





# Korea

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The following list is a sampling of the books we have on this subject. Children's, teen, and adult books are included here. Students and their parents should choose the books that are most appropriate for them.

## Children's Books

### **Brother's Keeper**

by Julie Lee

J F LEE

*Twelve-year-old Sora and her eight-year-old brother, Youngsoo, must try to escape North Korea's oppressive Communist regime on their own in 1950. 314 pages*

### **In the Shadow of the Sun**

by Anne Sibley O'Brien

J F O'BRIEN

*After their father is arrested while providing aid in North Korea, Mia and her older brother, Simon, need to flee the country after they find themselves in possession of photographs that can expose atrocities about the country's labor camps. 303 pages*

### **Lia Park and the Missing Jewel**

by Jenna Yoon

J F YOON

*Twelve-year-old Lia Park must venture to the undersea kingdom of the Dragon King in Korea to save her parents from an evil diviner. 346 pages*

### **When You Trap a Tiger**

by Tae Keller

J NEWBERRY KELLER

*Moving with her parents into the home of her sick grandmother, young Lily forges a complicated pact with a magical tiger, in a story inspired by Korean folktales. 297 pages*

## Young Adult Fiction

### **I Guess I Live Here Now**

by Claire Ahn

YA F AHN

*Sent from New York City to Seoul to be with her father, Melody discovers the alluring aspect of living in Korea with the help of her newfound friends but soon learns that her shiny new life comes with a high price. 408 pages*

### **Wicked Fox**

by Kat Cho

YA F CHO

*After 18-year-old Gu Miyoung, a nine-tailed fox surviving in modern-day Seoul by eating the souls of evil men, kills a murderous goblin to save Jihoon, she is forced to choose between her immortal life and his. 424 pages*

### **The Red Palace**

by June Hur

YA F HUR

*While investigating a series of grisly murders, 18-year-old palace nurse Hyeon navigates royal and political intrigue and becomes entangled with a young police inspector. 329 pages*

### **Shine**

by Jessica Jung

YA F JUNG

*Seventeen-year-old Rachel Kim confronts the dark underbelly of the K-pop world as she strives to become a K-pop star. 346 pages*

### **Flip the Script**

by Lyla Lee

YA F LEE

*To make the ratings of her K-drama skyrocket, the producers create a love triangle using Hana's former best friend and crush, and as they compete for the lead actor's affection on screen, they fall in love behind the scenes, which could end their careers. 291 pages*

### **K-pop Confidential**

by Stephan Lee

YA F LEE

*Hiding a secret passion for singing beneath a veneer of an obedient straight-A student, Candace enters a K-pop audition on a dare before plunging headfirst into the grueling world of training and rehearsals, before a fellow trainee and a hot boy-band star challenge a strict no-dating rule. 323 pages*

### **The Girl Who Fell Beneath the Sea**

by Axie Oh

YA F OH

*In this retelling of the Korean legend The tale of Shim Cheong, 16-year-old Mina is swept away to the Spirit Realm, where, assisted by a motley crew of demons, gods, and lesser spirits, she sets out to awaken the sleeping Sea God and save her homeland and family from deadly storms. 325 pages*

### **The Noh Family**

by Grace Shim

YA F SHIM

*Chloe Chang travels to Seoul to meet her deceased father's ultra-rich family, but there is a reason why her mom kept her away from the Nohs, and Chloe begins to wonder if her new family's intentions are pure. 378 pages*

### **Idol Gossip**

by Alexandra Leigh Young

YA F YOUNG

*Offered a spot at the Star Academy, one of the biggest K-pop companies, 17-year-old singer Alice Choy must navigate culture clashes, egos and extreme training practices to come out on top, despite the efforts of an influential blogger trying to tear her down. 318 pages*

## **Graphic Novels**

### **True Beauty**

by Yaongyi

YA COMICS YAONGYI

*Once bullied for being perceived as ugly, young Jugyeong Lim uses online tutorials to transform into a beautiful popular girl. Caught in a love triangle between a mystery man and a bad boy, Jugyeong navigates high school and her personal life while her self-esteem, romantic life, and school life are constantly in flux. 283 pages*

### **Bride of the Water God**

by Mi-Kyung Yun

YA COMICS YUN

*Soah's impoverished village sacrifices her in order to appease the water God, Habaek, and end a drought. Much to Soah's surprise she is rescued by Habaek. 184 pages*

