

Multicultural Children's Books  
Developed by Idali Feliciano

Ada, A. F. (1993).

*My name is Maria Isabel.*

New York: Simon & Schuster.

(Hispanic)

Grades 2-5.

A child struggles to make people understand that her name is not Mary, but Maria.

Adler, D. (1993).

*A picture book of Fredrick Douglass.*

New York: Holiday House.

(African American)

Ages 4 - 8.

A biography of the former slave, turned orator, writer, and leader of the abolitionist movement.

Adler, D. A. (1994).

*A picture book of Harriet Tubman.*

New York: Holiday House.

Ages 4 - 8.

A children's biography of a black woman who escaped from slavery to become a famous Conductor of the Underground Railroad.

Altman, L. (1993).

*Amelia's road.*

New York: Lee & Low Books, Inc.

(Hispanic) (Bilingual)

Ages 3 - 10.

A migrant child yearns to have a stable home instead of moving from place to place. She creates a special place for herself. She makes the best of a difficult reality.

Altman, L. J. (2000).

*The legend of freedom hill.*

New York: Lee & Low.

(Jewish-Holocaust)

Ages: 4 - up.

Rosabel and Sophie become best friends because they are both outsiders. Rosabel is African-American and Sophie is Jewish.

Anaconda, D. (1992).

*Barrio: Jose's neighborhood.*

New York: Harcourt .

(Mexican-American)

Ages 9 - 12.

Depicts real life in a barrio and the life of Mexican-Americans, recreation, holidays, as seen by an 8-year-old.

Anzaldua, G. (1993).

*Friends from the other side/Amigos del otro lado.*

New York: Children's Book Press.

(Hispanic)

Ages 4 - 8.

A straightforward description of how illegal immigrants are viewed in Texas.

Anzaldua, G. (1996).

*Prietita and the ghost woman/Prietita y La llorona.*

San Francisco: Children's Book Press.

(Hispanic)

Grades: 3 & up.

A daughter searches for the plant that will cure her mother. A different interpretation of "La Llorona."

Argueta, M. (1990).

*Magic dogs of the volcanoes.*

San Francisco: Children's Book Press.

(Latino)

Magic dogs live in the volcanoes of El Salvador and protest the villagers from harm.

Auerbacher, I. (1993).

*I am a star: child of the holocaust.*

New York: Puffin Books.

(Jewish)

Ages: 9 - 12.

The author reminisces about her childhood in Germany, many of which were spent in a Nazi Concentration Camp.

Barber, B. (1998).

*Allie's basketball dream.*

New York: Lee and Low.

(African American)

Grades 2 & up.

Allie's father encourages her that practice makes perfect on the basketball court.

Beals, M.P. (1995).

*Warriors don't cry: a searing memoir of the battle to integrate Little Rock Central High.*

Archway Paperbacks.

(African-American)

Grades: Middle School & up.

In 1957, a 16 year old Melba, Patillo, kept a diary of her experiences as 1 of 9 students selected to integrate Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Belton, S. (1993).

*From Miss Ida's porch.*

New York: Aladdin.

(African American)

Ages 7 - 10.

In the evening the residents of Church Street gather on Miss Ida's porch to share memories and hear stories about past, events significant to black people.

Belton, S. (2000).

*McKendree.*

New York: Alfred Knopf.

(African American)

Ages 9 - 12.

In 1948, while spending the summer with her aunt in West Virginia to find her family roots, Tilara Haynes finds new beginnings and self love in an unexpected place: an old folk's home called McKendree.

Bethancourt, E. (1985).

*The me inside of me.*

Minneapolis: Lerner Publications.

Grades: 6 - 8.

An orphan boy becomes wealthy and discovers how money creates unexpected problems.

Bitton-Jackson, L. (1997).

*I have lived a thousand years: growing up in the holocaust.*

New York: Simon Schuster.

(Jewish)

Grades 8 & up.

Author recounts the true story of when at the age of 13 he was interned, along with her mother in Auschwitz, and how they managed to survive.

Bodeen-Stuve, S. (1998).

*Elizabeti's doll.*

New York: Lee and Low Books.

(Tanzanian)

Ages 4 & up.

Elizabeti wants a doll she can care for like her mother cares for her new baby brother. She names her doll Eva.

Brown, T. (1995).

*Konnichiwa! I am a Japanese American Girl.*

New York: Holt.

Ages 4 - 8.

Japanese-American experience in San Francisco from the point of view of a child.

Bruchac, J. (1996).

*Children of the longhouse.*

New York: Dial Books.

(Native American)

Grades: 3 - 6.

A young boy prevents a raid on a neighboring village by telling on his friends. He will be forced to face them in a contest. The story of how strawberries bring healing to the world through acts of kindness and forgiveness.

Bruchac, J. (1997).

*Eagle song.*

New York: Dial Books.

(Native American)

Grades 4 & up.

After moving from a Mohawk Reservation to Brooklyn, New York, fourth grader Danny Bigtree encounters stereotypes about his Native American heritage.

Bruchac, J. (1993).

*The first strawberries: a Cherokee story.*

New York: Dial Books.

(Cherokee)

Ages 4 - 8.

The story of how strawberries bring healing to the world through acts of kindness and forgiveness

Bunting, E. (1989).

*Terrible things: an allegory of the Holocaust.*

New York: Philomel Books.

(Jewish)

Ages 9 - 12.

Something takes all the forest animals away and only Rabbit survives to tell about it.

Buss, F. L. (1991).

*Journey of the sparrows.*

New York: Dutton.

(Hispanic)

Grades: 6 - 8.

Tells the experience of an illegal immigrant family who struggled to feed the family. Family support will be the responsibility of Maria, the oldest daughter.

Carnes, J. (1995).

*Us and them: a history of intolerance in America.*

Birmingham: Southern Poverty Law Center.

(Multicultural)

Ages High School & up.

