


Historical Fiction Grades 5-8



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Adventures from the Past

All books are shelved in the YF section alphabetical by author.

PREHISTORY

YF CARTER

HIS MAJESTY, QUEEN HATSHEPSUT

In ancient Egypt, Queen Hatshepsut has herself declared king so she will have more power.

YF WILSON

TO RIDE THE GODS' OWN STALLION

After being taken as a slave to Nineveh, 13-year-old Soulai finds his life intertwined with that of the son of King Ashurbanipal and a magnificent stallion.

000s

YF HENTY

FOR THE TEMPLE : A TALE OF THE FALL OF JERUSALEM

After escaping the massacre at Jotapata in AD. 67, John, a 15-year-old Galilean becomes a hero to the Jews and a scourge to the Romans.

YF NAPOLI

THE SONG OF THE MAGDALENE

Tells the story of Miriam, a young girl being raised by a widowed father in ancient Israel, who grows up to be Mary Magdalene.

500s

YF MALONE

THE LEGEND OF LADY ILENA

In Britain, a 15-year-old girl, seeking knowledge of her lineage is drawn into a battle to defend the homeland she never knew.

YF MATAS

IN MY ENEMY'S HOUSE

A gripping novel about the Holocaust. The story of Marisa a Polish Jew, whose life changes when her small village is invaded by the Nazis.

YF MAZER

A BOY AT WAR : A NOVEL OF PEARL HARBOR

While fishing with his friends on December 7, 1941, teenaged Adam is caught in the midst of the Japanese attack, and through the chaos of the subsequent days tries to find his father, a naval officer serving on the U.S.S. Arizona.

YF PETERSON

BREAD AND ROSES, TOO

Jake and Rosa, two children, form an unlikely friendship as they try to survive and understand the 1912 Bread and Roses strike of mill workers in Lawrence, Massachusetts.

YF SALISBURY

HOUSE OF THE RED FISH

Over a year after Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and the arrest of Tomi's father and grandfather, Tomi and his friends, battling anti-Japanese American sentiment in Hawaii, try to find a way to salvage his father's sunken fishing boat.

YF WHELAN

ANGEL ON THE SQUARE

In 1913 Russia, 12-year-old Katya eagerly anticipates leaving her St. Petersburg home to join her mother, a lady in waiting in the household of Tsar Nicholas II. The ensuing years bring world war, revolution, and undreamed of changes to her life.

1900s

YF AUCH
ASHES OF ROSES

Sixteen-year-old Margaret Rose Nolan, newly arrived from Ireland, finds work at New York City's Triangle Shirtwaist Factory shortly before the 1911 fire in which 146 employees died.

YF BENARY-ISBERT
THE ARK

In the aftermath of World War II, the Lechow family moves to Germany's Western Zone and finds a new home in an old railroad car.

YF DAVIES
WHERE THE GROUND MEETS THE SKY

"Normal" is all 12-year-old Hazel ever wanted to be. But with a genius father, an eccentric mother, and a sky-high I.Q. of her own, Hazel's only chance at being normal lies in trying to fake it.

YF HURWITZ
THE UNSIGNED VALENTINE: AND OTHER EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF EMMA MEADE

In early twentieth-century Vermont, 15-year-old Emma confides in her diary both her hopes of becoming a farmer's wife one day and her frustrations with her parents' belief that she is too young to be courted by the handsome Cole Berry.

YF LEVITIN
ANNIE'S PROMISE

An experience at a summer camp in the California mountains in 1945 gives 12-year-old Annie Platt new insight into her overprotective family of German-Jewish immigrants.

YF NAYLOR
BLIZZARD'S WAKE

In March of 1941, when a severe blizzard suddenly hits Bismarck, North Dakota, a girl trying to save her stranded father and brother inadvertently helps the man who killed her mother four years before.

600s

YF CADNUM
RAVEN OF THE WAVES

On his first Viking raid, 17-year-old Lidsmod sails on the ship Raven, joining his comrades as they destroy and plunder villages in medieval England and take an Anglo-Saxon boy as captive.

1000s

YF ALDER
THE KING'S SHADOW

After he is orphaned and has his tongue cut out in a clash with the bullying sons of a Welsh noble, Evyn is sold as a slave and serves many masters, from the gracious Lady Swan Neck to the last Anglo Saxon king Harold Godwinson.

YF YOLEN
SWORD OF THE RIGHTFUL KING: A NOVEL OF KING ARTHUR

Merlin the magician devises a way for King Arthur to prove himself the rightful king of England—pulling a sword from a stone—but trouble arises when someone else removes the sword first.

