HISTORICAL FICTION

Prehistoric

Miller-Schroeder, Patricia Sisters of the Wolf

The climate is changing, game is disappearing, and two peoples of the Ice Age compete for survival in a savage world. Keena, from a powerful band of Neanderthals, and Shinoni, daughter of a Cro-Magnon shaman, are torn from their families by Haken, a ruthless hunter. The girls dislike each other but soon discover they need each other to survive. Together they escape but are pursued by Haken across an Ice-Age landscape rumbling with advancing glaciers and teeming with mighty predators. As Shinoni and Keena work to overcome disaster at every turn, they are joined by Tewa, a powerful she-wolf, who becomes their guardian and spirit guide. Can their growing friendship overcome cultural, racial, and even species differences? Will they ever be able to find their families? Only the spirits know.

Ancient

Kaufmann, Lori Banov Rebel Daughter

Esther dreams of so much more than the marriage her parents have arranged to a prosperous silversmith. Always curious and eager to explore, she must accept the burden of being the dutiful daughter. Yet she is torn between her family responsibilities and her own desires. Meanwhile, the growing turmoil threatens to tear apart not only her beloved city, Jerusalem, but also her own family. As the streets turn into a bloody battleground between rebels and Romans, Esther's journey becomes one of survival. She remains fiercely devoted to her family, and braves famine, siege, and slavery to protect those she loves.

Livingston, Lesley The Valiant

Seventeen-year-old Fallon, the daughter of a Celtic king whose other daughter was killed by the army of Julius Caesar, is captured and sold to a training school for female gladiators owned by Caesar and must overcome rivalries while trying to understand her feelings for Cai, a young Roman soldier.

Sutcliff, Rosemary Outcast

Fifteen-year-old Beric feels increasingly bitter isolation when, because of his Roman birth, he is cast out by the Celtic tribe that raised him and, after reaching a Roman settlement, he is sold into slavery and sentenced to serve in a galley for the rest of his life.

Anglo-Saxon /// Middle Ages

Avi Crispin: The Cross of Lead

Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy in fourteenth-century England flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret.

Barnes, Margaret Campbell The Tudor Rose

Elizabeth of York marries the Lancastrian king Henry VII, hoping to help England, and becomes the mother of Henry VIII.

Cadnum, Michael In a Dark Wood (and sequel)

On orders from the King, the Sheriff of Nottingham seeks to capture the outlaw Robin Hood, but he finds him to be a tricky and elusive foe.

Cadnum, Michael The King's Arrow

In England's New Forest on the second day of August in 1100, eighteen-year-old Simon Foldre, delighted to be allowed to participate in a royal hunt as squire to the Anglo-Norman nobleman Walter Tirel, finds his future irrevocably altered when, during the hunt, he witnesses the possible murder of King William II.

Cooney, Caroline Enter Three Witches: A Story of Macbeth

When her father betrays the Scottish king and is hung as a traitor, Lady Mary's future is bleak after she loses her only true protector and ends up locked away in the tower by the powerful and deadly Lord and Lady Macbeth.

Cornwell, Betsy The Forest Queen

A retelling of Robin Hood in which Lady Silviana of Loughsley joins her childhood friend Bird, Little Jane, Mae Tuck, and others to become an outlaw fighting for social justice against her brother John, the Sheriff.

Coventry, Susan The Queen's Daughter

A fictionalized biography of Joan of England, the youngest child of King Henry II of England and his queen consort, Eleanor of Aquitaine, chronicling her complicated relationships with her warring parents and many siblings, particularly with her favorite brother Richard the Lionheart, her years as Queen consort of Sicily, and her second marriage to Raymond VI, Count of Toulouse.

Dickerson, Melanie The Silent Songbird

In 1384 England, seventeen-year-old Evangeline, ward and cousin of King Richard II, tries to escape from an arranged marriage, dreaming of a life outside Berkhamsted Castle where she might be free to marry for love and not politics. When she runs away and joins a small band of servants on their way back to their home village, she finds herself embroiled in a tangled web that threatens England's monarch.

Garwood, Haley Swords Across the Thames

Princess Ethelfled has always dreamed of assisting her father and husband in battle. When an opportunity arises for her to enter the war with the Vikings, she fights along with them.

Gaughen, A. C. Scarlet (and sequels)

Will Scarlet shadows Robin Hood, with an unerring eye for finding treasures to steal and throwing daggers with deadly accuracy. When Gisbourne, a ruthless bounty hunter, is hired by the sheriff to capture Robin and his band of thieves, Robin must become Will's protector—risking his own life in the process.

Grace, C. L. The Merchant of Death

When Sir Reginald Erpingham dies inside a locked tavern room in Canterbury during the 15th century, Kathryn Swinbrooke and Colum Murtagh discover that many people had reasons to kill him.

Grant, K. M. Blood Red Horse (and sequels)

Ist book in the de Granville trilogy. A special horse named Hosanna changes the lives of two English brothers and those around them as they fight with King Richard I against Saladin's armies during the Third Crusades.

Klein, Lisa Lady Macbeth's Daughter

In alternating chapters, ambitious Lady Macbeth tries to bear a son and win the throne of Scotland for her husband, and Albia, their daughter who was banished at birth and raised by three weird sisters, falls in love, learns of her parentage, and seeks to free Scotland from tyranny in this tale based on Shakespeare's Macbeth.

Llywelyn, Morgan Strongbow

Aoife (Red Eva) MacMurrough, an Irish princess, and Richard (Strongbow) de Clare, a Norman knight, fall in love in the Middle Ages.

Malone, Patricia The Legend of Lady Ilena

In sixth-century Great Britain, a fifteen-year-old girl seeking knowledge of her lineage is aided by one of King Arthur's knights as she is drawn into battle to defend the homeland she never knew.

Moke, Jenny Elder Hood

Sixteen-year-old Isabelle learns that she is the daughter of Robin Hood when her mother, Marien, sends her from their priory, aided by the Merry Men, to get an urgent message to her father.

Moran, Katy Bloodline

While traveling through early seventh-century Britain trying to stop an impending war, Essa, who bears the blood of native British tribes and of the invading Anglish, makes discoveries that divide his loyalties.

Reisert, Rebecca The Third Witch

Growing up in Birnam Wood sheltered by two wise women with powers of alchemy and prophecy, Gilly is haunted by fading memories of a past torn apart by tragedy and embarks on a quest for vengeance against Macbeth, the man she blames for destroying her life.

Roberts, Judson Viking Warrior (and sequels)

Ist book in the Strongbow saga. Despite being the son of a chieftain and a princess, fourteen-year-old Halfdan lives as a slave in Denmark in A.D. 84, but he gains his freedom through a tragic bargain and sets out to claim his birthright.

Safi, Aminah Me Travelers Along the Way

Jerusalem, 1192. The Third Crusade rages on. Rahma al-Hud loyally followed her elder sister Zeena into the war over the Holy Land, but now that the Faranji invaders have gotten reinforcements from Richard the Lionheart, all she wants to do is get herself and her sister home alive. But Zeena, a soldier of honor at heart, refuses to give up the fight while Jerusalem remains in danger of falling back into the hands of the false Queen Isabella. And so, Rahma has no choice but to take on one final mission with her sister.

Scott, Sir Walter Ivanhoe

Although the Jewish Rebecca loves Ivanhoe, he decides to marry his father's ward Rowena, even though his father wants Rowena to marry Athelstane, who has Saxon royal blood.

Stamper, Vesper A Cloud of Outrageous Blue

Edyth lost her family and everything she held dear in the blink of an eye. Sent to live in a priory and work with ancient texts, Edyth comes to terms with her new life and the gifts she discovers in herself. But outside the priory, something much worse is coming. With the reappearance of a boy from her past and the ominous Great Plague creeping closer and closer to the priory, it will be up to Edyth to rise above it all-- but to do so she must choose between her dreams and her destiny.

Stevenson, Robert Louis The Black Arrow

In fifteenth-century England, when his father's murderer is revealed to be his guardian, seventeen-year-old Richard Shelton joins the fellowship of the Black Arrow in avenging the death, rescuing the woman he loves, and participating in the struggle between the Yorks and Lancasters in the War of the Roses.

