

Juvenile Historical Fiction

The Middle Ages and the Renaissance (400-1600 AD)

***The Player King* Avi (Gr 5-8)**

In 1486 England, a penniless kitchen boy named Lambert Simnel is told by a mysterious friar that he, Lambert, is actually Prince Edward, the true King of England, setting him on a dangerous course to regain the throne. Based on a true story.

***The Midwife's Apprentice* Cushman, Karen (Gr 6-9)**

In medieval England, a nameless, homeless girl is taken in by a sharp-tempered midwife and, in spite of obstacles and hardship, eventually gains the three things she wants most: a full belly, a contented heart, and a place in the world.

***The Inquisitor's Tale* Gidwitz, Adam (Gr 5-8)**

In 1242 at a roadside inn by a French town, travelers share what they know about the country's most notorious outlaws: a group of three children and their dog. Jeanne is a peasant girl able to see the future. William is a young monk with unusual physical strength and intelligence. Jacob is a Jewish boy who possesses powerful healing abilities. The final member of the group is Gwenforte, the holy greyhound. These unlikely friends find themselves on the run from monks, demons, dragons, knights, and the king of France himself as they try to escape persecution and save religious books from being burned. *Contains fantasy elements.*

***The Button Box* Hodder, Bridget (Gr 3-6)**

With the help of Granny's button box and her mysterious cat Sheba, Ava and Nadeem discover that a button will take them back in time. Suddenly, they are in ancient Morocco, where Nadeem's ancestor, Prince Abdur Rahman, is running for his life. Can Ava and Nadeem help the prince escape to Spain and fulfill his destiny, creating a legendary Golden Age for Muslims, Jews and Christians?

The Middle Ages and the Renaissance (400-1600 AD) cont.

***The Mad Wolf's Daughter* Magras, Diane (Gr 4-7)**

In 1210 Scotland, when invading knights capture 12-year-old Drest's father, the Mad Wolf of the North, she sets off to rescue him from the castle prison, taking along a wounded knight as her captive to trade for her family's freedom

***The Book of Boy Murdock*, Catherine Gilbert (Gr 4-6)**

In 1350, a boy with a large hump on his back becomes the servant of a shadowy pilgrim on his way to Rome, who pulls the boy into a dangerous expedition across Europe to gather the seven precious relics of Saint Peter. *Contains fantasy elements.*

***DaVinci's Cat* Murdock, Catherine Gilbert (Gr 5-8)**

Using a mysterious wardrobe that allows them to travel through time, Federico, a boy from the Italian Renaissance, and Bee, a girl from present-day New Jersey, work together to prevent the bickering between two great artists from changing the future. *Contains sci-fi elements.*

Colonial America (1620-1789)

***Fever, 1793* Anderson, Laurie Halse (Gr 6-10)**

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.

***The End of the World and Beyond* Avi (Gr 4-7)**

After his thievery conviction in 1724, Oliver Cromwell Pitts is sent from England across the Atlantic to America where he is enslaved on a tobacco farm, never giving up on finding his sister, Charity, brought to the colonies on a different ship.

The American Revolution (1775-1783)

Chains (Seeds of America trilogy: book 1) Anderson, Laurie Halse (Gr 6-10)

After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.

Soldier's Secret: The Story of Deborah Sampson Klass, Sheila Solomon (Gr 6-10)

During the Revolutionary War, a young woman named Deborah Sampson disguises herself as a man in order to serve in the Continental Army.

I Survived the American Revolution, 1776 Tarshis, Lauren (Gr 4-7)

Hundreds of American soldiers were already dead. Battlefields in Massachusetts and New York were soaked in the blood of American patriots. And 11-year-old Nathaniel Knox is in the middle of it all, trapped in a swamp and fighting for his life...

By the Light of Fireflies: A Novel of War Hero Sybil Ludington Walsh, Jenni (Gr 5-8)

Sybil Ludington believes that fireflies appear when you need them most. But it's not until her family is thrust into the Revolutionary War, and into George Washington's spy ring, that Sybil experiences firefly magic for herself - guiding her through the darkness, empowering her to figure out who she's supposed to be - as she delivers her imperative message.

Nineteenth Century (the 1800s in America & Beyond)

***Gold Rush Girl* Avi (Gr 4-6)**

In a mud-caked, tent-filled San Francisco of 1848, a willful heroine named Victoria goes on an unintended -- and perilous -- adventure to save her brother.