1100s

YF CADNUM
THE BOOK OF THE LION

After his master, a maker of coins for the king, is punished for alleged cheating, 17-year-old Edmund finds himself traveling to the Holy Land as squire to a knight crusader.

YF CADNUM
THE LEOPARD SWORD

A knight's squire, exhausted from the Crusades, must use his sword to fight attacking infidels during the return voyage to England.

YF CROSSLEY-HOLLAND

THE SEEING STONE

In late twelfth-century England, a 13-year-old boy named Arthur recounts how Merlin gave him a magical seeing stone which shows him images of the legendary King Arthur, the events of whose life seem to have many parallels to his own.

YF FRENCH

THE RED KEEP : A STORY OF BURGUNDY IN 1165

Robber barons fire the Red Keep as the first step in taking over Burgundy. Lady Anne d'Arcy, left without home and family, is determined to reclaim the Red Keep some day.

YF GRANT

BLOOD RED HORSE

A special horse named Hosanna changes the lives of two Engle brothers and those around them as they fight with King Richard I against Saladin's armies during the third crusades.

1200s

YF CUSHMAN

CATHERINE, CALLED BIRDY

A spirited account of Catherine's 14th year. Catherine's mother wants to teach her the skills of the lady of the manor and her father wants her to marry for financial security.

YF HUNTER

KING'S SWIFT RIDER : A NOVEL ON ROBERT THE BRUCE

The story follows the adventures of Martin Crawford, a young Scot who saves the life of the Scottish warrior Robert the Bruce and becomes his page, confidant and spy.

1300s

YF AVI

CRISPIN: AT THE EDGE OF THE WORLD

Branded as traitors by the king's authorities, Crispin and his guardian, Bear, flee to coastal towns in 14th-century England, where they perform a musical juggling act and bond as a family after befriending a disfigured girl.

YF MCGIFFIN

IRON SCOUTS OF THE CONFEDERACY

Civil War story about two teenagers who fight for southern independence.

YF PAULSEN

SOLDIER'S HEART : A NOVEL OF THE CIVIL WAR

Eager to enlist, 15-year-old Charley has a change of heart after experiencing both the physical horrors and mental anguish of Civil War conflict.

YF PECK

FAIR WEATHER

In 1893, 13-year-old Rosie and members of her family travel from their Illinois farm to Chicago to visit Aunt Euterpe and attend the World's Columbian Exposition which, along with an encounter with Buffalo Bill and Lillian Russell, turns out to be a life-changing experience for everyone.

YF PESCI

AMISTAD

A noble on an African-American hero. In 1839 Joseph Cinque, also known as Singbe, leads a rising of African slaves on a Spanish slave ship. They kill most of the crew and order the navigator to steer for Africa, but he steers in the opposite direction and they are captured by the Americans. Abolitionists take up their cause, the Supreme Court ruled they are free men and Cinque returns home covered in glory.

YF RINALDI

NUMBERING ALL THE BONES

It is 1864, the Civil War is moving toward an end. President Lincoln has proclaimed his 'great measure,' and Southern slaves are slowly gaining their freedom. But for 13-year-old Eulinda, a house slave on a Georgia plantation, it is the most difficult time of her life.

YF WOOD

DAUGHTER OF MADRUGADA

After the United States wins the war with Mexico in 1848, life on her Mexican family's ranch in California is greatly changed for 13-year-old Cesa.

YF AMBROSE

THIS VAST LAND: A YOUNG MAN'S JOURNAL OF THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

Eighteen-year-old George Shannon, an enterprising young man from Philadelphia anxious to join the expedition, convinces Captain Meriwether Lewis that neither his young nor his genteel upbringing should be held against him. Lewis eventually respects Shannon, charging him with the responsibility of keeping a journal of their travel.

YF AVI

TRAITOR'S GATE

When his father is arrested as a debtor in 1849 London, 14-year-old John Huffman must take on unexpected responsibilities, like asking a distant relative help to determining why people are spying on him and his family.

YF CURTIS

ELIJAH OF BUXTON

In 1859, eleven-year-old Elijah Freedom, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, which is a haven for slaves fleeing the America south, uses his wits and skills to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom.

YF HENTY

IN THE HEART OF THE ROCKIES: A STORY OF ADVENTURE IN COLORADO

In 1860, Tom Wade having lost his parents in England, sets sail for America to join his Uncle Harry in the untamed Rocky Mountain wilderness.

YF HILL

A VOICE FROM THE BORDER

Living in the border state of Missouri during the Civil War, 15-year-old Reeves tries to understand her father's decision regarding their slaves.

