

EXPLORING THE WORLD IN FICTION

AFRICA:

- Newbery Farmer, Nancy **The Ear, the Eye and the Arm** Grade 4-6
In 2194 Zimbabwe, three children are kidnapped while mutant detectives use their special powers to search for them.
- Youth Fic Farmer, **A Girl Named Disaster** Grade 4-8
While fleeing from Mozambique to Zimbabwe to escape an unwanted marriage, Nhamo, an eleven-year-old Shona girl, struggles to escape drowning and starvation and in so doing comes close to the luminous world of the African spirits.
- Youth Fic Jacobs, Shannon **Song of the Giraffe** Grade 2-4
Inspired by a dream, Kisana braves a dangerous journey to find the fruit of the baobab tree and a long-lost stream.
- Youth Fic Whelan, Gloria **Listening for Lions** Grade 4-8
Left an orphan after the influenza epidemic in British East Africa in 1918, thirteen-year-old Rachel is tricked into assuming a deceased neighbor's identity to travel to England, where her only dream is to return to Africa and rebuild her parents' mission hospital.

AUSTRALIA:

- Youth Fic Disher, Garry **The Bamboo Flute** Grade 4-6
In 1932 Australia, twelve-year-old Paul is happy when a drifter helps him make a flute and teaches him to play it.
- Youth Fic Hirsch, Odo **Hazel Green** Grades 3-5
Enterprising Hazel Green tries to convince the city to allow children to march in the annual Frogg Day parade.
- Youth Fic May, Kyla **Introducing Kyla May Miss. Behaves** Grade 2-4
Kyla May writes in her journal about her life, her family, and her many daydreams, which repeatedly get her in trouble at the Melbourne, Australia creative arts school she attends.
- Youth Fic Murray, Martine **The Slightly True Story of Cedar B. Hartley (who planned to live an unusual life)** Grade 5-8
When twelve-year-old Cedar loses her dog, it sets off a chain of events leading her to find a new friend, become an acrobat, and learn some bitter-sweet truths about family, community, and herself.

AUSTRIA:

- Youth Fic Ackerman, Karen **The Night Crossing** Grade 3-4
In 1938, having begun to feel the persecution that all Jews are experiencing in their Austrian city, Clara and her family escape over the mountains into Switzerland.
- Youth Fic Daulberg, Maurine **Play to the Angel** Grade 5-8
In Vienna in 1938, in the shadow of an increasingly dangerous Nazi Germany, twelve-year-old Greta pursues her dream of becoming a concert pianist like her dead brother Kurt, despite a lack of support from her widowed mother.

CANADA:

- Youth Fic Bruchac, Joseph **The Winter People** Grade 5-9
As the French and Indian War rages in October of 1759, Saxso, a fourteen-year-old Abenaki boy, pursues the English rangers who have attacked his village and taken his mother and sisters hostage
- Youth Fic Lunn, Janet Louise S. **The Root Cellar** Grade 5-8
Twelve-year-old Rose ventures into her aunt's root cellar and finds herself making friends with people who lived on the farm more than a century earlier.
- Youth Fic Montgomery, L. M. **Anne of Green Gables** Grade 5-8
Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan is sent to live with a lonely middle aged brother and sister and enchants everyone around her.

CHINA:

- Newbery DeJong, Meindert **The House of Sixty Fathers** Grade 4-6
Alone in a sampan with his pig and three ducklings, a Chinese boy is whirled down a raging river and spends frightening days returning to his family.
- Newbery Fritz, Jean **Homesick, My Own Story** Grade 4-6
Fictionalized version of the author's childhood in 1920's China.
- Youth Fic Lewis, Elizabeth F. **Young Fu of the Upper Yangtze** Grade 7+
In 1920's, a Chinese youth finds adventure and good fortune as an apprentice to a coppersmith.

Youth Fic Whelan, Gloria **Chu Ju's House** Grade 4-7
In order to save her baby sister, fourteen-year-old Chu Ju leaves her rural home in modern China and earns food and shelter by working on a sampan, tending silk worms, and planting rice seedlings, while wondering if she will ever see her family again.

DENMARK:

Newbery Lowry, Lois **Number the Stars** Grade 3-7
In 1943 during the German occupation of Denmark, a ten-year-old girl learns to be brave as she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

EGYPT:

Youth Fic Bradshaw, Gillian **The Dragon and the Thief** Grade 5-9
In ancient Egypt an unlucky young man meets a wealthy dragon and together they find dangerous but exciting adventure.

Youth Fic Ellerby, Leona **King Tut's Game Board** Grades 5-8
Two boys, one from Egypt, the other from the United States discover a mystery.

Youth Fic Karr, Kathleen **Bone Dry** Grade 5-8
In the 1840s, Dr. Asa B. Cornwall, a phrenologist, and his fourteen-year-old assistant, Matthew Morrissey, travel from Paris to Northern Africa to seek the missing skull of Alexander the Great.

