

## HISTORICAL FICTION

### Europe - 1900's, including World War II

All titles are available in the Santa Cruz Public Libraries,  
Juvenile and Young Adult Departments.

Anderson, Margaret Jean. CHILDREN OF SUMMER:  
HENRI FABRE'S INSECTS  
France, early 1900's  
J Fiction (4-8 gr.) c1997  
A fictionalized look at the work of the 19<sup>th</sup>-century French entomologist Jean Henri Fabre as seen through the eyes of his 10-year-old son, Paul. He describes how he and his sisters learned about insects from the observations and writings of their father.

Crisp, Marty. WHITE STAR: A DOG ON THE *TITANIC*  
Atlantic Ocean, 1912  
J Fiction c2004  
12-year-old Sam, a passenger on the Titanic's maiden sea voyage, volunteers to help care for the dogs in the ocean liner's kennel and becomes fast friends with the Irish setter of J. Bruce Ismay, the ship's owner.

Greene, Bette. MORNING IS A LONG TIME  
COMING  
Arkansas and Europe, post-World War II  
YA Fiction c1978  
En route to Germany in search of the maternal love she never had, 18-year-old Patty Bergen lingers in Paris and experiences her first love affair.  
(Sequel to SUMMER OF MY GERMAN SOLDIER.)

Durbin, William. DARKEST EVENING  
Minnesota, USSR, 1934  
YA Fiction c2004  
In the 1930s, a young Finnish-American boy reluctantly moves with his family to Karelia, a communist-Finnish state founded in Russia, where his idealistic father soon realizes that his conception of a communist utopia is flawed.

Hamisch, Siegfried. BUNKER ON EDELWEISS  
MOUNTAIN  
Germany, post- World War II  
J Fiction c2001  
Stationed in Germany with his dad (who is in the army), Norman wants "to help his German-born friend, Anton, clear his name with the police by helping him search for a mysterious underground bunker that was supposedly abandoned after the war." A "riveting and suspenseful thriller."

Koponen, Libby. BLOW OUT THE MOON  
England, 1950's  
J Fiction c2004  
A fictionalized account of the author's childhood experiences moving from the United States to London, England, and attending a boarding school.

Laskey, Kathryn. NIGHT JOURNEY  
Russia, early 1900's  
J Fiction c1981  
Rachel ignores her parents' wishes and persuades her great-grandmother to relate the story of her escape from czarist Russia.

Lawrence, Iain. LORD OF THE NUTCRACKER MEN  
England and France, World War I  
J Fiction c2001  
An English boy during World War I comes to believe that the battles he enacts with his toy soldiers control the war his father is fighting on the front.

Mazer, Norma Fox. GOOD NIGHT, MAMAN  
Paris and New York  
J Fiction c1999  
After spending years fleeing from the Nazis in war-torn Europe, 12-year-old Karin Levi and her older brother Marc find a new home in a refugee camp in Oswego, New York.

Menick, Stephen. THE MUFFIN CHILD  
Balkans (Europe), 1913  
J Fiction c1998  
When her parents die in an accident in 1913, 11-year-old Tanya decides to live alone, refusing charity from the people in her village and supporting herself by selling muffins.

Morpurgo, Michael. PRIVATE PEACEFUL  
England & France, World War I  
YA Fiction c2003  
When Thomas Peaceful's older brother is forced to join the British Army, Thomas decides to sign up as well, although he is only 14 years old, to prove himself to his country, his family, his childhood love, Molly, and himself.

Pelgrom, Els. ACORN EATERS  
Spain, 1939-  
YA Fiction c1997  
Curro, an Andalusian peasant, describes growing up in the harsh conditions following the Spanish Civil War. Based on the childhood recollections of the author's late husband.

Tal, Eve. DOUBLE CROSSING  
Russia/America, early 1900's  
J Fiction c2005  
In 1905, as life becomes increasingly difficult for Jews in Ukraine, 11-year-old Raizel and her father flee to America in hopes of earning money to bring the rest of the family there, but her father's health and Orthodox faith become barriers.

Thesman, Jean. SEA SO FAR  
San Francisco/Ireland, 1906-  
YA Fiction c2001  
After surviving the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fires, 2 teenage girls, a wealthy semi-invalid and her hired companion, travel together to Ireland and discover they share much in common, from a love of romance novels to grief over the loss of their mothers.

Vos, Ida. KEY IS LOST  
Holland, World War II  
J Fiction c2000

When the Germans occupy Holland in 1940 and begin to persecute the Jews there, 12-year-old Eva and her family assume false names and move from one hiding place to another.

Based on the author's experiences.

Whelan, Gloria. ANGEL ON THE SQUARE  
Russia, 1913  
YA Fiction c2001

In 1913 Russia, 12-year-old Katya eagerly anticipates leaving her St. Petersburg home, though not her older cousin Misha, to join her mother, a lady in waiting in the household of Tsar Nicholas II, but the ensuing years bring world war, revolution, and undreamed of changes to her life.

