

Explore New York: Imagine Your Story

Tween



Abbot, E.F. Mary Jemison: Native American Captive (Based on a True Story). New York : Feiweil and Friends, an imprint of Macmillan, 2016.

A fictional retelling of the early life of Mary Jemison who was captured during the French and Indian War and lived for most of her life with the Seneca Indians.

FICTION

Abbott, E. F. Sybil Ludington: Revolutionary War Rider. New York : Feiweil and Friends, 2016.

A fictionalized account of the sixteen-year-old girl, trained to handle a musket, who rode alone over forty miles in New York to bring out the militia before the Battle of Ridgefield.

FICTION

Anderson, Laurie Halse. Chains. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2010.

Sisters Isabel and Ruth are young girls who are promised freedom after the death of their slave master. Instead, they become property of a New York City couple. Isabel soon catches Revolution fever after meeting a young boy named Curzon who encourages her to spy on her owners. Together Isabel and Curzon strive for their personal freedom and the freedom of New York and their country.

2009 ALA Notable Children's Book

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 068396

Audio CD by Brilliance (2008), Playaway (2008)

Appel, Marty. Pinstripe Pride: The Inside Story of the New York Yankees. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2015.

Get the complete story of the Yankees, from Babe Ruth to Derek Jeter—with twenty-seven World Championships in between—in this home run of a middle grade adaptation of *Pinstripe Empire*.

NON-FICTION

Downloadable format: DB080923

Avi. Catch You Later Traitor. Chapel Hill, N.C.: Algonquin Young Readers, 2015.

It's 1951, and Pete Collison is a just regular kid in Brooklyn, who loves detective books and radio crime dramas. But when an FBI agent shows up at Pete's doorstep, accusing Pete's father of being a Communist, Pete is caught in a real-life mystery.

FICTION

Bartoletti, Susan. Terrible Typhoid Mary: the most harmless and yet most dangerous woman in America : a true story of the deadliest cook in America. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015.

What happens when a person's reputation has been forever damaged? With archival photographs and text among other primary sources, this riveting biography of Mary Mallon by the Sibert medalist and Newbery Honor winner Susan Bartoletti looks beyond the tabloid scandal of Mary's controversial life.

NON-FICTION

Downloadable Format: DBC06849

Brown, Dan. America Is Under Attack. New York: Roaring Book Press, 2011.

Brown presents a chronological look at the events on the morning of September 11, 2001, in watercolor illustrations.

NON-FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 074337

Bruchac, Joseph. The Boy Who Lived With the Bears : and Other Iroquois Stories. New York : Parabola Books, 2003, 1995.

Presents a collection of traditional Iroquois tales in which animals learn about the importance of caring and responsibility and the dangers of selfishness and pride.

FICTION

Bruchac, Joseph. Hidden Roots. New York : Scholastic, 2004.

Although he is uncertain why his father is so angry and what secret his mother is keeping from him, eleven-year-old Sonny knows that he is different from his classmates in their small New York town.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB065485

Bruchac, Joseph. Walking Two Worlds. Summertown, Tenn.: 7th Generation, 2015.

Hasanoanda was his Indian name. But in mission school he became Ely Parker. He encountered racism and deceit but did not give up his quest to walk between two worlds. This story explores the early education of a famous Native American who gained greatness in the white man's world while staying true to his Seneca people.

FICTION

Bukiet, Melvin Jules. Undertown. New York: Amulet Books, 2013.

Crossing Manhattan en route to a sailing outing off Long Island, Timothy and Jessamyn are riding in Timothy's family's sailboat when it becomes detached from the family's truck. The sailboat ends up falling through a gaping construction site hole, beginning Timothy and Jessamyn's adventure beneath Manhattan.

FICTION

Burleigh, Robert. Edward Hopper Paints His World. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 2014.

As a boy, Hooper knew exactly what he wanted to be when he grew up: on the cover of his pencil box, he wrote “Edward Hopper, Would-Be Artist.” He traveled to New York and to Paris to hone his craft. And even though no one wanted to buy his paintings for a long time, he never stopped believing in his dream.

NON-FICTION

Connor, Leslie. Waiting for Normal. New York: Katherine Tegen Books, 2010.

Twelve-year-old Addie tries to cope with her mother's erratic behavior and being separated from her beloved stepfather and half-sisters when she and her mother go to live in a small trailer by the railroad tracks on the outskirts of Schenectady, New York.

