

Librarian's Choice FUN BOOKS!



Historical Fiction III (U.S.) 1866-1899



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.

1866-1899 INCLUDING POST CIVIL WAR RECONSTRUCTION

Arrington, Frances

Prairie Whispers. 2003. Only twelve-year-old Colleen knows that her baby sister died just after she was born and that Colleen put another baby in her place, until the baby's father shows up and makes trouble for her and her family on the South Dakota prairie in the 1860s.

Ayres, Katherine

Silver Dollar Girl. 2000. In 1885, unhappy living with her aunt and uncle in Pittsburgh, Valentine Harper disguises herself as a boy and runs away to Colorado determined to find her father, who has gone there in search of gold.

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell

A Coal Miner's Bride: The Diary of Anetka Kaminska. 2000. A diary account of thirteen-year-

old Anetka, life in Poland in 1896, immigration to America, marriage to a coal miner, widowhood, and happiness in finally finding her true love. Dear America series.

Blegvad, Lenore

Kitty and Mr. Kipling. 2005. Kitty is the daughter of pragmatic New Englanders. Their small town is thrown into chaos when the Kipling family moves in, partly because Mrs. Kipling's brother, Beatty Balestier, lives there. Kipling is very kind to young Kitty, involving her in his family life and telling her stories from his work in progress-The Jungle Book.

Calvert, Patricia

Betrayed! 2002. In 1867, after his father's death and his mother's remarriage, fourteen-year-old Tyler and his black friend Isaac set out on the Missouri River headed west to seek their fortunes, encountering an unsavory keel boat captain and a Sioux chief along the way. Sequel to: Sooner

Bigger. 1994. When his father disappears near the Mexican border at the end of the Civil War, twelve-year-old Tyler decides to go after him and bring him home, acquiring on the journey a strange dog which he names Bigger.

Sooner. 1998. With the realization that his father may not return now that the Civil War is over, thirteen-year-old Tyler finds himself the man of their Missouri farm and the master of a new dog, the strikingly colored Sooner.

Collier, James Lincoln

Chipper. 2001. Orphaned and homeless, twelve-year-old Chipper Carey is a street-wise gang member in 1890s New York City, until a con man introduces him to a wealthy woman who is seeking her long-lost nephew and Chipper must decide where his loyalties lie.

Durbin, William

Blackwater Ben. 2003. In the winter of 1898, a seventh-grade boy drops out of school to work with his father, the cook at Blackwater Logging Camp in Minnesota.

The Journal of Sean Sullivan: A Transcontinental Railroad Worker. 1999. In 1867, fifteen-year-old Sean experiences both

hardships and rewards when he joins his father in working on the building of the Transcontinental Railroad. Dear America series.

Ernst, Kathleen

Whistler in the Dark. 2002. In 1867, twelve-year-old Emma and her widowed mother move to a tiny mining town in Colorado Territory to start a newspaper, but someone is determined to scare them away. American Girl series.

Gray, Dianne E.

Together Apart. 2002. In 1888, in Prairie Hill, Nebraska, a few months after barely surviving a deadly blizzard that has killed two of her brothers, fourteen-year-old Hannah goes to work at the home of a wealthy widow with progressive social ideas, where she finds Issac, who is also trying to make a new life for himself. Told from alternating points of view of Hannah and Isaac.

Gregory, Kristiana

The Great Railroad Race: The Diary of Libby West. 1999. As the daughter of a newspaper reporter, fourteen-year-old Libby keeps a diary account of the exciting events surrounding her during the building of the railroad in the West in 1868. Dear America series.

Greenwood, Barbara

Gold Rush Fever : a story of the Klondike, 1898. 2001. Thirteen-year-old Tim and his older brother, Roy, head off to the Klondike Gold Rush, hoping to discover riches. The trip from Seattle to the Yukon is tortuous and filled with dangers, and the possibility of striking gold is slim. Even so, Roy is determined to come back a rich man, while Tim, a budding writer, is looking to find the story of a lifetime.

Hansen, Joyce

I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly: The Diary of Patsy, a Freed Girl. 1997. Twelve-year-old Patsy keeps a diary of the ripe but confusing time following the end of the Civil War and the granting of freedom to former slaves. Dear America series.

Hart, Alison

Danger at the Wild West Show. 2003. Twelve-year-old Rose sets out to prove her brother's innocence when he is accused of shooting a politician during a Wild West show performance in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1886.