***Cinnamon Moon* Hilmo, Tess (Gr 4-7)**

Orphaned by the fire that destroyed their Peshtigo, Wisconsin, home in 1871, Ailis and her brother, Quinn, end up at Miss Franny's boarding house in Chicago. Hoping to escape their landlady, who hates the Irish, they both find work. But when their new friend Nettie is kidnapped, they must figure out how to rescue her first.

***Strong as Fire, Fierce as Flame* Kelkar, Supriya (Gr 4-7)**

In 1857 India, 12-year-old Meera escapes a life she has no say in--and certain death on her husband's funeral pyre--only to end up a servant to a British general in the East India Company. When a rebellion against British colonizers spreads, she must choose between relative safety in a British household or standing up for herself and her people.

***Show Me a Sign* LeZotte, Ann Clare (Gr 3-7)**

It is 1805 and Mary Lambert has always felt safe among the deaf community on Martha's Vineyard, but now her brother George has died, land disputes between English settlers and the Wampanoag people are becoming increasingly bitter, and a "scientist" determined to discover the origins of the islands' widespread deafness has kidnapped her!

Nineteenth Century (the 1800s in America & Beyond) cont.

***View from Pagoda Hill* MacColl, Michaela (Gr 5-8)**

The daughter of a Chinese woman and American man, Ning doesn't fit in in 1870s Shanghai, where her American features and unbound feet make her stand out. She learns that her father is taking her back with him to America and wonders if being American will finally give her a sense of belonging. But when she arrives, she discovers that living in America isn't perfect either...

***The Left-Handed Fate* Milford, Kate (Gr 5-8)**

A quest story to find the three pieces of a magical engine which can either win the War of 1812 ...or stop it altogether.

***Prairie Lotus Park*, Linda Sue (Gr 5-8)**

In Dakota Territory in the 1880s, half-Chinese Hanna and her white father face racism and resistance to change as they try to make a home for themselves.

***Stone River Crossing* Tingle, Tim (Gr 4-7)**

In 1808 Mississippi, Martha Tom knows the dangers of crossing the Bok Chitto River into the slave-owning Mississippi territory. But she does nonetheless, and befriends Lil Mo, a boy who is enslaved on the other side. When Lil Mo discovers that his mother is about to be sold, Martha has the answer: cross the Bok Chitto and become free.

***Runs with Courage* Wolf, Joan M. (Gr 4-6)**

In the Dakota Territory in 1880, Four Winds, a ten-year-old Lakota girl, is taken from her family to a boarding school, where she is taught English and expected to assimilate into white culture.

Slavery and the American Civil War (1861-1865)

***Unbound: A Novel in Verse* Burg, Ann E. (Gr 4-7)**

When nine-year-old Grace is called to work in the kitchen in the Big House, everyone warns her to keep her head down, but the more she sees of the oppressive Master and his hateful wife, the more she questions things. Finally, to avoid being separated she and her family flee into the Dismal Swamp to join the other escaped slaves who live there.

***Elijah of Buxton* Curtis, Christopher Paul (Gr 4-8)**

In 1859, eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, which is a haven for slaves fleeing the American south, uses his wits to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was supposed to buy a family's freedom.

***The Journey of Little Charlie* Curtis, Christopher Paul (Gr 5-8)**

When his poor sharecropper father is killed in an accident, 12-year-old Little Charlie agrees to accompany fearsome plantation overseer Cap'n Buck in pursuit of slaves who have stolen from him to erase his family's debts.

***Across Five Aprils* Hunt, Irene (Gr 4-8)**

Young Jethro Creighton grows from a boy to a man when he is left to take care of the family farm in Illinois during the difficult years of the Civil War.

***Great Escapes: Journey to Freedom, 1838* Winston, Sherri (Gr 4-7)**

In this retelling of an episode from *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, the slave Eliza Harris resolves to escape with her two-year-old son across the frozen Ohio River to prevent her master from selling the boy.

Early Twentieth Century America & Beyond (1900-1945)

***Two Roads* Bruchac, Joseph (Gr 4-7)**

In 1932, twelve-year-old Cal must stop being a hobo with his father and go to a Bureau of Indian Affairs boarding school, where he begins learning about his history and heritage as a Creek Indian.

***The Mighty Miss Malone* Curtis, Christopher Paul (Gr 4-7)**

Twelve-year-old Deza Malone, her older brother Jimmie, and their parents endure tough times in Gary, Indiana, and later Flint, Michigan during the Great Depression.

***Barefoot Dreams of Petra Luna* Dobbs, Ada P. (Gr 5+)**

Based on a true story, the tale of one girl's perilous journey to cross the U.S. border and lead her family to safety during the Mexican Revolution (1910-1920).

