

Librarian's Choice FUN BOOKS!



Historical Fiction II (U.S.) 1784 - 1865



Here are some great books that are read all over the country, enjoyed all over the world. Each author is identified with a side heading.

Each title is listed below its author, along with the date the book was published. Each title includes a short description to help you see why each book can be FUN!

All of these books FICTION, so they are located in alphabetical order by the author's last name. Remember, our library may or may not have each book – we will have to check.

Please let Mr. Breitsprecher know when your library does not have one of these books. Perhaps we can order a copy for next year.

You can check for them at the Portage County Library too. They can get any of these books for you via interlibrary loan too. If you are looking for something fun to read, check out these great books.

1784-1859 INCLUDING POST REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD TO START OF CIVIL WAR AND WESTWARD EXPANSION AND PIONEER LIFE

Ambose, Stephen

This Vast Land. 2003. A fictional diary account of the real-life George Shannon's adventures as the youngest member of the Lewis and Clark expedition.

Armstrong, Jennifer

Black-eyed Susan: a Novel. 1995. Ten-year-old Susie and her father love living on the South Dakota prairie with its vast, uninterrupted views of land and sky, but Susie's mother greatly misses their old life in Ohio.

Thomas Jefferson: Letters from a Philadelphia Bookworm. 2000. An educated, inquisitive young

girl in Philadelphia corresponds with President Thomas Jefferson about current events, including the Lewis and Clark expedition, new inventions, and life at Monticello.

Atkins, Jeannine

Becoming Little Women. 2001. Relates events in author Louisa May Alcott's tenth year, 1843, when her family moved from Boston to a farm where, along with an odd assortment of idealists, they try to establish a community based on equality and love.

Auch, Mary Jane

Frozen Summer. 1998. In 1816, twelve-year-old Mem's new home in the wilderness of western New York is disrupted when the birth of another baby sends her mother into "spells" that disconnect her from reality.

Journey to Nowhere. 1997. In 1815, while traveling by covered wagon to settle in the wilderness of western New York, eleven-year-old Mem experiences a flood and separation from her family.

Blakeslee, Ann R.

A Different Kind of Hero. 1997. In 1881 twelve-year-old Renny, who resists his father's efforts to turn him into a rough, tough, brawling boy, earns the disapproval of the entire mining camp when he befriends a newly arrived Chinese boy.

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker

Weaver's Daughter. 2000. In 1791 after her family's journey from Pennsylvania, ten-year-old Lizzie suffers from the disease of asthma in her new home in the Southwest Territory (present-day Tennessee).

Bruchac, Joseph

The Journal of Jesse Smoke: A Cherokee Boy. 2001. Jesse Smoke, a sixteen-year-old Cherokee, begins a journal in 1837 to record stories of his people and their difficulties as they face removal along the Trail of Tears. Includes a historical note giving details of the removal. Dear America series.

Buckey, Sarah Masters

The Smuggler's Treasure. 1999. Sent to live with relatives in New Orleans during the War of 1812, eleven-year-old Elisabet determines to find a

smuggler's treasure to ransom her imprisoned father. History Mysteries series.

Cannon, A.E.

Charlotte's Rose. 2002. As a twelve-year-old Welsh immigrant carries a motherless baby along the Mormon Trail in 1856, she comes to love the baby as her own and fear the day the baby's father will reclaim her.

Carbone, Elisa

Stealing Freedom. 1998. A novel based on the events in the life of a young slave girl from Maryland who endures all kinds of mistreatment and cruelty, including being separated from her family, but who eventually escapes to freedom in Canada.

Clements, Bruce

A Chapel of Thieves. 2002. In 1849, Henry, a resourceful young man, sets off from Missouri to Paris in hopes of saving his older brother, a self-styled preacher, from the clutches of a clever charlatan.

Cornelissen, Cornelia

Soft Rain: The Story of the Cherokee Trail of Tears. 1998. Soft Rain, a nine-year-old Cherokee girl, is forced to relocate, along with her family, from North Carolina to the West.

Crofford, Emily

When the River Ran Backward. 2000. In the process of coping with a series of earthquakes which strike the frontier town of New Madrid in 1811 and 1812, fifteen-year-old Laurel discovers an unexpected romance.