High, Linda Oatman

City of Snow: The Great Blizzard of 1888. 2004. A fictionalized account, told in free-verse poems, of a young girl's experience living through the 1888 "Great Blizzard" in New York City.

Hill, Donna

Shipwreck Season. 1998. In 1880, forced to work with his uncle at a lifesaving station on Cape Cod, sixteen-year-old Daniel finds himself maturing as he encounters unexpected comradeship, challenges, and danger.

Hobbs, Will

Jason's Gold. 1998. When news of the discovery of gold in Canada's Yukon in 1897 reaches fifteen-year-old Jason, he embarks on a 5,000-mile journey to strike it rich.

Holland, Isabelle

Paperboy. 1999. In 1881 in New York City, 12-year-old Kevin O'Donnell, ever conscious of the prejudice against the Irish poor, struggles to support his sick father and young sister by working as a messenger for a prominent newspaper but finds his job threatened when he is falsely accused of stealing from his employer.

Hurst, Carol Otis

You Come to Yokum. 2005. In a rash, unexpected move, especially for a farm family in the 1920s, Frank's dad packs up the family and leaves Massachusetts to run a lodge called Yokum in the Berkshires.

Jones, Elizabeth McDavid

Ghost Light on Graveyard Shoal. 2003. In the late nineteenth century, twelve-year-old Rhoda investigates her suspicion that a wrecker may be luring ships to their destruction on the Virginia barrier island where her father is Keeper of a U.S. Lifesaving Station. Includes historical notes on the United States Life-Saving Service.

Kurtz, Jane

Bicycle Madness. 2003. In the late nineteenth century, Lillie gains friendship and help with a spelling bee from a neighbor, Frances Willard, who braves criticism to speak about women's rights and learn to ride a bicycle. Includes historical notes.

Lasky, Kathryn

Alice Rose & Sam. 1998. Alice Rose, an irrepressible twelve-year-old, shares adventures with Mark Twain, an outlandish reporter on her father's newspaper in Virginia City, Nevada, during the 1860s.

Lawlor, Laurie

He Will Go Fearless. 2006. With the Civil War ended and Reconstruction begun, fifteen-year-old Billy resolves to make the dangerous and challenging journey West in search of real fortune--his true father.

McCaughreen, Geraldine

Stop the Train! : a novel. 2003. Despite the opposition of the owner of the Red Rock Runner railroad in 1893, the new settlers of Florence, Oklahoma, are determined to build a real town.

McKissack, Patricia C.

Away West. 2006. In 1879, thirteen-year-old Everett Turner leaves a life of struggle on his family's farm and runs away to St. Louis, where he works in a livery stable before heading to the all-Black town of Nicodemus, Kansas. SCRAPs OF TIME series.

Run Away Home. 1997. In 1886 in Alabama, an eleven-year-old African American girl and her family befriend and give refuge to a runaway Apache boy.

Murphy, Jim

My Face to the Wind: the Diary of Sarah Jane Price, a Prairie Teacher. 2001. Following her father's death from a disease that swept through her Nebraska town in 1881, teenaged Sarah Jane must find work to support herself and records in her diary her experiences as a young school teacher. Dear America series.

Myers, Walter Dean

The Journal of Joshua Loper : A Black Cowboy. 1999. In 1871 Joshua Loper, a sixteen-year-old black cowboy, records in his journal his experiences while making his first cattle drive under an unsympathetic trail boss. Dear America series.

Oswald, Nancy

Nothing Here but Stones. 2004. In 1882, ten-year-old Emma and her family, along with other Russian Jewish immigrants, arrive in Cotopaxi, Colorado, where they face inhospitable conditions as they attempt to start an agricultural colony, and lonely Emma is comforted by the horse whose life she saved.

Peck, Richard

Fair Weather : a novel. 2001. In 1893, thirteen-year-old Rosie and members of her family travel from their Illinois farm to Chicago to visit Aunt Euterpe and attend the World's Columbian Exposition which, along with an encounter with Buffalo Bill and Lillian Russell, turns out to be a life-changing experience for everyone.

Ray, Delia

Ghost Girl: A Blue Ridge Mountain Story. 2003. Eleven-year-old April is delighted when President and Mrs. Hoover build a school near her Madison County, Virginia, home but her family's poverty, grief over the accidental death of her brother, and other problems may mean that April can never learn to read from the wonderful teacher, Miss Vest.