***Stella by Starlight* Draper, Sharon (Gr 4-7)**

When a burning cross set by the Klan causes panic and fear in 1932 Bumblebee, North Carolina, fifth-grader Stella must face prejudice and find the strength to demand change in her segregated town.

***Full of Beans* Holm, Jennifer L.(Gr 4-6)**

Ten-year-old Beans Curry, a member of the Keepsies, the best marble playing gang in Depression-era Key West, Florida, engages in various schemes to earn money while “New Dealers” from Washington, D.C., arrive to turn run-down Key West into a tourist resort.

Early Twentieth Century America & Beyond (1900-1945) cont.

***A Stitch in Time* Kalmar, Daphne (Gr 4-6)**

In 1927 Vermont, 11-year-old Donut, orphaned after the death of her beloved pops, stands to lose everything when she learns her Aunt Agnes plans to move her to Boston, but Donut has no intentions of leaving her friends or her home.

***Lord of the Mountain Kidd*, Ronald (Gr 4-8)**

In 1927, Nate Owens, thirteen, sets out from Bristol, Tennessee, against the wishes of his father, a self-proclaimed preacher, to find himself and the song he thinks will heal his broken family.

***How High the Moon* Parsons, Karyn (Gr 4-7)**

Eleven-year-old Ella seeks information about her father while enjoying a visit with her mother, a jazz singer, in Boston in 1944, then returns to the harsh realities of segregated, small-town South Carolina.

***Esperanza Rising* Ryan, Pam Munoz (Gr 6-9)**

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.

***The Wind Called My Name* Sanchez, Mary Louise (Gr 4-6)**

When ten-year-old Margarita Sandoval's family moves to Wyoming during the Great Depression, she faces racism, homesickness, and the possibility that her grandmother's land in New Mexico may be lost.

Early Twentieth Century America & Beyond (1900-1945) cont.

***I Survived the Great Molasses Flood, 1919*_Tarshis, Lauren (Gr 4-6)**

On a bright January day in 1919, almost three million gallons of molasses flood part of Boston. Caught in the deluge, Carmen must fight for her life - the life that she and Papa built together in America.

World War I

***The Button War: A Tale of the Great War*_Avi (Gr 5-8)**

After the Germans bomb the schoolhouse, Patryk's small, isolated Polish village is suddenly a whirlwind of activity. Inspired by the military men about, Jurek, the cruel leader of Patryk's group of classmates, declares a challenge: whoever procures the best button from a soldier's uniform gets to be 'king.'

***Winnie's Great War*_Mattick, Lindsay (Gr 3-5)**

An imagining of the real journey undertaken by the extraordinary bear, from her early days in the Canadian forest to her travels with the Veterinary Corps across the country and overseas, all the way to the London Zoo, where she met Christopher Robin Milne and inspired the creation of Winnie-the-Pooh.

***Love to Everyone* McKay, Hilary (Gr 4-7)**

In 1902 England, Clarry and Peter struggle with the challenges of living with an indifferent father, but the summers they spend in Cornwall provide much needed comfort. In later years Clarry looks back on those days to help her cope with World War I and its aftermath.

The Holocaust

Adam and Thomas Apelfeld, Aharon (Gr 4-6)

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

The Boy Who Dared Bartoletti, Susan Campbell (Gr 6-9)

In October, 1942, seventeen-year-old Helmuth Hübener, 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.

The Safest Lie Cerrito, Angela (Gr 3-6)

A nine-year-old Jewish girl, helped by Irena Sendler and the Zegota organization, is smuggled out of the Warsaw ghetto, given a new identity, and sent to live in the countryside for the duration of the World War II.

It Rained Warm Bread Moskowitz-Sweet, Gloria (Gr 4-7)

A fictionalized account of the experiences of a Polish Jew, Moishe, who with his parents, brother, and sister, struggles to survive the Nazi invasion and Holocaust.

World War II

***Letters from Cuba* Behar, Ruth (Gr 3-7)**

In 1938, eleven-year-old Esther joins her father in tropical, multicultural Cuba, where they toil together to rescue the rest of their Jewish family from persecution in Poland.

***The War That Saved My Life* (book 1) Bradley, Kimbery Brubaker (Gr 4-6)**

A young girl with a club foot and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.

***Great Escapes: Nazi Prison Camp Escape* Burgan, Michael (Gr 3-6)**

The epic story of William Ash and the escape from Stalag Luft III German POW camp during World War II.