Cullen, Lynn

Nelly in the Wilderness. 2002. In the Indiana wilderness in 1821, twelve-year-old Nelly Vandorn and her older brother hold fast to their rough frontier ways when their father brings home a fancy new city wife not long after burying their mother.

Cushman, Karen

The Ballad of Lucy Whipple. 1996. In 1849, a twelve-year-old girl who calls herself Lucy is distraught when her mother moves the family from Massachusetts to a small California mining town, where Lucy helps run a rough boarding house and

looks for comfort in books while trying to find a way to get "home."

Dadey, Debbie

Cherokee Sister. 2000. Because she is mistaken for an Indian, twelve-year-old Allie, a white girl, is forced to travel the Trail of Tears along with her best friend, a young Cherokee.

DeFelice, Cynthia

The Apprenticeship of Lucas Whitaker. 1996. This fascinating novel is based on information that surfaced recently, exposing the macabre practice employed in the mid-1800 by people desperate to save their loved ones from what we now call tuberculosis.

Demas, Corinne

If I Ever Return Again. 2000. In 1856, twelve-year-old Celia Snow sets sail with her parents on her father's whaling ship and chronicles her subsequent adventures on the more than two-year voyage in a series of letters written to her cousin Abigail.

Denberg, Barry

So Far from Home: The Diary of Mary Driscoll, an Irish Mill Girl. 1997. In the diary account of her journey from Ireland in 1847 and of her work in a mill in Lowell, Massachusetts, fourteen-year-old Mary reveals a great longing for her family. Dear America series.

Durbin, William

Song of Sampo Lake. 2002. In 1900, as a family of Finnish immigrants begins farming on the edge of a Minnesota lake, Matti works as a store clerk, teaches English, and works on the homestead, striving to get out of his older brother's shadow and earn their father's respect.

Erdrich, Louise

The Birchbark House. 1999. Omakayas, a seven-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe, lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847.

Finley, Mary Peace

White Grizzly, 2000. In 1845, when he leaves the Cheyenne village where he has been living and sets out from Bent's Fort along the Santa Fe Trail in

search of his white grandfather, Julio faces danger from renegade Taxans, the Pawnee Indians, and a grizzly bear, before finding where he truly belongs.

Fleischman, Sid.

Bandit's Moon.1998. Twelve-year-old Annyrose relates her adventures with Joaquin Murieta and his band of outlaws in the California gold-mining region during the mid-1800s.

Garland, Sherry

A Line in the Sand: The Alamo Diary of Lucinda Lawrence.1998. In the journal she receives for her thirteenth birthday in 1835, Lucinda Lawrence describes the hardships her family and other residents of the "Texas colonies" endure when they decide to face the Mexicans in a fight for their freedom. Dear America series.

In the Shadow of The Alamo. 2001. Conscripted into the Mexican army, fifteen-year-old Lorenzo Bonifacio makes some unexpected alliances and learns some harsh truth about General Santa Anna as the troops move toward the Battle of the Alamo.

Valley of the Moon: The Diary of Maria Rosalia de Milagros. 2001. The 1845-1846 diary of thirteen-year-old Maria, servant to the wealthy Spanish family which took her in when her Indian mother died. Includes a historical note about the settlement and early history of California. Dear America series.

Glaze, Lynn

Seasons of the Trail. 2000. In 1860, traveling by wagon train from Missouri to California, fourteen-year-old Lucy finds the discomfort and danger made tolerable by the presence of two handsome twin brothers.

Gregory, Kristiana

Across the Wide and Lonesome Prairie: The Oregon Trail Diary of Hattie Campbell. 1997. In her diary, thirteen-year-old Hattie chronicles her family's arduous 1847 journey from Missouri to Oregon on the Oregon Trail. Dear America series.

Jimmy Spoon and the Pony Express. 1994. Having returned from living with his friends the Shoshoni, seventeen-year-old Jimmy Spoon grows restless again and seeks adventure by taking a job with the Pony Express.

Seeds of Hope: The Gold Rush Diary of Susanna Fairchild. 2001. A diary account of fourteen-year-old Susanna Fairchild's life in 1849, when her father succumbs to gold fever on the way to establish his medical practice in Oregon after losing his wife and money on their steamship journey from New York. Includes a historical note. Dear America series.