Reiss, Kathryn

Riddle of the Prairie Bride. 2001. In 1878, twelve-year-old Ida Kate and her widowed father welcome a mail-order bride and her baby to their Kansas homestead, but Ida Kate soon suspects that the bride is not the woman with whom Papa has corresponded. History Mysteries series.

Rinaldi, Ann

The Coffin Quilt: The Feud Between the Hatfields and the McCoy's. 1999. In the 1880s, the young Fanny McCoy witnesses the growth of a terrible and violent feud between her Kentucky family and the West Virginia Hatfields, complicated

by her older sister Roseanna's romance with a Hatfield.

My Heart is on the Ground: The Diary of Nannie Little Rose, a Sioux Girl. 1999. In the diary account of her life at a government-run Pennsylvania boarding school in 1880, a twelve-year-old Sioux Indian girl reveals a great need to find a way to help her people. Dear America series.

Numbering All the Bones. 2002. While most slaves are being freed now that the Civil War has ended, Eulinda's young brother has been sold after being falsely accused of stealing and her older brother has run away, leaving thirteen-year-old Eulinda alone in a household headed by a cruel mistress.

Robinet, Harriette

Children of the Fire. 1991. A young black girl named Hallelujah lives through the great Chicago Fire with courage and resourcefulness.

Missing from Haymarket Square. 2001. Three children in Chicago in 1886 experience the haymarket Riot in response to exploitative working conditions.

Ryan, Pam Mu~noz

Riding Freedom. 1998. A fictionalized account of Charley (Charlotte) Parkhurst who ran away from an orphanage, posed as a boy, moved to California, and fooled everyone by her appearance.

Seely, Debra

Grasslands. 2002. In the 1880s, thirteen-year-old Thomas moves west from the aristocratic Virginia home of his grandparents to a poor Kansas farm to live with a father he barely remembers and his new stepfamily.

White, Ellen Emerson

Kaiulani: The People's Princess. 2001. Follows the life of Victoria Kaiulani Cleghorn from 1889 to 1893 as she studies to be a better princess, even as Hawaii's monarchy, and her throne, are being undermined by American businessmen. Royal Diaries series.

1900-1928 INCLUDING WORLD WAR I

Armstrong, Jennifer

Theodore Roosevelt: Letters from a Young Coal Miner. 2000. Thirteen-year-old Frank Kovacs, a Polish immigrant working in the coal mines of eastern Pennsylvania, begins a correspondence with Theodore Roosevelt after he assumes the presidency on September 14, 1901.

Auch, Mary Jane

Ashes of Roses. 2002. Sixteen-year-old Margaret Rose Nolan, newly arrived from Ireland, finds work at New York City's Triangle Shirtwaist Factory shortly before the 1911 fire in which 146 employees died.

Avi

The Secret School. 2001. In 1925, fourteen-year-old Ida Bidson secretly takes over as a teacher when the one-room schoolhouse in her remote Colorado area closes unexpectedly.

Ayres, Katherine

Under Copp's Hill. 2000. In 1908, eleven-year-old Innie joins the library club at a settlement house that serves immigrant families of Boston's North End, but when items and money disappear from the settlement house, Innie's past as a troublemaker puts her under suspicion. History Mysteries series.

Beard, Darleen Bailey

Operation Clean Sweep. 2004. In 1916, just four years after getting the right to vote, the women of Umatilla, Oregon band together to throw the mayor and other city officials out of office, replacing them with women.

Boling, Katharine

January 1905. 2005. In a 1905 mill town, eleven-year-old twin sisters, Pauline, who goes to work with the rest of the family, and Arlene, whose crippled foot keeps her home doing the cooking, cleaning, and washing, are convinced that the other sister has an easier life until a series of incidents helps them see each other in a new light.

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker

The President's Daughter. 2004. A fictionalized account of ten-year-old Ethel Roosevelt's early experiences in the White House after her father, Theodore Roosevelt, becomes president in 1901.

Buchanan, Jane.

Gratefully Yours. 1997. In 1923, nine-year-old Hattie rides the Orphan Train from New York to Nebraska where she must adjust to a strange new life with a farmer and his wife, who is despondent over the loss of her two children.

Buckey, Sarah Masters

Gangsters at the Grand Atlantic. 2003. In 1925, after witnessing the violent actions of some gangsters, twelve-year-old Emily accompanies her older sister on a trip to a luxurious hotel on the New Jersey shore but worries that the gangsters have come to the same hotel. Includes historical notes on the time period. History Mysteries series.

