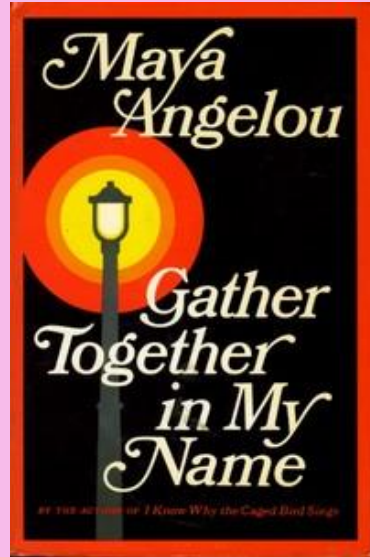
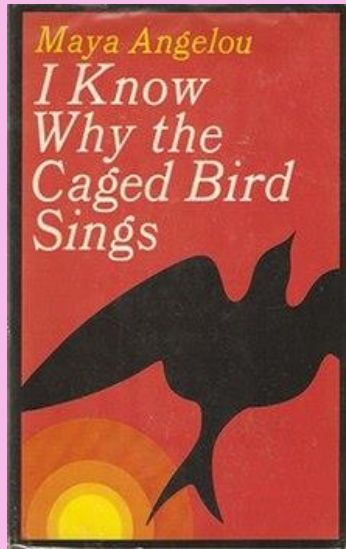
May 29, 2014, memorial service @ Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC

June 7, 2014, private memorial service @ Wait Chapel, Wake Forest University, NC

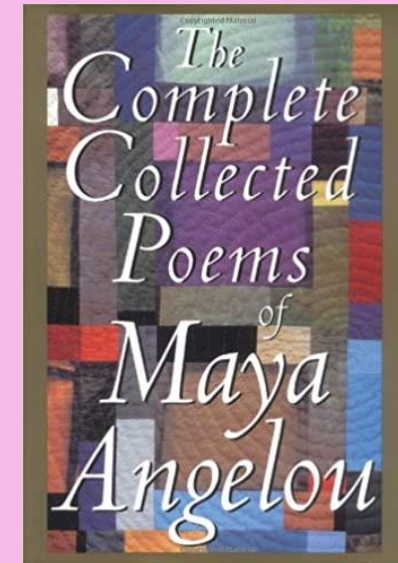
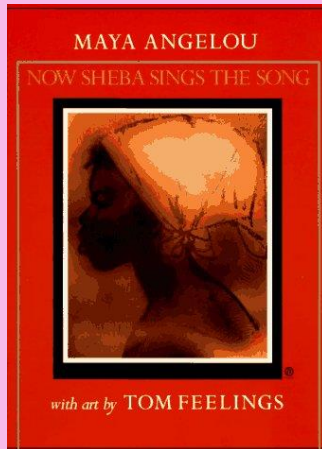
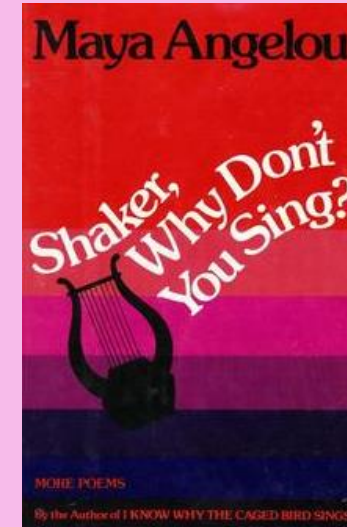
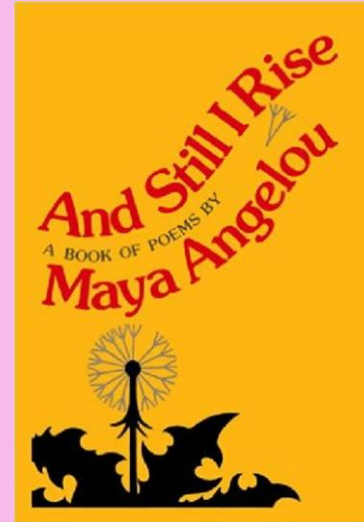
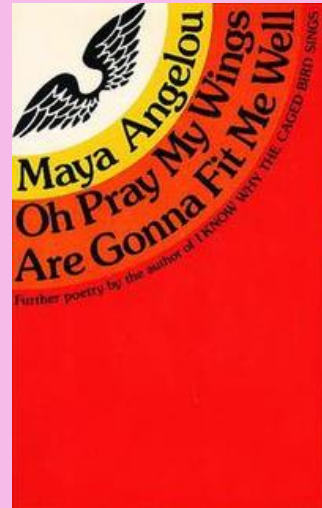
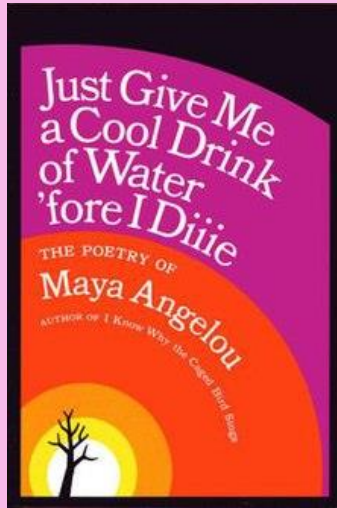
June 15, 2014, memorial service @ Glide Memorial Church, San Francisco, CA