The Stowaway: A Tale of California Pirates. 1995. In 1818 Carlito, an eleven-year-old boy in the Spanish-owned town of Monterey, California, sees his quiet life threatened when the Argentinean privateer Hippolyte de Bouchard attacks with his pirate ships.

Hausman, Gerald

A Mind with Wings. 2006. A fictional account of the life of the nineteenth-century philosopher and nature writer, Henry David Thoreau.

Hermes, Patricia

Calling Me Home. 1998. Twelve-year-old Abbie struggles to accept her father's desire to make a new home for his family on the Nebraska prairies of the late 1850s.

Westward to Home. 2001. In 1848, nine-year-old Joshua Martin McCullough writes a journal of his family's journey from Missouri to Oregon in a covered wagon. Includes a historical note about westward migration.

Holm, Jennifer L.

Boston Jane: An Adventure. 2001. Schooled in the lessons of etiquette for young ladies of 1854, Miss Jane Peck of Philadelphia finds little use for manners during her long sea voyage to the Pacific Northwest and while living among the American traders and Chinook Indians of Washington Territory.

Boston Jane: Wilderness Days. 2002. Far from her native Philadelphia, Miss Jane Peck continues to prove that she's more than an etiquette-schooled graduate of Miss Hepplewhite's Young Ladies Academy as she braves the untamed wilderness of Washington Territory in the mid 1850s.

Our Only May Amelia. 1999. As the only girl in a Finnish American family of seven brothers, May Amelia Jackson resents being expected to act like a lady while growing up in Washington State in 1899.

Hughes, Holly

Hoofbeats of Danger. 1999. In 1860, eleven-year-old Annie, who lives at the Red Buttes Pony Express station in the Nebraska Territory, asks Pony Express rider Billy Cody to help her find the person responsible for sabotaging her favorite pony Magpie. History Mysteries series.

Karwoski, Gail Langer

Seaman: The Dog Who Explored the West with Lewis & Clark. 1999. Seaman, a Newfoundland, proves his value as a hunter, navigator, and protector while serving with the Corps of Discovery when it explores the West under the leadership of Lewis and Clark.

Ketshum, Liza

Orphan Journey Home. 2000. In 1828, while traveling from Illinois to Kentucky, twelve-year-old Jesse and her two brothers and sister lose their parents to the milk sickness and must try to finish the dangerous journey by themselves.

Kimmel, E Cody

In the Eye of the Storm. 2003. With the threat of further violence from pro-slavery border ruffians ever-present, nine-year-old Bill must run the farm, even after his father comes home to recuperate from his knife wound, and go to school.

To the Frontier. 2001. (The Adventures of Young Buffalo Bill series) Book #1. After the death of his brother, eight-year-old Bill Cody and his family set out from Iowa to make a new home for themselves in the volatile Kansas Territory.

Kinsey-Warnock, Natalie

Gifts from the Sea. 2003. Quila and her father, living alone in a remote Maine lighthouse in the 1850s, find their lives profoundly changed when a baby washes ashore and they decide to keep her as part of their family.

Klass, Sheila Solomon

Little Women Next Door. 2000. Recounts the efforts of Louisa May Alcott's family to establish a utopian community known as Fruitland in Massachusetts in 1843, as seen through the eyes of the shy eleven-year-old girl next door.

Kurtz, Jane

I'm Sorry, Almira Ann 1999. Eight-year-old Sarah's high spirits help make her family's long journey from Missouri to Oregon more bearable, though they do cause both her and her best friend, Almira Ann, some problems.

Lasky, Kathryn

The Journal of Augustus Pelletier. 2000. A fictional journal kept by twelve-year-old Augustus Pelletier, the youngest member of Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery. Dear America series.

Lawlor, Laurie

School at Crooked Creek 2004. Living on the 19th-century Indiana frontier with his parents and irritable older sister Louise, six-year-old Beansie dreads his first day of school, but his resilience surprises even his sister.

West on the Wagon Road, 1852. 1998. Everyone on the wagon train knew Harriet "Duck" Scott was looking for adventure as they left Illinois for the faraway Oregon Territory, but nothing could have prepared the Scott family for the dangers they were about to meet.

Levitin, Sonia

Clem's Chances. 2001. In 1860, fourteen-year-old Clem Fontayne learns from fellow travelers about important topics of the day, including the Mormon migration, slavery, and the Pony Express, as he journeys from Missouri to California in search of his father.

