Historical Fiction

Avi. Sophia's War. Intrigue and suspense abound in this novel set in New York City during the American Revolution. Sophia's brother is being held prisoner by the British, and she will do anything to help her country, even work as a spy.

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. The War That Saved My Life. Imprisoned in her London flat because of her deformed foot, Ada has never seen trees or grass. After being evacuated to the countryside during World War II, she discovers an amazing new world and finally finds a home.

Choldenko, Gennifer. Al Capone Does My Shirts. Did you know that prison guards and their families once lived on Alcatraz Island along with its infamous inmates? Set in 1935, this engaging book traces the adventures of Moose and his friends. (Teen)

Curtis, Christopher Paul. Bud, Not Buddy. When Bud Caldwell, 10, runs away from his latest foster home, he decides to search for the father he has never known, a legendary jazz musician. This Depression-era tale soars with humor and heartbreak.

DiCamillo, Kate. Raymie Nightingale. It’s 1975. After her dad deserts the family, Raymie hatches a plan to bring him back by winning a local beauty pageant. Her baton-twirling lessons lead to two quirky friends and escapades both hilarious and heartrending.

Erdrich, Louise. Chickadee. Stolen away in the night from his twin brother’s side, Chickadee is desperate to escape his kidnappers and find his way home. This story about an Ojibwe family in 1866 combines wilderness survival, humor, and love.

Kelly, Jacqueline. The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate. It’s 1899 in a small Texas town where most girls focus on cooking and sewing. Calpurnia, however, is passionate about science and enlists the help of her eccentric grandfather to learn about nature—and herself.

Larson, Kirby. Dash. When the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor, Mitsi’s world is turned upside down. Her best friends shun her, her family is forced to move to an internment camp with other people of Japanese descent, and her beloved dog Dash must be left behind.

Lawrence, Caroline. The Thieves of Ostia. Four young people in an ancient Roman city face danger and slave catchers while trying to solve the mystery of the brutal killings of local dogs. A series starter packed with adventure and historical detail.

Philbrick, Rodman. The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg. When his brother is illegally conscripted into the Union army during the Civil War, 12-year-old Homer sets off to find and save him. This fast-paced tale features danger, humor, and a clear look at the horrors of war.

Porter, Tracey. Billy Creekmore. After growing up in an orphanage in the early 1900s telling wild tales and getting in and out of trouble, 10-year-old Billy is rescued by a long-lost uncle and embarks on an adventure that spans from the coal mines of West Virginia to a traveling circus.

Selznick, Brian. The Invention of Hugo Cabret. Hugo helps maintain the clocks in the Paris train station where he also lives. When he befriends the goddaughter of a toy shop owner, he’s thrown into the fantastic world of the early 20th Century French filmmaker, Georges Méliès. This novel is a powerful blend of art and story.

Williams-Garcia, Rita. One Crazy Summer. It’s 1968, and Delphine, 11, travels with her sisters from New York City to California to visit their estranged mother. Their adventures include participating in a Black Panther summer camp and meeting an interesting boy.

**SERIES YOU MIGHT LIKE:**

- Dear America (Series Shelf)
- Hale, Nathan. Nathan Hale’s Hazardous Tales
- Messner, Kate. Ranger in Time
- Osborne, Mary Pope. Magic Tree House
- Scieszka, Jon. Time Warp Trio
- Tarshis, Lauren. I Survived
- Wilder, Laura Ingalls. Little House on the Prairie

Titles shelved in J-Fiction unless otherwise noted.