Articles discuss how major "minority" groups in America have been subjected to prejudice and discrimination by the government. Provides basic history of groups generally excluded from mainstream history books.

Carson, B. S. (1992).

*Gifted hands.*

Zondervan.

(African American)

Ages Young Adult.

Autobiography of a young boy, raised in the inner city, and became a very successful surgeon. He has successfully performed surgery on 30 sets of Siamese twins. He credits his mother with his success because she forced him to learn and do well in school.

Castaneda, O. (1993).

*Abuela's Weave.*

New York: Lee & Low Books.

(Latino) (Hispanic)

Ages 4 - 8.

A young Guatemalan girl and her grandmother grow closer together as they weave some special creations and then make a trip to the market in hopes of selling them. (Bilingual).

Cedeno, M.E. (1993).

*Cesar Chavez: labor leader.*

Brookfield, CT: Hispanic Heritage, the Millbrook Press. (Mexican American) Grade 3 - 8.

The focus of the book are the accomplishments of Chavez, who fought to improve the lives of Mexican-American farm workers in California.

Cheng, A. (2000).

*Grandfather counts.*

New York: Lee and Low Books. (Chinese American) Ages 4 - 6.

When her maternal grandfather comes from China, Helen, who is bi-racial, develops a special bond with him despite their age and language differences.

Chin, K. (1995).

*Sam and the lucky money.*

New York: Lee & Low Books. (Chinese American) Ages 3 - 9.

During Chinese New Year a young boy encounters a homeless person and discovers that no gift is too small when it comes from the heart.

Chin, S. (1993).

*When justice failed Fred Korematsu.*

TX: Steck-Vaugh Co. (Japanese-American) Grades 6 - 8.

Alfred, a Japanese-American, refused to obey the Internment order of the U. S. military during World War and took his case to the U.S. Supreme Court. But, did justice serve him?

Chin-Lee, C. (1993).

*Almoond cookies and dragon well tea.*

Chicago: Polychrome Publishing. Ages 4 - 8.

Two girls, one white and one Chinese learn to share and become friends.

Chocolate, D. (1995).

*On the day I was born.*

New York: Scholastic, Inc. (African American) Ages 3 - 7.

Describes how African American family welcomes a new baby into the family.

Christopher, M. (1988).

*Shortstop from Toyko.*

New York: Little Brown & Co. (Japanese American) Grades: 6 - 8.

Hideko (Sam) Suzuki emigrates from Japan and plays shortstop in Little League.

Cisneros, S. (1994).

*Hairs/Pelitos.*

New York: Alfred A. Knoph. (Mexican-American) (Hispanic) Ages 4 - 8.

A picture book that shows various types of hair in one girl's family.

Cohlene, S. D. (1995).

*Little Fire fly: an Algonquian legend.*

FL: Water Mill Press. (Native American) Ages 4 - 8.

Retells the Algonquian Indian legend of how a young girl, badly mistreated by her sisters, becomes the bride of the great hunter known as the Invisible One.

Coleman, E. (1996).

*White socks only.*

New Jersey: People's Publishing Group. (African- American) Ages: 4 - 8.

On a hot Mississippi day, a young girl innocently drinks from the "whites only" fountain, thinking it meant only that she had to do so while standing in her white socks, only to come face to face with the harsh realities of racism.

Coles, R. (1995).

*The story of Ruby Bridges.*

New York: Scholastic, Inc. (African American) Ages 4 - 8.

The true story of a black child who was forced to face racism and hatred by being sent to the first grade in an all white school.

Collier, J. & C. Collier. (1981).  
*Jump ship to freedom.*

New York: Demco Media. (African American) Ages 8 - 12.

A boy and his mother are kept slaves even though his father served in the Revolutionary War and earned enough credits to buy their freedom.

Collier, J. & C. Collier. (1983).  
*War comes to Willie Freeman.*

New York: Delacorte Press. (African American) Grades: 9 - 12.

A free 13 year-old girl in Connecticut is caught up in horrors of Revolutionary War, and the possibility of being returned to slavery.

Collier, J. & C. Collier. (1992).  
*With every drop of blood: a novel of the Civil War.*

New York: Delacorte. Ages 9 - 12.

A 14 year-old black child is captured by a Black Union soldier as he transport food to Richmond, Virginia during the American Civil War.

Cooper, M. (1998).  
*Gettin through Thursday.*

New York: Lee and Low. (African American) Ages 4 - 10.

A young African American boy experiences the love and support of his family as they try to make ends meet each week.

Crowley, J. (1998).  
*Gracias - the Thanksgiving turkey.*

New York: Scholastic, Inc. (Puerto Rican-Hispanic) Ages 4 - 8.

A young Puerto Rican boy saves the life of his pet turkey.

Davis, O. (1992).  
*Just like Martin.*

New York: Puffin. (Black) Ages 11 - 14.

14 year-old Ike Stone and his pals are thrilled to be part of the Civil Rights movement sweeping the South in the 1960s, but the depth of racial hatred is brought home when two of the children are killed in bombing. (Review: Publishers Weekly, 1994).

De Jesus, J. (1997).  
*Growing up Puerto Rican.*

New York: Morrow and Company. Ages High School and up.

Puerto Rican authors write fiction and essays about childhood.

Delacre, L. (1989).  
*Arroz con leche: popular songs and rhymes from Latin America.*

New York: Scholastic Inc. (Hispanic) Grades Pre-school - 3.

Delgado, M. I. (1998).  
*Chave's Memories.*

Houston: Pinata Books (Hispanic) Ages 3 - 7

Denenberg, B. (1990).  
*Stealing home: the story of Jackie Robinson.*

New York: Scholastic, Inc. (African American) Ages 8 - 12.

A fascinating true story of the man who integrated the game of baseball and changed it forever.

DePoala, T. (1973).

*Nana upstairs and Nana downstairs.*

New York: Puffin Books.

(Jewish)

Ages K and up.

