



Young Adult Fiction: Historical Fiction

Ahdieh, Renee. ***Flame in the Mist***. YA AHD

The daughter of a prominent samurai, Mariko has long known her place. She may be an accomplished alchemist, whose cunning rivals that of her twin brother Kenshin, but because she is not a boy, her future has always been out of her hands.

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. **Check out the sequel—*Forge!***

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. 2: The Kingdom on the Waves***. YA AND

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. 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.

Appelfeld, Aharon. ***Adam & Thomas***. YA APE

Adam and Thomas, two nine-year-old Jewish boys who survive World War II, take refuge in the forest where they learn to forage and survive, soon meeting and helping other fugitives fleeing for their lives.

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.

Blankman, Anne. ***Prisoner of Night and Fog***. YA BLA

In 1930s Munich, the favorite niece of rising political leader Adolph Hitler is torn between duty and love after meeting a fearless and handsome young Jewish reporter.

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 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. 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.

Brown, Teri. ***Velvet Undercover***. YA BRO

A World War I era spy novel about a bright British girl who is sent undercover into the heart of enemy territory to rescue Britain's most valuable (and secret) spy.

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 a Pearl Earring***. FIC CHE.

Chevalier transports readers 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.

Choldenko, Gennifer. ***Al Capone Does My Homework***. YA CHO

Moose Flanagan, who lives on Alcatraz along with his family and the families of the other prison guards, faces new challenges when his father is promoted to Associate Warden.

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. 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*.

Crowley, Suzanne. ***The Stolen One***. YA CRO

Set during the lush Elizabethan period, this smart, sensual novel drips with intrigue, period detail, and drama, as it follows a girl from the English countryside who travels to London to uncover the secret of who she really is.

Crowley, Suzanne. ***Audacity***. YA CRO

A gorgeously told novel in verse written with intimacy and power, *Audacity* is inspired by the real-life story of Clara Lemlich, a spirited young woman who emigrated from Russia to New York at the turn of the twentieth century and fought tenaciously for equal rights. Bucking the norms of both her traditional Jewish family and societal conventions, Clara refuses to accept substandard working conditions in the factories on Manhattan's Lower East Side. For years, Clara devotes herself to the labor fight, speaking up for those who suffer in silence. In time, Clara convinces the women in the factories to strike, organize, and unionize, culminating in the famous Uprising of the 20,000.

De La Cruz. ***Alex and Eliza***. YA DEL

As battle cries of the American Revolution echo in the distance, servants flutter about preparing for one of New York society's biggest events: the Schuylers' grand ball. Descended from two of the oldest and most distinguished bloodlines in New York, the Schuylers are proud to be one of their fledgling country's founding families, and even prouder still of their three daughters—Angelica, with her razor-sharp wit; Peggy, with her dazzling looks; and Eliza, whose beauty and charm rival those of both her sisters, though she'd rather be aiding the colonists' cause than dressing up for some silly ball. Still, Eliza can barely contain her excitement when she hears of the arrival of one Alexander Hamilton, a mysterious, rakish young colonel and General George Washington's right-hand man. Though Alex has arrived as the bearer of bad news for the Schuylers, he can't believe his luck—as an orphan, and a bastard one at that—to be in such esteemed company. And when Alex and Eliza meet that fateful night, so begins an epic love story that would forever change the course of American history.

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.

Goldblatt, Mark. ***Twerp***. YA GOL

In Queens, New York, in 1969, twelve-year-old Julian Twerski writes a journal for his English teacher in which he explores his friendships and how they are affected by girls, a new student who may be as fast as Julian, and especially an incident of bullying.

Gray, Claudia. ***Fateful***. YA GRA

When seventeen-year-old Tess Davies, a ladies' maid, meets handsome Alec Marlow aboard the RMS Titanic, she quickly becomes entangled in the dark secrets of his past, but her growing love puts her in mortal peril even before fate steps in.

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.

Hopkinson, Deborah. ***The Great Trouble: A Mystery of London, the Blue Death, and a Boy Called Eel***.

YA HOP

Eel, an orphan, and his best friend Florrie must help Dr. John Snow prove that cholera is spread through water, and not poisonous air, when an epidemic sweeps across their London neighborhood in 1854.

Jocelyn, Marthe. ***A Big Dose of Lucky***. YA JOM

Malou has just turned sixteen and all she knows for sure is that she's of mixed race and that she was left at an orphanage as a newborn. Beyond that, it's a mystery – a mystery that takes her to the little town of Perry Sound, where she finds lots of young brown faces like hers. Are these her relatives, and why doesn't anyone want to talk about it?

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. ***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.

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.

MacColl, Michaela. ***Nobody's Secret***. YA MAC

When fifteen-year-old Emily Dickinson meets a charming, enigmatic young man who playfully refuses to tell her his name, she is intrigued--so when he is found dead in her family's pond in Amherst she is determined to discover his secret, no matter how dangerous it may prove to be.

Medina, Meg. ***Burn, Baby, Burn***. YA MED

Nora Lopez is seventeen during the infamous New York summer of 1977, when the city is besieged by arson, a massive blackout, and a serial killer named Son of Sam who shoots young women on the streets. Nora's family life isn't going so well either: her bullying brother, Hector, is growing more threatening by the day, her mother is helpless and falling behind on the rent, and her father calls only on holidays. All Nora wants is to turn eighteen and be on her own. And while there is a cute new guy who started working with her at the deli, is dating even worth the risk when the killer likes picking off couples who stay out too late? Award-winning author Meg Medina transports us to a time when New York seemed balanced on a knife-edge, with tempers and temperatures running high, to share the story of a young woman who discovers that the greatest dangers are often closer than we like to admit — and the hardest to accept.