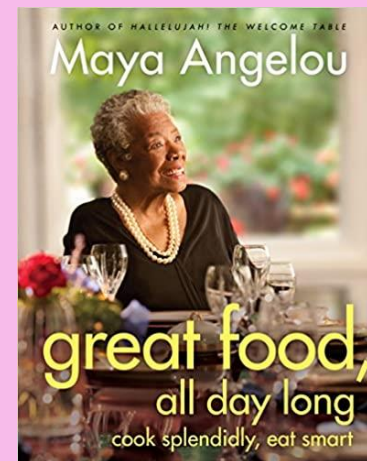
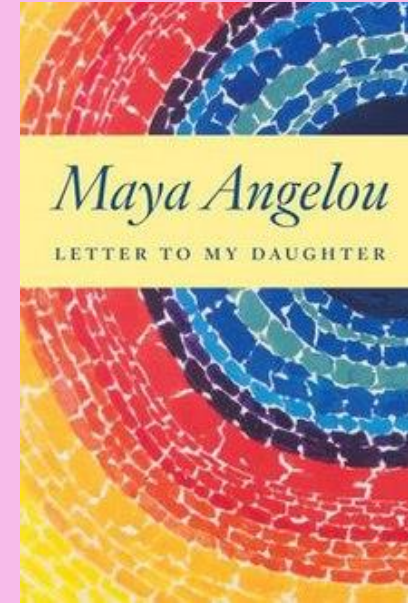
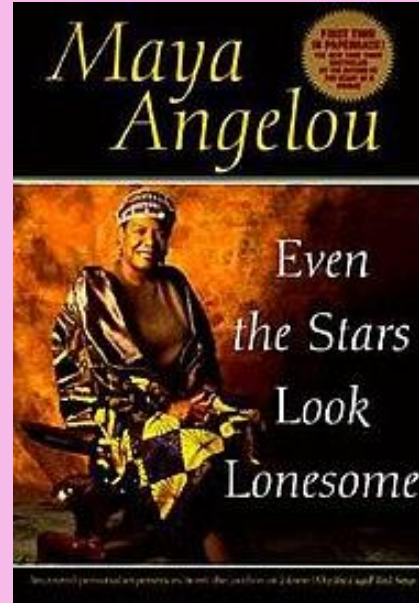
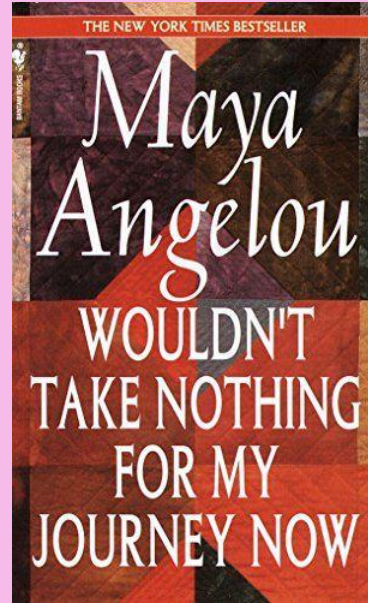
Where to start?? - Autobiography