ENGLAND:

Youth Fic Allen, Linda **Parrot in the House** Grade 3-4
Angry that Grandfather left his inheritance to his parrot, relatives seek to break the will until Miranda makes a pleasing discovery.

Newbery Avi **The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle** Grade 5+
A young lady on a Transatlantic voyage in 1832 learns that the captain is murderous and the crew rebellious.

Youth Fic Dauer, Marion Dane **A Dream of Queens and Castles** Grade 4+
Dreamy Diana meets an eccentric old man and she shares his frustrations and use of the royal family as means of escape.

Newbery Cushman, Karen **Catherine Called Birdy** Grade 4-6
Thirteen-year-old keeps a journal in which she records the events of her life and her longing for adventures beyond the usual role of women.

Newbery Cushman, Karen **The Midwife's Apprentice** Grade 4-6
In medieval England a nameless girl is taken in by a sharp tempered midwife and eventually gains the three things she most wants: a full belly, a home and a career.

Youth Fic McKay, Hilary **Permanent Rose** Grades 5-8
While trying to reconnect with her friend Tom, who has returned to the United States without leaving a forwarding address, eight-year-old Rose inadvertently discovers the identity of her adopted sister Saffy's father.

Youth Fic Morgan, Nicole **Chicken Friend** Grades 5-8
When her parents decide to move their family to the English countryside, home school their children, and raise chickens, Becca tries to make friends with her new neighbors by hiding her diabetes and throwing a twelfth birthday party for herself.

ETHIOPIA:

Youth Fic Kurtz, Jane **The Storyteller's Beads** Grade 4-7
During the political strife and famine of the 1980's, two Ethiopian girls, one Christian and the other Jewish and blind, struggle to overcome many difficulties, including their prejudices about each other, as they make the dangerous journey out of Ethiopia.

FRANCE:

Youth Fic Morgenstern, Susie **Sixth Grade** Grade 5-6
Follows the disappointments and exhilarations of a French girl and her sixth grade classmates as they exhaust their teachers, host a poetry competition, play spin the bottle, and travel to Rome on a class trip.

Youth Fic Morpurgo, Michael **Waiting for Anya** Grade 5-8
In World War II France, a young shepherd becomes involved in smuggling Jewish children across the border into Spain.

GREECE:

Youth Fic Delton, Judy **Angel Spreads her Wings** Grade 3-6
Angel, whose active imagination always causes her to expect the worst, is given many new things to worry about when her stepfather plans to move the family to Greece for the summer.

Youth Fic Hagen, Lynn **Mermaid Mary Margaret** Grade 2-5
Eleven-year-old Mary Margaret takes a cruise through the Greek Isles with her recently widowed grandmother and keeps a journal of her adventures.

GUATEMALA:

Youth Fic Cameron, Ann **Colobri** Grade 5-8
Kidnapped when she was very young by an unscrupulous man who has forced her to lie and beg to get money, a twelve-year-old Mayan girl endures an abusive life, always wishing she could return to the parents she can hardly remember.

HUNGARY:

Newbery Seredy, Kate **The White Stag** Grades 6-9
The legend of the founding of Hungary.

Youth Fic Siegal, Aranka **Upon the Head of the Goat** Grade 6+
Describes how Siegal and her family survived World War II from 1939-1944.

INDIA:

Youth Fic **Naming Maya** Grades 4-6
When Maya accompanies her mother to India to sell her grandfather's house, she uncovers family history relating to her parents divorce and learns more about herself and her relationship with her mother.

Youth Fic **Blue Jasmine** Grades 4-7
When twelve-year-old Seema moves to Iowa City with her parents and younger sister, she leaves friends and family behind in her native India but gradually begins to feel at home in her new country.

Youth Fic **Conch Bearer** Grades 5-8
In India, a healer invites twelve-year-old Anand to join him on a quest to return a magical conch to its safe and rightful home, high in the Himalayan mountains.

Youth Fic Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee **Neela Victory Song** Grade 5-8
In 1939, twelve-year-old Neela meets a young freedom fighter at her sister's wedding and soon after must rely on his help when her father fails to return home from a march in Calcutta against British occupation.

Youth Fic Lasky, Kathryn **Jahanara, Princess of Princesses** Grade 4-7
Beginning in 1627, Princess Jahanara, first daughter of Shah Jahan of India's Mogul Dynasty, writes in her diary about political intrigues, weddings, battles, and other experiences of her life. Includes historical notes on Jahanara's later life and on the Mogul Empire..

IRELAND:

Youth Fic Banks, Lynne Reid **Maura's Angel** Grade 4-6
Just when her home life and the circumstances in violence-plagued Belfast seem more than she can bear, eleven-year-old Maura encounters an unusual person whose name, Angela, gives a clue to her real identity.