Whelan, Gloria. IMPOSSIBLE JOURNEY  
Russia, 1934  
J Fiction c2003

In 1934, 13-year-old Marya and her younger brother, Georgi, set out alone on a long and arduous journey into Siberia to find their mother after she and their father are exiled for opposing Stalin.

(companion to ANGEL ON THE SQUARE)

Williams, Barbara. TITANIC CROSSING  
England to United States, 1912  
J Fiction (6-9 gr.) c1995

In 1912, 13-year-old Albert considers his younger sister a pest, but things change when they travel with their mother and uncle aboard the Titanic and are caught up in its tragic sinking.

## World War II (and the events preceding the war)

Attema, Martha. DAUGHTER OF LIGHT  
Holland  
J Fiction c2001

In spite of the rigors of World War II on her Holland home, Ria is determined that her pregnant mother will give birth in a warm home filled with light, so she develops a bold and dangerous plan.

Bishop, Claire Hutchet. TWENTY AND TEN  
France  
J Fiction (4-7 gr.) c1952

20 school children hide ten Jewish children from the Nazis occupying France during World War II.

Booth, Martin. WAR DOG  
England, France, Italy, 1939-48  
J Fiction (5-8 gr.) c1996

After her owner is arrested while poaching, Jet (a black Labrador) is requisitioned by the British Army and sees duty on the beach at Dunkirk, searching for survivors of Germany's bombing raids on English cities, and in Italy at the end of the war.

Bradley, Kimberly. FOR FREEDOM: THE STORY OF A FRENCH SPY  
France  
J Fiction c2003

Despite the horrors of World War II, a French teenager pursues her dream of becoming an opera singer, which takes her to places where she gains information about what the Nazis are doing--information that the French Resistance needs. Based on a true story.

Bunting, Eve. SPYING ON MISS MULLER  
Belfast, Ireland  
J Fiction (6-8 gr.) c1995

At Alveara boarding school in Belfast at the start of World War II, 13-year-old Jessie must deal with her suspicions about a teacher whose father was German and with her worries about her own father's drinking problem. Autobiographical novel.

Cheng, Andrea. MARIKA  
Hungary  
YA Fiction c2002

Although she has been raised Catholic, Marika learns how dangerous it is to be of Jewish heritage and living in Hungary during World War II.

Chotjewitz, David. DANIEL HALF-HUMAN: AND THE GOOD NAZI  
Germany, WWII  
YA Fiction c2004

In 1933, best friends Daniel and Armin admire Hitler, but as anti-Semitism buoys Hitler to power, Daniel learns he is half Jewish, threatening the friendship even as life in their beloved Hamburg, Germany, is becoming nightmarish. Also details Daniel and Armin's reunion in 1945 in interspersed chapters.

Drucker, Malka. JACOB'S RESCUE: A HOLOCAUST STORY  
Poland  
J Fiction (4-7 gr.) c1978

## World War II (and the events preceding the war), continued

In answer to his daughter's questions, a man recalls the terrifying years of his childhood when a brave Polish couple, Alex and Mela Roslan, hid him and other Jewish children from the Nazis. Based on a true story.

Gladstein, Jacob. *EMIL AND KARL*  
Vienna, Austria  
YA Fiction

In Vienna, Austria, in 1940, two 9-year-old boys, one Jewish and one Aryan, are classmates and best friends when events of the Nazi occupation draw them even closer together as they fight to survive and escape together.

Hoestlandt, Jo. *STAR OF FEAR, STAR OF HOPE*  
France  
J Fiction (2-5 gr.) c1995

9-year-old Helen is confused by the disappearance of her Jewish friend during the German occupation of Paris.

Holm, Anne. *NORTH TO FREEDOM*  
World War II  
J Fiction c1990

After escaping from an Eastern European concentration camp where he has spent most of his life, a 12-year-old boy struggles to cope with an entirely strange world as he flees northward to freedom in Denmark.

Hughes, Dean. *SOLDIER BOYS*  
Battle of the Bulge, World War II  
YA Fiction c2001

Two boys, one German and one American, are eager to join their respective armies during World War II, and their paths cross at the Battle of the Bulge.

Isaacs, Anne. *TORN THREAD*  
Poland and Czechoslovakia  
J Fiction c2000

In an attempt to save his daughter's life, Eva's father sends her from Poland to a labor camp in Czechoslovakia where she and her sister survive the war. Based on the true story of the author's mother-in-law.

Kositsky, Lynne. *THOUGHT OF HIGH WINDOWS*  
France  
YA Fiction c2004

When trapped or frightened, Esther sees windows--and flying out of them--as her only salvation. Young, Jewish, and on the run from the Nazis, Esther is one of a group of children who manage to flee Germany at the beginning of World War II.