Sutcliff, Rosemary The Eagle of the Ninth (and sequels)

 I^{st} book in the Roman Britain trilogy. A young centurion ventures among the hostile tribes beyond the Roman Wall to recover the eagle standard of the Ninth, a legion which mysteriously disappeared under his father's command.

In ninth-century Britain, fifteen-year-old Aethelflaed, daughter of King Alfred of West Saxony, finds she must assume new responsibilities much sooner than expected when she is betrothed to Ethelred of Mercia in order to strengthen a strategic alliance against the Danes.

Tomlinson, TheresaThe Forestwife

In England during the reign of King Richard I, fifteen-year-old Marian escapes from an arranged marriage to live with a community of forest folk that includes a daring young outlaw named Robert.

Watson, Elsa Maid Marian

Widowed under mysterious circumstances at a very young age, orphan Marian Fitzwater becomes a ward of the crusading King Richard and seeks the help of outlaw Robin Hood to escape the formidable Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine, who would make Marian a pawn in one of her devious schemes.

Yolen, Jane Girl in a Cage

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.

Renaissance /// Pre-Victorian

Anderson, M. T. et. al. Fatal Throne

Seven young adult authors provide consistent, captivating accounts of the six marriages of Henry VIII of England, told from the perspectives of his wives and the king himself.

Barnes, Margaret Campbell My Lady of Cleves

Anne of Cleves, an intelligent and warm woman, divorced from Henry VIII after six months, remains his friend and advisor.

Boecker, Virginia An Assassin's Guide to Love & Treason

In the early 1600s, two star-crossed assassins, nineteen-year-old Toby and seventeen-year-old Kit, go undercover as actors in a Shakespeare play in a plot to kill Queen Elizabeth.

Brooks, Geraldine Year of Wonders

Through the eyes of a housemaid, the story of the plague is told as it ravages a small village in England in the year 1666.

Caine, Rachel

Prince of Shadows: A Novel of Romeo and Juliet

The star-crossed tale of Romeo and Juliet, told through the eyes of Romeo's cousin, Benvolio, a thief known as the Prince of Shadows.

Castor, H. M. VIII

Hal, a young man of extraordinary talents, skill on the battlefield, sharp intelligence, and virtue, believes he is destined for greatness but, haunted by his family's violent past, he embarks on a journey that leads to absolute power and brings him face to face with his demons as he grows to become Henry VIII.

Chase, Ella March The Virgin Queen's Daughter

A novel based on long-standing rumors that Elizabeth I had given birth to an illegitimate child follows young Elinor de Lacy—the purported daughter of Elizabeth and her married guardian, Thomas Seymour—who is sent to become a lady-in-waiting to the queen.

Chevalier, Tracy Girl with a Pearl Earring

A poor seventeenth-century servant girl knows her place in the household of the painter Johannes Vermeer, but when he begins to paint her, nasty whispers and rumors circulate throughout the town.

Edwards, Eve The Other Countess (and sequel)

In the court of Queen Elizabeth I in 1582, Eleanor Hutton, an alchemist's daughter, and William Lacey, the financially ruined Earl of Dorset, fall in love just as Will is supposed to be courting a rich and socially acceptable heiress.

Erickson, Carolly The Last Wife of Henry VIII

A fictional portrait of the sixth wife of Henry VIII, Catherine Parr, following this alluring and resourceful woman from the intrigues and perils of Henry's court to her rivalry with Princess Elizabeth for the affections of Thomas Seymour.

Grant, K. M. How the Hangman Lost His Heart

While staying with her grandmother, Alice attends the hanging of her favorite uncle for treason. When his head is placed on a pike above London's Temple Bar, she is determined to retrieve it in order to bury it with his body. Treacherous climbs, horse chases, a stay in a dank prison, and other misadventures follow Alice and the head as they try to make their way home to her parents 250 miles away. Dan Skinslicer, the hangman, is inadvertently caught up in the action. This story is based upon the author's ancestor Frances Towneley, who was indeed the last man in England to be hanged, drawn, and quartered for his support of Bonnie Prince Charlie. Much of this strange adventure is based on fact.

Hooper, Mary Newes from the Dead

In 1650, while Robert, a young medical student, steels himself to assist with her dissection, twenty-two-year-old housemaid Anne Green recalls her life as she lies in her coffin, presumed dead after being hanged for murdering her child that was, in fact, stillborn. Based on a true story.

Kolosov, Jacqueline The Red Queen's Daughter

Historical fiction meets fantasy in the court of Queen Elizabeth I. The protagonist in this story is Mary Seymour, the real-life daughter of Queen Katherine Parr, Henry the VIII's last wife. While historians believe that the real Mary died around the age of two, the author of this novel resurrects her and gives her a new chance at life.

Laird, Elizabeth The Betrayal of Maggie Blair

In seventeenth-century Scotland, sixteen-year-old Maggie Blair is sentenced to be hanged as a witch but escapes to the home of her uncle, placing him and his family in great danger as she risks her life to save them all from the King's men.

Meyer, Carolyn Doomed Queen Anne

In 1520, thirteen-year-old Anne Boleyn, jealous of her older sister's beauty and position at court, declares that she will one day be queen of England and that her sister will kneel at her feet.

Meyer, Carolyn Mary, Bloody Mary

Mary Tudor, who would reign briefly as Queen of England during the mid sixteenth century, tells the story of her troubled childhood as daughter of King Henry VIII.

Mobley, Jeannie The Diamond Keeper

After the Army of the Republic destroys her father's inn in Brittany, nineteen-year-old Claudie Durand agrees to carry out a dangerous mission for the Legion--she must smuggle a diamond into England and use it to gain military support for the counterrevolutionaries. 1792. Claudie Durand's future will be taking over the family inn, watching her sister, Mathilde, married off to the butcher's son, and living out her days alone. When the Army of the Republic seizes their small village in Brittany during the

revolution, Claudie finds herself at the center of the conspiracy. Now she and Mathilde must flee their sheltered life and take up a cause that had always seemed like a distant conflict.

Plaidy, Jean The Rose without a Thorn

Catherine Howard becomes lady-in-waiting to Anne of Cleaves and enjoys being near Thomas Culpepper, but when Henry VIII decides to marry her, she has to give up her plans to marry Culpepper.

Rees, Celia Sovay

In 1794 England, the rich and beautiful Sovay, disguised as a highwayman, acquires papers that could lead to her father's arrest for treason, and soon her newly-awakened political consciousness leads her and a compatriot to France during the Revolution.

Rinaldi, Ann Nine Days a Queen

Lady Jane Grey, who at sixteen was Queen of England for nine days before being executed, recounts her life story from the age of nine.

Sturtevant, Katherine The Brothers Story

In the late seventeenth century, fifteen-year-old Kit, driven to desperation by the starvation of one brother and mistreatment of his own simple-minded twin, realizes his dream of becoming an apprentice in London but feels drawn by duty to return home to Essex.

Taub, Melinda Still Star-Crossed

After the deaths of Romeo and Juliet, mysterious figures in Verona are determined to reignite the feud between the Montagues and Capulets. For the sake of peace, the Prince orders Romeo's best friend Benvolio to marry Juliet's cousin Rosaline.

Turnbull, Ann No Shame, No Fear (and sequel)

In England in 1662, a time of religious persecution, fifteen-year-old Susanna, a poor country girl and a Quaker, and seventeen-year-old William, a wealthy Anglican, meet and fall in love against all odds.

Worsley, Lucy Maid of the King's Court

Elizabeth Rose Camperdowne has understood her role in life since childhood: she is meant to marry a rich man who will bring wealth and stability to her once-great home. At first, the responsibility to strengthen her family name fills her with pride, but as she adjusts to the court of King Henry VIII, she becomes uncertain of what she wishes her future to be.

Zettel, Sarah Palace of Spies (and sequels)

Ist book in Palace of Spies series. In 1716 London, an orphaned sixteen-year-old girl from a good family impersonates a lady-in-waiting only to discover that the real girl was murdered, the court harbors a nest of spies, and the handsome young artist who is helping her solve the mystery might be a spy himself.