Coleman, Evelyn

Mystery of the Dark Tower. 2000. In 1928, when her father tears her and her brother from their mother in North Carolina and takes them to live with aunts in Harlem, twelve-year-old Bessie is trapped in a strange place, especially after her father mysteriously disappears. History Mysteries series.

Drummond, Allan

The Flyers. 2003. In 1903, a group of children on the beach at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, dream of flying and witness the first flight of the Wright brothers. Includes a chronology of milestones in the history of flight.

Durbin, William

The Journal of Otto Peltonen: A Finnish Immigrant. 2000. In 1905, fifteen-year-old Otto describes in his journal how he travels from Finland to America, joining his father in a dreary iron mining community in Minnesota and becoming involved in a union fight for better working conditions. Dear America series.

The Journal of C.J. Jackson: A Dust Bowl Migrant. 2002. Thirteen-year-old C.J records in a journal the conditions of the Dust Bowl that cause the Jackson family to leave their farm in Oklahoma and make the difficult journey to California, where they find a harsh life as migrant workers.

Erickson, John R.

Moonshiner's Gold. 2001. In Canadian, Texas, in 1927, not long after his father's death, Riley and his fiddle-playing grandfather must find a way to save the family ranch from a group of moonshiners and the men behind their operation.

Fuqua, Jonathon Scott

Darby. 2002. In 1926, nine-year-old Darby Carmichael stirs up trouble in Marlboro County, South Carolina, when she writes a story for the local newspaper promoting racial equality.

Glaser, Linda

Bridge to America. 2005. Eight-year-old Fivel narrates the story of his family's Atlantic Ocean crossing to reunite with their father in the United States, from its desperate beginning in a shtetl in Poland in 1920 to his stirrings of identity as an American boy.

Gundisch, Karin

How I Became an American. 2001. In 1902, ten-year-old Johann and his family, Germans who had been living in Austria-Hungary, board a ship to immigrate to Youngstown, Ohio, where they make a new life as Americans.

Hahn, Mary Downing

Anna All Year Round. 1999. Eight-year-old Anna experiences a series of episodes, some that are funny, others sad, involving friends and family during a year in Baltimore just before World War I.

Harlow, Joan Hiatt

Joshua's Song. 2002. Needing to earn money after his father's death during the influenza epidemic of 1918, thirteen-year-old Joshua works as a newspaper boy in Boston, one day finding himself in the vicinity of an explosion that sends tons of molasses coursing through the streets.

Harris, Carol Flynn

A Place for Joey. 2001. In this novel set in early 20-century Boston, a family of Italian immigrants work hard to attain their dream - a farm in the country - but their son Joey can't bear to live the city.

Hesse, Karen

Witness. 2001. A series of poems express the views of various people in a small Vermont town, including a young black girl and a young Jewish girl, during the early 1920s when the Ku Klux Klan is trying to infiltrate the town.

Hurwitz, Johanna

Dear Emma. 2002. In her letters to a Vermont friend, eighth grader Dossi, a Russian, Jewish immigrant living in the Lower East Side of New York City in 1910, shares her thoughts about her new brother-in-law, the diphtheria epidemic, and the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire.

Janke, Katelan

Survival in the Storm: the Dust Bowl Diary of Grace Edwards. 2002. A twelve-year-old girl keeps a journal of her family's difficult experiences in the Texas Panhandle, part of the "Dust Bowl," during the Great Depression. Includes a historical note about life in America in 1935. Dear America series.

Jones, Elizabeth McDavid

The Night Flyers. 1999. In 1918, caring for her family's homing pigeons while her father is away fighting in World War I, twelve-year-old Pam comes to suspect that a mysterious stranger on her small North Carolina town is a German spy. History Mysteries series.

Secrets on 26th Street. 1999. In New York City in 1914, eleven-year-old Susan encounters a mystery through an independent-minded female boarder and becomes involved in the growing suffrage movement. History Mysteries series.

Kidd, Ronald

Monkey Town. 2006. When her father hatches a plan to bring publicity to their small Tennessee town by arresting a local high school teacher for teaching about evolution, the resulting 1925 Scopes trial prompts fifteen-year-old Frances to rethink many of her beliefs about religion and truth, as well as her relationship with her father.

Kinsey-Warnock, Natalie

A Doctor Like Papa. 2002. When the influenza epidemic of 1918 comes to Vermont, eleven-year-

old Margaret, who has always wanted to be a physician, finds out what doctoring is like.

