



## Young Adult Fiction Historical Fiction (General)

Anderson, Laurie Halse. *Fever, 1793*. YA AND

In 1793 the Cook Coffeehouse outside of Philadelphia is a haven for those fleeing from the fever sweeping across the mosquito-infested city. Fourteen-year-old Mattie Cook loses her childhood playmate to the fever and struggles to keep her family and its business alive.

Anderson, Laurie Halse. *Chains*. YA AND / YA CD AND (Book & Audio Available)

The author of "Twisted" delivers a haunting new novel. At the start of the Revolutionary War, Isabel is sold to a cruel loyalist family, even though she was promised freedom by her former owner. Soon faced with the choice of working for or against the British, Isabel chooses to work with anyone who can help her.

Anderson, Laurie Halse. *Forge*. YA AND / YA CD AND (Book & Audio Available)

Separated from his friend Isabel after their daring escape from slavery, fifteen-year-old Curzon serves as a free man in the Continental Army at Valley Forge until he and Isabel are thrown together again, as slaves once more. Sequel to *Chains*.

Anderson, M.T. *The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation, Vol. 1: The Pox Party* YA AND

He is a boy dressed in silks and white wigs and given the best of classical educations. Raised by a mysterious group of rational philosophers known only by numbers, the boy and his mother—a princess in exile from a faraway land—are the only people in their household assigned names. As the boy's regal mother, Cassiopeia, entertains the house scholars with her beauty and wit, young Octavian begins to question the purpose behind his guardians' fanatical studies. Only after he dares to open a forbidden door does he learn the hideous nature of their experiments—and his own chilling role in them.

Anderson, M.T. *The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation, Vol. 2: The Kingdom on the Waves*. YA AND / YA CD AND (Book & Audio Available)

Such is our task, and such lies before us all: Liberty or Death. In the summer of 1775, fleeing from a death sentence, Octavian and his tutor, Dr. Trefusis, escape through rising tides and pouring rain to find shelter in British-occupied Boston. Sundered from all he knows Octavian hopes to find safe harbor. But in the midst of war, no place is safe. The city of Boston itself is under siege. What follows is a tale of skirmish and flame, flight and fury, and battle on sea and land. Seeking both the truth of his past and some hope for his future, Octavian encounters generous thieves, pious carpenters, delicate lords, noble cowherds, bedazzled scientists, and murderous rebels—as this astonishing narrative escalates to its startling climax.

Armstrong, Alan. *Raleigh's Page*. J ARM

In the late 16th century, eleven-year-old Andrew leaves school in England and must prove himself as a page to Sir Walter Raleigh before embarking for Virginia, where he helps to establish relations with the Indians.

Avi. *Hard Gold*. J AVI

When his Uncle Jesse heads to the Pike's Peak region of the Rocky Mountains to look for gold, Early Wittcomb follows in hopes of raising enough money to save the family farm, but the journey west is full of hardships.

Avi. *Iron Thunder*. J AVI

After his father is killed during the Civil War, thirteen-year-old Tom takes on a job to at the ironworks to support his family, and finds himself a target of ruthless spies when he begins assisting with the ironclad ship the "Monitor."

Blackwood, Gary. *The Shakespeare Stealer*. J BLA

A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty.

Boyne, John. *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*. YA BOY

Berlin 1942--When Bruno returns home from school one day, he discovers that his belongings are being packed in crates. His father has received a promotion and the family must move from their home to a new house far far away, where there is no one to play with and nothing to do. A tall fence running alongside stretches as far as the eye can see and cuts him off from the strange people he can see in the distance. But Bruno longs to be an explorer and decides that there must be more to this desolate new place than meets the eye. While exploring his new environment, he meets another boy whose life and circumstances are very different to his own, and their meeting results in a friendship that has devastating consequences.

Bruchac, Joseph. *Code Talker: A Novel about the Navajo Marines of World War Two*. YA BRU

After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

Chevalier, Tracy. *Girl with the Pearl Earring*. FIC CHE.