19th Century //// Victorian England

Cameron, Sharon The Dark Unwinding (and sequel)

In 1852, when seventeen-year-old Katharine is sent to her family's estate to prove that her uncle is insane, she finds he is an inventor whose work creating ingenious clockwork figures supports hundreds of families, but strange occurrences soon have her doubting her own sanity.

Cohen, Jennieke My Fine Fellow

It's 1830s England, and Culinarians--doyens who consult with society's elite to create gorgeous food and confections--are the crème de la crème of high society. Helena Higgins, top of her class at the Royal Academy, has a sharp demeanor and an even sharper palate--and knows stardom awaits her if she can produce greatness in her final year. Penelope Pickering is going to prove the value of non-European cuisine to all of England. Her contemporaries may scorn her Filipina heritage and her dishes, but with her flawless social graces and culinary talents, Penelope is set to prove them wrong. Elijah Little has nothing to his name but a truly excellent instinct for flavors. London merchants won't allow a Jewish boy to own a shop, so he hawks his pasties for a shilling a piece to passersby--but he knows with training he can break into the highest echelon of society. When Penelope and Helena meet Elijah, a golden opportunity arises: to pull off a project never seen before and turn Elijah from a street vendor to a gentleman chef. But Elijah's transformation will have a greater impact on this trio than they originally realize--and mayhem, unseemly faux pas, and a little romance will all be a part of the delicious recipe.

Crichton, Michael The Great Train Robbery

The time is Victorian London with all of its lavish wealth and appalling poverty. In the thriving underworld of London, we meet Edward Pierce, a handsome young man of good breeding, who believes he can rob a fast moving train carrying the payroll for Crimean War troops.

Dotta, Jessica Born of Persuasion

In 1838, a time when women are legal property of their fathers, husbands, and guardians, seventeen-year-old Julia Elliston, orphaned and unmarried, finds herself at the mercy of an anonymous guardian who plans to establish her as a servant in far-off Scotland.

Fletcher, Susan A Little in Love

Eponine, the street girl from Les Misérables, tells the story of her life and her unrequited love for Marius, which ultimately leads to her death on the barricades during the short-lived rebellion of June 1832.

Jordan, Sophie Sixteen Scandals

The youngest of four daughters, Primrose Ainsworth is used to getting lost in the shuffle. When her parents decide to delay her debut into English society, Prim hatches a plan to go rogue on the night of her sixteenth birthday. She dons a mask and escapes to Vauxhall Gardens for one wild night-- and finds a masked stranger who becomes her partner in mischief and romance.

Kindl, Patrice A School for Brides

In the early 1800s, in a remote corner of England with almost no eligible young men, the eight students at the Winthrop Hopkins Female Academy uncover a mystery while learning all the skills necessary to become a good wife.

Langdon, Lorie Olivia Twist

Olivia Twist is an innovative reimagining of Charles Dickens' classic tale Oliver Twist, where Olivia is forced to live as a boy for her own safely until she is rescued from the streets in order to take her place in society.

MacColl, Michaela Always Emily

Young Emily and Charlotte Bronte solve a mystery.

Morgan, Nicola Fleshmarket

In nineteenth-century Scotland, following the death of his mother during surgery, Robbie decides to take revenge on the surgeon who performed the operation, Dr. Robert Knox, and, in the process, makes a gruesome discovery about the lengths the medical profession will go to advance its knowledge of anatomy.

O'Brian, Patrick Master and Commander

Captain Jack Aubrey and Stephen Maturin fight in the Napoleonic Wars.

Pratchett, Terry Dodger

Dodger is an inhabitant of the worst stews of London, who makes a meager living as a tosher, a treasure hunter in the sewers under the city. His fortune changes, literally overnight, when he rescues a damsel in distress and comes to the attention of the not-yet-famous newspaperman Charlie Dickens. Together they embark on a mission to thwart the evildoers bent on recapturing the girl.

Updale, Eleanor Montmorency: Thief, Liar, Gentleman? (and sequels)

In Victorian London, after his life is saved by a young physician, a thief utilizes the knowledge he gains in prison and from the scientific lectures he attends as the physician's case study exhibit to create a new, highly successful double life for himself.

Waller, Sharon Biggs The Forbidden Orchid

In 1861, Elodie sails from her home in England to China to help her father search for a rare and valuable orchid.

Worsley, Lucy My Name Is Victoria

A reimagining of Queen Victoria's childhood told from the perspective of her companion, Miss V., as she is torn between loyalty to her father and her friendship with the princess, who is governed by the strict set of rules set up by Miss V.'s father.

Colonial / Pre-Civil War America

Anderson, Laurie Halse Fever 1793

In 1793 Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.

Boyle, Lisa

Signed, a Paddy

After losing her father to the sea and her mother to the potato famine in Ireland, 15-year-old Rosaleen steals aboard a vessel bound for Boston. Onboard, she meets 19-year-old Emmett Doherty, and by the end of the month-long journey across the pond, their lives have become intertwined. The author weaves some of the period's social conflicts into the narrative, including racism, bigotry against the Irish, and exploitation of child labor (especially by railroad companies). It also addresses the inexcusably dangerous working conditions in the factories as Rosaleen becomes involved in both the abolitionist and labor movements in Lowell, Massachusetts, home of cotton mills.

Elliott, L. M. Hamilton and Peggy! A Revolutionary Friendship

Peggy Schuyler has always felt like she's existed in the shadows of her beloved sisters: the fiery, intelligent Angelica and beautiful, sweet Eliza. But it's in the throes of a chaotic war that Peggy finds herself a central figure amid Loyalists and Patriots, spies and traitors, friends and family.

Klein, Lisa Cate of the Lost Colony

When her dalliance with Sir Walter Ralegh is discovered by Queen Elizabeth in 1587, lady-in-waiting Catherine Archer is banished to the struggling colony of Roanoke where she and the other English settlers must rely on a Croatoan Indian for their survival.

Latham, Irene African Town

In 1860, long after the United States outlawed the importation of enslaved laborers, 110 men, women and children from Benin and Nigeria were captured and brought to Mobile, Alabama aboard a ship called Clotilda. Their journey included the savage Middle Passage and being hidden in the swamplands along the Alabama River before being secretly parceled out to various plantations, where they made desperate attempts to maintain both their culture and also fit into the place of captivity to which they'd been delivered. At the end of the Civil War, the survivors created a community for themselves that they called Africatown, which still exists to this day.

Mosley, Walter 4

Number 47, a fourteen-year-old slave boy growing up under the watchful eye of a brutal master in 1832, meets the mysterious Tall John who introduces him to a magical science and also teaches him the meaning of freedom. Blend of historical fiction and science fiction.

Wolf, Allan The Snow Fell Three Graves Deep

In 1846, a group of emigrants bound for California face a choice: continue on their planned route or take a shortcut into the wilderness. Eighty-nine of them opt for the untested trail, a decision that plunges them into danger and desperation and, finally, the unthinkable. This is a retelling of the ill-fated journey of the Donner party across the Sierra Nevadas during the winter of 1846-1847. Narrated by multiple voices, including world-weary, taunting, and all-knowing Hunger itself, this novel-in-verse examines a notorious chapter in history from various perspectives, among them caravan leaders George Donner and James Reed, Donner's scholarly wife, two Miwok Indian guides, the Reed children, a sixteen-year-old orphan, and even a pair of oxen. Novel in verse.

Civil War

Bolden, Tonya Crossing Ebenezer Creek

Freed from slavery, Mariah and her young brother, Zeke, join Sherman's march through Georgia where Mariah meets a free black named Caleb and dares to imagine the possibility of true love—but hope can come at a cost.

Mitchell, Margaret Gone with the Wind

Scarlett O'Hara faces and survives the Civil War and Reconstruction and marries Rhett Butler for his money because her true love has married someone else.

Paulsen, Gary Soldier's Heart

Eager to enlist, fifteen-year-old Charley has a change of heart after experiencing both the physical horrors and mental anguish of Civil War combat.