Love, D. Anne

Bess' s Log Cabin Quilt. 1995. With her father away and her mother ill with fever, ten-year-old Bess works hard on a log cabin quilt to save the family farm.

Dakota Spring. 1995. Caroline and Jess struggle to get along with their prim grandmother, who has come to their prairie home to help take care of them while their father recovers from an accident.

I Remember the Alamo. 1999. Eleven-year-old Jessie resents her father's decision to move his family to San Antonio where they are caught up in the revolution of 1835-1836 including the siege of the Alamo.

A Year without Rain. 2000. Her mother's death and a year-long drought have made life difficult for twelve-year-old Rachel and her family on their farm in the Dakotas, but when she learns that her father plans to get married again, it is almost more than Rachel can bear.

Lyons, Mary E.

The Poison Place: A Novel. 1997. A former slave named Moses reminisces about his famous owner, Charles Willson Peale, and the intrigue surrounding Peale's son's suspicious death.

MacLachlan, Patricia

Caleb's Story. 2001. The stranger lurking on the Witting family's prairie farm turns out to be their long-lost grandfather, whose presence plus prodding from Caleb forces Jacob to deal with his past. (Sequel to: Sarah, Plain and Tall. Skylark).

Sarah, Plain and Tall. 1985. When their father invites a mail-order bride to come to live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by her and hope that she will stay. (Newbery award).

Skylark. 1994. When a drought tests the commitment of a mail-order bride from Maine to her new home on the prairie, her stepchildren hope they will be able to remain a family. (Sequel to: Sarah, Plain and Tall).

McDonald, Megan

All the Stars in the Sky: the Santa Fe Trail Diary of Florrie MackRyder. 2003. A girl's diary records the year 1848 during which she, her brother, mother, and stepfather traveled the Santa Fe trail from Independence, Missouri, to Santa Fe.

McGill, Alice

Mile's Song. 2000. In 1851 in South Carolina, Miles, a twelve-year-old slave, is sent to a "breaking ground" to have his spirit broken but endures the experience by secretly taking reading lessons from another slave.

McKissack, Pat

A Picture of Freedom: The Diary of Clotee, a Slave Girl. 1997. In 1859 twelve-year-old Clotee, a house slave who must conceal the fact that she can read and write, records in her diary her experiences

and her struggle to decide whether to escape to freedom. Dear America series.

Mitchell, Betsy

Journey to the Bottomless Pit. 2004. In 1838, as the nation struggles with issues of slavery, seventeen-year-old Stephen Bishop serves his master as a guide in Kentucky's Mammoth Cave and spends his free time exploring and discovering new passages and rooms.

Murphy, Jim

West to a Land of Plenty: The Diary of Teresa Angelino Viscardi. 1998. While traveling in 1883 with her Italian American family (including a meddlesome little sister) and other immigrant pioneers to a utopian community in Idaho, fourteen-year-old Teresa keeps a diary of her experiences along the way. Dear America series.

Myers, Laurie

Lewis and Clark and Me: A Dog's Tale. 2002. Seaman, Meriwether Lewis's Newfoundland dog, describes Lewis and Clark's expedition, which he accompanied from St. Louis to the Pacific Ocean.

Nixon, Joan Lowery

Lucy's Wish. 1998. Ten-year-old Lucy, an orphan who wants a little sister more than anything, finds a very special one in the less than perfect family which she joins.

Will's Choice. 1998. Sent away on an orphan train by his self-centered father Jessie, Will keeps hoping Jessie will return to claim him, even though the people he lives with care for him far more.

Paulsen, Gary

Call Me Francis Tucket. 1995. Having separated from the one-armed trapper who taught him how to survive in the wilderness of the Old West, fifteen-year-old Francis gets lost and continues to have adventures involving dangerous men and a friendly mule. Sequel to: Mr. Tucket.

Mr. Tucket. 1994. In 1848, while on a wagon train headed for Oregon, fourteen-year-old Francis Tucket is kidnapped by Pawnee Indians and then falls in with a one-armed trapper who teaches him how to live in the wild.