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. ***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.

Nickerson, Jane. ***The Mirk and the Midnight Hour***. YA NIC

Seventeen-year-old Violet Dancey is spending the Civil War with a new stepmother and stepsister and her young cousin when she comes upon a wounded Yankee soldier, Thomas, who is being kept alive by mysterious voodoo practitioners.

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

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.

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.

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.

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*.

Schlitz, Laura Amy. ***The Hired Girl***. YA SCH

Fourteen-year-old Joan Skraggs, just like the heroines in her beloved novels, yearns for real life and true love. But what hope is there for adventure, beauty, or art on a hardscrabble farm in Pennsylvania where the work never ends? Over the summer of 1911, Joan pours her heart out into her diary as she seeks a new, better life for herself—because maybe, just maybe, a hired girl cleaning and cooking for six dollars a week can become what a farm girl could only dream of—a woman with a future. Newbery Medalist Laura Amy Schlitz relates Joan's journey from the muck of the chicken coop to the comforts of a society household in Baltimore (Electricity! Carpet sweepers! Sending out the laundry!), taking readers on an exploration of feminism and housework; religion and literature; love and loyalty; cats, hats, and bunions.

Sepetys, Ruta. ***Between Shades of Gray***. YA SEP

In 1941, fifteen-year-old Lina, her mother, and brother are pulled from their Lithuanian home by Soviet guards and sent to Siberia, where her father is sentenced to death in a prison camp while she fights for her life, vowing to honor her family and the thousands like hers by burying her story in a jar on Lithuanian soil. Based on the author's family, includes a historical note.

Sharenow, Robert. ***The Berlin Boxing Club***. YA SHA

In 1936 Berlin, fourteen-year-old Karl Stern, considered Jewish despite a non-religious upbringing, learns to box from the legendary Max Schmeling while struggling with the realities of the Holocaust.

Standiford, Natalie. ***The Boy on the Bridge***. YA STA

It is 1982 and nineteen-year-old Laura Reid is spending a semester in Leningrad studying Russian, but when she meets Alyosha she discovers the dissident Russia—a world of wild parties, underground books and music, love, and constant danger.

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.

A Tyranny of Petticoats. YA TYR

Crisscross America — on dogsleds and ships, stagecoaches and trains — from pirate ships off the coast of the Carolinas to the peace, love, and protests of 1960s Chicago. Join fifteen of today's most talented writers of young adult literature on a thrill ride through history with American girls charting their own course. They are monsters and mediums, bodyguards and barkeeps, screenwriters and schoolteachers, heiresses and hobos. They're making their own way in often-hostile lands, using every weapon in their arsenals, facing down murderers and marriage proposals. And they all have a story to tell.

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.

Wein, Elizabeth. **Code Name Verity.** YA WEI

In 1943, a British fighter plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France and the survivor tells a tale of friendship, war, espionage, and great courage as she relates what she must do to survive while keeping secret all that she can. ***Printz Honor Book***

Wein, Elizabeth. **Rose Under Fire.** YA WEI

When young American pilot Rose Justice is captured by Nazis and sent to Ravensbrück, the notorious women's concentration camp, she finds hope in the impossible through the loyalty, bravery, and friendship of her fellow prisoners. ***Companion book to Code Name Verity.***

Wein, Elizabeth. **Black Dove White Raven.** YA WEI

Having moved to Ethiopia to avoid the prejudices of 1930s America, Emilia Menotti, her black adoptive brother Teo, and their mother Rhoda, a stunt pilot, are devoted to their new country even after war with Italy looms, drawing the teens into the conflict.

Whelan, Gloria. **All My Noble Dreams and Then What Happens.** YA WHE

As Rosalind continues to straddle the proper English world of her family and the culture of 1920s India where they live, her support of Gandhi and his followers in opposing British rule grows and she considers trying to carry the rebels' message to Edward, Prince of Wales, during his visit.

White, Kiersten. **And I Darken.** YA WHI

No one expects a princess to be brutal. And Lada Dragwyla likes it that way. Ever since she and her brother were abandoned by their father to be raised in the Ottoman sultan's courts, Lada has known that ruthlessness is the key to survival. For the lineage that makes her and her brother special also makes them targets. Lada hones her skills as a warrior as she nurtures plans to wreak revenge on the empire that holds her captive. Then she and Radu meet the sultan's son, Mehmed, and everything changes. Now Mehmed unwittingly stands between Lada and Radu as they transform from siblings to rivals, and the ties of love and loyalty that bind them together are stretched to breaking point.

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.

Wiviott, Meg. ***Paper Hearts***. YA WIV

Amid the brutality of Auschwitz during the Holocaust, a forbidden gift helps two teenage girls find hope, friendship, and the will to live in this novel in verse that's based on a true story.

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. ***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.

Zail, Suzy. ***Playing for the Commandant***. YA ZAI

A young Jewish pianist at Auschwitz, desperate to save her family, is chosen to play at the camp commandant's house. How could she know she would fall in love with the wrong boy?

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

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.

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