

American Historical Fiction – Civil War: 1860-1865



F ALP

Alphin, Elaine Marie

Ghost Cadet [1991]

Twelve-year-old Benjy, in Virginia visiting the grandmother he has never met, meets the ghost of a Virginia Military Institute cadet who was killed in the Battle of New Market in 1864 and helps him recover his family's treasured gold watch.

F ALP

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.

F AVI

Avi

Iron Thunder: The Battle Between the Monitor & the Merrimac: A Civil War Novel [2007]

Tom is caught between working on the Monitor ship and giving spies information about the Monitor.

F BEA

Beatty, Patricia

Turn homeward, Hannalee [1999, 1984].

Twelve-year-old Hannalee Reed, forced to relocate in Indiana along with other Georgia millworkers during the Civil War, leaves her mother with a promise to return home as soon as the war ends.

F BEA

Beatty, Patricia

Charley Skedaddle [1988, 1987].

During the Civil War, a twelve-year-old Bowery Boy from New York City joins the Union Army as a drummer, deserts during a battle in Virginia, and encounters a hostile old mountain woman.

F BUR

Burchard, Peter

North by Night [1962].

After being captured during the Civil War two Union soldiers find an opportunity to escape.

F CLA

Clapp, Patricia

The Tamarack Tree: A Novel of the Siege of Vicksburg [1986].

An eighteen-year-old English girl finds her loyalties divided and all her resources tested as she and her friends experience the terrible physical and emotional hardships of the forty-seven day siege of Vicksburg in the spring of 1863.

F CRA

Feinstein, Stephen and McConnell, James

The Red Badge of Courage [1981].

A young man's adolescent dream of war is shattered when he takes part in his first battle.

F CRI

Crisp, Marty

Private Captain: a Story of Gettysburg [2001].

In 1863 Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Ben and his dog Captain set off in search of Ben's brother, who is missing from the Union Army.

F DAV

Davis, Bette J.

Freedom Eagle [1972].

A biography of the bald eagle who served in several Civil War battles as mascot to the Eighth Wisconsin Volunteers, or "Eagle Regiment."

F DEN

Denenberg, Barry

When Will This Cruel War Be Over? The Civil War Diary of Emma Simpson [1998].

The diary of a fictional 14-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)

SC FEN

Fenner, Phyllis R.

Brother Against Brother: Stories of the War Between the States[1957].

F FOR

Forman, James

Song of Jubilee[1971]

A Virginia slave's account of the Negroes' mixed reactions to the Civil War and the freedom it brought them.

F GRA

Gray, Genevieve and Mars, W. T.

The Yellow Bone Ring [1971].

Fifteen-year-old Cato joins the first black regiment in the Union Army and learns the responsibility demanded by his new position as freedman.

F HAN

Hansen, Joyce

Which Way Freedom? [1992, 1986].

Obi escapes from slavery during the Civil War, joins a black Union regiment, and soon becomes involved in the bloody fighting at Fort Pillow, Tennessee.

F HES

Hesse, Karen.

A Light in the Storm: The Civil War Diary of Amelia Martin [1999].

In 1860 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.

F HIT

Hite, Sid

The 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.

F HUN

Hunt, Irene

Across Five Aprils [1986, 1964].

The story of a young boy, his family, and his neighbors who live in a backwoods Illinois community during the period of the Civil War.

F KEI

Keith, Harold

Rifles for Watie [1987, 1957].

Sixteen-year-old Jeff can't wait to join the Union Army and fight against Stand Watie, leader of the Cherokee Indian rebels.

F MIT

Mitchell, Margaret.

Gone with the Wind [1993, 1936].

Epic of Civil War and Reconstruction.

F MUR

Murphy, Jim

The Journal of James Edmond Pease, a Civil War Union Soldier [1998].

James Edmond Pease, a 16-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. (My Name is America Series)

F PAU

Gary Paulson

Soldier's Heart: a Novel of the Civil War. [1998].

Eager to enlist, 15-year-old Charley has a change of heart after experiencing both the physical horrors and mental anguish of Civil War combat.

F PEC

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.

F PHI

Philbrick, Rodman

The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg [2009]

Twelve-year-old Homer, a poor but clever orphan, has extraordinary adventures after running away from his evil uncle to rescue his brother, who has been sold into service in the Civil War.

F RIN

Rinaldi, Ann

Come Juneteenth [2007]

Fourteen-year-old Luli and her family face tragedy after failing to tell their slaves that President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation made them free.

F RIN

Rinaldi, Ann

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.

NON-FICTION (Selected)

B BOO

Giblin, James

Good Brother, Bad Brother : the Story of Edwin Booth and John Wilkes Booth[2005].

B BOY

Nolan, Jeannette Covert

Belle Boyd, Secret Agent [1967].

A fictional account of the career of a seventeen-year-old Virginia girl who became a spy for the Confederate army during the Civil War.

B ETH

Shura, Mary Francis

Gentle Annie : the True Story of a Civil War Nurse [1991].

A biography of Anna Blair Etheridge, a nurse during the Civil War, from childhood through her four years of service with the Army of the Potomac.

B GRE

Faber, Doris

Rose Greenhow, Spy for the Confederacy [1968].

A biography of the southern woman who, as a leading figure in Washington society during the Civil War, was able to conduct a valuable spy ring for the Confederates and to harass Union leaders even after her arrest.

B LIN

Fleming, Candace

The Lincolns : a scrapbook look at Abraham and Mary [2008].

Though Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln's backgrounds differed considerably, both were intellectuals who shared interests in literature and politics, as well as a great love for each other.

B TUB

Allen, Thomas B.

Harriet Tubman, Secret Agent : How Daring Slaves and Free Blacks Spied for the Union During the Civil War [2006].

Prologue : Black Moses -- The conductor -- The general -- Harriet's first battle -- Into the secret war -- Black dispatches -- Black spies of river and sea -- Enlisting soldiers and spies -- General Moses leads a raid -- Epilogue : finding the secrets.

973.7 ARM

Armstrong, Jennifer

Photo by Brady : a Picture of the Civil War [2005]

The award-winning author tells the story of the Civil War as seen through the lenses of the field photographers hired by Matthew Brady, who traveled with troops and made visual records of what they saw. Photos.

973.7 HOL

Holzer, Harold

The President is Shot! : the Assassination of Abraham Lincoln[2004].

The brutal murder of Abraham Lincoln shocked America and changed our history forever. Why Booth killed Lincoln and how the assassination transformed Lincoln from man to myth is explored.

973.7 MCP

McPherson, James M

Fields of Fury/ The American Civil War [2002].

Examines the events and effects of the American Civil War.

973.7 MUR

Murphy, Jim

The Long Road to Gettysburg[1992].

Describes the events of the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863 as seen through the eyes of two actual participants, nineteen-year-old Union soldier Thomas Galway. Also discusses Lincoln's famous speech delivered at the dedication of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg.

973.7 SWA

Swanson, James

Chasing Lincoln's Killer[2009].

Based on rare archival material, obscure trial manuscripts, and interviews with relatives of the conspirators and the manhunters, **CHASING LINCOLN'S KILLER** is a fast-paced thriller about the pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth: a wild twelve-day chase through the streets of Washington, D.C., across the swamps of Maryland, and into the forests of Virginia.