Tucket's Home. 2000. Francis, Lottie, and Billy survive a series of hair-raising adventures while on their way west to the Oregon Trail, where they hope to find the Tucket family. Sequel to: Tucket's Gold.

Tucket's Gold. 1999. Fifteen-year-old Francis and the two children he has adopted travel across the Old West, evade Comanchero outlaws, discover a treasure, and wind up rich beyond their wildest dreams.

Tucket's Ride. 1997. When fifteen-year-old Francis and two younger children lose their way in the wilderness of the Southwest, they face capture during the Mexican War. Sequel to: Call Me Francis Tucket.

Pearsall, Shelley

Trouble Don't Last. 2002. Samuel, an eleven-year-old Kentucky slave, and Harrison, the elderly slave who helped raise him, attempt to escape to Canada via the Underground Railroad.

Pryor, Bonnie

Luke: 1849--On the Golden Trail. 1999. In 1849 eleven-year-old Luke leaves his family's farm home in Iowa, accepts his uncle's offer of a chance for an education, and travels with his relative to Boston.

Ransom, Candice F.

Liberty Street. 2003. Young Kezia is a slave, living in nineteenth-century Fredericksburg, Virginia, until her mother helps her escape. Includes historical notes.

Rinaldi, Ann

The Second Bend in the River. 1997. In 1798 Rebecca, a young settler in the Ohio territory, meets the Shawnee called Tecumseh and later develops a deep friendship with him.

Robinet, Harriette Gillem

The Twins, the Pirates, and the Battle of New Orleans. 1997. Twelve-year-old Afro-American twins attempt to escape in the face of pirates, an American army, and the British forces during the Battle of New Orleans in 1815.

Twelve Travelers, Twenty Horses. 2003. On the way to California, with their kind new master, thirteen-year-old Jacob, his mother, and other slaves are caught up in adventures that include trying to stop a plot to help the South secede from the Union.

Washington City is Burning. 1996. In 1814 Virginia, a slave in President Madison's White House, experiences the burning of Washington by the invading British army.

Schultz, Jan Neubert

Horse Sense. 1989. When his beloved mare is stolen by the James gang after an attempted bank robbery in the nearby town of Northfield, Will joins the posse looking for the outlaws.

Vaughan, Marcia K.

Up the Learning Tree. 2003. A young slave boy risks his life to learn how to read and, with the unsuspecting help of a teacher from the North, begins to realize his dream.

Wait, Lea

Stopping to Home. 2001. In 1806, orphaned eleven-year-old Abigail and her little brother Seth find a home with the young Widow Chase in the seaport of Wiscasset, Maine, and help her discover a way to support them all.

Seaward Born. 2003. In 1805, a thirteen-year old slave and his friend make a dangerous escape from Charleston, S.C., and stow away to head north toward freedom.

Whelan, Gloria

Fruitlands: Louisa May Alcott Made Perfect. 2002. Fictional diary entries recount the true-life efforts of Louisa May Alcott's family to establish a utopian community known as Fruitlands in Massachusetts in 1843.

Return to the Island. 2000. In 1818 Mary O'Shea must decide whether to remain on Michilimackinac Island and marry her dear Indian friend White Hawk or accept the proposal of James, an English nobleman, and to go with him to London.

The Wanigan: A Life on the River. 2002. In 1878, eleven-year-old Annabel and her parents survive a year of adventure that includes floating downriver in two shacks along with a group of Michigan lumbermen moving logs.

Wilkes, Maria D.

Little Clearing in the Woods. 1998. Young Caroline Quiner, who would grow up to be Laura Ingalls Wilder's mother, and her family move to a new farm near Concord, Wisconsin.

Little Town at the Crossroads. 1997. Young Caroline Quiner, who would grow up to become Laura Ingalls Wilder's mother, and her family have new adventures as the frontier outpost of Brookfield, Wisconsin, grows into a bustling town.

Wilkins, Celia

Across the Rolling River. 2001. Follows the experiences of Caroline Quiner, who will become Laura Ingalls Wilder's mother, and her family on their farm on the Wisconsin frontier during the year in which Caroline turns twelve.

Willis, Patricia

Danger along the Ohio. 1997. Lost in the Ohio River Valley in May 1793, twelve-year-old Clare and her two brothers struggle to survive in the wilderness and to avoid capture by the Shawnee Indians.