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 018148

Downloadable Format: DB 068286

Audiobook by Recorded Books (2008)

Christensen, Bobbie. Fabulous: A Portrait of Andy Warhol. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 2011.

A biography of famous New York artist Andy Warhol, flashing back and forth from his fame in New York City in the 1960s and his upbringing in Pittsburgh.

NON-FICTION

Craft, Jerry. New Kid. New York : HarperCollins, 2019.

Seventh grader Jordan Banks navigates two worlds: his home in the Manhattan neighborhood of Washington Heights and the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School in the Bronx where he is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade.

John Newberry Medal

Coretta Scott King award

Audio book by HarperAudio.

FICTION

DeFelice, Cynthia. Under the Same Sky. New York: Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, 2005.

To earn money for a coveted motorbike, young Joe Pedersen joins the Mexican laborers who work on his father's farm in upstate New York and soon discovers racism and romance while learning to see the world in a whole different way.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 057189

Federle, Tim. Better Nate Than Ever. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2013.

Thirteen-year-old Nate Foster travels to Manhattan from his small town in Pennsylvania to audition for a Broadway musical based on the movie E.T. The author is a Broadway performer and director.

2014 Odyssey Award Honor Recording

2014 Stonewall Honor Book in Children's and YA Literature

2014 Notable Children's Book

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 076408

Audio available through Simon & Schuster Audio (2013)

Federle, Tim. Five, Six, Seven, Nate! New York: Simon & Schuster, 2014.

Now on Broadway as second understudy for E.T., Nate keeps in close contact with his best friend, Libby, as he faces his nemesis, Jordan Rylance, and his own insecurities as the cast member with the least training and experience. *2015 Odyssey Award Honor for the audiobook by Simon & Schuster*

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 078334

Audio CD by Simon & Schuster (2014)

Goldblatt, Mark. Finding the Worm. New York: Random House, 2015.

In 1970 Queens, N.Y., Julian Twerski struggles to write an essay as punishment for an act he did not commit; worries about Beverly, the girl he likes; prepares for his bar mitzvah; and tries to cope with the serious illness of one of his closest friends. Sequel to Twerp.

FICTION

Audio CD by Listening Library (2015)

Graff, Lisa. Absolutely Almost. New York: Philomel Books, 2014.

Ten-year-old Albie has never been the smartest, tallest, best at gym, greatest artist, or most musical in his class, as his parents keep reminding him, but new nanny Calista helps him uncover his strengths and take pride in himself as he transitions from private to public school in New York City.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 079309

Audio available from Recorded Books

Graff, Lisa. A Tangle of Knots. New York: Philomel Books, 2013.

In a slightly magical world where everyone has a Talent, orphan Cady has a phenomenal Talent for cake baking. Now fate has led her to a mysterious address in Poughkeepsie, NY, that houses a lost luggage emporium, an old recipe, a family of children searching for their own Talents, and a Talent Thief who will alter her life forever.

FICTION

Green, Tim. Lost Boy. New York: HarperCollins. 2015.

Ryder searches for his lost father with the help of a New York City Firefighter, a signed baseball, and a letter.

FICTION

Audio CD by Dreamscape Media

Grimes, Nikki. The Road to Paris. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2006.

Paris Richmond, a biracial eight-year-old, goes to a loving foster home in New York while her ten-year-old brother Malcolm is sent to a boys' home. Paris must make a difficult decision when her birth mother wants to reunite the family.

2007 Coretta Scott King Author Honor

2017 Laura Ingalls Wilder Award

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 066168

Audio CD by Recorded Books (2007)

Huey, Lois Miner. Forgotten Bones: Uncovering a Slave Cemetery. Minneapolis: Millbrook Press, 2015. Details archaeological findings about slavery in America as revealed by the discovery of 13 skeletons in upstate New York that were identified as 18th-century African-American slaves who once worked at the nearby Schuyler Farm.

NON-FICTION

Hopkinson, Deborah. A Bandit's Tale: The Muddled Misadventures of a Pickpocket. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, 2016.

In March of 1887, Rocco, an eleven-year-old from an Italian village, arrives in New York City where he is forced to live in squalor and beg for money as a street musician, but he finds the city's cruelty to children and animals intolerable and sets out to make things better, whatever the cost to himself.

FICTION

Audio CD by Listening Library (2016)

Kent, Rose. Rocky Road. New York: Alfred Knopf, 2010.

