



“When the locomotive of history roared through the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth, it left the nation’s black masses standing forlornly at dismal terminals. . . . The scientific achievements of today, particularly the explosive advance of automation, may be blessings to our economy, but for the Negro they are a curse. . . . The livelihood of millions has dwindled down . . . because the unskilled and semiskilled jobs they filled have disappeared under the magic of automation.”

Why We Can’t Wait (1963) [New York:
Harper]