Daughter of Madrugada. 2002. With the arrival of more and more Americans in the part of California that was lost to Mexico in the war of 1846, Cesa believes her world is closing in on her, yet she finds the strength to take a stand to do something positive for the benefit of her people.

Woodruff, Elvira

Dear Austin: Letters from the Underground Railroad. 1998. In 1853, in letters to his older brother, eleven-year-old Levi describes his adventures in the Pennsylvania countryside with his black friend Jupiter and his experiences with the Underground Railroad.

Wyeth, Sharon Dennis

Flying Free: Corey's Underground Railroad Diary, Book 2. 2002. In 1858, nine-year-old Corey Birdsong and his family, fugitive slaves from Kentucky, build a new life in Amherstburg, Canada, while still hoping to help those they left behind. Dear America series.

Freedom's Wings: Corey's Diary, Kentucky to Ohio, 1857. A nine-year-old slave keeps a diary of his journey to freedom along the Underground Railroad in 1857. Dear America series.

Yep, Lawrence

When the Circus Came to Town. An Asian cook and a Chinese New Year celebration help a ten-

year-old girl at a Montana stage coach station to regain her confidence after smallpox scars her face.

1860-1865

INCLUDING CIVIL WAR PERIOD

Alphin, Elaine Marie

Ghost Soldier, 2001. Alexander, in North Carolina while his father decides whether to remarry and move there, meets the ghost of a Confederate soldier and helps him look for his family.

Ayres, Katherine.

Stealing South: A Story of the Underground Railroad, 2001. Sixteen-year-old Will Spencer leaves home to become a peddler, but gets more than he bargained for when he agrees to go to Kentucky, steal two slaves, and help them reach their brother in Canada.

Blackwood, Gary L.

Second Sight, 2005. An absorbing tale of espionage, conspiracy, and political intrigue. Set in Washington, DC, in 1864, the story focuses on Nicholas and Joseph Ehrlich, a father and son who develop a mind-reading act using a secret coded alphabet. They become successful performers who skillfully trick audiences into believing that they have extraordinary powers.

Brenaman, Miriam

Evvy's Civil War, 2002. In Virginia in 1860, on the verge of the Civil War, fourteen-year-old Evvy chafes at the restrictions that her society places on both women and slaves.

Brill, Marlene Targ

Diary of a Drummer Boy, 1998. The fictionalized diary of a twelve-year-old boy who joins the Union army as a drummer, and ends up fighting in the Civil War.

Crane, Stephen

The Red Badge of Courage, 2004. During his service in the Civil War a young Union soldier matures to manhood and finds peace of mind as he comes to grips with his conflicting emotions about war.

Denenberg, Barry

When Will this Cruel War Be Over?: The Civil War Diary of Amelia Martin. The diary of a fictional fourteen-year-old girl living in Virginia, in which she describes the hardships endured by her family and friends during one year of the Civil War. Dear America series.

Denslow, Sharon Phillips

All Their Names Were Courage, 2003. In 1862, as William Burd fights in the Civil War, he exchanges letters with his sister, Sallie, who is also writing to Confederate and Union generals asking about their horses in order to write a book.

Durrant, Lynda

My Last Skirt, 2006. Jennie Hodgers dressed as a boy for the first time in order to help support her impoverished Irish family with a shepherd's wages. Then her arrival in America confirmed her belief that the world offers better opportunities to young men than to young women. So Jennie maintained her outward identity as Albert Cashier, serving as a grocery clerk in Queens, New York; as a farmhand in Ohio; and as a recruit in the 95th Illinois Infantry during the Civil War. Not only did she survive three years in combat with her true identity undiscovered, she chose to continue living as Albert for nearly all of her life.

Ernst, Kathleen

Hearts of Stone, 2006. Orphaned when her father dies fighting for the Union and her mother expires from exhaustion, and also estranged from their Confederate neighbors, fifteen-year-old Hannah struggles to find a way for her family to survive during the Civil War in Tennessee.

Retreat from Gettysburg, 2006. In 1863, during the tense week after the Battle of Gettysburg, a Maryland boy faces difficult choices as he is forced to care for a wounded Confederate officer while trying to decide if he himself should leave his family to fight for the Union.

Goodman, Susan E.

