Two major publications accompany the exhibition JACOB LAWRENCE: THE MIGRATION SERIES, on view at The Museum of Modern Art from January 12 to April 11, 1995. The first book to reproduce the epic, sixty-panel series in its entirety, Jacob Lawrence: The Migration Series is a major contribution to African-American history, with essays by distinguished scholars and historians on the migration, on Lawrence’s cultural background and milieu, and on the significance of the artist’s accomplishments for all Americans. The Great Migration: An American Story, Paintings by Jacob Lawrence is an illustrated book for young people, featuring a new poem written by the celebrated American novelist and poet Walter Dean Myers.

Jacob Lawrence: The Migration Series is edited and has an introduction by Elizabeth Hutton Turner, Associate Curator, The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C. The volume comprises essays by Henry Louis Gates, Jr., W.E.B. du Bois Professor of the Humanities and Chairman of the Afro-American Studies Department, Harvard University; Lonnie G. Bunch III, Assistant Director for Curatorial Affairs, National Museum of American History; Spencer R. Crew, Social/Cultural Historian, Smithsonian Institution; Deborah Willis,
Curator, African American Museum, Smithsonian Institution; Jeffrey C. Stewart, Assistant Professor of History, George Mason University; Diane Tepfer, Assistant Curator, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress; Patricia Hills, Professor of Art History, Boston University; Elizabeth Steele, Associate Conservator, The Phillips Collection; and Susana M. Halpine, Biochemist, Scientific Research Department, National Gallery of Art.

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In The Great Migration: An American Story, Paintings by Jacob Lawrence, Walter Dean Myers’ poem creates an antiphonal response to Lawrence’s work, which is richly illustrated in this forty-eight page volume. Copublished by The Museum of Modern Art, The Phillips Collection, and HarperCollins Publishers, the clothbound edition ($22.00) is available in The MoMA Book Store.

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