Tommy loved his family's Sunday visit to his grandmother Nana Downstairs, and his great grandmother, Nana Upstairs. When Nana Upstairs dies, it is the closeness of his loving family which comforts him and helps him to accept her death.

Durros, A. (1995).

*Isla/Island.*

New York: Dutton Children's Books.

(Hispanic)

Grades 2 and up.

A young girl and her grandmother make an imaginary journey to the Caribbean island where her mother grew-up and where some of her family still lives.

Drucker, M. & M. Halperin. (1993).

*Jacob's rescue: a holocaust story.*

New York: Bantam.

(Jewish)

Ages 9 - 12.

Eight year old Jacob escapes from the Warsaw Ghetto and is saved by Alex Roslan and his family. Through fear, sickness, and hunger, these Polish citizens protect Jacob.

Durros, A. (1991).

*Abuela/Grandmother.*

New York: Dutton.

(Hispanic)

Ages 4 - 8.

A small girl imagines her grandmother and herself flying around Manhattan.

Feelings, T. (1993).

*Soul looks back in wonder.*

New York: Dial Books.

Grades Middle & High

School.

A collection of powerful poems by and about African Americans.

Feelings, T. (1995).

*The middle passage: white ships/black cargo.*

New York: Dial Books.

Ages: 14 and up.

Author depicts the tragedy of Africans wrested from their villages and brought in chains to the Americas to be sold as slaves. (Notable Children's Book Award).

Fournoy, V. (1985).

*The patchwork quilt.*

New York: Dial.

Ages 4 - 8.

Friedman, I. (1995).

*Flying against the wind: the story of a young woman who defied the Nazis.*

Lodgepole Press.

(Jewish)

Grades 6 and up.

The author writes about the true story of Cato Bontjes Van Beek, a young German woman, was executed by the Nazis for her anti Nazi resistance. She and her family helped hide Jews during World War II.

Friedman, I. (1987).

*How my parents learned to eat.*

New York: Turtleback.

(Bi-racial)

Ages 5 - 6.

A U.S. sailor stationed in Japan falls in love with a Japanese woman. Each is afraid to eat out because he doesn't know how to use chopsticks and she must learn to eat with a fork. They both secretly learn the other's way of eating before going out.

- Gaines, E. (1993).  
*A lesson before dying*.  
 New York: Knopf, Inc. (African American) Grades Middle and up.  
 Jefferson, a black youth, gets caught in the wrong place during a violent crime and is sentenced to death for a crime he did not do.
- Garcia, M. (1994).  
*The adventures of Connie and Diego*.  
 San Francisco: Children's Books. (Hispanic) Ages 6 and up.  
 Tired of being teased because they were born with different colors all over their bodies, Connie and Diego leave the Land of Plenty. A contemporary legend of mixed-race twins who search for a place to belong.
- Garey, L. (1997).  
*Pedrito's Day*.  
 New York: Orchard Books. (Latino) Grades 2 and up.  
 When Pedrito replaces, from his own earnings, money he has lost, his mother decides that he is finally big enough for some of his father's earnings to be used towards buying him a bicycle.
- Garland, S. (1993).  
*Shadow of the dragon*.  
 Orlando: Harcourt Brace. (Vietnamese) Grades: High school.  
 Danny Vo tries to bring peace between a Vietnamese gang and his girlfriend's brother, a skinhead.
- Gilles, A. A. (2001).  
*Willie Wins*.  
 New York: Lee and Low Books. (Filipino American) Ages 4 - 8.  
 Willie's father tells him there is something special in an old coconut bank brought from the Philippines, but Willie is embarrassed to take it to school for a contest, especially since he knows that one of his classmates will make fun of him.
- Gilman, P. (1992).  
*Something for nothing*.  
 New York: Scholastic, Inc. (Jewish) Ages 5 and up.  
 Grandfather takes Joseph's blanket and continues to make other articles of clothing from it.
- Gonzalez, F. (1993).  
*Gloria Estefan: Cuban American singing star*.  
 Brookfield: Millbrook Press. (Hispanic) Grades Middle and up.  
 A biography of singer Gloria, covering her early years in Cuba to their forced immigration to the U.S.
- Gordon, H. (1992).  
*The last sunrise*.  
 Salinas, CA: H & J Publishing. (Jewish) Ages 10 and up.  
 True story of the author who endured 5 horrific years in concentration camps, but managed to keep positive in body and soul.
- Greenfield, E. (1994).  
*Mary McLeod Bethune*.  
 New York: HarperTrophy. (African American) Ages 8 and up.  
 Biography of an outstanding black educator who changed the lives of many.
- Hamanaka, S. (1994).  
*All the colors of the earth*.  
 New York: Morrow and Company. (All Peoples) Ages 4 - 8.  
 A series of pictures showing showing the diversity of children throughout the world.

Hamanaka, S. (1990).

*The journey: Japanese Americans, racism, & removal.*

New York: Orchard Books.

Ages 9 - 12.

Text and details of a mural depict the history of the Japanese people in the United States.

Hamilton, V. (1988).

*Anthony Burns: the defeat and triumph of a fugitive slave.*

New York: Knoph.

Ages 10 and up.

Burns, a runaway slave escapes to Boston but is captured and put in prison. He becomes a symbol for freedom but is eventually returned to his master. Finally, his supporters buy his freedom and he goes on to become a minister.

Hamilton, V. (1990).

*Cousins.*

New York: Putnam.

(African-American)

Grades: 4 - 6.

Concerned that her grandmother may die, Cammy is unprepared for the death of another relative.

Hamilton, V. (1993).

*Many Thousand gone: African-Americans from slavery to freedom.*

New York: Alfred Knoph.

Ages 8 and up.

Recounts the journey of Black slaves via the Underground Railroad and those who helped them.

Hamilton, V. (1994).

*The house of Dies Drear.*

New York: Aladdin.

(African American)

Ages 10 and up.

The Small family moves into a house that was part of the Underground Railroad. Follow the adventures of young Thomas as he explores the house and the legends of the house.

