Europe, 1900's

Chapter Books (J Fiction) -- Grades 3-8

BEHIND THE BEDROOM WALL
by Williams, Laura E.

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.

BLOW OUT THE MOON
by Koponen, Libby

A fictionalized account of the author's childhood experiences moving from the United States to London, England, and attending a boarding school in the mid-1900's.

DANGEROUS WATERS: AN ADVENTURE ON TITANIC
by Mone, Gregory
J FIC MON
Determined to focus on work rather than books, as his father had, 12-year-old Patrick Waters leaves Belfast as a steward on the Titanic, but the very wealthy Harry Widener arranges to tutor him, drawing Patrick into association with thieves seeking Harry's very rare edition of Francis Bacon's Essays.

DAUGHTER OF LIGHT
by Attema, Martha

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.

ESCAPE FROM WARSAW
by Serraillier, Ian
J FICTION SER
Made homeless during the Nazi invasion, the 3 Balicki children of Warsaw, Poland trek across Europe to Switzerland to find their parents. The search to renunite their family during World War II covers a 5-year period.

FARAWAY ISLAND
by Thor, Annika
J FICTION THO
In 1939 Sweden, two Jewish sisters wait for their parents to join them in fleeing the Nazis in Austria, but while 8-year-old Nellie settles in quickly, 12-year-old Stephie feels stranded at the end of the world, with a foster mother who is as cold and unforgiving as the island on which they live. Batchelder Award, 2010.

FIRE IN THE HILLS
by Napoli, Donna Jo

Upon returning to Italy, 14-year-old Roberto struggles to survive, first on his own, then as a member of the resistance, fighting against the Nazi occupiers while yearning to reach home safely and for an end to the war. Sequel to STONES IN WATER

FOR FREEDOM: THE STORY OF A FRENCH SPY
by Bradley, Kimberly

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.

GOOD NIGHT, MAMAN
by Mazer, Norma Fox

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

GOOD-NIGHT, MR. TOM
by Magorian, Michelle

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

HANNAH'S JOURNAL: The Story of an Immigrant Girl
Series Title: Young American Voices
by Moss, Marissa
J FICTION MOS
In the Russian shtetl where she and her family livein the early 1900's, Hannah is given a diary for her tenth birthday, and in it she records the dramatic story of her journey to America.

IMPOSSIBLE JOURNEY
by Whelan, Gloria

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.

KATHLEEN: The Celtic Knot
Series Title: Girls of Many Lands
by Parkinson, Siobhan
J FIC PAR
12-year-old Dubliner Kathleen Delaney is given the chance to take Irish dancing lessons in 1937 and discovers she has a talent for it.

KEY IS LOST
by Vos , Ida

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.

LISTENING FOR LIONS
by Whelan, Gloria
J FICTION WHE
Left an orphan after the influenza epidemic in British East Africa in 1918, 13-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.

LORD OF THE NUTCRACKER MEN
by Lawrence, Iain

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

NIGHT JOURNEY
by Laskey, Kathryn

Rachel ignores her parents' wishes and persuades her Jewish great-grandmother to relate the story of her escape from czarist Russia (early 1900's.)

NORTH TO FREEDOM
by Holm, Anne
J FICTION HOL
After escaping from an Eastern European concentration camp during World War II 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.

ONE EYE LAUGHING, THE OTHER WEEPING
Series Title: Dear America
by Denenberg, Barry
J FICTION DEN
Subtitle: The Diary of Julie Weiss, Austria to New York, 1938 During the Nazi persecution of the Jews in Austria, 12-year-old Julie escapes to America to live with her relatives in New York City.

RUN, BOY, RUN
by Orlev, Uri

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.

SNOW TREASURE
by McSwigean, Marie

In 1940, when the Nazi invasion of Norway reaches their village in the far north, 12-year-old Peter and his friends use their sleds to transport nine million dollars worth of gold bullion past the German soldiers to the secret harbor where Peter's uncle keeps his ship ready to take the gold for safekeeping in the United States.