Robert Henry Hendershot, 2003. War! Over his mother's objections Robert Henry Hendershot has joined the Union Army as a drummer boy. He wants to see battle and capture a confederate soldier -- but his company commander says he's too young and

removes him from the pontoon carrying troops across the Rappahannock.

Hahn, Mary Downing

Hear the Wind Blow, 2003. With their mother dead and their home burned, a thirteen-year-old boy and his little sister set out across Virginia in search of relatives during the final days of the Civil War.

Promises to the Dead, 2002. Twelve-year-old Jesse leaves his home on Maryland's Eastern Shore to help a young runaway slave find a safe haven in the early days of the Civil War.

Hesse, Karen

A Light in the Storm: The Civil War Diary of Amelia Martin, 1999. In 1860 and 1861, while working in her father's lighthouse on an island off the coast of Delaware, fifteen-year-old Amelia records in her diary how the Civil War is beginning to devastate her divided state. Dear America series.

Hite, Sid

Journal of Rufus Rowe, 2003. In 1862, sixteen-year-old Rufus Rowe runs away from home and settles in Fredericksburg, Virginia, where he documents in his journal the battle he watches unfold there. My Name is America series.

Hoobler, Dorothy

Sally Bradford: The Story of a Rebel Girl, 1997. A young girl experiences the cruelty, danger, and destruction of the Civil War in Virginia.

Jones, Elizabeth McDavid

Watcher in the Piney Woods, 2000. In 1865, while helping her family keep their Virginia farm going through the end of the Civil War, twelve-year-old Cassie meets a Confederate deserter and a Yankee prisoner of war and tries to discover who has been stealing from the farm. History Mysteries series.

Karr, Kathleen

The Great Turkey Walk, 1998. In 1860, a 15-year-old boy attempts to herd 1,000 turkeys from Missouri to Denver, in hope to sell them at a profit.

Kirkpatrick, Katherine

The Voyage of the Continental, 2002. In 1866, young orphan Emeilne McCullough leaves her mill job in Lowell, Massachusetts, to head for Seattle,

Washington, aboard the steamship Continental, writing in her diary about the intrigue, danger, and romance she encounters on her journey.

Love, D. Anne

Three against the Tide, 1998. After her father is called away from their plantation near Charleston, S.C., during the Civil War, twelve-year-old Susanna must lead her brothers on a difficult journey in hopes of being reunited with him.

Murphy, Jim

The Journal of James Edmond Pease: A Civil War Union Soldier, 1998. James Edmond, a sixteen-year-old orphan, keeps a journal of his experiences and those of "G" Company which he joined as a volunteer in the Union Army during the Civil War. Dear America series.

Nelson, Vaunda Micheaux

Almost to Freedom, 2003. Tells the story of a young girl's dramatic escape from slavery via the Underground Railroad, from the perspective of her beloved rag doll.

Osborne, Mary Pope

My Brother's Keeper, 2000. Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, 1863. In 1863, as the Civil War approaches her quiet town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, nine-year-old Virginia Dickens records in her diary the horrible things she witnesses before, during, and after the Battle of Gettysburg. Dear America series.

Paulsen, Gary

Soldier's Heart: A Novel of the Civil War, 1998. 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.

Peck, Richard

The River Between Us, 2003. During the early days of the Civil War, the Pruitt family takes in two mysterious young ladies who have fled New Orleans to come north to Illinois. Winner of 2004 Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction.

Pinkney, Andrea Davis

Abraham Lincoln: Letters from a Slave Girl, 2001. A fictional correspondence between President Abraham Lincoln and a twelve-year-old slave girl that discusses his decision to write the Emancipation Proclamation.

Silent Thunder: A Civil War Story, 1999. In 1862, eleven-year-old Summer and her thirteen-year-old brother Rosco take turns describing how life on the quiet Virginia plantation where they are slaves is affected by the Civil War.

Pryor, Bonnie

Joseph: 1861: A Rumble of War, 1999. After his stepfather becomes an abolitionist, ten-year-old Joseph struggles with his own thoughts about slavery as he sees its divisive power in his small Kentucky town.

Joseph's Choice: 1861, 2000. In the early days of the Civil War, Joseph must decide whether to defend his stepfather's abolitionist and pro-Union beliefs or side with the slave owners and Southern rights supporters in his home town of Branson Mills, Kentucky.