YF HOTZE

A CIRCLE UNBROKEN

Captured by a roving band of Sioux Indians and brought up as the chief's daughter, Rachel is recaptured by her white family and finds it difficult to adjust.

1400s

YF AVI

MIDNIGHT MAGIC

In Italy in 1491, Mangus the magician and his apprentice are summoned to the castle of Duke Claudio to determine if his daughter is indeed being haunted by a ghost.

YF LEWIN

FREEDOM BEYOND THE SEA

To escape the Inquisition, Ester Marchadi, the 16-year-old daughter of a murdered Jewish rabbi, disguises herself as a boy and joins the crew of Christopher Columbus' ship 'the Santa Maria'.

YF HDDDIX

SENT

Jonah, Katherine, Chip and Alex suddenly find themselves in 1483 at the Tower of London, where they discover that Chip and Alex are Prince Edward V and Richard of Shrewsbury imprisoned by their uncle, King Richard III, but trying to repair history without knowing what is supposed to happen proves challenging.

1500s

YF HOROWITZ

THE DEVIL AND HIS BOY

Alone and hungry in Old England, Tom Falconer finds himself a home with the mysterious Dr. Mobius, who recruits him for an important role in a play.

YF MACDONALD

WICKED WILL

Set in 16th-century England, this fresh and original historical mystery introduces a young sleuth named Will Shakespeare, a boy from Stratford-on-Avon with an active imagination and a penchant for trouble.

YF MEYER

MARY, BLOODY MARY

The story of Mary Tudor's childhood is a classic fairy tale. A princess who will to inherit the throne of England is separated from her mother, abused by an evil stepmother who has enchanted her father, stripped of her title.

1600s

YF HESSE **STOWAWAY**

A fictionalized journal relates the experiences of a young stowaway in 1700's aboard the Endeavor which sailed around the world with Captain James Cook.

YF KIRKPATRICK **TROUBLE'S DAUGHTER: THE STORY OF SUSANNA HUTCHINSON, INDIAN CAPTIVE**

In 1633, 9-year-old Susanna Hutchinson is taken captive and his family is massacred by the Lenape Indian. Despite the massacre, the Lenape treat her well, and she grows to love him. But at the age of 14, she is devastated to learn she has been ransomed by a brother and must return to colonial society.

YF LAVENDER **JUST JANE : A DAUGHTER OF ENGLAND CAUGHT IN THE STRUGGLE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

Fourteen-year-old Jane Prentice, the orphaned daughter of an English earl, arrives in South Carolina in 1700's to find her family and her loyalties divided over the question of American independence.

YF REES **WITCH CHILD**

In 1659, 14-year-old Mary Newbury keeps a journal of her voyage from England to the New World and her experiences living as a witch in a community of puritans near Salem, Massachusetts.

1700s

YF AVI **FIGHTING GROUND**

While America is caught up in the Revolutionary War, Jonathan, 13 and his father are quietly tilling the sod of their farm. But the boy can think of only thing. He wants to fight, and he finds that real war is within himself at the end.

YF ANDERSON **FEVER 1793**

The year is 1793 and Mattie has just learned that Polly, the servant girl at her family's coffee shop, has died of a mysterious fever. As the day pass and it becomes clear that the city is in the midst of an epidemic from which no one is safe. Mattie finds herself in the middle of a struggle to keep herself and those she loves alive.

YF DURRANT **THE SUN, THE RAIN, AND THE APPLE SEED: A NOVEL OF JOHNNY APPLESEED'S LIFE**

In the 1790s, an eccentric young man nicknamed Johnny Appleseed feels called by God to travel through the America West planting apple seeds that will feed the hungry and produce more seeds for planting and trading.

YF HEMPHILL **STONEWALL HINKLEMAN AND THE BATTLE OF BULL RUN**

While participating in a reenactment of the Battle of Bull Run, 12-year-old Stonewall Hinkleman is transported back to the actual Civil War battle by means of a magic bugle .

YF MCCAUGHREAN **THE PIRATE'S SON**

Left penniless in 18th-century England, 14-year-old Nathan Gull and his mousy sister Maud accompany Tamo, the son of a notorious pirate, to his homeland of Madagascar where they are all changed by their encounter with Tamo's dangerous past.

YF ORCZY **THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL**

An English lord lives a double life in order to rescue aristocrats bound for the guillotine.

1800s

YF ALDER **CROSSING THE PANTHER'S PATH**

Sixteen-year-old Billy Caldwell, son of a British soldier and a Mohawk woman, leaves school to join Tecumseh in his efforts to prevent the Americans from taking any more land from the Indians in the Northwest.