

Historical Fiction

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Blankman, Anne – [The Blackbird Girls](#)

Relocating to Leningrad in the wake of the Chernobyl disaster, neighbors Valentina and Oksana, who have been taught to hate each other because of religious differences, uncover painful family secrets while learning what it means to trust another person. (Grades 4 – 7)

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker – [The War that Saved My Life](#)

A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother. Also try the sequel, [The War I Finally Won](#). (Grades 4 – 8)

Curtis, Christopher Paul – [The Journey of Little Charlie](#)

Striking a deal with a formidable local in the aftermath of his father's death, 12-year-old Charlie, the child of sharecroppers, agrees to track down a band of thieves only to confront a difficult moral choice when he learns the true identities and circumstances of his targets. (Grades 5 – 8)

English, Karen – [It All Comes Down to This](#)

In the summer of 1965, Sophie's family becomes the first African Americans to move into their upper middle-class neighborhood in Los Angeles. When riots erupt in nearby Watts, she learns that life and her own place in it are a lot more complicated than they had seemed. (Grades 5 – 8)

Gidwitz, Adam - [The Inquisitor's Tale or, the Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog](#)

Crossing paths at an inn, thirteenth-century travelers impart the tales of a monastery oblate, a Jewish refugee, and a psychic peasant girl with a loyal greyhound, the three of whom join forces on a chase through France to escape persecution. (Grades 4 – 8)

Giff, Patricia Reilly - [Genevieve's War](#)

In August 1939 Genevieve makes an impulsive decision not to get on the train to take her to a boat back New York and must spend the duration of World War II with her grandmother in a small village in Alsace, France, where she becomes involved with the French resistance. (Grades 4 – 6)

Giff, Patricia Reilly – [Island War](#)

In 1942 11-year-old Izzy and 14 year old Matt become trapped on a Japanese-occupied Aleutian island when the rest of the American population is evacuated and must survive on their own for the duration of World War II. (Grades 4 – 6)

Hiranandani, Veera – [The Night Diary](#)

Shy twelve-year-old Nisha, forced to flee her home with her Hindu family during the 1947 partition of India, tries to find her voice and make sense of the world falling apart around her by writing to her deceased Muslim mother in the pages of her diary. (Grades 5 – 8)

Holm, Jennifer L. – [Full of Beans](#)

Ten-year-old Beans Curry, a member of the Keepsies, the best marble playing gang in Depression-era Key West, Florida, engages in various schemes to earn money while "New Dealers" from Washington, D.C., arrive to turn run down Key West into a tourist resort. (Grades 4 – 6)

Kadohata, Cynthia – [A Place to Belong](#)

Twelve-year-old Hanako and her family, reeling from their confinement in an incarceration camp, renounce their American citizenship to move to Hiroshima, a city devastated by the atomic bomb dropped by Americans. (Grades 5 – 8)

Magras, Diane – [The Mad Wolf's Daughter](#)

In 1210 Scotland, when invading knights capture 12-year-old Drest's father, the Mad Wolf of the North, and her beloved brothers who make up his fearsome war-band, she sets off to rescue them from the castle prison, taking along a wounded knight as her captive to trade for her family's freedom. Also try [The Hunt for Mad Wolf's Daughter](#). (Grades 4 – 7)

Panteleakos, Nicole – [Planet Earth is Blue](#)

Autistic and nearly nonverbal, twelve-year-old Nova is happy in her new foster home and school, but eagerly anticipates the 1986 Challenger launch, for which her sister, Bridget, promised to return. (Grades 4 – 7)

Parsons, Karyn – [How High the Moon](#)

Eleven-year-old Ella seeks information about her father while enjoying a visit with her mother, a jazz singer, in Boston in 1944, then returns to the harsh realities of segregated, small-town South Carolina. (Grades 5 – 8)

Ryan, Pam Muñoz – [The Dreamer](#)

A fictionalized biography of the Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, who grew up a painfully shy child, ridiculed by his overbearing father, but who became one of the most widely-read poets in the world. (Grades 4 – 8)

Tucker, Laura – [All the Greys on Greene Street](#)

A 12-year-old artist in 1981 SoHo searches for answers when her father, a restorer of antique paintings, abruptly disappears in the middle of the night amid questions about a partner's suspicious behavior and a missing work of art. (Grades 5 – 8)

Weaver, Lila Quintero – [My Year in the Middle](#)

At Lu Olivera's school the white kids and black kids sit on different sides of the classroom while Lu just wants to get along with everyone, but growing racial tensions will not let Lu stay neutral about the racial divide in school. (Grades 4 – 6).

Wolk, Lauren – [Echo Mountain](#)

Losing her home in the aftermath of the stock market crash of 1929, Ellie moves with her family to a new home in an unforgiving mountain terrain where she seeks a cure to restore her injured father to health. (Grades 4 – 8)

Woods, Brenda - [The Unsung Hero of Birdsong USA](#)

Gabriel, twelve, gains new perspective when he becomes friends with Meriwether, a Black World War II hero who has recently returned to the unwelcoming Jim Crow South. (Grades 4 – 6)