

Historical Fiction

Civil War

Jayhawker

Beatty JF BEA

In the early years of the Civil War, teenage Kansan farm boy Lije Tulley becomes a Jayhawker, an abolitionist raider freeing slaves from the neighboring state of Missouri, and then goes undercover there as a spy.

All Their Names Were Courage

Denslow JF DEN

In 1962, as William Burd fights in the Civil War, he exchanges letters with his sister, Sallie, who is also writing to Confederate and Union generals asking about their horses in order to write a book.



Dear Ellen Bee

Lyons JF LYO

A scrapbook kept by a young black girl details her experiences and those of the older white woman, "Miss Bet", who had freed her and her family, sent her north from Richmond to get an education, and then worked to bring an end to slavery. Based on the life of Elizabeth Van Lew.

Through the Lock

Hurst JF HUR

Etta, a twelve-year-old orphan in nineteenth-century Connecticut, meets a boy living in an abandoned cabin on the New Haven and Northampton Canal and has adventures with him while trying to be returned with her siblings

On Winter's Wind

Hermes JF HER

As she struggles to make ends meet while maintaining her family's dignity, eleven-year-old Genevieve faces the possibility of turning in a slave for the bounty.

Run Away Home

McKissack JF MCK

In 1886 in Alabama, an eleven-year-old African American girl and her family befriend and give refuge to a runaway Apache boy.

Mine Eyes Have Seen

Rinaldi JF RIN

In the summer of 1859, fifteen-year-old Annie travels to the Maryland farm where her father, John Brown, is secretly assembling his provisional army prior to their raid on the United States arsenal at nearby Harpers Ferry.

My Brother's Keeper

Osbourne JF OSB

In 1863, as the Civil War approaches her quiet town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, nine-year-old Virginia records in a journal the horrible things she witnesses before, during, and after the Battle of Gettysburg.

Run the Blockade

Wisler JF WIS

During the Civil War, fourteen-year-old Henry finds adventure working as a ship's boy and lookout aboard the "Banshee", a new British ship attempting to get past the Yankee blockade of the Southern coast.

North by Night

Ayers YA AYE

Presents the journal of a sixteen-year-old girl whose family operates a stop on the Underground Railroad.

Stealing South

Ayers YA AYE

Sixteen-year-old Will Spencer leaves home to become a peddler but gets more than he bargained for when he agrees to go to Kentucky, steal two slaves, and help them reach their brother in Canada.

Dreams of Mairhe Mehan

Armstrong YA ARM

Mairhe, who lives in an Irish slum in Washington, D.C., in the 1860's, struggles to come to grips with the impact of the Civil War on her family.

Steal Away

Armstrong YA ARM

In 1855 two thirteen-year-old girls, one white and one black, run away from a southern farm and make the difficult journey north to freedom, living to recount their story forty-one years later to two similar young girls.

Mary Mehan Awake

Armstrong YA ARM

While working as a servant in the home of a naturalist, Mary Mehan gradually recovers from the numbing effects of her experience as a Civil War nurse and falls in love with a man who had lost his hearing.

Stealing Freedom

Carbone YA CAR

A novel based on the events in the life of a young slave girl from Maryland who endures all kinds of mistreatment and cruelty, including being separated from her family, but who eventually escapes to freedom in Canada.



With Every Drop of Blood

Collier YA COL

While trying to transport food to Richmond, Virginia, during the Civil War, fourteen-year-old Johnny is captured by a black Union soldier.

An Island Far From Home

Donahue JF DON

The twelve-year-old son of a Union army doctor killed during the fighting in Fredericksburg comes to understand the meaning of war and the fine line between friends and enemies when he begins corresponding with a young Confederate prisoner of war.

Mountain Valor

Houston YA HOU

With her father and brothers gone to serve in the Civil War and her mother sick, teenage Valor ignores what is proper behavior for a girl and fights to defend her North Carolina mountain farm.

A Dangerous Promise

Nixon YA NIX

After being taken in by Captain Taylor and his wife in Kansas, twelve-year-old Mike Kelly and his friend Todd Blakely join the Union army as musicians and see the horrors of war firsthand in Missouri.

Education of Mary

Rinaldi YA RIN

In 1832, Prudence Crandall begins admitting black girls to her exclusive Connecticut school, scandalizing white society and eventually causing her arrest and the closing of her school.

Amelia's War

Rinaldi YA RIN

When a Confederate general threatens to burn Hagerstown, Maryland, unless it pays an exorbitant ransom, twelve-year-old Amelia and her friend find a way to save the town.

Sarah's Ground

Rinaldi YA RIN

In 1861, eighteen-year-old Sarah Tracy, from New York state, comes to work at Mount Vernon, the historic Virginia home of George Washington, where she tries to protect the safety and neutrality of the site during the Civil War, and where she encounters her future husband, Upton Herbert.