Harris, J. (1998).

*A Kawanzaa keepsake: celebrating the holiday with new traditions and feasts.*

New York:

Provides recipes and other ideas for celebrating this African American holiday.

Hess, D. (1990).

*Thurgood Marshall: the fight for equal justice.*

New York: Silver Burdett.

(African-American)

Ages 9 - 12.

The life of the first black supreme court associate justice.

Hoffman, M. (1991).

*Amazing Grace.*

New York: Scholastic.

Grades 6 - 8.

Hoffman, M. (1995).

*Boundless Grace.*

New York: Dial. Ages 4 - 8.

Hooks, M. (1991).

*Freedom's Fruit.*

New York: Alfred Knoph.

(African American)

Ages 4 - 8.

Marina, a slave woman and conjurer in the South, casts a spell on the Master's grapes as part of her plan to win freedom for her daughter and her friend.



- Hopkinson, D. (1993).  
*Sweet Clara and the freedom quilt.*  
 New York: Knopf. (African American) Ages 4 - 8.  
 Clara, slave and seamstress, knows that the Underground Railroad can bring freedom. In search of freedom she begins to piece together scraps of cloth with information gathered from other slaves, and fashions a secret map unrecognizable to her master.
- Howard, E. F. (1991).  
*Aunt Flossie's hats (and Crab cakes later).*  
 New York: Clarion. (African American) Ages 4 - 9.  
 Sarah and Susan visit their great-great Aunt Fossie and hear her stories of when she was young and growing up.
- Hudson, W. (1991).  
*Jamal's busy day.*  
 Orange, NJ: Just Us Books. (African American) Ages 4 - 8.  
 One will follow the events in Jamal's day, as seen through his own perspective.
- Hurwitz, J. (1990).  
*Class President.*  
 New York: Scholastic. (Hispanic) Ages 9 - 12.  
 Julio hides his own leadership ambitions to help another candidate win the nomination for class president.
- Innocenti, R. (1985).  
*Rose Blanche.*  
 Minneapolis: Creative Education, Inc. (German/Jewish) Ages 4 - 8.  
 Rose Blanche, a German child, shows compassion for Jewish children interned in a concentration by sneaking food to them. A heart-warming story that gives us hope in humanity.
- Ishikawa, Y. (1991).  
*Strawberry road.*  
 New York: Kodanska. (Japanese-American) Grades: Middle School & up.  
 A chronicle of Ishikawa's life as a teen-aged migrant worker in 1965 and his struggle to get an education and make sense of his life in America.
- Jimenez, F. (1998).  
*La Mariposa (The Butterfly).*  
 Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. (Mexican American) (Hispanic) Ages 6 and up.  
 Because he can only speak Spanish, Francisco, the son of a migrant worker, has trouble when he begins first grade, but his fascination with the caterpillar in the classroom helps him begin to fit in.
- Johnson, D. (1993).  
*Now let me fly: the story of a slave family.*  
 New York: Aladdin Books. Ages 4 - 8.  
 A young girl recalls her capture in Africa, the journey to America, the auction, and the brutality of slavery.
- Jules, J. (1994).  
*The grey striped shirt: how grandpa and grandma survived the holocaust.*  
 Los Angeles: Alef Design. (Jewish) Grades 3 - 6.  
 When Frannie finds a grey striped shirt in the closet, she asks questions, that force her grandparents to tell her about their experiences in the holocaust.

Karas, P. (1995).

*The hate crime.*

Dresden, TN: Avon Books.

(Jewish-American)

Grades: 8 and up.

A sickness that once swept the world, killing millions, rears its ugly head in a quiet community and turns friends against friend. A hate crime against the Jewish community is committed and Zack knows who did it. Zack's father is the prosecuting attorney

Keats, J. E. (1999).

*My dog is lost.*

New York: Penguin Books.

Ages 4 - 8.

Two days after arriving in New York from Puerto Rico, eight year- old Juanito, who speaks no English, loses his dog and searches for it all over the city making new friends along the way.

Keegan, M. (1991).

*Pueblo boy: growing up in two worlds.*

New York: Dutton.

(Native American)

Ages 9 - 12.

Depicts the life of a young Indian boy growing up on San Ildefonso Pueblo, New Mexico.

Keister, D. (1997).

*Fernando's Gift.*

San Francisco: Sierra Club Book for Children.

(Hispanic)

Grades 2 and up.

One day young Fernando, who lives in the rain forest of Costa Rica with his family, goes with his friend, Carmina to look for her favorite climbing tree only to find it cut down. Bilingual.

Kerr, J. (1971).

*When Hitler stole pink rabbit.*

New York: A Yearling Book.

(Jewish)

Grades 1 - 9.

Anna and her family seek refuge from the Nazis and travel from country to another in search of freedom. They encounter numerous obstacles but manage to stay together through their ordeal.

Kindersley, B. & A. (1995).

*Children like me.*

New York: Dorling Kindersley Publishers.

Ages 4 - 8.

20 children from around the world share their lives, dreams and hopes.

Knight, M. B. (1993).

*Who belongs here.*

Gardiner, ME: Tilbury House Publishers.

(Asian)

Ages: 3 - 8.

Tells about the new life of Nary, Cambodian, which encounters prejudice in her new life in the United States.

Korn, J. (Ed.). (1995).

*Abe's story: a holocaust memoir.*

Atlanta: Longstreet Press.

(Jewish)

Young Adult.

A holocaust survivor's true story. The survivor's son edited the book after his father's death.

Kraus, J. (1993).

*Tall boy's journey.*

Carolrhoda Books.

(Korean American)

Ages 9 - 12.

A U.S. family adopts a Korean-American boy and everyone must learn to adjust.

Lacapa, K. and M. (1994).

*Less than half, more than whole.*

Northland, AZ.

(Native American)

Ages 4 - 8.