Youth Fic Giff, Patricia Reilly **Nory Ryan's Song** Grade 5-8
When a terrible blight attacks Ireland's potato crop in 1845, twelve-year-old Nory Ryan's courage and ingenuity help her family and neighbors survive.

ISRAEL:

Youth Fic Levine, Anna **Running on Eggs** Grade 4-7
When Karen and Yasmine become friends as well as members of a mixed Arab and Jewish track team in Israel, relatives and friends of both girls disapprove of the relationship.

Youth Fic Orlev, Uri **Lydia, Queen of Palestine** Grade 5-6
A young Jewish girl describes her life in pre-World War II Romania, the chaos of war and her life on a Palestine kibbutz.

Newbery Speare, Elizabeth G. **The Bronze Bow** Grade 6 +
Tale of danger and intrigue when the Roman legions overran the land of Israel.

ITALY:

Youth Fic Alexander, Lloyd **The Rope Trick** Grade 5-7
Motivated by her quest to learn a legendary rope trick, the magician Princess Lidi and her troupe embark on a journey through Renaissance Italy that intertwines adventure, love, and mystery.

Youth Fic Funke, Cornelia Caroline **The Thief Lord**
Two brothers, having run away from the aunt who plans to adopt the younger one, are sought by a detective hired by their aunt, but they have found shelter with--and protection from--Venice's "Thief Lord." Welcome to the magical world of Venice, Italy, where hidden canals and crumbling rooftops shelter runaways and children with incredible secrets.

Youth Fic Napoli, Donna Jo **Three days** Grade 4-6
When her father suddenly dies while on a business trip leaving her alone on an Italian highway, eleven-year-old Jackie worries what will happen when she is picked up by two men with unknown motives.

JAPAN:

Youth Fic Paterson, Katherine **The Master Puppeteer** Grade 6-9
Thirteen-year-old boy describes the poverty and discontent of 18th century Osaka and the world of puppeteers in which he lives.

Youth Fic Say, Allen **The Feast of Lanterns** Grade 2-3
Two young brothers leaving on a small Japanese island steal their Uncle's boat to visit the mainland for the first time.

Youth Fic Faulkner, Matt **Black Belt** Grade 1-3
After hiding in a karate school to escape a bully, Bushi wakes up in another time and learns from a karate master that intelligence can be more powerful than mere strength.

KOREA:

Youth Fic Park, Linda Sue **A Single Shard** Grade 4-8
Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge in a potters' village, and longs to learn how to throw the delicate celadon ceramics himself.

Youth Fic Park, Linda Sue **Seesaw Girl** Grade 4-6
Impatient with the constraints put on her as an aristocratic girl living in Korea during the seventeenth century, twelve-year-old Jade Blossom determines to see beyond her small world.

KUWAIT:

Youth Fic Giff, Patricia Reilly **The War Began at Supper: Letters to Miss Loria** Grade 2-5
The children in Mrs. Clark's class write letters to their former student teacher about events at school mixed with comments on the Persian Gulf Crisis.

LIBERIA:

Youth Fic Zemser, Amy **Beyond the Mango Tree** Grade 5-8
While living in Liberia with her possessive, diabetic mother and often-absent father, twelve-year-old Sarina longs for a friend with whom to experience the world beyond her yard.

MEXICO:

- Youth Fic George, Jean C. **Shark Beneath the Reef** Grades 7-9
A young Mexican fisherman comes of age as he becomes aware of the politics, corruption and changes around him.
- Youth Fic Jennings, Patrick **Faith and the Electric Dogs** Grade 4-6
Because Faith hates her life in Mexico she and her faithful mutt Edison flee by rocket and find adventures.
- Youth Fic Little, Kimberley Griffiths **Enchanted runner** Grade 4-6
Twelve-year-old Kendall, half Anglo and half Acoma, discovers his heritage and his destiny as a runner when he visits his great-grandfather's pueblo and finds a culture he used to hear about from his deceased mother.
- Youth Fic Ryan, Pan Munoz **Becoming Naomi Leon** Grade 5-8
When Naomi's absent mother resurfaces to claim her, Naomi runs away to Mexico with her great-grandmother and younger brother in search of her father.
- Youth Fic Ryan, Pan Munoz **Esperanza Rising** Grade 6-9
Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.
- Youth Fic Stolz, Mary **The Dragons of the Queen** Grade 4-6
Two unpleasant American tourists in Mexico find their attitudes greatly changed when they are forced to spend the night in a crumbling hacienda.

NATIVE AMERICAN:

- Youth Fic Adler, C. S. **A Tribe for Lexi** Grade 4-6
Twelve-year-old Lexi finds freindship with her cousin and decides to help him attain his heart's desire.
- Youth Fic Clark, Ann Nolan **Little Navajo Bluebird** Grade 5 +
Describes the simple life among Navajo's today—caring for sheep, weaving blankets and making jewelry.
- Youth Fic Erdrich, Louise **The Birchbark House** Grade 4-6

Omakayas, a seven-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe, lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847.