Shaara, Michael The Killer Angels

Robert E. Lee and James Longstreet tell the Southern view of the battle at Gettysburg while Colonel Joshua Chamberlain and General John Buford present the Northern view.

Post-Civil-War / Pre-World-War-I America

Chibbaro, Julie Deadly

In the early 1900s, sixteen-year-old Prudence Galewski leaves school to take a job assisting the head epidemiologist at New York's Department of Health and Sanitation, investigating the intriguing case of "Typhoid Mary," a seemingly healthy woman who is infecting others with typhoid fever.

Clark, Walter Van Tilburg The Ox-Bow Incident

When cattle rustlers murder a citizen of Bridger's Gulch, others form a posse and illegally lynch them.

Donnelly, Jennifer A Northern Light

In 1906, sixteen-year-old Mattie, determined to attend college and be a writer against the wishes of her father and fiance, takes a job at a summer inn where she discovers the truth about the death of a guest. Based on a true story.

Donnelly, Jennifer These Shallow Graves

Jo Montfort is beautiful and rich, and soon (like all the girls in her class) she'll graduate from finishing school and be married off to a wealthy bachelor--which is the last thing she wants. Jo dreams of becoming a writer—a newspaper reporter. Wild aspirations aside, Jo's life seems perfect until tragedy strikes: her father is found dead. The story is that Charles Montfort shot himself while cleaning his revolver, but the more Jo hears about her father's death, the more something feels wrong.

Kline, Christina Baker Orphan Train

Close to aging out of the foster care system, Molly Ayer takes a position helping an elderly woman named Vivian and discovers that they are more alike than different as she helps Vivian solve a mystery from her past.

Leaver, Trisha Sweet Madness

Bridget Sullivan, a maid in the Borden household, describes the events leading up to the murder of Andrew Borden and his second wife, and how the youngest daughter, Lizzie, was put on trial for the crime.

Lee, Stacey The Downstairs Girl

Atlanta—1890. Some secrets just won't stay buried. By day, seventeen-year-old Jo Kuan works as a lady's maid for the cruel daughter of one of the wealthiest men in Atlanta. But by night, Jo moonlights as the pseudonymous author of a newspaper advice column for the genteel Southern lady, "Dear Miss Sweetie." When her column becomes wildly popular, she uses the power of the pen to address some of society's ills, but she's not prepared for the backlash that follows when her column challenges fixed ideas about race and gender.

Lee, Stacey Luck of the Titanic

British-Chinese Valora Luck smuggles herself aboard the Titanic with two goals—to reunite with her twin brother Jamie and to convince a part-owner of the Ringling Brothers Circus to take the twins on as acrobats. Val talks her way into opulent first-class accommodations and finds Jamie with a group of fellow Chinese laborers in third class. But in the rigidly stratified world of the luxury liner, Val's ruse can only last so long, and after two long years apart, it is unclear if Jamie even wants the life Val proposes. When the supposedly unsinkable ship is dealt a fatal blow, Val and her companions are in a race to survive.

Lee, Stacey Outrun the Moon

On the eve of the San Francisco Earthquake of 1906, Mercy Wong-daughter of Chinese immigrants--is struggling to hold her own among the spoiled heiresses at prestigious St. Clare's School. When tragedy strikes, everyone must band together to survive.

Moore, Bryce The Perfect Place to Die

Seventeen-year-old Zuretta Palmer travels to Chicago during the 1893 World's Fair to find her missing sister, but when the police and the Pinkertons refuse to help her, Zuretta begins her own investigation by becoming a maid at the notorious Castle of H. H. Holmes.

Petrucha, Stefan Ripper

Adopted by famous Pinkerton Agency Detective Hawking in 1895 New York, fourteen-year-old Carver Young hopes to find his birth father, but when he becomes involved in the pursuit of notorious killer Jack the Ripper, Carver discovers that finding the truth can be worse than ignorance.

Yee, Betty G. Gold Mountain

Fifteen-year-old Tam Ling Fan disguises herself as her twin brother, journeys from her village in China to California, and works as a laborer on the Transcontinental Railroad--where she faces danger on multiple fronts--to earn money her family desperately needs.

World War I

Brown, Teri Velvet Undercover

A World War I 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.

Connolly, Rebecca Under the Cover of Mercy

Can one nurse on a mission of mercy and rebellion turn the tide of WWI? November 1914--The Great War has come to Brussels, the Germans have occupied the city, and Edith Cavell, Head Nurse at Berkendael Medical Institute, faces an impossible situation. As matron of a designated Red Cross hospital, Edith has sworn an oath to help any who are wounded, under whatever flag they are found. But Governor von Lüttwitz, the ranking German officer, has additional orders for her. She and her nurses must also stand guard over the wounded Allied prisoners of war and prevent them from escaping. Edith feels that God called her to be a healer, not a jailer. How can she heal these broken boys, only to allow them to be returned to the hands of their oppressors to be beaten again? So when members of the Belgian resistance, desperate for help, bring two wounded British soldiers to her hospital in secret, she makes a decision that will change everything: she will heal the soldiers, and then attempt to smuggle them out of the hospital to freedom. With her loyal friend and fellow nurse, Elizabeth, by her side, Edith establishes her hospital as a safe house for the resistance, laboring tirelessly to save as many soldiers as she can. Working under the watchful eyes of the German army, Edith faces challenging odds and charges of treason-which carries the death penalty if she is caught--as she fights alongside the resistance to bring-and keep-hope to her small corner of a war-torn world. Based on a true story, Under the Cover of Mercy is the remarkable account of one woman who defied an entire nation in order to heal those who needed her help the most.

Dowswell, Paul Eleven Eleven

Set during the final 24 hours before the armistice at 11 a.m. on 11th November 1918, the story follows a German storm trooper, an American airman, and a British Tommy. Their destinies converge during the death throes of the first conflict to spread across the globe. War becomes incredibly personal as nationality and geography cease to matter to each of these teenagers on the Western Front, and friendship becomes the defining aspect of their encounter. But who will live and who will die before the end of the day?

Garretson, Dee All Is Fair

After receiving a dreaded telegram during World War I, a young aristocrat is pulled out of her boarding school and partnered with a dashing American spy for a dangerous project to support the war effort.

Hooper, Mary Poppy (and sequel)

In 1914-15 England, fifteen-year-old Poppy works as a parlor maid until she is transformed by forbidden love and a war that sends her to the front line as a nurse.

Kessides, Christine Fallert Magda, Standing

In 1916, the world is at war, even if America has not yet joined the effort--but for Magda, the growing hostility her German immigrant family faces hits close to home. Despite her domestic obligations, Magda persists with her education, determined to find an independent role for herself. Faced with the mounting crises of the war and the Spanish flu, Magda seeks the knowledge and strength to try to protect those she loves most.

Lough, Amber Open Fire

In 1917 Russia, seventeen-year-old Katya joins the first all-female battalion to fight the Germans, but she soon finds that patriotism alone won't help her survive the realities of war.

Morpurgo, Michael Private Peaceful

When Thomas Peaceful's older brother is forced to join the British Army, Thomas decides to sign up as well, although he is only fourteen years old, to prove himself to his country, his family, his childhood love, Molly, and himself.

Morpurgo, Michael War Horse

Joey the horse recalls his experiences growing up on an English farm, his struggle for survival as a cavalry horse during World War I, and his reunion with his beloved master.

Remarque, Erich All Quiet on the Western Front

Five German students are drafted into World War I.

Sedgwick, Marcus The Foreshadowing

Having always been able to know when someone is going to die, Alexandra poses as a nurse to go to France during World War I to locate her brother and to try to save him from the fate she has foreseen for him.

Wilson, John And in the Morning

When fifteen-year-old Jim Hay's father is killed in World War I, Jim is compelled to leave his native Scotland to fight and struggles with the horrors of war as he tries to survive in the trenches of France.

World War II

Adlington, Lucy The Red Ribbon

A 14-year-old Nazi concentration camp prisoner is forced to work in a group of emaciated seamstresses, including a courageous new friend, sewing couture dresses for female SS officers and the wives of their overseers, who threaten their lives over any imperfection.