Chevalier transports readers to a bygone time and place in this richly imagined portrait of the young woman who inspired one of Vermeer's most celebrated paintings. "Girl with a Pearl Earring" is the story of 16-year-old Griet, whose life is transformed by her brief encounter with genius, even as she herself is immortalized in canvas and oil.

Collier, James Lincoln. *With Every Drop of Blood*. YA COL

Johnny promised his father, wounded while fighting for the South, that he would take care of the family and not run off to fight. When there's a request to take his mules and wagon on a bold mission to supply the Rebel troops, Johnny can't resist. Then he's captured by Cush, a runaway slave. Johnny doesn't like taking orders from a black, but he has no choice. He's heading for prison camp wondering what will become of his family and himself.

Courtenay, Bryce. *The Power of One*. YA COU

In 1939, hatred took root in South Africa, where the seeds of apartheid were newly sown. There a boy called Peekay was born. He spoke the wrong language- English. He was nursed by a woman of the wrong color- black. His childhood was marked by humiliation and abandonment. Yet he vowed to survive- he would become welterweight champion of the world, he would dream heroic dreams. But his dreams were nothing compared to what awaited him. For he embarked on an epic journey, where he would learn the power of words, the power to transform lives, and the mystical power that would sustain him even when it appeared that villainy would rule the world: The Power of One.

Cullen, Lynn. *I Am Rembrandt's Daughter*. YA CUL

In Amsterdam in the mid-1600s, Cornelia's life as the illegitimate child of renowned painter Rembrandt is marked by plague, poverty, and despair at ever earning her father's love, until she sees hope for a better future in the eyes of a wealthy suitor.

Dowell, Frances O'Roark. *Shooting the Moon*. YA DOW

After her brother TJ joins the army and is sent to Vietnam, 12-year-old Jamie Dexter is proud that TJ is following in their father's footsteps. Instead of letters, TJ sends Jamie undeveloped rolls of film, and what she sees when she develops them reveals a whole new side of the war.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. *Willow Run*. J GIF

During World War II, after moving with her parents to Willow Run, Michigan, when her father gets a job in the B-24 bomber-building factory, eleven-year-old Meggie learns about different kinds of bravery from all of the people around her.

Golding, Julia. *Cat Among the Pigeons: A Cat Royal Adventure*. YA GOL

The second episode in the Cat Royale Adventure series plunges readers into the underbelly of London on a mission for justice. Pedro's old slave master wants him back, but his friends on Drury Lane won't give him up without a fight.

Grant, K.M. *Blood Red Horse*. YA GRA

This enchanting new adventure story, set in medieval England, is the tale of two brothers, called by King Richard to fight in the Crusades; the fair maiden they both love; and the small stallion that binds them together.

Grey, Christopher. *Leonardo's Shadow*. YA GRE

Fifteen-year-old Giacomo—servant to Leonardo da Vinci—helps his procrastinating master finish painting The Last Supper while also trying to find clues to his parentage and pursue his own career as an artist in late 15<sup>th</sup> century Milan.

Hearn, Julie. *The Minister's Daughter*. YA HEA

In 1645 in England, the daughters of the town minister successfully accuse a local healer and her granddaughter of witchcraft to conceal an out-of-wedlock pregnancy, but years later during the 1692 Salem trials the repercussions of their lie condemn one of them as a witch.

Hoffman, Alice. *Incantation*. YA HOF

During the Spanish Inquisition, sixteen-year-old Estrella, brought up a Catholic, discovers her family's true Jewish identity, and when their secret is betrayed by Estrella's best friend, the consequences are tragic.

Hooper, Mary. *At the Sign of the Sugared Plum*. J HOO

In June 1665, excited at the prospect of coming to London to work at her sister Sarah's candy shop, teenaged Hannah is unconcerned about rumors of Plague until, as the hot summer advances and increasing numbers of people succumb to the disease, she and Sarah find themselves trapped in the city with no means of escape.

Kadohata, Cynthia. *Weedflower*. J KAD

After twelve-year-old Sumiko and her Japanese-American family are relocated from their flower farm in southern California to an internment camp on a Mojave Indian reservation in Arizona, she helps her family and neighbors, becomes friends with a local Indian boy, and tries to hold on to her dream of owning a flower shop.