Ma moves the family of Tess and her deaf brother from Texas to Schenectady, New York, where she uses their savings to open an ice cream shop in winter. (The book incorporates fun facts about ice cream.)

FICTION

Laiz, Jana. Weeping Under This Same Moon. South Egremont, MA: Crow Flies Press; Trade Paper edition, 2008.

This story is set in Vietnam and NYC. It is based on Jana's experiences assisting refugees after the Vietnam War.

FICTION

Lewis, J. Patrick. Harlem Hellfighters. Mankato, Minn.: Creative Editions, 2014.

A regiment of African-American soldiers from Harlem journeys across the Atlantic to fight alongside the French in World War I, inspiring a continent with their brand of jazz music.

2015 Children's Notable Book

NON-FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB080704

Maldonado, Torrey. Tight. Penguin Young Readers Group/ Nancy Paulsen Books, 2018.

Bryan likes comics, drawing superheroes, and no drama; but his friends pressure him with risky adventures, like hopping turnstiles and subway surfing, in this fast-paced tale of urban community life set in Brooklyn.

FICTION

Audio book by Listening Library

Downloadable Format: DB093364

Mann, J. Albert. Scar: A Revolutionary War Tale. Honesdale, Pennsylvania : Calkins Creek, An Imprint of Highlights, 2016.

Sixteen-year-old Noah Daniels wants nothing more than to fight in George Washington's Continental Army, but an accident a child left him maimed and unable to enlist. He is forced to watch the Revolution from his family's hard scrabble farm in Upstate New York—until a violent raid on his settlement thrusts him into one of the bloodiest battles of the American Revolution, and ultimately, face to face with the enemy. A riveting coming of age story, this book also includes an author's note and bibliography.

FICTION

Marrin, Al. Flesh and Blood So Cheap: The Triangle Fire and its Legacy. New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2011.

On March 25, 1911, the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in New York City burst into flames. One-hundred-forty-six people— mostly women—perished; it was one of the most lethal workplace fires in American history. This is a story of immigration and hard work to make it in a new country, as Italians and Jews and others traveled to America to find a better life.

NON-FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 073753

Martin, Ann M. Rain Reign. Harrisonburg, VA: RR Donnelley & Sons Company, 2014.

Rose Howard is a highly-functioning autistic fifth-grader who is obsessed with homonyms. When a storm creates a flash flood in her rural New York town, and her dog Rain is caught out in it, Rose must step outside of her comfort zone to look for her beloved pet.

2014 SLJ Best Books: Middle Grade

2015 Schneider Family Book Award

2015 National Book Festival – New York State Selection

FICTION

Audio CD by Brilliance Audio (2014)

McKendry, Joe. One Times Square: A Century of Change at the Crossroads of the World. Jaffrey, N.H.: David R. Godine, 2012.

An illustrated look at the history of Times Square and the iconic building that gave it its name, from the space's origins as part of a farm next to a dirt path that would become Broadway, to the renowned intersection of today.

NON-FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 076221

Messner, Kate. Breakout. Bloomsbury, 2018.

Inspired by the real-life break out at the Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora, NY, the story of three kids caught in the middle of a manhunt in a small upstate town is told in letters, poems, text messages, news stories and comics that are being collected for a community time-capsule project.

FICTION

Meyer, Susan Lynn. Skating with the Statue of Liberty. New York: Delacorte, 2016.

In this follow-up to *Black Radishes* (Delacorte, 2010), Meyer continues the story of a French Jew named Gustave, now 12, who emigrates with his parents who safety in the United States during World War II. Based on memories from the author's father, the story rings true as Gustave starts school at the Joan of Arc Junior High in New York City. His challenges learning English and navigating American culture make for a difficult start for the protagonist, along with worries about his best friend, Marcel, whom he left behind in France to an uncertain fate.

FICTION

Moore, David Barclay. The Stars Beneath Our Feet. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2017.

It's Christmas Eve in Harlem, but twelve-year-old Lolly Rachpaul and his mom aren't celebrating. They're still reeling from his older brother's death in a gang-related shooting just a few months earlier. Then Lolly's mother's girlfriend brings him a gift that will change everything: two enormous bags filled with Legos. Lolly's always loved Legos, and he prides himself on following the kit instructions exactly. Now, faced with a pile of building blocks and no instructions, Lolly must find his own way forward.

