

American Historical Fiction – Between Revolutionary & Civil Wars: 1783-1860



F AND

Anderson, Laurie Halse

Fever, 1793

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

F AVI

Avi

Captain Grey [1977].

Following the Revolution, an eleven-year-old boy becomes the captive of a ruthless man who has set up his own "nation," supported by piracy, on a remote part of the New Jersey coast.

F AVI

Avi

The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle [1992, 1990].

As the lone "young lady" on a transatlantic voyage in 1832, Charlotte learns that the captain is murderous and the crew rebellious.

F BLE

Bledsoe, Lucy Jane

The Journey Home [1989].

Nineteen-year-old Nicole, raised in a St. Louis orphanage, sets off on a cross-country trek with a trapper to discover her roots in 1827.

F BOH

Bohner, Charles H.

Bold Journey: West With Lewis and Clark: A Novel [1985].

Private Hugh McNeal relates his experiences accompanying Captains Lewis and Clark on their 1804-1806 expedition in search of a northwest passage to the Pacific Ocean.

F BLO

Blos, Joan W.

A Gathering of Days : a New England Girl's Journal, 1830-32 [1990, 1979].

The journal of a 14-year-old girl, kept the last year she lived on the family farm, records daily events in her small New Hampshire town, her father's remarriage, and the death of her best friend.

F BLO

Blos, Joan W

Brothers of the Heart : a Story of the Old Northwest, 1837-1838 [1993,1985].

Fourteen-year-old Shem spends six months in the Michigan wilderness alone with a dying Indian woman, who helps him, not only to survive, but to mature to the point where he can return to his family and the difficulties of life as a cripple in a frontier village.

F BUT

Butler, Beverly

Feather in the Wind [1965].

Alex cares for her father during the Black Hawk War and the cholera epidemic of the 1830's.

F COV

Coville, Bruce

Fortune's Journey [1996].

Sixteen-year-old Jenny faces many challenges on an overland journey to California in 1853 with the acting company that she inherited from her father.

F DEN

Denenberg, Berry

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 Howell, Massachusetts, fourteen-year-old Mary reveals a great longing for her family. (Dear America Series)

F FIS

Fisher, Leonard Everett.

The Death of Evening Star: The Diary of a Young New England Whaler [1972].

A boy keeps a diary of his experience on his first voyage aboard a sinister whaling ship.

F FOX

Fox, Paula

The Slave Dancer [1991, 1973].

Kidnapped by the crew of an Africa-bound ship, a thirteen-year-old boy discovers to his horror that he is on a slaver and his job is to play music for the exercise periods of the human cargo.

F FRA

Franchere, Ruth

Hannah Herself [1964].

F GAR

Garland, Sherry

A Line in the Sand: the Alamo Diary of Lucinda Lawrence [1998].

In the diary she receives for her 13th birthday in 1835, Lucinda Lawrence describes the

hardships her family & other residents of the Texas colonies endure when they decide to fight for their freedom. (Dear America Series)

F GRE

Gregory, Kristiana

Across the Wide and Lonesome Prairie [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)

F GRE

Gregory, Kristiana

The Legend of Jimmy Spoon [1990].

The adventures of a young white boy living among the Shoshoni Indians during the early frontier days.

F HUD

Hudson, Jan

Sweetgrass [1999, 1984].

Living on the western Canadian prairie in the nineteenth century, Sweetgrass, a fifteen-year-old Blackfoot Indian girl, saves her family from a smallpox epidemic and proves her maturity to her father.

F LAM

Lampman, Evelyn Sibley and Grifalconi, Ann

Half-Breed [1967].

A Crow Indian youth returns to his white father's people and to a life in which patience and maturity are the only means to understanding and accepting an unheroic father.

F LAS

Lasky, Kathryn

True North [1996].

Because of the strong influence which her grandfather, an abolitionist, has in her life, fourteen-year-old Lucy assists a fugitive slave girl in her escape.

F MCC

McCall, Edith S.

Message From the Mountains [1985].

In the frontier town of Franklin, Missouri, in 1826, teenage friends Jim Matthews and Kit Carson share the dream of running away to a life of adventure on the Santa Fe Trail.

F McK

McKissack, Patricia C

A Picture of Freedom [1997].

In 1859 12-yr.-old Clotee, a slave who must conceal the fact that she can read & write, records in her diary her experiences & her struggle to decide whether to escape to freedom (Dear America Series)

F NIX

Nixon, Joan Lowery

In the Face of Danger [1989, 1988].

In 1856, deeply unhappy about her family's separation because of poverty, Megan gradually finds contentment and purpose in her new home on the Kansas prairie with a kind and loving adopted family.

F ODE

O'Dell, Scott

Streams to the River, River to the Sea: a Novel of Sacagawea [1988, 1986].

A young Indian woman, accompanied by her infant and cruel husband, experiences joy and heartbreak when she joins the Lewis and Clark Expedition seeking a way to the Pacific.

F PAU

Paulsen, Gary

Nightjohn [1993].

Twelve-year-old Sarny's brutal life as a slave becomes even more dangerous when a newly arrived slave offers to teach her how to read.

F PAU

Paulsen, Gary

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.

F PAU

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.

F PAU

Paulsen, Gary

Tucket's Gold [1999].

Fifteen-year-old Francis and the two children he has adopted travel across the Old West, evade Comancheros, discover a treasure, and wind up rich beyond their wildest dreams.

F RIN

Rinaldi, Ann.

Broken Days [1995].

In 1811, life with her Aunt Hannah in Salem, Massachusetts, becomes even more difficult for fourteen-year-old Ebie with the arrival of a half-Indian girl who claims to be the daughter of Hannah's sister, Thankful, and with the threat of impending war.

F RIN

Rinaldi, Ann.

The Blue Door [1996].

In 1841, when her grandmother sends her alone on a difficult journey up North, fourteen-year-old Amanda encounters the exploitation of women in textile mills.

F STE

Steele, William O.

Flaming Arrows [1990,1957].

An Indian attack on a fort in the Tennessee wilderness makes young Chad Rabun realize that it is wrong to condemn one person for the misdeeds of another.

F STE

Stevens, Carla and Himler, Ronald.

Trouble for Lucy [1979].

As she and her family travel the Oregon Trail in 1843, Lucy's puppy persists in creating trouble.

F TAY

Taylor, Theodore

Walking Up a Rainbow: Being the True Version of the Long and Hazardous Journey of Susan D. Carlisle, Mrs. Myrtle Dessery, Drover Bert Pettit, and Cowboy Clay Carmer and Others [1986].

In 1852, a fourteen-year-old orphan and her elderly guardian, accompanied by a tough drover and his crew, take several thousand sheep from Iowa to California, returning by ship through the Panama Canal, to raise money to save the girl's home from a villainous debt collector.

F TWA

Twain, Mark.

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer [1958].

The adventures of a spirited boy growing up in a Mississippi River town in the early 1840's, as he tries a new method for curing warts, witnesses a murder, runs away to an island and pretends to be a pirate, watches his own funeral, and falls for the new girl in the neighborhood.

F TWA

Twain, Mark

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn [1988].

The story of a young boy, his friends, and their lives and adventures on the Mississippi River.

F URB

Urban, Betsy

Waiting for Deliverance [2000].

In 1783, orphaned fourteen-year-old Livy and her cousin Ephraim are taken in by a woodsman and his family, including a young Seneca man who changes Livy's attitudes toward the Indians she was raised to hate and fear.