English school girl who was held hostage on a plane hijacked by the Palestinian Liberation Front in 1970.

Juba! By Walter Dean Myers YA MYERS

In Five Points, New York, in the 1840s, African American teenager William Henry "Juba" Lane works to achieve his dream of becoming a pro dancer .

Out of Darkness By Ashley Hope Perez YA PEREZ

Loosely based on a school explosion that took place in New London, Texas in 1937, this is the story of two teenagers: Naomi, who is Mexican, and Wash, who is black, and their dealings with race, segregation, love, and the forces that destroy people.

Or Give Me Death By Ann Rinaldi YA RINALDI

With their father away most of the time advocating independence for the American colonies, the children of Patrick Henry try to raise themselves, manage the family plantation, and care for their mother.

The Caged Graves By Dianne Salerni YA SALERNI

Returning to her hometown in 1867 to marry a man she has never met, Verity Boone gets caught up in the a mystery surrounding the graves of her mother and aunt and a dangerous hunt for Revolutionary-era gold.

Blood Red Snow White By Marcus Sedgwick YA SEDGWICK

Based on the life of children's book author Arthur Ransome, who left his home, his wife, and daughter and fell in love with Russia and a Russian woman and was suspected, by both sides, of being a spy.

Between Shades of Gray By Ruta Sepetys YA SEPETYS

In 1941, Lina, her mother, and brother are pulled from their Lithuanian home by Soviet guards and sent to Siberia, where her father is sentenced to death in a prison camp while she fights for her life.

Out of the Easy By Ruta Sepetys YA SEPETYS

Josie, the seventeen-year-old daughter of a French Quarter prostitute, is striving to escape 1950 New Orleans and enroll at prestigious Smith College when she becomes entangled in a murder investigation.

Girl in Reverse By Barbara Stuber YA STUBER

Lillian is Chinese, but the kids in her 1951 Kansas City high school can't separate her from the North Koreans that America is at war with. Sick of the racism she faces at school and frustrated with her adoptive white family, Lily begins to search for her birth mother.

Lies We Tell Ourselves By Robin Talley YA TALLEY

In 1959 Virginia, Sarah, a black student who is one of the first to attend a newly integrated school, forces Linda, a white student, to confront harsh truths when they work together on a school project.

My Family for the War By Anne Voorhoeve YA VOORHOEVE

Before the start of World War II, Ziska, who has Jewish ancestors but has been raised as a Protestant, is taken out of Nazi Germany on one of the Kindertransport trains, to live in London with a Jewish family.

Like Water on Stone By Dana Walrath YA WALRATH

This novel in verse relates the tale of siblings who survive the Armenian genocide of 1915 by escaping from Turkey alone over the mountains.

Code Name Verity By Elizabeth Wein YA WEIN

In 1943, a British fighter plane crashes in Nazioccupied France and the survivor tells a tale of friendship, war, espionage, and great courage.

The Steep and Thorny Way By Cat Winters YA WINTERS

A biracial teen in rural Oregon in the 1920s searches for the truth about her father's death while avoiding trouble from the Ku Klux Klan in this YA historical novel inspired by Shakespeare's 'Hamlet'."

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Historical Fiction for Teens

Galesburg Public Library Teen Scene



Chains By Laurie Halse Anderson YA ANDERSON

After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.

The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation 1: The Pox Party By M.T. Anderson YA ANDERSON

Chronicles the experiences of Octavian, a young African American, from birth to age sixteen, as he is brought up as part of a science experiment in the years leading up to and during the Revolutionary War.

Lucky Strikes By Louis Bayard YA BAYARD

With her mama recently dead and her pa sight unseen since birth, Amelia is suddenly in charge of her younger brother and sister-- and the family gas station. To keep a competitor at bay and keep her family out of foster care, Melia must come up with a father-- fast.

Prisoner of Night and Fog By Anne Blankman YA BLANKMAN

In 1930s Munich, the niece of rising political leader Adolph Hitler is torn between duty and love after meeting a fearless young Jewish reporter.