Lasky, Kathryn. *Broken Song*. YA LAS

In 1897, fifteen-year-old Reuven Bloom, a Russian Jew, must set aside his dreams of playing the violin in order to save himself and his baby sister after the rest of their family is murdered.

Lasky, Kathryn. *True North: A Novel of the Underground Railroad*. J LAS

Because of the strong influence which her grandfather, an abolitionist, has in her life, fourteen-year-old Lucy assists a fugitive slave girl in her escape.

Lasky, Kathryn. *The Journal of Augustus Pelletier: The Lewis and Clark Expedition*. J LAS

A fictional journal kept by twelve-year-old Augustus Pelletier, the youngest member of Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery.

Lasky, Kathryn. *Dancing through Fire*. J LAS

Sylvie dreams of being a prima ballerina. When the Franco-Prussian war begins in 1870, Sylvie is thrown into turmoil and tragedy. Sylvie must rely on the strength that ballet gives her in order to survive and achieve her goal.

Lasky, Kathryn. *The Last Girls of Pompeii*. YA LAS

Twelve-year-old Julia knows that her physical deformity will keep her from a normal life, but counts on the continuing friendship of her life-long slave, Mitka, until they learn that both of their futures in first-century Pompeii are about to change for the worse.

Leeds, Constance. *The Silver Cup*. YA LEE

It is the year 1095, and fifteen-year-old Anna longs for a different life in her small German village. But as the seasons turn, the year proves anything but ordinary. Her beloved youngest cousin disappears, and another cousin, Martin, runs away to join a murderous army of renegade Crusaders. When Anna risks everything to rescue Leah, an orphaned Jewish girl whose only connection to her former life is a silver cup, the two girls forge a friendship that defies the intolerance of their time. Filling her story with fascinating period details, debut novelist Constance Leeds paints a rich, colorful picture of an eleventh-century life marked by courage, will, and most of all—hope.

Lester, Julius. *Guardian*. YA LES

In a rural southern town in 1946, a white man and his son witness the lynching of an innocent black man. Includes historical note on lynching.

Napoli, Donna Jo. *Alligator Bayou*. YA NAP

Fourteen-year-old Calogero Scalise and his Sicilian uncles and cousin live in small-town Louisiana in 1898, when Jim Crow laws rule and anti-immigration sentiment is strong, so despite his attempts to be polite and to follow American customs, disaster dogs his family at every turn.

Napoli, Donna Jo. *Bound*. YA NAP

In a novel based on Chinese Cinderella tales, fourteen-year-old stepchild Xing-Xing endures a life of neglect and servitude, as her stepmother cruelly mutilates her own child's feet so that she alone might marry well.

Napoli, Donna Jo. *The King of Mulberry Street*. J NAP

In 1892, Dom's mother puts him on a ship leaving Italy for America. Nine-year-old Dom is alone and has nothing of value except for a new pair of shoes. This tale of the turbulent world of homeless children in Manhattan's Five Points is based in part on the author's grandfather.

Napoli, Donna Jo. *Stones in Water*. J NAP

After being taken by German soldiers from a local movie theater along with other Italian boys including his Jewish friend, Roberto is forced to work in Germany, escapes into the Ukrainian winter, before desperately trying to make his way back home to Venice.

Napoli, Donna Jo. *Fire in the Hills*. J NAP

Upon returning to Italy, fourteen-year-old Roberto struggles to survive, first on his own, then as a member of the resistance, fighting against the Nazi occupiers while yearning to reach home safely and for an end to the war. Sequel to *Stones in Water*.

Napoli, Donna Jo. *Hush: An Irish Princess' Tale*. YA NAP

Based on an ancient Icelandic folktale, this novel by the acclaimed author of "Bound" tells the story of a young girl who must learn to forget all that she knows and carve out a place for herself in the world--all without speaking a word.