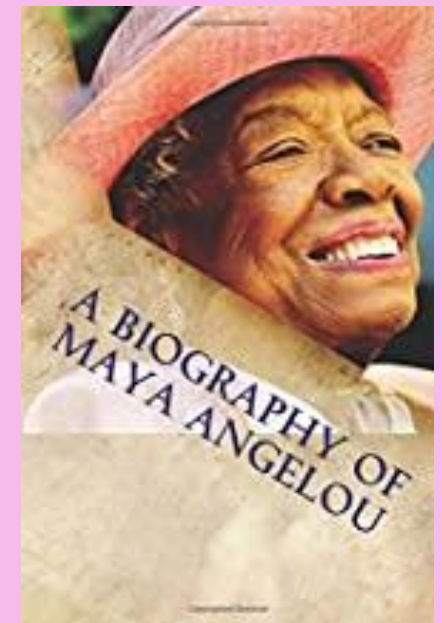
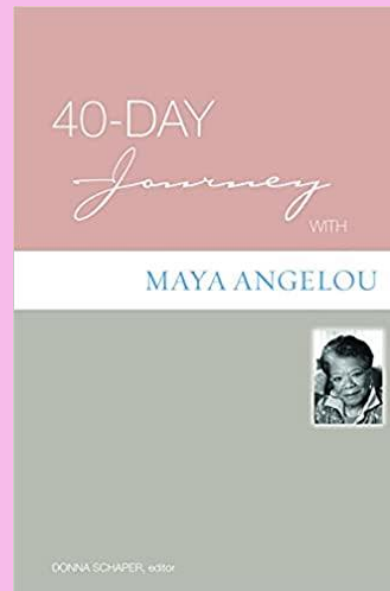
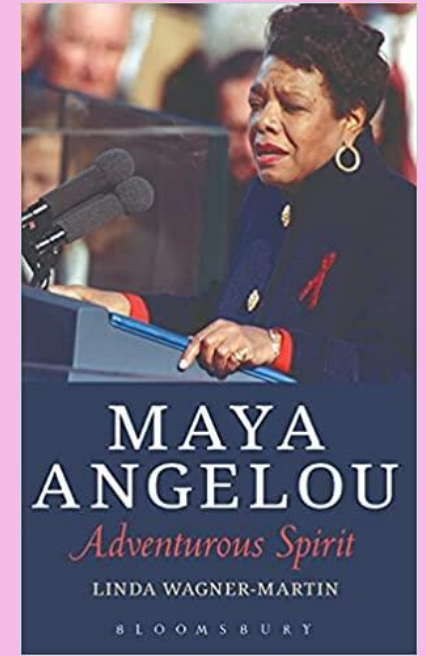
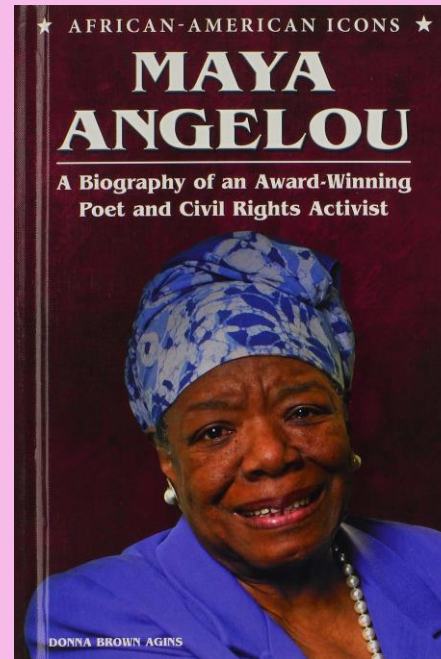
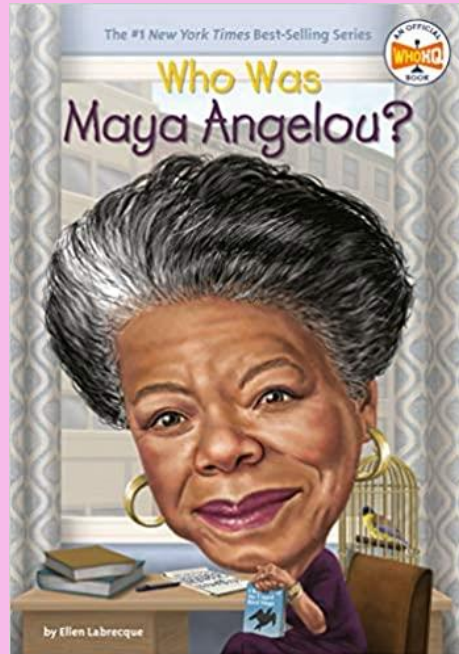
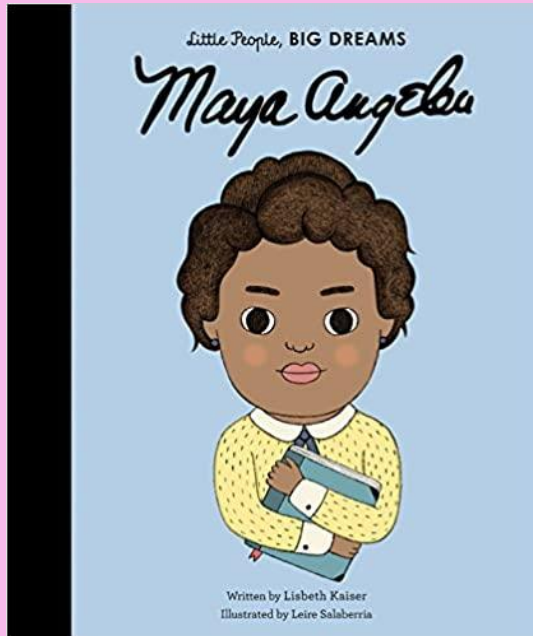
Where to start?? - Poetry