***Louisa June and the Nazis in the Waves* Elliot, L.M. (Gr 4-6)**

In 1941, after Hitler declares war on the United States, unleashing U-boat submarines to attack American ships, Louisa June, with the waves outside her house carrying dangerous enemies, must help her mother after her father and brother are caught in the crossfire

***All He Knew* Frost, Helen (Gr 4-6)**

In 1939 six-year-old Henry, who is deaf, is taken from his family and placed in a home for the feeble-minded where, years later, his friends include a conscientious objector serving there during World War II.

World War II cont.

Grenade Gratz, Alan (Gr 5+)

On April 1, 1945 with the battle of Okinawa beginning, fourteen-year-old Okinawan Hideki is handed two grenades and told to go kill American soldiers. But Hideki does not really want to kill anyone, he just wants to find his family...

Lifeboat 12 Hood, Susan (Gr 4-7)

In 1940, a group of British children, their escorts, and some sailors struggle to survive in a lifeboat when the ship taking them to safety in Canada is torpedoed.

How I Became a Spy Hopkinson, Deborah (Gr 4-6)

When a young woman goes missing, leaving behind a coded notebook, Bertie is determined to solve the mystery. With the help of Eleanor and his friend David, a Jewish refugee, he must decipher the notebook in time to stop a double agent from spilling the biggest secret of all to the Nazis.

Step Up to the Plate, Maria Singh_Krishnaswami, Uma (Gr 4-7)

Maria Singh is part of one of many half-and-half families (half-Indian, half-Mexican, in her case) residing in California during WWII. While the boys are away fighting Nazis, girls start forming little leagues and women work in factories. Maria just wants to play softball, but tensions are high with all the stress about the war...

The Bicycle Spy McDonough, Yona Zeldis (Gr 4-6)

Marcel dreams of competing in the Tour de France, but it is 1942 and German soldiers are everywhere, stopping him as he delivers bread from his parents' bakery. Then one day he discovers that it is not just bread he is delivering, and he finds himself in possession of dangerous secrets.

World War II cont.

***Skating With the Statue of Liberty* Meyer, Susan (Gr 4-7)**

After having escaped with his family from Nazi-occupied France, Gustave finds a home in New York City, still worried about Marcel, his good friend who he left behind, and surprised to find bigotry in America, too.

***We Are Wolves* Nannestad, Katrina (Gr 4-6)**

Liesl, Otto, and Mia are “Wolfskinder,” German children orphaned or separated from their families in East Prussia at the end of World War II. Just 11 years old, Liesl’s fierce devotion to her younger siblings helps keep them--and their dream of being reunited with family--alive in a dangerous landscape. They find unexpected kindness from enemy Russian troops. But the soldiers can provide only temporary shelter from war’s senseless destruction and cruelty...

***In a Flash* Napoli, Donna Jo (Gr 4-6)**

Caught in Japan and separated from their father when World War II begins, Italian sisters Simona, thirteen, and Carolina, ten, embark on a trying journey hoping to reach safety.

***Rescue* Nielsen, Jennifer (Gr 4-8)**

Meg and her British father have always shared a love of deciphering secret codes. So when he disappears while on a mysterious WWII mission with the Allies, Meg takes action. She secretly works with the Resistance and goes on her own dangerous mission to try to save her father.

***Brave Like My Brother* Nobleman, Marc Tyler (Gr 3-6)**

When Charlie’s older brother Joe is called up in 1942, Charlie learns about war through Joe’s letters--and his brother’s bravery in dealing with a spy as D-Day approaches.

World War II cont.

Paper Wishes Sepahban, Lois (Gr 4-6)

Near the start of World War II, young Manami, her parents, and Grandfather are evacuated from their home and sent to Manzanar, an ugly, dreary internment camp in the desert for Japanese-American citizens.

Sink or Swim Watkins, Steve (Gr 4-7)

In January 1942, twelve-year-old Colton is on his family's fishing boat the boat is capsized by a Nazi U-boat. After his brother Danny is injured, Colton takes his enlistment papers and joins the Navy, determined to do his part to defeat Germany--if only he can keep his age a secret and survive life at sea.

Twentieth Century - Beyond America

***Orange for the Sunsets* Atthaide, Tina (Gr 4-7)**

In alternating voices, friends Asha and Yesofu, one Indian and one African, find their world turned upside-down when Idi Amin decides to expel Asian Indians from Uganda in 1972.