- Youth Fic Gregory, Kristiana **Legend of Jimmy Spoon** Grades 5-7
Adventures of a young white boy living among the Shoshoni Indians during early frontier days.
- Youth Fic Gregory, Kristiana **Jenny of the Tetons** Grades 5-7
Fifteen-year-old Carrie Hill is taken to live with an English trapper and his Indian wife after being orphaned from an Indian raid.
- Youth Fic Martin, Bill **Knots on a Counting Rope** Grades K-4
A boy and his grandfather reminisce about his birth, his first horse and an exciting horse race.
- Youth Fic Robinson, Margaret **A Woman of Her Tribe** Grades 7-10
Fifteen-year-old Annette tries to decide which cultural heritage she should pursue, that of her English mother or her dead Nootka Indian father.
- Youth Fic Root, Phyllis **The Listening Silence** Grades 4-6
Young Indian girl triumphs over her fears and proves herself worthy to be a mystical healer.
- Newbery Speare, Elizabeth G. **Sign of the Beaver** Grades 5+
Local Indians teach boy survival skills in 18th century Maine when he is left alone to guard the family farm.
- Youth Fic Thomsma, Kenneth **Naya Nuki** Grades 4-6
A Shoshoni girl escapes from an enemy tribe and makes a thousand-mile journey through wilderness in search of her own people.

NETHERLANDS:

- Youth Fic Gilson, Jamie **Stink Alley** Grade 4-6
Living in Holland in 1614 with the harsh Puritan leader, William Brewster, and working for the family of a mischievous Dutch boy named Rembrandt, a spirited twelve-year-old orphan girl struggles to do what is right.
- Youth Fic Vos, Ida **Dancing on the Bridge of Avignon** Grade 3-7
Relates the experiences of a young Jewish girl and her family during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands.

Youth Fic Weston, Carol **Melanie Martin Goes Dutch: the private diary of my almost bummer summer with Cecily, Matt the brat, and Vincent van Go Go Go** Grade 4-6
In her diary, ten-year-old Melanie describes how she and her family, accompanied by her best friend Cecily, travel to the Netherlands, where they have a good time despite Cecily's concern for her mother's health and Melanie's struggles with her little brother and her own attitude.

PERU:

Youth Fic Clark, Ann Nolan **Secret of the Andes** Grade 5 +
While tending llamas in a hidden valley in Peru a young Indian boy learns the traditions and secrets of his Inca ancestors.

POLAND:

Newbery Kelly, Eric Philbrook **The Trumpeter of Krakow** Grade 5-8
A Polish family in the Middle Ages guards a great secret treasure and a boy's memory of an earlier trumpeter of Krakow makes it possible for him to save his father.

Youth Fic Michael, Mark **Toba** Grades 4-6
Nine stories of ten-year-old Toba describing Jewish life in Poland around 1910.

RUSSIA:

Youth Fic Moss, Marissa **Hannah's Journal : The Story of an Immigrant Girl** Grade 3-5
In the Russian shtetl where she and her family live, Hannah is given a diary for her tenth birthday, and in it she records the dramatic story of her journey to America.

SPAIN:

Youth Fic Hahn, Mary Downing **Spanish Kidnapping Disaster** Grades 4-6
While accompanying parents on their honeymoon, two step-sisters are kidnapped after one brags to a stranger about family wealth.

Newbery Wojciechowska, Maia **Shadow of a Bull** Grade 3-5
Manolo is forced to make a decision to follow his father as a bullfighter or to follow his heart to become a doctor.

SWEDEN:

- Youth Fic Lindgren, Astrid **Pippi Longstocking** Grade 2-4
Escapades of Pippi Longstocking, the strongest girl in the world, who lives with a horse and a monkey--but without any parents--in a villa at the edge of a Swedish village.
- Youth Fic Lindgren, Astrid **Mischievous Meg** Grade 5-6
The madcap adventures of a ten-year-old girl and her tag-along little sister in a Swedish village

SWITZERLAND:

- Youth Fic Creech, Sharon **Bloomability** Grade 5-7
When her aunt and uncle take her from New Mexico to Lugano, Switzerland, to attend an international school, thirteen-year-old Dinnie discovers her world expanding.
- Youth Fic MacKellar, William **The Silent Bells** Grade 3-7
A young Swiss girl hopes the long-silent cathedral bells will ring after a special gift is presented on Christmas Eve.
- Youth Fic Spyri, Johanna **Heidi** Grade 3-7
Swiss orphan is heartbroken when she must leave her beloved grandfather to care for an invalid girl in the city.

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