

Song of the Sparrow

Lisa Ann Sandell

YA Sand

Growing up as the daughter of a soldier in King Arthur's army, 16 year old Elaine of Ascolat recounts a story of love, jealousy, and warfare in this historical romance in verse. HS

To Kill a Mockingbird

Harper Lee

YA Lee

8 year old Scout Finch narrates this story of small town life in Alabama during the Depression when her father defends a black man accused of raping a white woman. MS/HS

What I Saw and How I Lied

Judy Blundell

YA Blun

While in Florida on vacation with her family, 15 year old Evie falls for Peter, a young ex-GI who served with her father in WWII, but Peter has brought with him secrets about Evie's family that force her to question everything she has believed to be true. HS

MS = Middle School

HS = High School

Researched and compiled by
P. Cordero, 09/2009



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HISTORICAL FICTION for Teens



The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing: Traitor to the Nation

M.T. Anderson

YA Ande

Vol. 1, *The Pox Party*

Various diaries, letters, and other manuscripts chronicle the experiences of Octavian, an African slave, from birth to age sixteen as he is brought up as part of a scientific experiment in the years leading up to the Revolutionary War.

Vol. 2, *The Kingdom on the Waves*

16 year old Octavian flees to Boston at the outbreak of the War where he enlists in a Loyalist regiment fighting the Patriots in exchange for his freedom. HS

The Book Thief

Martin Zusak

YA Zusa

Death meets Liesel when she is 9 and takes her little brother. From then on Death tells Liesel's story from her first book theft to her encounters with an array of characters including Max the Jewish refugee who hides in her foster parent's basement. HS

Bluesman (graphic novel)

Rob Vollmar & Pablo Callejo

YA Voll

Lem Taylor, blues guitarist and piano man Ironwood Malcott, travel the backwoods of Arkansas in the late 1920s in search of comfort and their next meal. HS

Chains

Laurie R. King

YA Ande

Sold to a cruel Loyalist family in New York City at the beginning of the Revolutionary War, 13 year old Isabel must choose between Patriots and Loyalists and weigh the cost of freedom. MS/HS

A Drowned Maiden's Hair

Laura Amy Schlitz

YA Schl

11 year old Maud is adopted from the orphanage by three unscrupulous sisters who put her to work posing as a drowned girl in their fake séances. MS

Flygirl

Sherri L. Smith

YA Smit

During World War II a light-skinned African American girl "passes" for white in order to join the Women Air Service Pilots. MS/HS

Kampung Boy (graphic novel)

Lat

YA Lat

Told and illustrated with charm and humor, a Muslim boy grows up in a small village in Malaysia in the 1950s. MS

Leonardo's Shadow

Christopher Peter Grey

YA Grey

Leonardo da Vinci's servant boy, Giacomo is trying to help his master finish "The Last Supper" while struggling to be an artist in his own right and find the truth of his parentage. MS

Listening for Lions

Gloria Whelan

YA Whel

13 year old Rachel has been orphaned as a result of a flu epidemic in British East Africa in 1919 and is taken in by a devious and unscrupulous family who force her to travel to England and impersonate their dead daughter. MS

A Northern Light

Jennifer Donnelly

YA Donn

16 year old farm girl Mattie Gokey is working in a fancy hotel in the summer of 1906 struggling to decide whether she will go to college or stay and help her father like she promised her dying mother, when she meets Grace Brown, a guest at the hotel, who entrusts her with a packet of letters. When Grace is drowned under suspicious circumstances, Mattie realizes she holds the key to solving the mystery. HS

Revolution is Not a Dinner Party

Ying Chang Compestine

YA Comp

9 year old Ling tells the story of coping with the brutalities of the Cultural Revolution in China during the 1970s when her comfortable middle class life is shattered and her father is taken away. MS

Shooting the Moon

Frances O'Roark Dowell

J Dowe

12 year old Jamie's older brother has been sent to fight in the Vietnam War – something they both have dreamed of doing, but when his letters come back blank accompanied only by undeveloped film, she is forced to question the values of her military upbringing. MS