

## American Historical Fiction – Great Depression: 1929-1941



F BUR

Burch, Robert

**Christmas With Ida Early** [1985, 1983].

Ida Early, who keeps house for the Sutton family in rural Georgia during the Depression, becomes the unwitting target of the children's matchmaking schemes during the holiday season.

F CUR

Curtis, Christopher Paul

**Bud, Not Buddy** [1999].

Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father - the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

F HES

Hesse, Karen

**Out of the Dust** [1997].

In a series of poems, 15-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's farm in Oklahoma during the depression.

F JAN

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 and friends' 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)

F LAS

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)

F PEC

Peck, Richard

**A Year Down Yonder** [2000].

After the depression, but still a recession a 15-year old girl from Chicago, accustomed to living in the city is sent to live with her grandmother in the south. There is no TV, no theatre and only outside hygiene facilities.

F PEC

Peck, Richard

**A Long Way From Chicago: A Novel in Stories** [1998].

A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

F RIC

Richard, Adrienne

**Pistol: A Novel** [1969].

Chronicles a boy's progressive isolation from his family as he grows up in Montana during the Depression.

F RYA

Ryan, Pam Munoz

**Esperanza Rising** [2000].

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.

F SNY

Snyder, Zilpha Keatley

**Cat Running** [1994].

When eleven-year-old Cat Kinsey builds a secret hideout to escape her unhappy home life, she slowly gets to know a poor family who have come to California after losing their Texas home to the dust storms of the 1930s.

F TAY

Taylor, Mildred D.

**Song of the Trees** [1996, 1975].

Every morning Cassie would open her window to the trees that would greet her, but her mother had been forced to sell.

F TAY

Taylor, Mildred D.

**Let the Circle Be Unbroken** [1991, 1981].

Four black children growing up in rural Mississippi during the Depression experience racial antagonisms and hard times, but learn from their parents the pride and self-respect they need to survive.

F TAY

Taylor, Mildred D.

**Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry** [1997, 1975].

A Black family struggles to maintain their dignity and independence against prejudice and discrimination in Depression-era Mississippi.

F UCH

Uchida, Yoshiko

**A Jar of Dreams** [1993, 1981]

A young girl grows up in a closely-knit Japanese American family in California during the 1930s, a time of great prejudice.

F WHI

Whitmore, Arvella

**The Bread Winner** [1990].

When both her parents are unable to find work and pay the bills during the Great Depression, resourceful Sarah Ann Puckett saves the family from the poorhouse by selling her prizewinning homemade bread.