Lumber Camp Library. 2002. Ruby wants to be a teacher, but after her father's death in a logging accident she must quit school to care for her ten brothers and sisters, until a chance meeting with a lonely old blind woman transforms her life.

Lasky, Kathryn

Dreams in The Golden Country: The Diary of Zipporah Feldman, a Jewish Immigrant Girl. 1998. Twelve-year-old Zippy, a Jewish immigrant from Russia, keeps a diary account of the first eighteen months of her family's life on the Lower East Side of New York City in 1903-1904. Dear America series.

A Time for Courage: The Suffragette Diary of Kathleen Bowen. 2002. A diary account of thirteen-year-old Kathleen Bowen's life in Washington, D.C., in 1917, as she juggles concerns about the national battle for women's suffrage, the war in Europe, and her own school work and family. Includes a historical note.

Levine, Beth Seiderl

When Christmas Comes Again: The World War I Diary of Simone Spencer. 2002. Teenage Simone's diaries for 1917 and 1918 reveal her experience as a carefree member of New York Society, then as a "Hello girl," a volunteer switchboard operator for the Army Signal Corps in France. Dear America series.

Levine, Gail Carson

Dave at Night. 1999. When orphaned Dave is sent to the Hebrew Home for Boys where he is treated cruelly, he sneaks out at night and is welcomed into the music-and cultured-filled world of the Harlem Renaissance.

Lindquist, Susan Hart

Summer Soldiers. 1999. After his father goes off to war during the summer of 1918, eleven-year-old Joe, along with his friends, contends with the town bullies and tries to figure out the meaning of courage.

MacBride, Roger Lea

New Dawn on Rocky Ridge. 1997. While living on the Rocky Ridge Farm in Missouri, thirteen-year-old Rose Wilder celebrates the turn of the twentieth century and begins to wonder about her future.

McKissack, Patricia C.

Color Me Dark: The Diary of Nellie Lee Love, the Great Migration North. 2000. Eleven-year-old Nellie Lee Love records in her diary the events of 1919, when her family moves from Tennessee to Chicago, hoping to leave the racism and hatred of the South behind. Dear America series.

Myers, Anna.

Tulsa Burning. 2002. In 1921, fifteen-year-old Noble Chase hates the sheriff of Wekiwa, Oklahoma, and is more than willing to cross him to help his best friend, a black man, who is injured during race riots in nearby Tulsa.

Nixon, Joan Lowery

David's Search. 2000. After eleven-year-old orphan-train rider David Howard settles with a strict Texas farm family, his best friend, an ex-slave, is threatened by the growing presence of the Ku Klux Klan. Orphan Train Children #4.

Reiss, Kathryn

The Strange Case of Baby H. 2002. In the aftermath of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, twelve-year-old Clara finds a baby left on the doorstep of her family's boarding house, and sets out to unravel the surrounding mysteries. History Mysteries series.

Seely, Debra

The Last of the Roundup Boys. 2004. In 1885 in Kansas, seventeen-year-old Tom, the son of a poor farmer, is hired as a cowboy on a cattle ranch and faces the challenges of both herding work and a forbidden romance with sixteen-year-old Evie, the ranch owner's independently-minded daughter. Sequel to: Grasslands.

Snyder, Zilpha Keatley

Gib Rides Home. 1998. Despite the harsh treatment he has endured at the Lovell House orphanage, ten-year-old Gib Whittaker manages to maintain his hopeful outlook when he is "farmed

out" to help with the horses of a wealthy banker in 1908.

Gib and the Gray Ghost. 2000. In the aftermath of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, twelve-year-old Clara finds a baby left on the doorstep of her family's boarding house, and sets out to unravel the surrounding mysteries.

Tate, Eleanora

The Minstrel's Melody. 2001. In 1904, twelve-year-old Orphelia follows her dream by running away from home to join an all-black minstrel show headed for the Saint Louis World's Fair, and learns about her family's troubled past in the process.

Thesman, Jean

The Tree of Bells. 1999. While living in a boardinghouse managed by her mother and grandmother in Seattle in 1922, sixteen-year-old Clare decides her future at a time of limited opportunities for women. Sequel to: The ornament tree.

A Sea So Far. 1998. After surviving the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fires, two teenage girls, a wealthy semi-invalid and her hired companion, travel together to Ireland and discover they share much in common, from a love of romance novels to grief over the loss of their mothers.

White, Ellen Emerson

Voyage on the Great Titanic: The Diary of Margaret Ann Brady. 1998. In her diary in 1912, thirteen-year-old Margaret Ann describes how she leaves her lonely life in a London orphanage to become a companion to a wealthy American woman, sails on the Titanic, and experiences its sinking. Dear America series.