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell The Boy Who Dared

In October 1942, seventeen-year-old Helmuth Hubener, imprisoned for distributing anti-Nazi leaflets, recalls his past life and how he came to dedicate himself to bring the truth about Hitler and the war to the German people.

Boyne, John The Boy at the Top of the Mountain

Set in 1935, when Pierrot becomes an orphan, he must leave his home in Paris for a new life with his Aunt Beatrix, a servant in a wealthy household at the top of the German mountains. This is no ordinary house, though, for this is the Berghof, home of Adolf Hitler, and the Second World War is fast approaching..

Boyne, John The Boy in the Striped Pajamas

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.

Bruchac, Joseph Code Talker

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 who send messages during World War II in their native tongue.

Cameron, Sharon Bluebird

In 1946 Eva arrives in New York City from the rubble of Berlin, supposedly looking for a new life but actually seeking justice against the Nazis that "escaped" with the help of the CIA. She is looking for one in particular--the doctor who knows who Eva really is. Her identity is the product of Project Bluebird, an experiment of the concentration camps involving brainwashing and mind control. Both the Americans and the Soviets would like access to Project Bluebird--and Eva does not know if she can trust anyone she meets, least of all Jake Katz, the young man she is attracted to.

Cameron, Sharon The Light in Hidden Places

Sixteen-year-old Catholic Stefania Podgórska has worked in the Diamant family's grocery store for four years, even falling in love with one of their sons, Izio; but when the Nazis came to Przemyśl, Poland, the Jewish Diamants are forced into the ghetto (and worse). Izio's brother Max manages to escape, and Stefania embarks on a dangerous course--protecting thirteen Jews in her attic, caring for her younger sister, Helena, and keeping everything secret from the two Nazi officers who are living in her house.

Chee, Traci We Are Not Free

For fourteen-year-old budding artist Minoru Ito, her two brothers, her friends, and the other members of the Japanese-American community in southern California, the three months since Pearl Harbor was attacked have become a waking nightmare. They have been attacked, spat on, and abused with no way to retaliate. Now things are about to get worse, their lives forever changed by the mass incarcerations in the relocation camps.

Doerr, Anthony All the Light We Cannot See

Marie-Laure is a sightless girl who lived with her father in Paris before the occupation. When German forces necessitate abandonment of the city, Marie-Laure's father moves himself and his daughter to his uncle's house in the coastal city of Saint-Malo. Young German soldier Werner is sent to Saint-Malo to track Resistance activity there, and eventually, and inevitably, Marie-Laure's and Werner's paths cross.

Dogar, Sharon Annexed

Retells the story of Anne Frank from the perspective of Peter, who overcomes an initial loathing for the precocious young diarist before falling in love with her and questioning his faith in light of frightening persecutions.

Engle, Margarita Jazz Owls

Against the backdrop of World War II, a patriotic Mexican-American family proudly contributes to the war effort despite pervasive racism. Every night Marisela, 16, and her sister, Lorena, 14, join other "owls," girls who go out dancing with Navy men at the USO club in LA before they are deployed. Working in a cannery by day and chaperoned by their zoot suit-wearing 12-year-old brother, Ray, by night, the sisters dance their way through the growing racial tensions in the city. Punished for speaking Spanish in school and forbidden from speaking Spanish at work, dancing is a joyous means of self-expression and connection with Latin culture. Everything comes to a head in June 1943 when marauding sailors brutally attack Mexican-Americans in a weeklong series of what are erroneously dubbed "Zoot Suit Riots" by the press.

Falkner, Brian Blitzkrieg

In Nazi-ruled Germany, twelve-year-old Joe flees to England after his father is arrested by the Gestapo and he is separated from his mother, but when he arrives in London, Joe is recruited by MI5 and given a deadly mission that will put him in the very center of Hitler's ruthless reign.

Fukuda, Andrew This Light between Us

In 1935, ten-year-old Alex Maki of Bainbridge Island, Washington, is horrified to discover that his new pen pal, Charlie Lévy of Paris, France, is a girl. In spite of his initial reluctance, their letters continue over the years. They fight to continue their friendship even as Charlie endures the Nazi occupation and Alex leaves his family in an internment camp at Manzanar to join the 442nd Combat Regiment of the Army.

Gratz, Alan Allies

It is June 6, 1944, D-Day, and Dee Carpenter (true name Dietrich Zimmermann), an underage private in the United States Army, is headed for Omaha Beach, seeking revenge for his uncle, who was arrested by Nazis when Dee was a little boy; meanwhile, Samira Zidano, an eleven-year old French-Algerian girl is looking for the French resistance, desperate to deliver the message that the invasion is about to begin, and get their help in freeing her mother--this is the most important day of the twentieth century, and both Dee and Samira want to fight and survive.

Gratz, Alan Grenade

In April 1, 1945 with the battle of Okinawa beginning, fourteen-year-old native Okinawan Hideki, drafted into the Blood and Iron Student Corps, is handed two grenades and told to go kill American soldiers. Hideki does not really want to kill anyone--he just wants to find his family. His struggle across the island will finally bring him face-to-face with Ray, a marine in his very first battle--and the choice he makes then will change his life forever.

Gratz, Alan Prisoner B-3087

Based on the life of Jack Gruener, this book relates his story of survival from the Nazi occupation of Krakow, when he was eleven, through a succession of concentration camps to the final liberation of Dachau.

Gratz, Alan Projekt 1065

It is 1943. Thirteen-year-old Michael O'Shaunessey, son of the Irish ambassador to Nazi Germany in Berlin, is also a spy for the British Secret Service. He has joined the Hitler Youth. Pretending that he agrees with their violence and book-burning is hard enough--but when he is asked to find out more about Projekt 1065, both his and his parents' lives get a lot more dangerous.

Hesse, Monica Girl in the Blue Coat

In 1943 Nazi-occupied Amsterdam, teenage Hanneke--a 'finder' of black market goods--is tasked with finding a Jewish girl a customer had been hiding, who has seemingly vanished into thin air, and is pulled into a web of resistance activities and secrets as she attempts to solve the mystery and save the missing girl.

Hesse, Monica They Went Left

The year is 1945, and Zofia finds herself in a hospital after being liberated from the Gross-Rosen concentration camp in Poland. Suffering from memory loss in a hospital with other survivors, Zofia relies on the kindness of Dima, a Russian soldier, to get home and find her little brother, Abek—but the home Zofia returns to is not one she recognizes. She quickly discovers that she needs to continue her search for Abek elsewhere. Alone, Zofia travels across borders to locate her brother; she doesn't know what happened to him or where he ended up, but she will not give up hope that he is alive and looking for her.

Hesse, Monica The War Outside

Teens Haruko, a Japanese American, and Margot, a German American, form a life-changing friendship as everything around them starts falling apart in the Crystal City family internment camp during World War II.

Hlad, Alan

The Long Flight Home

It is autumn of 1940, and the carpet bombings of London have begun. Susan Shepard and her grandfather Bertie raise pigeons on a farm in Epping, outside of London and near the North Weald Airfield, and they rush to their shelter each time the Luftwaffe passes over. Meanwhile, Ollie Evans, an American crop-duster pilot, has decided to try to join the Allied effort as a Royal Air Force flier. Soon Ollie meets Susan and the birds she has trained, but before they can explore their feelings for one another, Ollie becomes caught up in the fighting while Susan becomes involved in Source Columba, the real-life intelligence operation that featured the air-drop of hundreds of homing pigeons in occupied France.

Hughes, Dean Four-Four-Two

Forced into an internment camp at the start of World War II, eighteen-year-old Yuki enlists in the Army to fight for the Allies as a member of the "Four-Two," a segregated Japanese American regiment.

Hughes, Dean Soldier Boys

Two boys, one German and one American, are eager to join their respective armies during World War II, and their paths cross at the Battle of the Bulge.

Iturbe, Antonio The Librarian of Auschwitz

Follows the true story of Dita Kraus, a fourteen-year-old girl from Prague who is chosen to protect the eight books that prisoners have smuggled past the guards in Auschwitz.