What I Saw and How I Lied By Judy Blundell YA BLUNDELL

In 1947, with her jovial stepfather Joe back from the war and family life returning to normal, teenage Evie, smitten by the handsome young ex-GI who seems to have a secret hold on Joe, finds herself caught in a complicated web of lies .

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas By John Boyle YA BOYLE

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.

Chasing Secrets By Gennifer Choldenko YA CHOLDENKO

Lizzie and her secret friend Noah, who is hiding in her house, plan to rescue Noah's father from the quarantined Chinatown, and save those they love from contracting the plague that is spreading in 1900.

Audacity By Melanie Crowder YA CROWDER

A historical fiction novel in verse detailing the life of Clara Lemlich and her struggle for women's labor rights in the early 20th century in New York.

A Northern Light By Jennifer Donnelly YA DONNELLY

In 1906, 16-year-old Mattie, determined to go to college and be a writer against the wishes of her father and fiance, takes a job at an inn where she discovers the truth about the death of a guest.

These Shallow Graves By Jennifer Donnelly YA DONNELLY

A young woman in nineteenth-century NYC must struggle against gender and class boundaries when her dad is found dead of a supposed suicide, and she believes there is more going on than meets the eye.

If I Ever Get Out of Here By Eric Gansworth YA GANSWORTH

Lewis Blake from the Tuscarora Reservation has a new friend, George Haddonfield from the local Air Force base, but in 1975 New York there is a lot of tension between Native Americans and Whites--and Lewis is not sure that he can rely on friendship.

The Luxe By Anna Godbersen YA GODBERSEN

In Manhattan in 1899, five teens lead dangerously scandalous lives, despite the strict rules of society and the best-laid plans of parents and others.

Uprising By Margaret Peterson Haddix YA HADDIX

In 1927, Mrs. Livingston reluctantly recalls her experiences at the Triangle Shirtwaist factory, including poor working conditions that led to a strike, then the fire that took the lives of her two best friends.

The Girl in the Blue Coat By Monica Hesse YA HESSE

In 1943 Nazi-occupied Amsterdam, teenage Hanneke--a 'finder' of black market goods--is tasked with finding a Jewish girl a customer had been hiding, who has seemingly vanished into thin air, and is pulled into a web of resistance activities and secrets as she attempts to solve the mystery.

Going Over By Beth Kephart YA KEPHART

In the early 1980s Ada and Stefan are young, wouldbe lovers living on opposite sides of the Berlin Wall.

This Monstrous Thing By Mackenzi Lee YA LEE

When a mechanic in 1818 Geneva brings his brother back from the dead using clockwork parts, the citizens of Geneva think they may have inspired the recently published novel Frankenstein.

Outrun the Moon By Stacey Lee

YÅ LEE

Mercy Wong is determined to break from poverty in Chinatown, and she gains admittance to a prestigious school. When an earthquake strikes, Mercy and her classmates are forced to a survivor camp, where her leadership rallies them.

Under a Painted Sky By Stacey Lee YA LEE

In 1845, Sammy, a Chinese American girl, and Annamae, an African American slave girl, disguise themselves as boys and travel on the Oregon Trail to California from Missouri.

Shame the Stars By Guadalupe Garcia McCall YA MCCALL

In the midst of racial conflict and at the edges of a war at the Texas-Mexico border in 1915, Joaquín and Dulceña attempt to maintain a secret romance in this reimagining of Romeo and Juliet.

Never Fall Down By Patricia McCormick

YA MCCORMICK

Cambodian child soldier Arn Chorn-Pond defies the odds and uses all of his courage and wits to survive the murderous regime of the Khmer Rouge.

Burn Baby Burn By Meg Medina YA MEDINA

Nora Lopez is seventeen during the summer of 1977, when New York is besieged by arson, a massive blackout, and a serial killer named Son of Sam.

Girl on a Plane

By Miriam Moss YA MOSS

This is a fictionalized story based on the amazing real life experiences of Miriam Moss, a fifteen year old