Williams, Barbara

Making Waves. 2000. Having survived the sinking of the Titanic in 1912, twelve-year-old Emily moves to Baltimore, where she encounters child labor, sweatshops, and the workers' struggle to form labor union.

1929-1941 INCLUDING THE GREAT DEPRESSION

Ayres, Katherine

Macaroni Boy. 2003. During the Depression, in the Ozarks of Missouri, thirteen-year-old Thad has adventures selling moonshine and fishing with a rich visitor.

Bornstein, Ruth Lercher

Butterflies and Lizards, Beryl and Me. 2002. In 1936, eleven-year-old Charlotte and her mother move to tiny Valley Junction, Missouri, where Charlotte befriends an eccentric old woman in spite of her mother's and others' warnings.

Cummings, Priscilla

Saving Grace. 2003. When Grace's family is evicted from their Washington, D.C., apartment just before Christmas 1932, and she and her younger brothers are sent to the Mission, Grace wonders what will become of her sick older brother, her pregnant mother, and her out-of-work father.

Denenberg, Barry

Mirror, Mirror on the Wall: the Diary of Bess Brennan. 2002. In 1932, a twelve-year-old girl who lost her sight in an accident keeps a diary, recorded by her twin sister, in which she describes life at Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown, Massachusetts.

DeFelice, Cynthia

Nowhere to Call Home. 1999. When her father kills himself after losing his money in the stock market crash, twelve-year-old Frances, now a penniless orphan, decides to hop aboard a freight train and live the life of a hobo.

DeYoung, C. Coco

A Letter to Mrs. Roosevelt. 1999. Eleven-year-old Margo fulfills a class assignment by writing a letter to Eleanor Roosevelt asking for help to save her family's home during the Great Depression.

Griffin, Adele

Hannah, Divided. 2002. In 1934, a thirteen-year-old with a gift for numbers is offered the chance to leave her family's dairy farm to spend one term at an exclusive Philadelphia girls' school preparing for a scholarship exam.

Griffis, Moly Levitel

The Feester Filibuster. 2002. The war declared by President Roosevelt after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December, 1941, seems remote to fifth-grader John Allan until he finds out that his classmate Rachel thinks he is a spy for the Japanese and wants him deported to another country.

Haseley, Dennis

The Amazing Thinking Machine. 2002. During the Great Depression, while their father is away looking for work, eight-year-old Patrick and thirteen-year-old Roy create a machine to help their mother make ends meet, even as she is helping tramps.

Koller, Jackie French

Someday. 2002. In 1938, fourteen-year-old Celie must cope with leaving her Enfield, Massachusetts, home and her life-long friend, Chubby, as the day approaches when the Swift River Valley will be flooded to create a reservoir for Boston.

Lasky, Kathryn

Christmas After All: the Great Depression Diary of Minnie Swift. 2001. In her fictionalized journal, eleven-year-old Minnie Swift recounts how her family dealt with the difficult times during the Depression and how the arrival of an orphan from Texas changed their lives in Indianapolis just before Christmas 1932. Dear America series.

Willis, Patricia

The Barn Burner. 2000. In 1933, while running from a bad situation at home and suspected of having set fire to a barn, fourteen-year-old Ross finds haven with a loving family, which helps him make an important decision.

1939-1945 INCLUDING WORLD WAR II

Avi

Don't You Know There's a War On? 2001. In wartime Brooklyn in 1943, eleven-year-old Howie Crispers mounts a campaign to save his favorite teacher from being fired.

Ayres, Katherine

Voices at Whisper Bend. 1999. In their Pennsylvania town in 1942 twelve-year-old

Charlotte and her classmates collect scrap metal for the war effort only to have it disappear from the school basement.

Buchanan, Jane

Goodbye Charley. 2004. In 1943, twelve-year-old Celie's father brings home a rhesus monkey that helps Celie deal with all the difficulties that the war has brought into her life in Gloucester, Massachusetts.

Carey, Janet Lee

Molly's Fire. 2000. Back home in Maine, Molly refuses to believe the telegram that says her pilot father is presumed dead when his plane is shot down in Holland during World War II.

Cheaney, J.B.

My Friend the Enemy. 2005. Hating the Japanese was simple before she met Sogoji. Pearl Harbor was bombed on Hazel Anderson's birthday and she's been on the lookout for enemies ever since. She scours the skies above Mount Hood with her binoculars, hoping to make some crucial observation, or uncover the hideout of enemy spies.