Katz, Gwen C. Among the Red Stars

Determined to help the effort, female Russian air pilot Valka signs up to join an all-female aviation group (called Night Witches by the Nazis), but as the war intensifies she has to decide how much she is willing to risk to defend the skies she calls home.

Leech, Caroline In Another Time

It's 1942, and as the war rages in Europe, Maisie McCall is in the Scottish Highlands swinging an axe for the Women's Timber Corps. Maisie relishes her newfound independence working alongside other lumberjacks--including the mysterious John Lindsay. As Maisie and John work side by side felling trees together, Maisie can't help but feel that their friendship has the spark of something more to it. And yet every time she gets close to him, John pulls away. It's not until Maisie rescues John from a terrible logging accident that he begins to open up to her about the truth of his past and the pain he's been hiding. Suddenly everything is more complicated than Maisie expected. As she helps John untangle his shattered history, she must decide if she's willing to risk her heart to help heal his. But in a world devastated by war, love might be the only thing left that can begin to heal what's broken.

Lynch, Chris Good Devils

Gabriel Greene is too young to join the military, but after Pearl Harbor he and his sickly older brother, Dallas, each take the other's name. The Army has special uses for soldiers as ferocious and tenacious as Gabe-- the First Special Service Force. From the start it's intended to go where other soldiers won't-- and soon Gabe and his fellow commandos will get their wish—to be in combat.

Lynch, Chris The Right Fight (and sequel)

When the draft board calls on the eve of World War II, Roman leaves behind a career in minor-league baseball to join the army and finds himself driving a tank in the North African campaign.

Masih, Tara Lynn My Real Name Is Hanna

Inspired by the story of Esther Stermer and her family who escaped the Nazis and survived underground for 511 days.

McCrina, Amanda Traitor

Poland, 1944. After the Soviet liberation of Lwów from Germany, the city remains a battleground between resistance fighters and insurgent armies. Tolya Korolenko is half Ukrainian, half Polish, and he joined the Soviet Red Army to keep himself alive and fed. When he not-quite-accidentally shoots his unit's political officer in the street, he's rescued by a squad of Ukrainian freedom fighters. They might have saved him, but Tolya doesn't trust them. In a city where loyalty comes second to self-preservation, a traitor can be an enemy or a savior-- or sometimes both.

Morrill, Stephanie Within These Lines

Italian-American Evalina and Japanese-American Taichi's vow to be together (even though interracial marriage is illegal in 1941 San Francisco) is tested when Taichi's family is sent to Manzanar internment camp.

Morris, Heather The Tattooist of Auschwitz

Based on the true story of Lale Sokolov, a Slovakian Jew who spent almost three years in the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. For most of that time, Lale tattooed numbers onto the arms of fellow prisoners, one of whom he would later marry. Like Lale, Gita was Slovakian. With some maneuvering by him, she was assigned to a relatively safe job, working as a secretary in the administrative building. The horrors of the camps contrast with the growing love between them.

Myers, Walter Dean Invasion

Josiah Wedgewood and Marcus Perry were friends in Virginia, but now that they are both involved in the Normandy invasion, the differences in their positions is uncomfortable. Josiah is a white infantryman and Marcus is a black transport driver, the only role the segregated army will allow him.

Otsuka, Julie When the Emperor Was Divine

A story told from five different points of view chronicles the experiences of Japanese Americans caught up in the nightmare of the World War II internment camps.

Picoult, Jodi The Storyteller

Becoming friends with Josef Weber, an old man who's particularly loved in her community, Sage Singer is shocked when one day he asks her to kill him and reveals why he deserves to die, causing her to question her beliefs--and to wonder if his request would be murder or justice.

Reinhardt, Dirk The Edelweiss Pirates

When sixteen-year-old Daniel befriends Josef Gerlach, he feels the old man is haunted by a secret from his past. When Josef gives him his teenage diary to read, Daniel discovers a shocking story of rebellion against the Nazis and a struggle to survive as he reads about Josef's missions against Hitler as a member of a gang called The Edelweiss Pirates.

Rosnay, Tatiana de Sarah's Key

On the sixtieth anniversary of the 1942 roundup of Jews by the French police in the Vel d'Hiv section of Paris, American journalist Julia Jarmond is asked to write an article on this dark episode during World War II and embarks on investigation that leads her to long-hidden family secrets and to the ordeal of Sarah, a young girl caught up in the raid.

Scott, Marina The Hunger Between Us

When her best friend disappears in the summer of 1942, Liza resolves to rescue her no matter the cost, entangling herself in an increasingly dangerous web with two former classmates, one a member of the militia and other other one forced to live in Leningrad's tunnels.

Sepetys, Ruta Between Shades of Gray

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.

Sepetys, Ruta Salt to the Sea

The war in Europe is in its end stages as German forces are beaten back by the Allied armies. To escape the Soviet advance on the eastern front, thousands of refugees flee to the Polish coast. In this desperate flight for freedom, four young people—each from very different backgrounds and each with dark secrets—connect as they vie for passage on the Willhelm Gustloff, a former pleasure cruiser used to evacuate the refugees. Packed to almost ten times its original capacity, the ship is hit by Soviet torpedoes less than 12 hours after leaving port. As the ship sinks into the icy waters of the Baltic Sea, what was supposed to be an avenue for escape quickly becomes another fight to survive.

Shaffer, Mary Ann The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society

In 1946, writer Juliet Ashton finds inspiration for her next book in her correspondence with a native of Guernsey who tells her about the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, a book club created as an alibi during German occupation.

Sharenow, Robert The Berlin Boxing Club

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.

Smith, Sherri L. The Blossom and the Firefly

Almost buried alive in a bombing by Allied forces in 1945 Chiran, Japan, fifteen-year-old Hana feels as though she is already dead, just going through the motions. Since the bombing, girls her age have been assigned to the Nadeshiko unit; their job is to care for and send the tokko (kamikaze pilots) off to their deaths. Seventeen-year-old Taro is prepared to die for Japan, his death bringing more honor and glory for his family than his skill in playing the violin, or his life, ever could. When their paths cross, Taro's violin-playing revives Hana's appreciation for life. When their connection deepens into love, Taro wonders if his feelings will jeopardize his resolve in completing his mission, while Hana's heart breaks knowing Taro's seemingly inevitable fate.

Smith, Sherri L. Flygirl

During World War II, a light-skinned African American girl "passes" for white in order to join the Women Air Force Service Pilots.

Spradlin, Michael P. Prisoner of War: A Novel of World War II

Fifteen-year-old Henry Forrest lies about his age and enlists in the Marines to escape from his abusive father. When he is immediately sent to the Philippines he finds himself in the middle of the Japanese invasion--and as he grows up, he will have to endure the Bataan Death March, overcrowded prisons, and the Japanese factory in Tokyo where he is eventually sent as slave labor.

Stamper, Vesper What the Night Sings

Liberated from Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp in 1945, sixteen-year-old Gerta tries to make a new life for herself, aided by Lev, a fellow survivor, and Michah, who helps Jews reach Palestine.

Sullivan, Laura L. Love by the Morning Star

Mistaken for one another when they are sent to the grand English country estate of Starkers on the brink of World War II, Hannah, a distant relative hoping to be welcomed by the family, and Anna, sent to spy for the Nazis, both unexpectedly fall in love.

Voorhoeve, Anne C. My Family for the War

Before the start of World War II, ten-year-old Ziska Mangold, who has Jewish ancestors but has been raised as a Protestant, is taken out of Nazi Germany on one of the Kindertransport trains to live in London with a Jewish family. She learns about Judaism and endures the hardships of war while attempting to keep in touch with her parents, who are trying to survive in Holland.

Wein, Elizabeth Code Name Verity (and sequel)

A British fighter plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France in 1943, 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.