2017 Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Award winner

FICTION

Northrop, Michael. Book of the Dead. New York: Scholastic, 2015.

When Alex's mother, an Egyptologist at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, uses the Lost Spells from the Egyptian Book of the Dead to bring her son from the brink of dying, she also brings back five Death Walkers, leaving Alex and his best friend to find his mother and save the world. First in a series.

FICTION

Audio CD by Scholastic (2015)

Older, Daniel José. Dactyl Hill Squad. Scholastic, 2018.

It's 1863 and dinosaurs roam the streets of New York as the Civil War rages between raptor-mounted armies down South. Magdalys Roca and her friends from the Colored Orphan Asylum are on a field trip when the Draft Riots break out, and a number of their fellow orphans are kidnapped by an evil magistrate, Richard Riker.

FICTION

Orgill, Roxane. Jazz Day: The Making of a Famous Photograph. Somerville, MA:

Candlewick Press, 2016.

When *Esquire* magazine planned an issue to salute the American jazz scene in 1958, graphic designer Art Kane pitched a crazy idea: how about gathering a group of beloved jazz musicians and photographing them? He didn't own a good camera, didn't know if any musicians would show up, and insisted on setting up the shoot in front of a Harlem brownstone. Could he pull it off? In a captivating collection of poems, Roxane Orgill steps into the frame of Harlem 1958, bringing to life the musicians' mischief and quirks, their memorable style, and the vivacious atmosphere of a Harlem block full of kids on a hot summer's day. Francis Vallejo's vibrant, detailed, and wonderfully expressive paintings do loving justice to the larger-than-life quality of jazz musicians of the era. Includes bios of several of the fifty-seven musicians, an author's note, sources, a bibliography, and a foldout of Art Kane's famous photograph

NON-FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB086926

Palacio, R.J. Wonder. New York: Knopf, 2012.

Auggie Pullman was born with severe facial deformities and wasn't expected to survive. But now, at 10-years-old, he's entering school for the first time in Manhattan. He learns to deal with his fear of his classmates and their taunting while trying to be just any other kid.

2014 3 Apples Children's Book Award

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 020338

Downloadable Format: DB 74228

Audio CD by Brilliance Audio

Potter, Ellen. The Humming Room. Feiwel & Friends, 2012.

Orphaned Roo Fanshaw is sent to live with her uncle in the Thousand Islands and becomes determined to solve the mystery of the secret room she discovers in his strange home. A modern version of Frances Hodgson Burnett's classic coming-of-age tale *The Secret Garden*.

FICTION

Downloadable Format:

DB 074785 Audio

available on Audible

Robinson, Sharon. The Hero Two Doors Down: Based on the True Story of Friendship Between a Boy and a Baseball Legend. New York: Scholastic Press, 2016.

Eight-year-old Steve Satlow is thrilled when Jackie Robinson moves into his Jewish neighborhood in Brooklyn in 1948, although many of his neighbors are not, and when Steve actually meets his hero he is even more excited--and worried that a misunderstanding over a Christmas tree could damage his new friendship.

FICTION

Rowling, J. K. Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them. Pottermore Ltd., 2016.

When Magizoologist Newt Scamander arrives in New York, he intends his stay to be just a brief stopover. However, when his magical case is misplaced and some of Newt's fantastic beasts escape, it spells trouble for everyone... *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* marks the screenwriting debut of J.K. Rowling, author of the beloved and internationally bestselling *Harry Potter* books.

FICTION

Ruby, Laura. The Shadow Cipher. New York: Harper Collins, 2017.

"The pleasures of the novel go far beyond the crackling, breathless plot and the satisfaction of watching the puzzle fall into place. The book is shot through with humor, both laugh-out-loud and subtle." —New York Times Book Review

FICTION

Sabin, Francene. Elizabeth Blackwell : the first woman doctor. New York : Scholastic, 2007.

Traces the early life of the first woman physician, relating the struggle women had to face in becoming doctors and practicing medicine.

NON-FICTION

Schmidt, Gary D. Okay for Now. New York: Clarion Books, 2011.

As a fourteen-year-old who just moved from Long Island to upstate New York, with no friends, an abusive father, and a louse for an older brother, Doug has everything stacked against him until he finds Lil, a friend and ally. Together, they find a safe haven in the local library, inspiration in learning about the plates of John James Audubon's birds, and an adventure on a Broadway stage.

