

American Historical Fiction – Beyond World War II: 1945 & Beyond



F BEZ

Bezdekova, Zdenka and Bednarova, Eva

They Called Me Leni [1973].

Following World War II a little German girl begins to suspect that she may have other origins as she tries to reconcile the many discrepancies of her life at home and at school.

F BUT

Butterworth, W. E.

Orders to Vietnam: A Novel of Helicopter Warfare [1968].

F CRO

Crowe, Chris

Mississippi Trial [2002].

In Mississippi in 1955, a white sixteen-year-old finds himself at odds with his grandfather over issues surrounding the kidnapping and murder of a fourteen-year-old African American from Chicago.

F CUR

Curtis, Christopher Paul

The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963 [1995].

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.

F DOW

Dowell, Frances O’Roark

Shooting the Moon [2008].

When her brother is sent to fight in Vietnam, twelve-year-old Jamie begins to reconsider the army world that she has grown up in.

F HOL

Holm, Jennifer

Penny From Heaven [2006].

As she turns twelve during the summer of 1953, Penny gains new insights into herself and her family while also learning a secret about her father's death.

F KAD

Kadohata, Cynthia

Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam [2007].

The 2005 Newbery Medal-winning author of "Kira-Kira" returns with this action-packed glimpse into the Vietnam War, as seen through the eyes of a German shepherd trained to sniff out bombs, traps, and the enemy, and her handler, a young soldier who thinks he's not tough enough for war.

F LOR

Lord, Bette and Simont, Marc

In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson [1984].

In 1947, a Chinese child comes to Brooklyn, where she starts to feel at home and make friends when she discovers baseball and the Brooklyn Dodgers.

F McK

McKissack, Patricia C.

A Friendship for Today [2007].

In 1954, when desegregation comes to Kirkland, Missouri, ten-year-old Rosemary faces many changes and challenges at school and at home as her parents separate.

F MOS

Moses, Shelia P.

The Legend of Buddy Bush [2004].

In 1947, 12-year-old Pattie Mae is sustained by her dreams of escaping Rich Square, North Carolina, and moving to Harlem when her Uncle Buddy is arrested and her grandfather is diagnosed with a terminal brain tumor.

F PAT

Paterson, Katherine

Park's Quest [1989, 1988].

Eleven-year-old Park makes some startling discoveries when he travels to his grandfather's farm in Virginia to learn about his father who died in the Vietnam War.

F REI

Reiff, Tana

Boat People [1989].

The story of the Nguyen family, who fled Vietnam hoping to build a better life somewhere else.

F REI

Reiff, Tana

The Family from Vietnam [1979].

Mai is separated from her husband during the fall of Saigon, and must take care of herself and her children once they arrive in America.

F ROB

Robinet, Harriette Gillem

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.

F ROD

Rodman, Mary Ann

Yankee Girl [2004].

When her FBI-agent father is transferred to Jackson, Mississippi, in 1964, eleven-year-old Alice wants to be popular but also wants to reach out to the one black girl in her class in a newly-integrated school.

F SCH

Schmidt, Gary D.

The Wednesday Wars [2007].

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.

F SHE

Sherlock, Patti

Letters from Wolfie [2004]

Certain that he is doing the right thing by donating his dog, Wolfie, to the Army's scout program in **Vietnam**, thirteen-year-old Mark begins to have second thoughts when the Army refuses to say when and if Wolfie will ever return.

F SLO

Slote, Alfred

Finding Buck McHenry [1993,1991].

Eleven-year-old Jason, believing the school custodian Mack Henry to be Buck McHenry, a famous pitcher from the old Negro League, tries to enlist him as a coach for his Little League team by revealing his identity to the world.

F TES

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.

F UCH

Uchida, Yoshiko

Journey Home [1992,1978].

After their release from an American concentration camp, a Japanese-American girl and her family try to reconstruct their lives amidst strong anti-Japanese feelings which breed fear, distrust, and violence

F WHI

White, Ellen Emerson

The Journal of Patrick Seamus Flaherty : United States Marine Corps [2002].

An eighteen-year-old Marine records in a 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. (My Name Is America Series).

F WHI

White, Ellen Emerson

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 Vietnam War and tumultuous events in the United States. (Dear America Series)

F WOL

Wolff, Virginia Euwer

Bat 6 [1998].

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

SC THO

Thomas, Joyce Carol

Linda Brown, You Are Not Alone [2003].

When the Supreme Court decision to desegregate public schools was handed down in 1954, the course of American history was forever changed. *Brown v. Board of Education* affected the life of every child in the United States and elicited emotions ranging from joy, relief, and gratitude to fear, anger, and resentment.

NON-FICTION (Selected)

B BRI

Bridges, Ruby

Through My Eyes [1999].

Ruby Bridges recounts the story of her involvement, as a six-year-old, in the integration of her school in New Orleans in 1960.

B HUY

Huynh, Quang Nhuong

The Land I Lost: Adventures of a Boy in Vietnam

A collection of personal reminiscences of the author's youth in a hamlet on the central highlands of Vietnam.

323 FRA

Fradin, Judith Bloom and Dennis Brindell

The Power of One [2004].

A biography of the civil rights activist who led the fight to integrate schools in Little Rock, Arkansas, during the 1950s. The authors have drawn upon archival material as well as interviews with Daisy Bate's relatives and members of the Little Rock Nine.

323.1 BEA

Beals, Melba Pattillo

Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock's Central High [1995].

In 1957 Melba Pattillo turned sixteen. That was also the year she became a warrior on the front lines of a civil rights firestorm. Following the landmark 1954 Supreme Court ruling, *Brown v. Board of Education*, she was one of nine teenagers chosen to integrate Little Rock's Central High School. This is her remarkable story.

364.15 CRO

Crowe, Chris

Getting Away With Murder: The True Story of the Emmett Till Case [2003].

Presents a true account of the murder of fourteen-year-old Emmett Till in Mississippi in 1955.