O'Dell, Scott. *Streams to the River, River to the Sea: A Novel of Sacagawea*. J O'DEL

A young Indian woman, accompanied by her infant and cruel husband, experiences joy and heartbreak when she joins the Lewis and Clark Expedition seeking a way to the Pacific.

Paterson, Katherine. *Jacob Have I Loved*. J PAT

"With wry humor, Sara Louise recalls her turbulent adolescence on Rass Island and her intense jealousy of her own twin sister. Strength of characterization and memorable external and internal action mark this superbly crafted novel as a quest for self-knowledge".--1991 Newbery Committee (ALA). Newbery Medal; ALA Notable Children's Book; ALA Best Book for Young Adults.

Paulsen, Gary. *The Winter Room*. J PAU

A young boy growing up on a northern Minnesota farm describes the scenes around him and recounts his old Norwegian uncle's tales of an almost mythological logging past.

Philbrick, W.R. *The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg*. J PHI

Twelve-year-old Homer, a poor but clever orphan, has extraordinary adventures after running away from his evil uncle to rescue his brother, who has been sold into service in the Civil War.

Pinkey, Jerry. *Song of the Trees*. J TAY

During the Depression, a rural black family deeply attached to the forest on their land tries to save it from being cut down by an unscrupulous white man.

Rabin, Staton. *The Curse of the Romanovs*. YA RAB

In 1916, teenaged hemophiliac and heir to the Russian throne, Alexei Romanov, escapes into the future to elude the murderous Rasputin, and meets his modern-day cousin, fifteen-year-old Varda, who is working on a cure for hemophilia and who wants to help change history by saving his family.

Rees, Celia. *Witch Child*. YA REE

The year is 1659, a time of fear and lies. For Mary Newbury, it is a time of desperation. While she watches, unable to intervene, her wise and beloved grandmother is falsely condemned, tortured, and hanged as a witch. Soon the relentless crowd may turn upon Mary. When a mysterious stranger offers her a way out -- safe passage to America -- she knows she must go. But she doesn't know that the turbulent voyage will bring her to yet another society where differences are feared and defiance is deadly.

Rinaldi, Ann. *Time Enough for Drums*. YA RIN

Sixteen-year-old Jem and her servant struggle to keep things going at home in Trenton, New Jersey, when the family men join the war for independence from the British king.

Ritter, John H. *The Desperado who stole Baseball*. J RIT

In 1881, the scrappy, rough-and-tumble baseball team in a California mining town enlists the help of a quick-witted twelve-year-old orphan and the notorious outlaw Billy the Kid to win a big game against the National League Champion Chicago White Stockings. Prequel to: The boy who saved baseball.

Stephenson, Lynda. *Dancing with Elvis*. YA STE

In Clover, Texas, in the late 1950s, high-schooler Frankilee deals with a devious and manipulative, not to mention prettier and more talented, foster sister, a boyfriend she does not want, and a community divided over school integration.

Sutcliff, Rosemary. *Sword at Sunset*. FIC SUT

This brilliant reconception of the Arthurian epic cuts through the familiar myths and tells the story of the real King Arthur: Artos the Bear, the mighty warrior-king who saved the last lights of Western civilization when the barbarian darkness descended in the fifth century. Artos here comes alive: bold and forceful in battle, warm and generous in friendship, tough in politics, shrewd in the strategy of war—and tender and tragically tormented in love. Out of the interweaving of ancient legend, fresh research, soaring imagination, and hypnotic narrative skill comes a novel that has richly earned its reputation as a classic.

Taylor, Mildred D. *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*. J TAY / J CD TAY (Book and audio available)

The story of one African-American family fighting to stay together and strong in the face of brutal racist attacks, illness, poverty, and betrayal in the Deep South of the 1930s.

Taylor, Mildred D. *The Road to Memphis*. J TAY

Sadistically teased by two white boys in 1940's rural Mississippi, a black youth severely injures one of the boys with a tire iron and enlists Cassie's help in trying to flee the state.

Taylor, Mildred D. *Song of the Trees*. J TAY

During the Depression, a rural black family deeply attached to the forest on their land tries to save it from being cut down by an unscrupulous white man.