***The Night Diary* Hiranandani, Vera (Gr 3-7)**

Twelve-year-old Nisha, forced to flee her home with her Hindu family during the 1947 partition of India. During her journey, she tries to find her voice and make sense of the world falling apart around her by writing to her deceased Muslim mother in the pages of her diary.

***A Place to Belong* Kadohata, Cynthia (Gr 5+)**

Twelve-year-old Hanako and her family, reeling from their confinement in an internment camp, renounce their American citizenship to move to Hiroshima, a city devastated by the atomic bomb dropped by Americans.

***Ahimsa* Kelkar, Supriya (Gr 4-6)**

In 1942, when Mahatma Gandhi asks Indians to give one family member to the freedom movement, ten-year-old Anjali's mother joins. And with this change comes many adjustments designed to improve their country and use "ahimsa"--non-violent resistance--to stand up to the British government. But what will Anjali's role be?

Mid Twentieth Century America (1950-1975)

***Lenny's Book of Everything* Foxlee, Karen (Gr 4-7)**

In 1970s Ohio, Lenny and her younger brother, Davey, who suffers from a rare form of gigantism, cope with his declining health by poring over each installment of Burrell's Build-It-at-Home Encyclopedia Set.

***Full Cicada Moon* Hilton, Marilyn (Gr 4-8)**

In 1969 twelve-year-old Mimi and her family move to an all-white town in Vermont, where Mimi's mixed-race background and interest in "boyish" topics like astronomy make her feel like an outsider.

***Enemy: Detroit 1954* Holbrook, Sara (Gr 5-8)**

In 1954 Detroit, Michigan, twelve-year-old Marjorie Campbell struggles with the ups and downs of family life, dealing with school, her veteran father's unpredictable outbursts, keeping her mother's stash of banned books a secret, and getting along with the teenager her family took in after his veteran father's death.

***She Loves You: Yeah Yeah Yeah* Hood, Ann (Gr 4-7)**

Trudy Mixer has been in love with the Beatles since she saw them on the Ed Sullivan Show. But when her Beatles Fan Club dwindles to only three members, Trudy is sure only one thing can save the Club is attending the Beatles concert in Boston and meeting Paul McCartney.

Mid Twentieth Century America (1950-1975) cont.

***A Night Divided* Nielsen, Jennifer (Gr 5-8)**

With the rise of the Berlin Wall, twelve-year-old Gerta finds her family suddenly divided. But one day, Gerta spots her father on a viewing platform on the western side, pantomiming a peculiar dance and realizes that he wants Gerta and Fritz to tunnel out of East Berlin. Will Gerta and her family find their way to freedom?

***Spy Runner* Yelchin, Eugene (Gr 4-8)**

It's 1953 and the Cold War is on. So when a Russian boarder moves into the home of twelve-year-old Jake McCauley, he's on high alert. What does the mysterious Mr. Shubin do with all that photography equipment? And why did he choose to live so close to the Air Force base?

Civil Rights Movement (1954-1968) & The 1960s

***The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963* Curtis, Christopher Paul (Gr 5-8)**

The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963.

***It All Comes Down to This* English, Karen (Gr 5-8)**

In the summer of 1965, Sophie's family becomes the first African Americans to move into their upper middle-class neighborhood in Los Angeles. When riots erupt in nearby Watts, she learns that life and her own place in it are a lot more complicated than they had seemed.

Civil Rights Movement (1954-1968) & The 1960s cont.

How to Find What You're Not Looking For Hiranandani, Veera (Gr 3-7)

It's 1967 and the United States is roiling with social unrest. Ari, a young white Jewish girl, lives in Connecticut. When her older sister falls in love with Raj, a young man from India, Ari's parents are vehemently opposed to the union. Torn between her love for her sister and her desire to keep her family together, Ari must find her own voice and fight for what she believes is right.

A Sky Full of Stars Jackson, Linda Williams (Gr 5-7)

In Stillwater, Mississippi, in 1955, thirteen-year-old African American Rose Lee Carter looks to her family and friends to understand her place in the burgeoning Civil Rights Movement.

Indian No More McManis, Charlene Willing (Gr 4-7)

In 1957 the U.S. government's Indian Relocation Program goes into effect, and Regina's family moves to Los Angeles after their Umpqua tribe, along with all Oregon tribes, is terminated. There Regina confronts stereotypical views of Native Americans and struggles with her Native identity.

No Ordinary Sound: A Melody Classic Patrick, Denise Lewis (Gr 3-6)

Melody is growing up in Detroit, Michigan during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. She's been chosen to sing a solo for Youth Day at her church! But when an unimaginable tragedy in the South leaves Melody silent, who can help her lift her voice and sing?