A child who is only part Native-American is troubled by his mixed racial heritage and learns a lesson.

Lachtman, O. D. (1995).

*Pepita talks twice.*

Houston: Pinata Books.

(Hispanic)

Grades K - 3.

Pepita, a little girl who can speak in Spanish and English, decides not to "speak twice" until unanticipated problems cause her to think twice about her decision. (Bilingual).

Lee, Gus. (1994).

*Honor and duty.*

New York: Ivy Books.

(Chinese-American)

Grades: High school.

Details the life of Kai Ting through his ordeal at West Point as the only Chinese-American in the school.

Lee, M. (1993).

*If it hadn't been for Yoon Jun.*

New York: Houghton Mifflin/Avon.

(Korean American)

Young Adult.

A Korean girl learns about her own heritage after she becomes friend with another Korean girl.

Lee, M. G. (1992).

*Finding my voice.*

New York: Houghton Mifflin.

(Korean American)

Grades Middle and up.

Ellen Sung is the only Asian-American in a small school in Minnesota and is having trouble finding her identity. Should she follow her sister to Harvard, receive a letter in gymnastics, and/or forgive the racial comments she hears?

Lester, J. (1998).

*From slave ship to freedom road.*

New York: Dial Books.

(African American)

Ages 10 and up.

A powerful commentary about slavery.

Levitin, S. (1993).

*Journey to America*

New York: Antheneum.

(Jewish)

Ages 9 - 12

A Jewish family fleeing from Nazi Germany in 1938 endures innumerable hardships

Levitin, S. (1993).

*Journey to America.*

S & S Children's.

(Jewish-Holocaust)

Grades: 3 - 7.

A Jewish family fleeing from Nazi Germany in 1938 endures innumerable hardships.

Lisa, W. N. (1995).

*Bein with you this way.*

New York: Lee and Low.

(African American)

Ages 2 - 8.

A playground rap introduces young readers to how people are different and yet the same.

Lopez, L. (1997).

*The birthday swap.*

New York: Lee and Low Books.

(Hispanic)

Grades 1 - 5.

A Mexican-American girl searches for the perfect gift for her sister.

Lord, B. G. (1984).

*In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson.*

New York: Harper.

(Chinese American)

Ages 7 - 11.

Fictionalized story of the author's life growing up in Brooklyn, New York.

Lowry, L. (1989).

*Number the stars.*

Boston: Houghton Mifflin. (Jewish-Holocaust) Grades: Middle School & up.  
Courageous Danish Christians join together to save Danish Jews from the Nazis.

Lyons, M. (1992).

*Letters from a slave girl: The story of Harriet Jacobs.*

Charles Scribner's Sons. Young Adult.

Fictional story based on true events in which Harriet writes letters describing her slavery in North Carolina and her preparations for escape in 1842.

Lyons, M. E. (1992).

*Letters from a slave girl: the story of Harriet Jacobs.*

New York: Ages 12 - 16.

Fictional story based on the true events in which Harriet writes letters describing her slavery in North Carolina and her preparations to escape in 1842.

Martin, B. & J. Archambault. (1987).

*Knots on a counting rope.*

New York: Holt & Company. (Native American) Ages 4 - 8.

Boy-Strength-of Horse and his grandfather reminisce about the young boy's birth, his first horse, and an exciting horse race.

Matas, C. (1993).

*Daniel's story.*

New York: Scholastic, Inc. (Jewish-Holocaust) Ages: 9 -12.

Daniel and his family courageously survive the holocaust "for all those who couldn't."

Mathias, S. B. (1975).

*The hundred penny box.*

New York: Viking Press. (African American) Ages 6 and up.

Michael's love for his great-great aunt is tested when he intervenes when his mother tries to throw out his aunt's old things.

McKay, L. (1998).

*Journey home.*

New York: Lee and Low Books. (Vietnamese) Ages 4 - 8.

A Vietnamese-American girl tells the story of her search for mother's birth family. Daughter and mother relationship is explored. (Review by Booklist).

McKissack, P. C. (1986).

*Flossie and the fox.*

New York: Dutton. (African American) Ages 4 - 8.

A fox meets his match when he encounters a bold little girl in the woods who wants the fox to prove he is fox before she will be frightened of him.

Means, F. C. (1992).

*The moved – Outers.*

New York: Walker Publishing Company. Grades: High School and up.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941, life changes drastically for 18 year old Sumiko Ohara and her family when they are sent from their home in California to a series of relocation camps in the U.S.

Miller, W. (1996).

*Fredrick Douglass: the last day of slavery.*

New York: Lee and Low Books.

Ages 4 - 8.

A story of a young African-American slave, who overcame numerous obstacles, became a scholar, freedom fighter and a role model for others.

Miller, W. & J. Ward. (1998).

*The Bus Ride.*

New York: Lee & Low Books.

(African-American)

Ages: 4 - 8.

A black child protests an unjust law in this story loosely based on the Rosa Park's historic decision not to give up her seat to a white passenger on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955.

Mochizuki, K. (1993).

*Baseball saved us.*

New York: Lee & Low.

(Japanese/American)

Grades: 2 and up.

A Japanese-American boy learns to play baseball when he and his family are forced to live in an internment camp during World War II, and his ability to play helps him after the war. He encounters racism while also finding hope and self-respect.

Mochizuki, K. (1997).

*Heroes.*

New York: Lee and Low.

(Japanese American)

Grades 4 and up.

A Japanese American boy learns about heroism from his father and uncle, who served in the U. S. Army during World War II.

Mohr, N. (1986).

*Going home.*

New York: Bantam.

(Puerto Rican) (Hispanic)

Grades 6 - 8.

This story is a sequel to Felita.

Mohr, N. (1993).

*All for the better: a story of el barrio.*

TX: Steck-Vaugh.

(Puerto Rican) (Hispanic)

Grades 2 - 5.

Author tells the true story of a young girl, Evelina Lopez Anonetty, who made a difference in her community.

