

Burlingame Public Library

Historical Fiction

World War II and Holocaust

for
Middle Readers
9-12 years old

Ashes by Kathryn Lasky

Gaby tells about the changes for her German family in 1932 as Adolf Hitler is gaining power and they begin to lose many comforts including their friendship with next-door neighbor, Albert Einstein.

Best friends forever: a World War II scrapbook

by Beverly Patt

Told in diary form, Louise tells about her life in 1942 after her best friend is sent to a Japanese internment camp.

Black radishes by Susan Lynn Meyer

Gustave and his Jewish family move from their home in Paris to the small town of Saint-George as prejudice against Jews escalates in France in 1940.

A diamond in the desert by Kathryn Fitzmaurice

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Tetsu, his mother, and sister are sent to an internment camp in Arizona where Tetsu joins others in playing baseball to pass the time in the dull desert.

The fences between us: the diary of Piper Davis

by Kirby Larson

Piper writes about her ordinary life in Seattle, Washington in 1941 before the attack at Pearl Harbor where her brother is serving on the battleship Arizona. Further, she tells about changes for the Japanese-American community after the attacks.

Gingersnap by Patricia Reilly Giff

Orphaned Jayna lives with her brother, but when he is shipped off to the South Pacific toward the end of the war and does not return, she sets out on a journey to find her grandmother.

The good liar by Gregory Maguire

An elderly man recalls his childhood in France in 1940 when he and his brothers became friends with a German soldier and his family provided a hiding place for Jewish friends.

The green glass sea by Ellen Klages

During World War II, Dewey moves to live with her father in Los Alamos, New Mexico, and finds that he is involved in making the secret weapon that the government hopes will help the United States end the war.

Is it night or day? by Fern Schumer Chapman

Twelve-year-old Edith tells about being sent away by her parents from her home in Germany, as Adolf Hitler's power increases, and of her new start with an aunt and uncle in Chicago, Illinois.

Jimmy's stars by Mary Ann Rodman

Eleven-year-old Ellie adores her older brother, Jimmy, and sadly awaits his return after he is drafted to fight in the war and leaves their Pennsylvania home for Europe.

Lily's crossing by Patricia Reilly Giff

Lily's usual vacation in New York's Rockaway Beach changes when she meets Albert, a refugee from Hungary, during the summer of 1944.

Missing in action by Dean Hughes

Jay is half-Navajo and deals with prejudice when he moves to a small town after his dad is missing in action in World War II. Although he thinks he can leave the taunting behind, he discovers that he must confront prejudice of his own toward a Japanese boy.

Number the stars by Lois Lowry

In 1943, a ten-year-old girl takes enormous risks to save her Jewish friend, Ellen, when the Nazis occupied Denmark.

Odetta's secrets by Maryann MacDonald

A young Jewish girl leaves her home in Paris and is sent to live in the French countryside after her father is taken prisoner by the Nazis.

On the wings of heroes by Richard Peck

Davy Bowman tells of his life on the home front with air raids, rationing, and various drives to save items in demand, as his brother fights in the Air Force during World War II.

Shadow on the mountain by Margi Preus

When the Nazis invade Norway in 1940, fourteen-year-old Espen joins the Resistance and becomes a spy.

Snow treasure by Marie McSwigan

A group of schoolchildren help smuggle their country's gold away on sleds when the Nazis invade Norway during World War II.

Someone named Eva by Joan Wolf

Milada is taken from her family in Czechoslovakia and moved to Poland where she is adopted and trained to be a proper German citizen.

The summer of my German soldier by Bette Greene

A twelve-year-old Jewish girl in Arkansas hides an escaped German soldier during World War II.

Sylvia and Aki by Winifred Conkling

When Aki and her Japanese-American family are sent to an internment camp after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Sylvia and her Mexican-American family lease Aki's house and land. Both girls experience the difficulty of racial prejudice in this novel based on a true story.

Twenty and ten by Claire Huchet Bishop

Twenty fifth-grade students living in the mountains help hide 10 Jewish children during the German occupation of France.

Under the blood red sun by Graham Salisbury

Tomikazu, a young Japanese-American boy living in Hawaii in 1941, has usual school boy interests and difficulties until the bombing of Pearl Harbor changes everything.

Yellow star by Jennifer Roy

Told in verse, Sylvia tells of her years living in the Lodz ghetto in Poland and how she survived the ordeal forced on Jews at that time.

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