Taylor, Mildred D. *Let the Circle Be Unbroken*. J TAY

Amid the Depression, the Logan family struggles to protect their Mississippi farm and begins to feel the pressures of racial unrest when a friend is unjustly convicted of a crime by a white jury.

Vanderpool, Clare. *Moon over Manifest*. J VAN / J CD VAN (Book and audio available)

Twelve-year-old Abilene Tucker is the daughter of a drifter who, in the summer of 1936, sends her to stay with an old friend in Manifest, Kansas, where he grew up, and where she hopes to find out some things about his past.

Wiles, Deborah. *Countdown*. YA WIL

Eleven-year-old Franny deals with the challenges of growing up against the backdrop of the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962. Interspersed with the text are photographs, news items, and advertisements from the early sixties.

Williams-Garcia, Rita. *One Crazy Summer*. J WIL

In the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp.

Wiseman, Eva. *No One Must Know* YA WIS

Chosen for inclusion in the reading list for the 2006 Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award It is 1957 and Alexandra's immigrant family is living the North American dream. Her father is a respected doctor, and she has a warm circle of good friends from church, from girl guides, and from school. Perhaps her mother is nervous and a bit odd – she seems incapable of leaving the house alone – and there is never any talk of the life they left behind in Hungary, but every family has its quirks. Alexandra's world is turned upside down when she discovers a secret that her parents have kept. They are not Catholic, as Alexandra believes. They are Jewish. Alexandra's view of her parents, of her friends, and of the society in which she lives is turned upside down by her discovery. Who is she and where does she really belong?

Yep, Laurence. *The Earth Dragon Awakes: The San Francisco Earthquake of 1906*. J YEP

Eight-year-old Henry and nine-year-old Chin love to read about heroes in popular "penny dreadful" novels, until they both witness real courage while trying to survive the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

Yep, Laurence. *Spring Pearl: The Last Flower*. J YEP

Called boyish by her new family for being able to read and write, twelve-year-old, orphaned Spring Pearl's "odd ways" help save the family during the 1857 Opium War in Canton, China.

Yep, Laurence. *Dragonwings*. J YEP

In the early twentieth century a young Chinese boy joins his father in San Francisco and helps him realize his dream of making a flying machine.

Yep, Laurence. *The Dragon's Child: A Story of Angel Island*. J TAY

In 1922, ten-year-old Gim Lew reluctantly leaves his village in China to accompany his father to America, but before they go he must prepare for a grueling test that he must pass--without stuttering--at California's Angel Island, where strict officials strive to keep out unwanted immigrants. Includes facts about immigration from China and the experiences of the author's family.

Yolen, Jane and Robert J. Harris. *The Queen's Own Fool: A Novel of Mary Queen of Scots*. J YOL / YA YOLEN

Nicola Ambruzzi, a poor traveling player, is an unlikely person to end up "fool" and friend to Mary Queen of Scots. But tumbling and clowning at court, she catches the young queen's eye and heart. As Mary is caught in the winds of fate--running from France to Scotland, confronted by rebellious lords and her unpredictable Scots, Nicola-Le Jardinier--is there, buffeting and aiding the queen with her wit and wiles. This epic adventure by Jane Yolen and Robert Harris takes us into the intimate circle of one of the most intriguing queens of all time, the courageous Mary Queen of Scots.

Yolen, Jane and Robert J. Harris. *Girl in the Cage*. J YOL

As English armies invade Scotland in 1306, eleven-year-old Princess Marjorie, daughter of the newly crowned Scottish king, Robert the Bruce, is captured by England's King Edward Longshanks and held in a cage on public display.

Zusak, Marcus. *The Book Thief*. YA ZUS

It's just a small story really, about among other things: a girl, some words, an accordionist, some fanatical Germans, a Jewish fist-fighter, and quite a lot of thievery. . . . Set during World War II in Germany, Markus Zusak's groundbreaking new novel is the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl living outside of Munich. Liesel scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she

encounters something she can't resist-books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement before he is marched to Dachau. This is an unforgettable story about the ability of books to feed the soul.