Mohr, N. (1996).

*Felita.*

New York: Dell Publishing.

(Puerto Rican) (Hispanic)

Grades 6 - 8.

Felita loves her neighborhood, but her parents decide to move. The family encounters prejudice in the new neighborhood and decide to return to the old barrio. Felita discovers that she has changed as a result of the family's encounter with prejudice.

Mora, P. (1992).

*A birthday basket for Tia.*

New York: McMillian.

(Hispanic)

Grades K - 2.

Cecilia prepares a surprise gift for her great-aunt's ninetieth birthday with the help and interference of her cat, Chica.

Mora, P. (1996).

*Confetti: poems for children.*

New York: Lee and Low Books.

(Hispanic)

Ages 4 and up.

This is a collection of poetry for children.

Mora, P. (1994).

*Pablo's tree.*

New York: Simon and Schuster. (Mexican American) (Hispanic) Ages 4 - 8.

Each year on his birthday a young Mexican American boy looks forward to seeing how his Grandfather has decorated the tree he planted on the day the boy was adopted.

Mora, P. (1997).

*Tomas and the library lady.*

New York: Knoph. (Mexican American) (Hispanic)

While helping his family in their work as migrant workers far from their home, Tomas finds an entire world at the local public library.

Nir, Y. (1989).

*The Lost Childhood.*

New York: Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich. (Jewish) Grades Middle School and up.

Story told by the author of her experiences surviving in Nazi occupied Poland and how she survived.

Nolan, H. (1994).

*If I should die before I wake.*

New York: Harcourt. (Jewish) Grades 9 - 12.

As Hillary, a Neo-Nazi initiate, lies in a coma, she is transported back to Poland at the onset of World War II into the life of Jewish teenager.

Oppeheim S. L. (1992).

*Lily cupboard: story of the holocaust.*

New York: Hyprion Children. (Jewish) Grades 5 - 9.

Jewish girl is forced to leave her parents and hide with strangers in the country in Holland.

Palacios, A. (1994).

*Standing tall: the stories of 10 Hispanic-Americans.*

New York: Scholastic. Ages Young Adult.

Profiles the lives of Gloria Estefan, Franklin Chang Diaz, Admiral Farragut, and other famous Hispanics.

Parks, G. (1992).

*The learning tree.*

New York: Fawcett. (African American) Grades Middle & High School.

Black family struggles to understand the challenges of their world.

Parks, R. & J. Reed. (1996).

*Dear Mrs. Parks: a dialog with today's youth.*

New York: Lee & Low. Ages 8 and up.

A collection of letters Rosa Parks has received from young people and her responses.

Paulson, G. (1993).

*Nightjohn.*

New York: Delacorte. (African American) Ages Young Adult.

Sarney faces many dangers when she accepts a newly arrived slave's offer to teach her how to read.

Paulson, G. (1995).

*Tortilla factory.*

New York: Just for kids. (Mexican-American) Grades 5 - 10.

Presents the cycle of life of corn, from the seed to the plant to the tortilla.

Perl, I. & M. B. Blumenthal. (1996).

*Four perfect pebbles.*

Morrow & Co.

(Jewish-Holocaust)

Grades: 5 - 9.

The life of a young girl and her family during the holocaust and their struggle to survive and stay together.

Pico, F. (1991).

*The red comb.*

Mexico: Bridge Water Books. (Puerto Rican)

(Hispanic)

Grades: 2 and up.

Two women, one old, one young, plot to save a slave in 19th century Puerto Rico.

Pinkey, A. D. (1994).

*Dear Benjamin Benneker.*

New York: Gulliver/Harcourt.

(Black)

Ages 5 - 11.

Correspondence between Thomas Jefferson and Benneker, the black mathematician and astronomer. He was a free man during America's slavery period.

Pinkey, A. D. (1996).

*Hold fast to dreams.*

New York: Hyperion Children.

(African American)

Grades 5 - 9.

Diedre resists her younger sister's inclination to "act white" when they move to an all white neighborhood.

Polacco, P. (1992).

*Mrs. Katz and Tush.*

New York: Bantam.

(Jewish-African American)

Grades: 2 and up.

An African-America boy and a Jewish woman become friends and are able to transcend generations and cultures. The young man grows up, marries and becomes a father, always sharing with Mrs. Katz. One day his heart is broken when she dies.

Polacco, P. (1990).

*Pink and Say.*

New York: Putnam Publisher's.

(African American)

Ages 4 - 8.

Story of wart time friendship between a black Union boy and a white Union boy when they are captured and placed in Andersonville Prison.

Qualey, M. (1993).

*Revolutions of the heart.*

New York: Houghton Mifflin.

(Multiracial)

Ages: Young Adult.

Cory copes with tragedy and prejudice when she falls in love with a young Native-American.

Quattlebaum, M. (1995).

*Jackson Jones and the puddle of thorns.*

New York: Dell.

(African American)

Ages 9 - 12.

Jackson's mother gives him a garden plot for his birthday, not the basketball he expected. He plans to earn money from his garden to buy the basketball., but things change along the way.

Quida, S. (1997).

*Words by heart.*

New York: Yearling.

(African American)

Ages Young Adult.

A young black girl, who can recite the scriptures by heart, tries to make her father proud, and the white kids accept her. She enters a Bible contest, and sees the violence that ensues when she wins.

Reiser, L. (1993).

*Margaret and Margarita: Margarita and Margaret.*

New York: Greenwillow.

(Hispanic)

Ages 4 - 8.

Margaret speaks English not Spanish and Margarita speaks Spanish not English. Will they be able to communicate and get along?

Reiss, J. (1976).  
*The journey back.*  
New York: Harper Collins. (Jewish) Grades: Middle School and up.

After spending two years hiding from the Nazis, a Jewish family is reunited and begins the job of rebuilding their country and family.

Reiss, J. (1972).  
*The upstairs room.*  
New York: Bantam Books. (Jewish) Grades: Middle School and up.