Wein, Elizabeth The Enigma Game

A German soldier risks his life to drop off the sought-after Enigma Machine to British Intelligence, hiding it in a pub in a small town in northeast Scotland. Louisa Adair, a teen girl hired to look after the pub owner's elderly, German-born aunt Jane Warner, finds it but doesn't report it. Flight-Lieutenant Jamie Beaufort-Stuart intercepts a signal but can't figure it out. Ellen McEwen, volunteer at the local airfield, acts as the go-between and messenger, after Louisa involves Jane in translating. The planes under Jamie's command seem charmed, and the four are loathe to give up the machine—even after Elisabeth Lind from British Intelligence arrives—even after the Germans start bombing the tiny town.

Wilson, Kip White Rose

The story of Sophie Scholl, a young German college student who challenged the Nazi regime during World War II as part of The White Rose, a nonviolent resistance group. Novel in verse.

Wouk, Herman The Caine Mutiny

An American mine sweeper, the Caine, patrols in the Pacific during World War II under a tyrannical skipper until an ensign leads a mutiny against him.

Wulffson, Don Soldier X

In 1943 sixteen-year-old Erik experiences the horrors of war when he is drafted into the German army and sent to fight on the Russian front.

Yolen, Jane Mapping the Bones

In Poland in the 1940s, twins Chaim and Gittel rely on each other to endure life in a ghetto, escape through forests, and survive the horrors of a concentration camp.

Zusak, Markus The Book Thief

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

20th – 21st Century

Alexander, Robert The Kitchen Boy

Novel based on the 1918 Bolshevik revolutionary murder of Czar Nicholas II and the rest of the Russian royal family as told from the perspective of the event's only surviving witness, a young kitchen boy.

Arash, Jawad

Enduring Freedom

A teenage American army private and an Afghan boy living under the horrors of the Taliban, caught on separate sides of the world during the tumultuous times leading up to and following 9/11, come to discover how much more they have in common than they ever could have imagined.

Bagdasarian, Adam Forgotten Fire

Based on the true story of a 12-year-old boy who survived the massacre that saw hundreds of thousands of Armenians murdered in Turkey's campaign of genocide against the Armenians in the early 1900s.

Bryant, Megan E. Glow

Discovering a series of antique paintings containing hidden glowing images, a young thrift-store aficionado investigates their origins and discovers the haunting true story of a group of young women artists, the Radium Girls, who used dangerous radioactive paint to create the world's first glow-in-the-dark products.

Carlton, Susan Kaplan In the Neighborhood of True

In the very white, very Christian world of Atlanta society in 1958, New York transplant Ruth decides not to tell her new high school friends and boyfriend that she is Jewish—but when a violent act rocks the city, Ruth must figure out where her loyalties lie.

Chim, Wai Freedom Swimmer

Ming survived the famine that killed his parents during China's 'Great Leap Forward,' and lives a hard but adequate life, working in the fields with his fellow villagers. When a group of city boys come to the village as part of a government re-education program, Ming and his friends aren't sure what to make of the new arrivals. They're intellectuals not used to hard labour and village life. Despite his reservations, Ming befriends a charming city boy named Li. The two couldn't be more different, but slowly they form a bond over evening swims and dreamlike discussions. As the bitterness of life under the Party begins to take its toll on both boys, they begin to imagine the impossible: freedom.

Dowd, Siobhan Bog Child

In 1981, the height of Ireland's "Troubles," eighteen-year-old Fergus is distracted from his upcoming A-level exams by his imprisoned brother's hunger strike, the stress of being a courier for Sinn Fein, and dreams of a murdered girl whose body he discovered in a bog.

Elliott, L. M. Walls

In the days before the treacherous overnight raising of the Berlin Wall, teenaged cousins Drew, an American army brat in West Berlin, and Matthias, a young communist in East Berlin, become wary friends on opposite sides of the Cold War.

Follett, Ken Fall of Giants

Five families become entangled in events from the beginning of the twentieth century--thirteen-year-old Billy begins working in the Welsh mining pits, an American law student gets a job with Woodrow Wilson's administration, two orphaned brothers try to leave their native Russia for the U.S., and Billy's sister's employer begins an affair with a spy at the German embassy in London.

Gratz, Alan Ground Zero

Brandon is visiting his dad on the 107th floor of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 when the attack comes; Reshmina is a girl in Afghanistan who has grown up in the aftermath of that attack but dreams of peace, becoming a teacher and escaping her village and the narrow role that the Taliban believes is appropriate for women--both are struggling to survive, both changed forever by the events of 9/11.

Hosseini, Khaled The Kite Runner

Traces the unlikely friendship of a wealthy Afghan youth and a servant's son, in a tale that spans the final days of Afghanistan's monarchy through the atrocities of the present day.

Hughes, Dean Search and Destroy

Recent high school graduate Rick Ward, undecided about his future and eager to escape his unhappy home life, joins the army and experiences the horrors of the war in Vietnam.

Hutton, Keely Soldier Boy

Follows Ricky from 1987-1991, and Samuel in 2006, as they are abducted to serve as child-soldiers in the Lord's Resistance Army in Uganda. Includes historical notes and information about Friends of Orphans, an organization founded by Ricky Richard Anywar, on whose life the story is partly based.

Joy, Kayla Hooverville

Annaleise Winston can never seem to fit in with the Society Girls, the strict rules that govern them, or their selfish indulgence during the Great Depression. Behind closed doors, her publicly perfect new fiance, Frank Alexander, is violent and dismissive, but without his financial security, Annaleise and her mother will be on the streets without a penny to their name. When Annaleise finally has enough, she runs away and accidentally becomes stranded in a Hooverville, a lawless homeless encampment in Central Park, where she must keep her identity a secret if she wants to stay alive—but a kind shoe shiner named Thomas Kelley may get in the way of everything she thought she ever wanted. As their love for each other grows, the Great Depression worsens, and Frank will pay any price to bring back his bride.

Kadohata, Cynthia Cracker

A young soldier in Vietnam bonds with his bomb-sniffing dog.

Latham, Jennifer Dreamland Burning

When Rowan finds a skeleton on her family's property, investigating the brutal, century-old murder leads to painful discoveries about the past. Alternating chapters reveal information that help solve the mystery of what happened through the telling of the story of William, a teen who lived through the racial firestorm leading up to the 1921 Tulsa race riot.

Linke, Dorit Beyond the Blue Border

Expelled from their secondary school in East Germany because of their rebellious attitudes, Hanna and Andreas plan to escape by swimming across the cold and choppy waters of the Baltic Sea in a harrowing twenty-five hour journey to freedom in West Germany. Hanna is an accomplished distance swimmer; Andreas is not. The danger of being caught, drowning, or dying of exhaustion is very real, but the two teenagers are desperate to escape their lives in the East.

Lynch, Chris I Pledge Allegiance (and sequels)

Best friends Morris, Rudi, Ivan, and Beck, having been either drafted or enlisted in the military during the Vietnam War, pledge they will come home together, and Morris, a sailor on the USS "Boston," relies on that promise to stay strong while his courage and resolve are tested under attack.

Lynch, Chris Uconventional Warfare (and sequels)

Danny Manion lands in the Studies and Observation Group, a volunteer task force that focuses on covert action and psychological warfare during the Vietnam War.

Mason, Bobbie Ann In Country

Sam resents the effects of the Vietnam War, especially the death of her father and her uncle's suffering from Agent Orange ingestion.

Mazer, Harry Somebody Please Tell Me Who I am

Wounded in Iraq while his Army unit is on convoy and treated for many months for traumatic brain injury, the first person Ben remembers from his earlier life is his autistic brother.

McCormick, Patricia Never Fall Down

McCormick has blended personal recollections with extensive interviews, historical research, and her own imagination to create a powerful novel about Cambodian human-rights activist Arn Chorn Pond's remarkable story of his survival during the Khmer Rouge reign of terror and genocide.

McCormick, Patricia Purple Heart

While recuperating in a Baghdad hospital from a traumatic brain injury sustained during the Iraq War, eighteen-year-old soldier Matt Duffy struggles to recall what happened to him and how it relates to his ten-year-old friend, Ali.