Lawrence, Iain. *B FOR BUSTER*  
YA Fiction c2004

In the spring of 1943, 16-year-old Kak, desperate to escape his abusive parents, lies about his age to enlist in the Canadian Air Force and soon finds himself based in England as part of a crew flying bombing raids over Germany.

Levitin, Sonia. *JOURNEY TO AMERICA*  
Germany, Switzerland, and America  
J Fiction (6-9 gr.) c1974

A Jewish family fleeing Nazi Germany in 1938 endures innumerable separations before they are once again united. (Sequel is *SILVER DAYS*)

Levitin, Sonia. *ROOM IN THE HEART*  
Denmark  
YA Fiction c2003

After German forces occupy Denmark during World War II, 15-year-old Julie Weinstein and fifteen-year-old Niels Nelson and their friends and families try to cope with their daily lives, finding various ways to resist the Nazis and, ultimately, to survive.

Lisle, Janet Taylor. *SIRENS AND SPIES*  
France  
Large Type YA Fiction c2003

No one agrees on the truth about the mysterious violin teacher, Renee Fitch, until she herself tells the definitive story of her life and brings together all the differing views people have of her.

Magorian, Michelle. *GOOD-NIGHT, MR. TOM*  
England  
J Fiction (7-9 gr.) c1981

A battered child learns to embrace life when he is adopted by an old man in the English countryside during World War II.

Maguire, Gregory. *GOOD LIAR*  
France  
J Fiction c1999

Now an old man living in the United States, Marcel recalls his childhood in German-occupied France, especially the summer that he and his older brother Rene befriended a young German soldier.

Matas, Carol. *GREATER THAN ANGELS*  
France  
YA Fiction c1998

Anna, a teenaged German refugee, relates how she and other Jewish children were cared for by the citizens of Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, France, during the German occupation. Based on actual occurrences.

Napoli, Donna Jo. *STONES IN WATER*  
Italy and Germany  
J Fiction (6-9 gr.) c1997

After being taken by German soldiers from a local movie theater along with other Italian boys including his Jewish friend, Roberto is forced to work in Germany, escapes into the Ukrainian winter, before desperately trying to make his way back home to Venice. Loosely based on the wartime experiences of a Venetian friend of the author.

Orlev, Uri. *THE ISLAND ON BIRD STREET*  
Poland  
J Fiction (5-8 gr.) c1983

During World War II, a Jewish boy is left on his own for months in a ruined house in the Warsaw Ghetto, where he must learn all the tricks of survival under constantly life-threatening conditions.

Orlev, Uri. *RUN, BOY, RUN*  
Poland  
J Fiction c2003

Based on the true story of a 9-year-old boy who escapes the Warsaw Ghetto and must survive throughout the war in the Nazi-occupied Polish countryside.

Propp, V. *WHEN THE SOLDIERS WERE GONE*  
Netherlands  
J Fiction c1999

## World War II (and the events preceding the war), continued

After the German occupation of the Netherlands, Benjamin leaves the Christian family with whom he had been living and reunites with his real parents who returned from hiding.

Radin, Ruth Yaffe. ESCAPE TO THE FOREST:  
BASED ON A TRUE STORY OF THE  
HOLOCAUST  
Poland, World War II  
J Fiction c2000

A young Jewish girl living with her family in the town of Lida at the beginning of World War II recalls the horrors of life under first the Russians then the Nazis, before fleeing to join Tuvia Bielski, a partisan who tried to save as many Jews as possible. Based on a true story.

Serraillier, Ian. ESCAPE FROM WARSAW  
Warsaw, Poland  
J Fiction (4-6 gr.) c1995

Made homeless during the Nazi invasion, the 3 Balicki children of Warsaw trek across Europe to Switzerland to find their parents. The search to reunite their family during World War II covers a 5-year period.

Spinelli, Jerry. MILKWEED  
Warsaw, Poland, World War II  
YA Fiction c2003

The narrator, a street orphan, tells of his experience in Nazi-occupied Warsaw during World War II.

Westall, Robert. TIME OF FIRE  
England  
J Fiction (4-6 gr.) c1997

In England during World War II, with his mother dead from a German bomb and his father off in training and action, but keeping him informed by letter, Sonny tries to understand the darkest truths of war and retribution.

Williams, Laura. BEHIND THE BEDROOM WALL  
Germany  
J Fiction (5-8 gr.) c1996

13-year-old Korinna must decide whether to report her parents to her Hitler youth group when she discovers that they are hiding Jews in a secret space behind Korinna's bedroom wall.

Winter, Kathryn. KATARINA: A NOVEL  
Slovakia  
YA Fiction c1998

During World War II in Slovakia, a young Jewish girl in hiding becomes a devout Catholic and is sustained by her belief that she will return home to her family as soon as the war ends. Based on the author's childhood experiences.

Wulffson, Don. SOLDIER X  
Germany and the Russian front  
YA Fiction c2001

In 1943, 16-year-old Erik experiences the horrors of war when he is drafted into the German army and sent to fight on the Russian front.