The author's experience as a child in Holland during the German occupation in World War II. She describes how she, along with her sister were hidden in a barn for two years.

Ringgold, F. (1992).  
*Aunt Harriet's Underground railroad in the sky.*  
New York: Crown. Ages all ages.  
With Harriet Tubman at her side, Cassie retraces the steps escaping slaves took on the Underground Railroad in order to reunite with her younger brother.

Ringgold, F. (1998).  
*The invisible princess.*  
New York: Random House. (African American) Ages 4 - 8.  
An African-American folktale set during the height of slavery in the United States.

Rodriguez, L. J. (1997).  
*America is her name.*  
Willimantic, CT: Curbstone Press. (Hispanic) Grades 2 and up.  
A Mixteca Indian from Oaxaca, America Soliz, suffers from the poverty and hopelessness of her Chicago ghetto, made more endurable by a desire and determination to be a poet.

Rohmer, H. (1989).  
*Uncle Nacho's hat/El sombrero del tio Nacho.*  
New York: Children's Press. Grades 1 - 3.  
A bilingual folk tale from Nicaragua about a well-meaning man who can't figure out how to make changes in his life until his niece, Ambrosia, shows him how.

Romero-Stevens, J. (1995).  
*Carlos and the cornfield.*  
New York: Northland Publishing. (Mexican-American) Grades 2 and up.  
After some humorous consequences, Carlos learns about the rewards of hard work.

Romero-Stevens, J. (1993).  
*Carlos and the squash plant.*  
New York: (Mexican-American) (Hispanic) Grades 2 and up.  
In this humorous story Carlos learns about the importance of listening and taking a bath.

Ryan, P.M. (2000).  
*Esperanza Rising.*  
New York: Scholastic. (Mexican American) Ages 9 - 12.  
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.



Sach, M. (1973).

*A pocket full of seeds.*

New York: Puffin Book.

(Jewish)

Ages 10 and up.

During World War II in France a young Jewish girl returns home from an overnight trip to find her family has disappeared.

San Souci, R. (1997).

*The hired hand:an African-American folktale.*

New York: Dial Books.

Ages 8 and up.

Old Sam hires a man to help out at his Saw Mill. The hired hand must teach the owner's lazy son a lesson on how to treat people.

Savin, M. (1993).

*The moon bridge.*

New York: Scholastic, Inc.

(Japanese-American) Ages 8 - 12.

Ruthie' friend Mitzi Fujimoto and her family are taken away to an Internment Camp in Arkansas during World War II. They promise to get together after the war in San Francisco. Introduces readers to racism against Japanese during World War II.

Say, A. (1993).

*Grandfather's journey.*

Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

(Japanese American) Ages 4 - 8.

Grandfather is home sick for Japan when in America, and homesick for America when he is in Japan.

Schelman, J. (1992).

*A peddler's dream.*

Austin: Ealkin Press.

(Lebanese) Ages Upper Elementary.

A Lebanese man who comes to America to seek his fortune suffers several setbacks, but makes his dream come true.

Schnur, S. (1994).

*The shadow children.*

New York: Morrow and Company.

(Jewish)

Ages 9 - 12.

Etienne helps elders of a town face the horrors of the holocaust and the murder of thousands of children.

Shiekawa, M. (1993).

*Blue jay in the desert.*

Fort Atkinson, WIS: Highsmith Books.

(Japanese American) Ages 8 and up.

While living in a relocation camp during World War II, a young Japanese American boy receives a message of hope from his grandfather.

Siegel, A. (1985).

*Grace in the wilderness.*

New York: Puffin Books.

(Jewish)

Ages Middle School and up.

Surviving sisters encounter the scars of the Jewish holocaust. (Review: Voice of Youth Advocates, 1994).

Siegel, A. (1994).

*Upon the head of the goat.*

New York: Puffin Books.

(Jewish)

Ages Young Adult.

9 year old Piri, describes being Jewish during the German occupation of Hungry and the family's struggle to survive in the ghetto.

Soto, G. (1995).

*Chato's Kitchen.*

New York: C. P. Putnam.

(Mexican-American) (Hispanic) All Ages.

Chato, the cat, gets the "ratoncitos" (little mice) to visit, by preparing foods like fajitas, frijoles, and tamales.

Soto, G. (1995).

*The old man and his door.*

New York: Putnam & Grossett.

(Hispanic)

Ages 4 - 8.

An elderly man mis-understands his wife and sets out to a party with a door on his back.

Soto, G. (1993).

*Too many tamales.*

New York: Putnam.

(Mexican-American) (Hispanic) Grades K - 3.

Maria tries her mother's ring on while she is making tamales for Christmas dinner. When the ring is missing she is sure that it is in one of the tamales, Maria and her cousin try to eat their way to a solution.

Stanley, D. (1996).

*Elena.*

New York: Hyperion Books.

(Hispanic)

Ages 4 - 8.

A Mexican-American girl tells the story of how her mom moved the family to the U.S. during the Mexican Revolution.

Step toe, J. (1997).

*In daddy's arms I am tall.*

New York: Lee and Low

(African American)

Ages 4 and up.

Poets give testimony to the powerful bond between African-American fathers, children, and grandchildren.

Stroud, B. (1996).

*Down home at Miss Dessa's.*

Grades 1 and up.

(African American)

Grades 1 and up.

Sisters care for an elderly neighbor and share a special day with her. Relationships between generations are shared. (The Bulletin).

Surat, M. M. (1989).

*Angel child, dragon child.*

New York: Scholastic Inc.

(Vietnamese)

Grades: 3 - 6.

Ut, a Vietnamese girl in the U.S. is lonely for her mother left in Vietnam. She meets a new friend who gives her a wonderful gift.

Swamp, C.J. (1988).

*Giving thanks: a Native American good morning message.*

New York: Lee and Low

(Native-American)

Grades K - 5

A very valuable suggestion that the giving of thanks should be a daily, rather than a rare activity.