Davies, Jacqueline

Where the Ground Meets the Sky. 2002. During World War II, a twelve-year-old girl is uprooted from her quiet, East coast life and moved to a secluded army post in the New Mexico desert where her father and other scientists are working on a top secret project.

Denenberg, Barry

The Journal of Ben Uchida: Citizen #13559, Mirror Lake Internment Camp. 1999. Twelve-year-old Ben Uchida keeps a journal of his experiences as a prisoner in a Japanese internment camp in Mirror Lake, California, during World War II. Dear America series.

One Eye Laughing, the Other Weeping: The Diary of Julie Weiss. 2000. During the Nazi persecution of the Jews in Austria, twelve-year-old Julie escapes to America to live with her relatives in New York City. Dear America series.

Douglas, Kirk

The Broken Mirror. 1997. After the Nazis destroy his family, 12-year-old Moishe gives up his Jewish faith, calls himself Danny, and is taken to New York where he tries to make the best of his life in a Catholic orphanage.

Foreman, Wilmoth

Summer of the Skunks. 2002. Tells the story of ten-year-old Jill, her brothers, sister, and parents and their life on a southern farm in the late 1940s.

Gaeddert, LouAnn

Friends and Enemies. 2000. In 1941 in Kansas, as America enters World War II, fourteen-year-old William finds himself alienated from his friend Jim, a Mennonite who does not believe in fighting for any reason, as they argue about the war.

Giff, Patricia Reilly

Willow Run. 2005. Meggie Dillon, 11, candidly shares her perspective on the sacrifices and fears experienced on the homefront during World War II. The girl's family moves from Rockaway, NY, to Willow Run, MI, so that her father can work in a plant constructing B-24 bombers.

Harlow, Joan Hiatt

Shadows on the Sea. 2003. In 1942, fourteen-year-old Jill goes to stay with her grandmother on the coast of Maine, where she is introduced to the often gossipy nature of small-town life, and discovers that the war is closer than she thought.

Hesse, Karen

Aleutian Sparrow. 2003. An Aleutian Islander recounts her suffering during World War II in American internment camps designed to "protect" the population from the invading Japanese.

Kochenderfer, Lee

The Victory Garden. 2002. Hoping to contribute to the war effort during World War II, eleven-year-old Teresa organizes her friends to care for an ill neighbor's victory garden.

Lisle, Janet Taylor

The Art of Keeping Cool. 2000. In 1942, Robert and his cousin Elliot uncover long-hidden family secrets while staying in their grandparents' Rhode

Island town, where they also become involved with a German artist who is suspected of being a spy.

Lurie, April

Dancing on the Streets of Brooklyn. 2002. In 1944, a thirteen-year-old girl grapples with the discovery that "Pa" isn't her biological father, experiences her first romance, and faces hardships dealt to her friends in Brooklyn's Norwegian community.

Mazer, Harry

A Boy at War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor. 2001. While fishing with his friends off Honolulu on December 7, 1941, teenaged Adam is caught in the midst of the Japanese attack and through the chaos of the subsequent days tries to find his father, a naval officer who was serving on the U.S.S. Arizona when the bombs fell.

A Boy No More. 2004. After his father is killed in the attack on Pearl Harbor, Adam, his mother, and sister are evacuated from Hawaii to California, where he must deal with his feelings about the war, Japanese internment camps, his father, and his own identity.

Heroes Don't Run. 2005. To honor his father who died during the Japanese invasion of Pearl Harbor, seventeen-year-old Adam eagerly enlists in the Marines in 1944, survives boot camp, and faces combat on the tiny island of Okinawa.

Mazer, Norma Fox

Good Night, Maman. 1999. After spending years fleeing from the Nazis in war-torn Europe, twelve-year-old Karin Levi and her older brother Marc, find a new home in a refugee camp in Oswego, New York.

Myers, Walter Dean

The Journal of Scott Pendleton Collins: A World War II Soldier. 1999. A seventeen-year-old soldier from central Virginia records his experiences in a journal as his regiment takes part in the D-Day invasion of Normandy and subsequent battles to liberate France. Dear America series.

Osborne, Mary Pope

My Secret War: The World War II Diary of Madeline Beck. 2000. Thirteen-year-old Madeline's diaries for 1941 and 1942 reveal her experience

living on Long Island during World War II while her father is away in the navy. Dear America series.