Where to start?? - Essays



Where to start?? ... about Maya Angelou



Internet Resources

Dr. Maya Angelou's 3-Word Secret to Living Your Best Life

(Oprah's Master Class @ OWN)

(ca 2014?) (3:26)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sr6LMr-rXEc>

Maya Angelou in Calypso Heat Wave

(1957) (7:13)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q_cpW6x3FUw

'Still I Rise' by Maya Angelou (Live performance)

(unknown date) (2:15)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qviM_GnJbOM

Maya Angelou's Blacks, Blues, Black! -- Episode 1

(KQED Arts)

(1968) (54:41)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9UDb8VtKLM>

Interview w/ Mavis Nicholson

(Thames TV)

(1987) (15:50)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uZQJo0v_tII

Commencement Address at Spelman College

(1992) (25:21)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=70RH-h7QfP0>

Maya Angelou's Inaugural Poem

(1993) (6:19)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQQThtav41o>

Interview w/ Charlie Rose

(1993) (28:56)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_jDKAXG8cb4

Interview w/ George Stroumboulopoulos

(George Stroumboulopoulos Tonight @ CBC)

(ca 2014?) (13:14)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zAsr8bq7vk&list=RDLVsr6LMr-rXEc&index=14>

Video Clip

Dr. Maya Angelou's 3-Word Secret to Living Your Best Life

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The Genius of Maya Angelou



- **A “Renaissance Woman”**

... Singer ... dancer ... actor ... playwright ...
screenwriter ... composer ... director ... journalist ...
scholar ... activist ... philanthropist ... memoirist ... poet ... essayist ... cook

- **Artist and Activist**

... Harlem Renaissance & Organization of African-American Unity
... Alvin Ailey & Southern Christian Leadership Conference

- **Famous Celebrity with an Uncommonly Kind Common Touch**

- **An Inclusive Christian**

... Open and straightforward about her Christian heritage and Unabashedly
Affirming of the dignity and giftedness of all persons of all faiths

The Gist & Grit of Maya Angelou

UNIVERSALITY-COMMONALITY

There is a universality and a commonality among all people.

“We are more alike my friends than we are unlike.”

COMMUNITY

To be a fully developing human being, we abide in community

“ . . . nobody/ Can make it out here alone.”

A CALL TO ELEGANCE

We are called to experience and express the joyful, ecstatic, elegant realities of human experience.

“Surviving is nice, but thriving, ... Ah! That is elegant.”



The Wide Embrace of Maya Angelou's Faith

FAITH IS A DEVELOPMENTAL ART

Our faith journeys are never done.

"I'm startled or taken aback when people walk up to me and tell me they are Christians.

My first response is the question 'Already?'"

PRAYER'S EFFICACY

Beyond childhood muteness, beyond broken relationships, beyond the historic ravages and legacy of racism, even into her 90's, she continued to believe in prayer's efficacy.

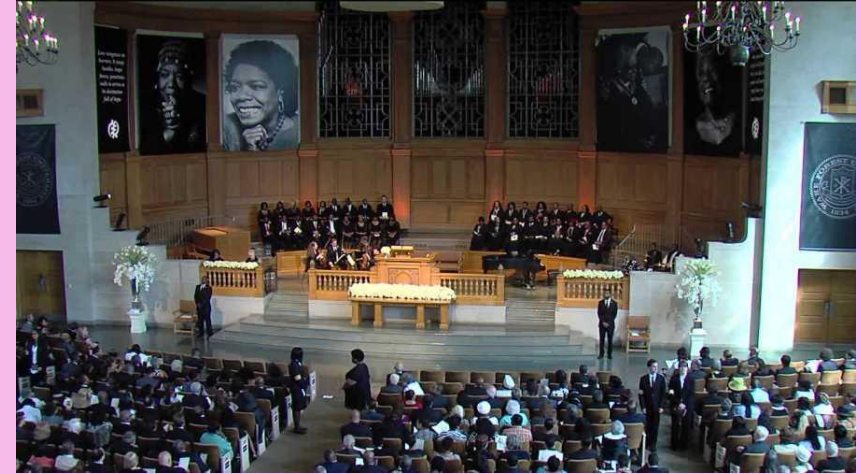
"I know that when I pray something wonderful happens, not only for the person that I am praying for, but also for me. I am being heard."



The Wide Embrace of Maya Angelou's Faith (cont.)



Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC (5/29/2014)



@ Wait Chapel, Wake Forest University, NC (6/15/2014)



Glide Memorial Church, San Francisco, CA
(6/2014)

**A Celebration of the Life of Maya Angelou
New York Memorial
Riverside Church, NYC
(5/28/2015) (2:55:17)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=txx0fSN04XE>

TIME'S YOURS
Q & A
Discussion
Musings