Betty Before X Shabazz, Ilyash (Gr 3-7)

In Detroit, 1945, Betty's house doesn't quite feel like home. Church helps, if only for a little while. The singing, the preaching, the speeches from guest activists like Thurgood Marshall stir African Americans to stand up for their rights. Soon, the American civil rights icon we now know as Dr. Betty Shabazz is born.

Civil Rights Movement (1954-1968) & The 1960s cont.

***One Crazy Summer* (series: book 1) Williams, Rita Garcia (Gr 4-7)**

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

***When Winter Robeson Came* Woods, Brenda (Gr 4-6)**

In August 1965, twelve-year-old Eden's older cousin from Mississippi comes to visit her in Los Angeles, and while the Watts Riots erupt around them, they continue their investigation of the disappearance of Winter's father ten years ago.

The Vietnam War (1961-1975) & Other Unrest

***Everything Else in the Universe* Holczer, Tracy (Gr 4-6)**

In 1971, 12-year-old Lucy's dad returns from Vietnam after losing part of his arm, and her whole family must learn to adjust to a new dynamic, but Lucy's friend Milo unknowingly helps her navigate through this difficult time of fear and uncertainty.

***The Wednesday Wars* Schmidt, Gary (Gr 5-8)**

During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to either Catechism or Hebrew school, seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of William Shakespeare and Holling learns much of value about the world he lives in.

Civil Rights Movement (1954-1968) & The 1960s cont.

Crossing the Farak River Thin, Michelle Aung (Gr 6+)

Myanmar is a country in crisis, and 14-year-old Hasina's life is forever changed the day the helicopters arrive. It starts with a sinking feeling in her stomach, and shortly after the soldiers take over her entire village, rounding up all who identify as Rohingyas. As her community burns, Hasina escapes with her brother and cousin to the nearby forest...can they get to safety?

Post-Vietnam America (1980s)

Rebound Alexander, Kwame (Gr 3-7)

In the summer of 1988, twelve-year-old Chuck Bell is sent to stay with his grandparents, where he discovers jazz and basketball and learns more about his family's past.

Like Vanessa Charles, Tami (Gr 6-8)

It is 1983 and Vanessa Martin, a thirteen-year-old African American girl, dreams of following in the footsteps of the first black Miss America, Vanessa Williams; but with a dysfunctional family, the odds are against her.

The True History of Lyndie B. Hawkins Shepherd, Gail (Gr 6-8)

When twelve-year-old Lyndie and her parents must move to her grandparents' home in small-town Tennessee in 1985, having to keep all family problems private only adds to their problems.

My Life as an Ice Cream Sandwich Zoboi, Ibi (Gr 4-7)

In the summer of 1984, twelve-year-old Ebony-Grace of Huntsville, Alabama, visits her father in Harlem, where her fascination with outer space and science fiction interfere with her finding acceptance.

The 1990s & Early 2000s

***Nine, Ten: A September 11th Story* Baskin, Nora Raleigh (Gr 4-6)**

Relates how the lives of four children living in different parts of the country intersect and are affected by the events of September 11, 2001.

***Somewhere Among* Donwerth-Chikamatsu, Annie (Gr 4-7)**

Eleven-year-old Emma's life in Tokyo changes for the worse when she and her American mother, who is pregnant, must move in with her Japanese grandmother the summer before 9/11 changes the world.

***Your Heart My Sky* Engle, Margarita (Gr 5+)**

In Cuba's "special period in times of peace" of 1991, Liana and Amado find love after their severe hunger gives both courage to risk government retribution by skipping a summer of labor to seek food.

***Tara and the Towering Wave* Oxta, Cristina (Gr 4-7)**

While vacationing in Thailand for the holidays, Tara and her mother are thrown into survival mode when a massive tsunami sweeps through Phuket in 2004.

***Escape from Aleppo* Senzai, N.H. (gr 5-8)**

After Nadia is separated from her family while fleeing the civil war, she spends the next four days with a mysterious old man who helps her navigate the checkpoints and snipers of the rebel, ISIS, and Syrian armies that are littering Aleppo on her way to meeting her father at the Turkish border.

Need more ideas? Check out these series & authors:

Birchbark House series by Louise Erdrich

I Survived series by Lauren Tarshis

Time Twisters: Mixed Up History series by Steve Sheinkin

Girls Survive series by various authors

Avi

Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

Christopher Paul Curtis

Alan Gratz