Patneau, David

Thin Wood Walls. 2004. When the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor, Joe Hamada and his family face growing prejudice, eventually being torn away from their home and sent to a relocation camp in California, even as his older brother joins the United States Army to fight in the war.

Reeder, Carolyn

Foster's War. 2000. When his older brother joins the army during World War II in order to escape the rages of an authoritarian father, eleven-year-old Foster fights his battles on the homefront.

Weston, Elise

Coastwatcher. 2005. While eleven-year-old Hugh, his family, and his cousin Tom are spending the summer of 1943 on the South Carolina shore to escape the polio epidemic, Hugh uncovers clues that point to a German plot to sabotage a nearby naval base.

Wolff, Virginia Euwer

Bat 6. 1998. In small town, post-World War Oregon, twenty-one 6th grade girls recount the story of an annual softball game, during which one girl's bigotry comes to the surface.

Ylvisaker, Anne

Dear Papa. 2002. In September of 1943, one year after her father's death, nine-year-old Isabelle begins writing him letters, which are interspersed with letters to other members of her family, relating important events in her life and how she feels about them.

1950-PRESENT

Armistead, John

The Return of Gabriel. 2002. In the summer of 1964, a thirteen-year-old white boy whose best friend is black is caught in the middle when civil rights workers and Ku Klux Klan members clash in a small town.

Coleman, Evelyn

Circle of Fire. 2001. In 1958, Mendy puts herself in danger when she discovers that the Ku Klux Klan is planning to bomb the Highlander Folk School in order to disrupt a visit from Mendy's hero, Eleanor Roosevelt.

Elliott, Laura

Flying South. 2003. In Charlottesville, Virginia, amidst the social and political turmoil of 1968, eleven-year-old Alice learns when to fight battles and when to let go from her family's elderly gardener, Doc, and begins to connect with her widowed mother.

Hoobler, Dorothy

The 1960s: Rebels (The Century Kids). 2001. Inspired after meeting John F. Kennedy at a 1960 campaign fundraiser hosted by the Aldrich family, Chuck defies authority at his Pennsylvania boarding school, Sojie takes part in lunch counter sit-ins in Georgia, and Dick finally connects with his father in Hollywood.

Martin, Terri

A Family Trait. 1999. Living with her mother and grandparents on their Michigan farm, eleven-year-old Iris tries to find out about her father, who died before she was born, and to solve a local murder mystery involving a friend of her grandmother.

Robinet, Harriette

Walking to the Bus-rider Blues. 2000. Twelve-year-old Alfa Merryfield, his older sister, and their grandmother struggle for rent money, food, and their dignity as they participate in the Montgomery, Alabama bus boycott in the summer of 1956.

Testa, Maria

Almost Forever. 2003. A young girl describes what she, her brother, and their mother do during the year that her doctor father is serving in the Army in Vietnam.

Van Steenwyk, Elizabeth

Maggie in the Morning. 2001. In 1941, while visiting relatives in Oquawka, Illinois, eleven-year-old Maggie Calhoun is prodded by a spirited neighbor girl to track down a family secret.

White, Ellen Emerson

The Journal of Patrick Seamus Flaherty, United States Marine Corps. 2002. An eighteen-year-old Marine records in his journal his experiences in Vietnam during the siege of Khe Sanh, 1967-1968. Includes a history of Vietnam, war timeline, glossary, and related military information.

Where Have All the Flowers Gone?: The Diary of Molly Mackenzie Flaherty. 2002. In 1968 Massachusetts, after her brother Patrick goes to fight in Vietnam, fifteen-year-old Molly records in her diary how she misses her brother, volunteers at a Veterans' Administration Hospital, and tries to make sense of the war in Vietnam and the tumultuous events in the United States.

Woods, Brenda

The Red Rose Box. 2002. In 1953, Leah Hopper dreams of leaving the poverty and segregation of her home in Sulphur, Louisiana, and when Aunt Olivia sends train tickets to Los Angeles as part of her tenth birthday present, Leah gets a first taste of freedom.

PICTURE BOOKS

Glass, Andrew

The Wondrous Whirligig. 2003. Inspired by a model helicopter and encouraged by their parents and sister, young Orville and Wilbur Wright attempt to build a life-size helicopter from scrap.

Koehler-Pentacoff, Elizabeth

John Muir and Stickeen : an Alaskan Adventure. 2003. Describes an episode in the life of conservationist John Muir when he was stranded on a glacier with a brave dog, Stickeen.