McQueen, Daven The Invincible Summer of Juniper Jones

It's the summer of 1955. For Ethan Harper, a biracial kid raised mostly by his white father, race has always been a distant conversation. When he's sent to spend the summer with his aunt and uncle in small-town Alabama, however, his blackness is suddenly front and center, and no one is shy about making it known he's not welcome there—and then he meets Juniper Jones. The town's resident oddball and free spirit, she's everything the townspeople aren't--open, kind, and accepting. Armed with two bikes and an unlimited supply of root beer floats, Ethan and Juniper set out to find their place in a town that's bent on rejecting them.

Mills, Wendy All We Have Left

In interweaving stories of sixteen-year-olds, modern-day Jesse tries to cope with the ramifications of her brother's death on 9/11, while in 2001, Alia, a Muslim, gets trapped in one of the Twin Towers and meets a boy who changes everything for her as flames rage around them.

Moss, Miriam Girl on a Plane

This is a fictionalized story based on the amazing real life experiences of Miriam Moss, a fifteen year old English school girl who was held hostage on a plane hijacked by the Palestinian Liberation Front in 1970.

Myers, Walter Dean Sunrise over Fallujah

Robin Perry, from Harlem, is sent to Iraq in 2003 as a member of the Civilian Affairs Battalion, and his time there profoundly changes him.

O'Neil, Carolyn Tara Daughters of a Dead Empire

With the execution of Tsar Nicholas and his family, the empire crumbles. Russia is on the edge of civil war. Anna, a bourgeois girl, narrowly escaped the massacre of her entire family in Yekaterinburg. Desperate to get away from the Bolsheviks, she offers a peasant girl a diamond to take her as far south as possible-- not realizing that the girl is a communist herself. With her brother in desperate need of a doctor, Evgenia accepts Anna's offer and suddenly finds herself on the wrong side of the war.

Oppel, Kenneth Half Brother

In 1973, when a renowned Canadian behavioral psychologist pursues his latest research project--an experiment to determine whether chimpanzees can acquire advanced language skills--he brings home a baby chimp named Zan and asks his thirteen-year-old son to treat Zan like a little brother. (Zan's story is similar to real chimpanzee studies of the 70s.)

Perera, Anna Guantanamo Boy

Six months after the events of September 11, 2001, Khalid, a Muslim fifteen-year-old boy from England, is kidnapped during a family trip to Pakistan and imprisoned in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where he is held for two years for reasons unknown to him.

Pink, Randi Angel of Greenwood

Seventeen-year-old Isaiah Wilson is, on the surface, a town troublemaker but is hiding that he is an avid reader and secret poet, never leaving home without his journal. As a passionate follower of W.E.B. Du Bois, he believes that black people should rise up to claim their place as equals. Sixteen-year-old Angel Hill is a loner. Her father is dying, and her family's financial situation is in turmoil. As a loyal follower of Booker T. Washington, she believes, through education and tolerance, that black people should rise slowly and without forced conflict. Though they've attended the same schools, Isaiah never noticed Angel as anything but a dorky, Bible -toting church girl--until their English teacher offers them a job on her mobile library, a three-wheel, two-seater bike. Angel can't turn down the money, and Isaiah is soon eager to be in such close quarters with Angel every afternoon. Life changes, however, on May 31, 1921 when a vicious white mob storms the community of Greenwood, leaving the town destroyed and thousands of residents displaced.

Polisner, Gae The Memory of Things

On the morning of September 11, 2001, sixteen-year-old Kyle Donohue watches the first twin tower come down. While fleeing home to safety, he finds a girl covered in ash who has no memory.

Powell, Patricia Loving vs. Virginia: A Documentary Novel of the Landmark Civil Rights Case

Written in blank verse, the story of Mildred Loving, an African American girl, and Richard Loving, a Caucasian boy, who challenge the Virginia law forbidding interracial marriages in the 1950s.

Sepetys, Ruta The Fountains of Silence

Madrid, 1957. Daniel Matheson, the son of a Texas oil tycoon, arrives in Madrid with his parents. He hopes to connect with the country of his mother's birth through the lens of his camera. He meets Ana Moreno, whose family's interweaving obstacles reveal the lingering grasp of the Spanish Civil War-- as well as chilling definitions of fortune and fear. Daniel's photographs leave him with uncomfortable questions amid shadows of danger.

Sepetys, Ruta I Must Betray You

Romania, 1989. Communist regimes are crumbling across Europe. Seventeen-year-old Cristian Florescu dreams of becoming a writer, but Romanians aren't free to dream; they are bound by rules and force. During the tyrannical dictatorship of Nicolae Ceauşescu in a country governed by isolation and fear, Cristian is blackmailed by the secret police to become an informer. He's left with only two choices: betray everyone and everything he loves--or use his position to creatively undermine the most notoriously evil dictator in Eastern Europe. Cristian risks everything to unmask the truth behind the regime, give voice to fellow Romanians, and expose to the world what is happening in his country. He eagerly joins the revolution to fight for change when the time arrives. But what is the cost of freedom?

Sepetys, Ruta Out of the Easy

Josie, the seventeen-year-old daughter of a French Quarter prostitute, is striving to escape 1950 New Orleans and enroll at prestigious Smith College when she becomes entangled in a murder investigation.

Shabazz, Ilvasah X: A Novel

Follows the childhood of the civil rights leader Malcolm X to his imprisonment at age twenty, where he found the faith that would lead him to his path towards activism and justice.

Solomon , Dan The Fight for Midnight

It's been a rough year for Alex Collins. In the past twelve months, he's lost his best friend, become the target of the two biggest bullies at school, and been sentenced to community service. But on June 25, 2013, he gets a call for help from Cassie Ramirez, the prettiest girl in school. At last, he feels like his luck might be changing. Cassie is at the Texas State Capitol to protest Wendy Davis's historic filibuster of the abortion bill HB2, and she's rallying everyone she knows to join her. Until today, Alex didn't know what a filibuster was, and he'd never given a moment's thought to how he felt about abortion. But at the Capitol, he finds himself in the middle of a tense scene full of pro-life "blueshirts," pro-choice "orangeshirts," and blustering politicians playing political games as Wendy Davis tries to run out the clock at midnight.

Steinbeck, John Grapes of Wrath

The Joad family, Okie farmers forced from their dustbowl home during the Depression, try to find work as migrant fruitpickers in California.

Taylor, Theodore The Bomb

Sorry Rinamu is happy to see the end of the Japanese occupation of his people's island of Bikini. But in the aftermath of Hiroshima, the U.S. military wants to test the atomic bomb further and have decided that the Bikini atoll is the perfect site. When Sorry's people agree to relocate, he makes his own plans to defy the military. Based on an historical event.

Trueblood, Amy Across a Broken Shore

In 1936 San Francisco, eighteen-year-old Willa MacCarthy is bound for the convent--but when she discovers her love of medicine, she defies her family to work with a female doctor caring for the workers who are building the Golden Gate Bridge.

Watkins, Steve On Blood Road

While visiting his father at the United States embassy in Saigon, rebellious teenager Taylor is captured by the North Vietnamese Army during the Tet Offensive and is forced to confront the realities of war.

Wein, Elizabeth The Pearl Thief

Fifteen-year-old Julia Beaufort-Stuart wakes up in a hospital not knowing how she was injured, and soon befriends Euan McEwen, the Scottish Traveller boy who found her. Later, when a body is discovered, she experiences the prejudices his family has endured and tries to keep them from being framed for the crime.

Wein, Elizabeth Stateless

1937. Stella North has been chosen to represent Britain in Europe's first air race for young people. The stakes are high: as the only participating female pilot, it'll be a constant challenge to prove she's a worthy competitor. But promoting peace in Europe feels empty to Stella when civil war is raging in Spain and the Nazis are gaining power. Right from the start, someone resorts to cutthroat sabotage to get ahead of the competition. It's meant to be a friendly sporting event--but each of the racers is hiding a turbulent and violent past. Any one of them might be capable of murder--including Stella herself

Woltz, Anna A Hundred Hours of Night

Furious at her father, who is caught up in a sex scandal, and suffering from panic attacks and obsessive-compulsive disorder, fifteen-year-old Emilia December de Wit runs away from Amsterdam to New York City, where she meets sixteen-year-old Seth, and his eleven-year old sister Abby--and then Hurricane Sandy hits and the lights go out.