2012 Odyssey Award (audiobook for children and/or young adults)

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 019362

Downloadable Format:

DB 073716 Audio CD by

Listening Library (2011).

Sharenow, Rob. The Girl in the Torch. New York: Balzer & Bray, 2015.

After her father is killed in Europe, Sarah and her mother immigrate to America--but when her mother dies before they get through Ellis Island, and the authorities want to send her back, Sarah hides in the torch in the Statue of Liberty.

FICTION

Sheinkin, Steve. The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery. New York: Flash Point, 2010.

Few know that Benedict Arnold was one of the greatest war heroes: reckless, heroic, and driven. Packed with first-person accounts, astonishing battle scenes, and surprising twists, this is a gripping and true tale.

2011 Boston Globe - Horn Book Award for Nonfiction

2012 YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults

NON-FICTION

Braille Format: BR 019317

Downloadable Format: DB 074602

Starmer, Aaron. The Riverman. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2014.

Alistair is a good kid growing up in Thassaly, New York in 1989. When his neighbor Fiona asks him to write her biography, things start getting strange. According to Fiona, there is an alternate universe in her basement and a creature there is stealing the souls of children.

FICTION

Stead, Rebecca. Goodbye Stranger. New York: Wendy Lamb Books, 2015.

As Bridge makes her way through seventh grade on Manhattan's Upper West Side with her best friends, curvaceous Em, crusader Tab, and a curious new friend--or more than friend--Sherm, she finds the answer she has been seeking since she barely survived an accident at age eight: "What is my purpose?"

FICTION

Audio CD by Listening Library (2015)

Braille Format: BR020997

Downloadable Format: DB082093

Stead, Rebecca. Liar & Spy. New York: Wendy Lamb Books, 2012.

Seventh-grader Georges must adjust to moving from a house to an apartment in Brooklyn while his father attempts to start a new business and his mother takes on extra shifts as a nurse. Moreover, he is picked on at school and confronted by a boy who wants his help spying on another resident of their building.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 075502

Audio CD by Listening Library (2012)

Stead, Rebecca. When You Reach Me. New York: Wendy Lamb Books, 2009.

Set in New York City circa 1979, sixth grader Miranda begins to receive mysterious notes about the future; notes that are eerily reminiscent of her favorite novel *A Wrinkle in Time*.

2010 Newbury Medal winner

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 018568

Downloadable Format: DB 069837

Audio CD by Listening Library (2009)

Tarpley, Natasha. Harlem Charade. New York: Scholastic Press, 2017.

WATCHER. SHADOW. FUGITIVE. Harlem is home to all kinds of kids. It will take three of these kids to join forces to find out what happened to one of their own family members who was attacked one evening in his own neighborhood. While they are searching for the truth, they learn about an artist whose missing masterpieces are worth a fortune and these pieces may be hidden within the neighborhood. If they find these works, it may save the neighborhood from development by a politician who wants to turn it into Harlem World

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB087417

Terciero, Rey. Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy: A Graphic Novel: A Modern Retelling of Little Women. Illu. Bre Indigo. New York: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2019.

A modern retelling of the classic story 'Little Women', this graphic novel follows four sisters from a blended family living in New York City. With their father in the military and the girls working overtime to make ends meet, each sister learns to overcome their personal woes by discovering who they are as individuals and as a family.

FICTION

Williams-Garcia, Rita. Illus. by Frank Morrison. Clayton Bird Goes Underground. HarperCollins Amistad, 2017.

Clayton idolizes his grandfather and mentor, blues legend Cool Papa Byrd. When Cool Papa dies, Clayton runs away from home in search of the Bluesman and detours through the New York City subways and to Washington Square Park.

FICTION

Audio book by Harper Audio

Woodson, Jacqueline. Brown Girl Dreaming. Nancy Paulsen Books, 2014.

This memoir-in-verse recounts the childhood of Brooklyn author Jacqueline Woodson and what it was like to grow up as an African-American girl during the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s and 70s.

2014 National Book Award, Young People's Literature Winner

2015 Coretta Scott King Author Winner

2015 Newbery Honor

2015 Robert F. Sibert Honor

NON-FICTION

Audio available from Listening Library

Woodson, Jacqueline. Harbor Me. Nancy Paulsen Books, 2018.

6 kids who learn differently are sent to a different room every Friday. There, with no adults present, they begin to reveal things the others didn't know about their lives.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB092266

Braille Format: BR022447