

American Historical Fiction – Early Twentieth Century & World War I: 1901-1938



F AUC

Auch, Mary Jane

Ashes of Roses [2002].

Sixteen-year-old Margaret Rose Nolan, newly arrived from Ireland, finds work at New York City's Triangle Shirtwaist Factory shortly before the 1911 fire in which 146 employees dies.

F DUR

Durbin, William

The Journal of Otto Pelonen: A Finnish Immigrant [2000].

In 1905, 15-year-old Otto describes in his journal how he travels from Finland to America, joining his father in a dreary iron mining community in Minnesota and becoming involved in a union fight for better working conditions.

F GIF

Giff, Patricia Reilly

A House of Tailors [2004].

When thirteen-year-old Dina emigrates from Germany to America in 1871, her only wish is to return home as soon as she can, but as the months pass and she survives a multitude of hardships living with her uncle and his young wife and baby, she finds herself thinking of Brooklyn as her home.

PB FIC HAD

Haddix, Margaret Peterson

Uprising [2007].

In 1927, at the urging of twenty-one-year-old Harriet, Mrs. Livingston reluctantly recalls her experiences at the Triangle Shirtwaist factory, including miserable working conditions that led to a strike, then the fire that took the lives of her two best friends, when Harriet, the boss's daughter, was only five years old. Includes historical notes.

F KAR

Karr, Kathleen

In the Kaiser's Clutch [1995].

While starring in a series of cliffhangers for Pathmark Studios during the summer of 1918, fifteen-year-old twins Fitz and Nelly Dalton uncover a German saboteur.

F LAS

Lasky, Kathryn

A Time of Courage: The Suffragette Diary of Kathleen Bowen [2001].

A diary account of thirteen-year-old Kathryn Bowen's life in Washington, D.C. in 1917, as she juggles concerns about the national battle for women's suffrage, the war in Europe, and her own school work and family. (Dear America Series)

F LAS

Lasky, Kathryn

Dreams in the Golden Country [1998].

12-year-old Zippy, a Jewish immigrant from Russia, keeps a diary account of the first eighteen months of her family's life on the Lower East Side of New York City in 1903. (Dear America Series)

F LAW

Lawrence, Lain

Lord of the Nutcracker Men [2001].

An English boy during World War I comes to believe that the battles he enacts with his toy soldiers control the war his father is fighting on the front.

F MAC

MacLachlan, Patricia

Sarah, Plain and Tall [1988, 1985].

When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay.

F REM

Remarque, Erich Maria

All Quiet On the Western Front [1987, 1958].

Depicts the experiences of a group of young German soldiers fighting and suffering during the last days of World War I.

F ROS

Rostkowski, Margaret I.

After the Dancing Days [1986].

A forbidden friendship with a badly disfigured soldier in the aftermath of World War I forces thirteen-year-old Annie to redefine the word "hero" and to question conventional ideas of patriotism.

F SCH

Schmidt, Gary D.

Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy [2004].

In 1911, Turner Buckminster hates his new home of Phippsburg, Maine, but things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from a poor, nearby island community founded by former slaves that the town fathers--and Turner's--want to change into a tourist spot.

F SNY

Snyder, Zilpha Keatley

Gib and the Gray Ghost [2000].

In 1909, after spending several months back at the Lovell House Home for Orphaned and Abandoned Boys, eleven-year-old Gib returns to live on the Thornton ranch, where his natural way with horses helps to make him feel at home.

F SNY

Snyder, Zilpha Keatley

Gib Rides Home [1998].

Despite the harsh treatment he has endured at the Lovell House orphanage, 10-yr. old Gib Whittaker manages to maintain his hopeful outlook when he is "farmed out" to help a wealthy banker in 1908.

F TAY

Taylor, Sydney and John, Helen

All-of-a-Kind Family. [1989,1951].

The adventures of five sisters growing up in a Jewish family in New York in the early twentieth century.

F UCH

Uchida, Yoshiko and Forberg, Ati.

Samurai of Gold Hill [1972].

Seeking a new life in nineteenth-century California with his samurai father, a young Japanese finds it difficult to adjust to the idea of being a farmer and not a samurai.

F WHI

White, Ellen, Emerson

Voyage on the Great Titanic: The Diary of Margaret Ann Brady [1998].

In her diary in 1912, 13-year-old Margaret Ann describes how she leaves her lonely life in a London orphanage to become a companion to a wealthy American woman, sails on the Titanic, and experiences its sinking. (Dear America Series)

F YEP

Yep, Laurence

Dragonwings [1975].

In the early twentieth century a young Chinese boy joins his father in San Francisco and helps him realize his dream of making a flying machine.

Non-Fiction (Early Twentieth Century) [Selected]

SC DOW

Dowswell, Paul

True Stories of the First World War

Today, almost a century after it was fought, the First World War still haunts us. With its aircraft, submarines, machine guns and tanks, it was the first modern war.

304.8 HOO

Hoobler, Dorothy & Thomas

We Are Americans/ Voices of the Immigrant Experience [2003].

A history of immigration to America, from speculation about the earliest immigrants to the present day.

324.6 BAU

Bausum, Ann

With Courage and Cloth : Winning the Fight For a Woman's Right To Vote [2004].

The story about winning the right for women to vote in the United States.