Reeder, Carolyn

Across the Lines, 1997. Edward, the son of a white plantation owner, and his black house servant and friend, Simon, witness the siege of Petersburg during the Civil War.

Before the Creeks Ran Red, 2003. Through the eyes of three different boys, three linked novellas explore the tumultuous times beginning with the secession of South Carolina and leading up to the first major battle of the Civil War.

Captain Kate, 1999. Determined to take her father's coal-carrying barge on the C & O Canal from Cumberland, Maryland, to Georgetown in D.C., twelve-year-old Kate learns hurtful truths about herself.

Rinaldi, Ann

Amelia's War, 1999. When a Confederate general threatens to burn Hagerstown, Maryland, unless it pays an exorbitant ransom, twelve-year-old Amelia and her friend find a way to save the town.

Girl in Blue, 2001. To escape an abusive father and an arranged marriage, fourteen-year-old Sarah,

dressed as a boy, leaves her Michigan home to enlist in the Union Army, and becomes a soldier on the battlefields of Virginia as well as a Union spy working in the house of Confederate sympathizer Rose O'Neal Greenhow in Washington, D.C.

Robinet, Harriette Gillem

If You Please, President Lincoln, 1995. Shortly after the Christmas of 1863, fourteen-year-old Moses thinks he is beginning a new free life when he becomes part of a group of other former slaves headed for a small island off the coast of Haiti.

Rylant, Cynthia

Old Town in the Green Groves, 2002. After grasshoppers ruin the crops, eight-year-old Laura Ingalls and her family leave Plum Creek and move to Burr Oak, Iowa, where they experience life in a small town and help manage a hotel.

Siegelson, Kim L.

Trembling Earth, 2004. In 1864, two boys, one a slave running toward freedom and one hoping to collect the reward for capturing him, make their way through Georgia's Okefenokee Swamp, relying on knowledge the white boy's father, disabled by the war, had passed on to him in happier times.

Spain, Susan Rosson

The Deep Cut, 2006. Considered "slow" by his father, Lonzo tries his best to help his family in Culpeper, Virginia, during the Civil War and, in the process, comes to some decisions about how to live his life.

Wilson, Diane L.

Black Storm Comin', 2005. Twelve-year-old Colton, son of a black mother and a white father, takes a job with the Pony Express in 1860 after his father abandons the family on their California-bound wagon train, and risks his life to deliver an important letter that may affect the growing conflict between the North and South.

Wilson, John (John Alexander)

Battle Scars, 2004. Nate, Walt, and Sunday are reunited but find themselves trapped inside the Confederacy's notorious Libby Prison. SEQUEL TO: *Flags of War*.

Flags of War, 2004. As the American Civil War draws near, Nate MacGregor knows he must fight for his Southern homeland. Meanwhile, his cousin Walt in Canada West fears that due to the seizure of a Confederate ship with British envoys on board, Britain and her colonies could be drawn into the war.

Wisler, G. Clifton

The Drummer Boy of Vicksburg, 1997. In this fact-based story, fourteen-year-old drummer boy Orion Howe displays great bravery during a Civil War battle at Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Mr. Lincoln's Drummer, 1995. Recounts the courageous exploits of Willie Johnston, an eleven-year-old Civil War drummer, who became the youngest recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Mustang Flats, 1999. When his father returns from the war in 1865, fourteen-year-old Alby finds his beloved Pa a changed man and can only hope that they will be friends again.

Red Cap, 1983. A young Yankee drummer boy displays great courage when he's captured and sent to Andersonville Prison.

Run the Blockade, 2000. During the Civil War, fourteen-year-old Henry finds adventure working as a ship's boy and lookout aboard the "Banshee," a new British ship attempting to get past the Yankee blockade of the Southern coast.

PICTURE BOOKS

Bearden, Romare

Li'l Dan the Drummer Boy: a Civil War Story, 2003. When a company of black Union soldiers tells L'il Dan that he is no longer a slave, he follows them, and uses his beloved drum to save them from attack. PICTURE BOOK

Hughes, Pat (Patrice Raccio)

Seeing the Elephant, 2007. Ten-year-old Izzie wants to join the war like his older brothers and go into battle against the Confederate Army, but when he meets a Rebel soldier in a hospital, he begins to see things differently.