Tabor, N. M. (1995).

*We are a rainbow.*

Watertown, MA: Chalesbridge Publishing.

Grades K - 2.

Picture book showing the many faces of people found in the world.

Tarpley, N. A. (1998).

*I love my hair.*

Canada: Brown & Company.

(African American)

Ages 4 - 8.

A young African-American girl describes the many ways she can wear her hair.

Taylor, M. (1995).

*The Well.*

Boston: Dial Books.

(African American)

Ages 10 and up.

David and Hammer are young boys in the early 1900s when all the wells go dry except theirs.

Taylor, M. (1995).

*The Well. Boston:*

New York: Puffin Books. (African-American) Ages: Young Adult.

In Mississippi in the early 1900's ten-year-old David Logan's family generously shares their well water. With both white and black neighbors in an atmosphere of potential racial violence.

Taylor, M. D. (1976).

*Roll of thunder hear my cry.*

Boston: Dial Books (African-American) Ages: 9 - 12.

Cassie and her family live on land they own, in the midst of white-owned plantations. She and her brothers confront differences in education, justice, attitudes, etc. and emerge triumphant.

Taylor, M. D. (1975).

*The song of trees*

Boston: Dial Books. (African American) Grades 5 and up

During the depression, a black family, attached to the forest on their land tries to save it from being cut down by an unscrupulous white man

Taylor, M.D. (1988).

*The friendship.*

Boston: Dial Books. (African American) Ages 9 - 12.

Four children witness a confrontation between an elderly black man and a white shopkeeper in Mississippi in the 1930s.

Thomas, J.C. (1998).

*I have heard of a land.*

New York: HarperCollins. (African American) Ages 7 - 11

Describes the joys and hardships experienced by a Black woman who staked a claim for free land in the Oklahoma Territory.

Toll, N. (1993).

*Behind the secret window: a memoir of a hidden childhood during World War II.*

New York: Dial Books. (Jewish-Holocaust) Ages Young Adult.

Author recalls her experiences when a gentile couple in Poland hid her and her mother.

Towle, W. (1993).

*The Real McCoy: the life of an African-American Inventor.*

New York: Turtleback. Ages 7 - 10.

Elijah McCoy's story is one that every child should be familiar with. Elijah overcame obstacles of racism to make his dreams come true. (Review: the author).

Tra, K.T. (1981).

*The little weaver of Thai-Yen village.*

New York: Children's Book Press. (Vietnamese) Grades 2 - 9.

Hien, a young Vietnamese girl, loses her family in the war and is brought to the U.S. where she must struggle to adjust to a new culture and language.

Uchida, Y. (1991).

*The invisible thread:*

New York: Simon and Schuster. (Japanese-American) Ages 10 and up.

In this autobiography the author describes her life as a Japanese-American in an internment camp. She writes about her family, the Japanese-American community the social and political climate of the time.

Vos, I. (1991).

*Hide and seek.*

New York: Houghton Mifflin.

(Jewish)

Grades 4 - 6.

Rachel and her immediate family go into hiding, and as the days go by, family members, friends, and neighbors drop out of sight.

Watts, J. H. (1997).

*Keepers.*

New York: Lee and Low.

(African American)

Ages 4 - 8.

A young African-American boy creates a unique way to preserve family stories, and at the same time develops wonderful relationships with the family

Weiss, G.D. (1995).

*What a wonderful world.*

New York: Atheneum.

Pre school.

A group of multi-racial children use puppets as way to show how colors are beautiful.

Wing, N. (1996).

*Jalapeno bagels.*

New York: Simon & Schuster.

(Jewish-Holocaust)

Ages 5 - 8.

A family story set in a bakery owned by Pablo's Mexican mother and Jewish father. When he needs to show something of his culture, his parent's bakery creates something from both cultures.

Winter, J. (1988).

*Follow the drinking gourd.*

New York: Dragonfly.

(African American)

Ages 4 - 8.

The author tells the story of one brave slave family who followed the drinking gourd - the Big Dipper - north to freedom.

Wyeth, S.D. (1995).

*Always my dad.*

New York: Knoph.

(African American)

Ages 4 - 8.

Although she doesn't see her father very much, a girl enjoys the time she and brothers spend with him one summer while they are visiting their grandparent's farm.

Yang, D. J. (2000).

*The Secret Voice of Gina Zhang.*

Middleton, WI: Pleasant Company.

(Chinese American)

Ages 9 - 12.

When her extreme shyness makes her unable to speak at her new American school, twelve year old Jinna, newly arrived from China, retreats into her own fairy tale world.

Yep, L. (1995).

*Hiroshima.*

New York: Scholastic, Inc.

(Japanese American)

Grades Middle & up.

Describes the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, particularly as it affects Sachi, who becomes one of the Hiroshima Maidens.

Yep, L. (1991).

*The lost garden.*

New York: Simon & Schuster.

(Chinese-American)

Grades: 6 - 12.

Yep grew up in San Francisco and endured many indignities because of his heritage. He found, however, that he could cope with the pain through his writings.

Yep, L. (1992).

*The star fisher.*

New York: Penguin Books.

(Chinese-American)

Ages 10 and up.

A young girl learns to cope with being part of the only Chinese-American family in a West Virginia town in the 1920's.

Yolen, J. (1990).

*The Devil's arithmetic.*

New York: Viking Books.

(Jewish-Holocaust)

Ages: Young Adult.

A young woman struggles to understand her family's experience during the holocaust.

Yolen, J. (1990).

*The devil's arithmetic.*

New York: Puffin Books.

(Jewish)

Grades Middle and up.

A young woman struggles to understand her family's experience during the holocaust.

Young, E. (1995).

*Cat and Rat: the legend of the Chinese zodiac.*

New York: Henry Holt.

Ages 7 and up.

The legend of how the Chinese zodiac came to be. It is also the story of the Cat and Rat and why they will also be enemies.