SOMEONE NAMED EVA
by Wolf , Joan

From her home in Czechoslovakia, in 1942, 11-year-old Milada is taken with other blond, blue-eyed children to a school in Poland to be trained as "proper Germans" for adoption by German families, but all the while she remembers her true name and history.

STAR OF FEAR, STAR OF HOPE
by Hoestlandt, Jo

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

STONES IN WATER
by Napoli, Donna Jo

During World War II, 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.

THE ISLAND ON BIRD STREET
by Orlev, Uri

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.

TITANIC CROSSING
by Williams, Barbara

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.

TORN THREAD
by Isaacs, Anne
J FICTION ISA
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 during World War II.

TWENTY AND TEN
by Bishop, Claire Hutchet

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

VOYAGE ON THE GREAT TITANIC
Series Title: Dear America
by White, Ellen Emerson

J FICTION WHI
Subtitle: The Diary of Margaret Ann Brady, R.M.S. Titanic, 1912 In her diary in 1912, 13-year-old Margaret Ann describes how she leaves her lonely life in a London orphanage to become a companion to a wealthy American woman, sails on the Titanic, and experiences its sinking.

WAR DOG
by Booth, Martin
J FICTION BOO
During World War II, 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.

WHEN CHRISTMAS COMES AGAIN
Series Title: Dear America
by Levine, Beth
J FICTION LEV
Subtitle: The World War I Diary of Simone Spencer, New York City to the Western Front, 1917. Teenage Simone's diaries for 1917 and 1918 reveal her experiences as a carefree member of New York society, then as a "Hello girl," a volunteer switchboard operator for the Army Signal Corps in France.

WHITE STAR: A DOG ON THE TITANIC
by Crisp, Marty

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.

YELLOW STAR
by Roy, Jennifer

From 1939, when Syvia is 4 1/2 years old, to 1945 when she has just turned ten, a Jewish girl and her family struggle to survive in Poland's Lodz ghetto during the Nazi occupation.

Books for Teens (YA Fiction)

ACORN EATERS
by Pelgrom, Els
YA FICTION PEL
Curro, an Andalusian peasant, describes growing up in the harsh conditions following the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939.) Based on the childhood recollections of the author's late husband.

ANGEL ON THE SQUARE
by Whelan, Gloria
YA FICTION WHE
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.

B FOR BUSTER
by Lawrence, Iain
YA FICTION LAW
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.

DARKEST EVENING
by Durbin, William
YA FICTION DUR
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.

EMIL AND KARL
by Glatstein, Jacob
YA FICTION GLA
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.

KATARINA: A Novel
by Winter, Kathryn
YA FICTION WIN
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.

MARIKA
by Cheng, Andrea
YA FICTION CHE
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.

MILKWEED
by Spinelli, Jerry
YA FICTION SPI
The narrator, a street orphan, tells of his experience in Nazi-occupied Warsaw during World War II.
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PRIVATE PEACEFUL
by Morpurgo, Michael
YA FICTION MOR
When Thomas Peaceful's older brother is forced to join the British Army in World War I, 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.

REMEMBRANCE
by Breslin, Theresa

YA FICTION BRE

The destinies of two Scottish families, one of shopkeepers and one of wealth and power, become entwined through their involvement in War I, social causes, and love.

ROOM IN THE HEART

by Levitin, Sonia

YA FICTION LEV

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.

SEA SO FAR

by Thesman , Jean

YA FICTION THE

After surviving the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fires, two 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.

SOLDIER BOYS

by Hughes , Dean

YA FICTION HUG

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.

SOLDIER X

by Wulffson, Don

YA FICTION WUL

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.

The Book Thief

by Zusak, Markus

YA FICTION ZUS

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

TRAITOR

by Pausewang , Gudrun

YA FICTION PAU

During the closing months of World War II, a 15-year-old German girl must decide whether or not to help an escaped Russian prisoner of war, despite the serious consequences if she does so.