### **Almost American Girl**

by Robin Ha

YA COMICS BIO HA

*A powerful and moving teen graphic novel memoir about immigration, belonging, and how arts can save a life. 227 pages*

### **Banned Book Club**

by Kim Hyun Sook

YA COMICS BIO SOOK

*The autobiography of a South Korean woman's student days under an authoritarian regime, and how she defied state censorship. 198 pages*

### **Cook Korean!**

by Robin Ha

GRAPHIC NOVELS 641.5951 HAR

*An introduction to the basics of Korean cooking in graphic novel form, with 64 recipes, ingredient profiles, and more, presented through light-hearted comics. 175 pages*

## Nonfiction

### The Birth of Korean Cool

by Euny Hong

306.0951 HON

*Euny Hong reveals how a really uncool country became cool, and how a nation that once banned mini-skirts, long hair on men, and rock 'n' roll could come to mass produce boy bands, soap operas, and the world's most popular smartphone. 267 pages*

### North Korea Confidential

by Daniel Tudor

306.0951 TUD

*Examines what life is like for ordinary citizens of North Korea, based on interviews with members of Pyongyang's ruling families, diplomats with years of experience in the country, and cross-border traders from neighboring China. 192 pages*

### The Aquariums of Pyongyang

by Chol-hwan Kang

YA 365.4509 KAN

*Kang Chol-hwan was nine years old when imprisoned at the Yodok camp in 1977. Over the next 10 years, he endured inhumane conditions and deprivations, including an inadequate diet (supplemented by frogs and rats), regular beatings, humiliations, and hard labor. 238 pages*

### Tales of a Korean Grandmother

by Frances Carpenter

398.2095 KOREA CAR

*Halmoni (grandmother) is full of stories, and loves telling them to her grandchildren. This collection of 32 folk tales starts by introducing the Kim household, and then Halmoni proceeds to relay the folk tales at different stages in her grandchildren's lives. 287 pages*

### Korean Stories for Language Learners

by Julie Damron

495.7 DAM

*Introduces 42 traditional Korean folktales with bilingual Korean and English versions. The book can be used by anyone wishing to learn about Korean folktales and traditional Korean culture, or as a reader in first- and second-year Korean language courses. 222 pages*

### My Korea

by Hooni Kim

641.5951 KIM

*The debut cookbook from the Michelin-star chef known for defining Korean food in America. Hooni Kim is a chef who cooks with jung sung, heart and devotion. My Korea embraces his gastronomic heritage. 352 pages*

### The Korean Vegan Cookbook

by Joanne Lee Molinaro

641.5951 LEE

*Korean plant-based eating is not a new idea: vegan cuisine prepared by Korean Buddhist monks has been around for more than a thousand years. Lee Molinaro shares recipes (and narrative snapshots) of the food that shaped her family history-- only with a plant-based take. 335 pages*

### The Snowy Road and Other Stories

by Hyungae Sallee

895.7301 SNO

*The Korean War and its aftermath serve as the backdrop for the six selections showcased in this collection offering the reader a rarely-glimpsed view of Korean life. Each of the authors represented here has been the recipient of the prestigious Korean People's Literary Award. Their work focuses on ordinary Korean people and the impact of the war on their lives. 167 pages*

### The New Koreans

by Michael Breen

951.904 BRE

*Provides a wide overview of how Korea (as a whole and divided) has evolved overtime, including history, how the country has built its wealth, politics and power struggles, and finally where the nation is headed. 462 pages*

### Ghost Flames

by Charles Hanley

951.9042 HAN

*Hanley tells the history of the Korean War through the eyes of 21 individuals -- soldiers and civilians, male and female, young and old, witnesses both to atrocity and to heroism. The narrative unfolds in interwoven episodes, month by month, from the hilltop trench lines, the refugee camps and the prisoner-of-war camps. 504 pages*

### **The Korean War**

by Haruki Wada

951.9042 WAD

*Drawing on archival and other primary sources in Russia, China, the United States, South Korea, Taiwan, and Japan, the author moves beyond national histories to provide the first comprehensive understanding of the Korean War as an international conflict from the perspective of all the major actors. 381 pages*

### **The Hermit King**

by Chung Min Lee

951.93 LEE

*Throughout the world, oppressive regimes are being uprooted and replaced by budding democracies, but one exception remains: The People's Republic of North Korea. Asian geopolitical expert Chung Min Lee tells the story of the rise of the Kim Dynasty and its atrocities, motivations, and diplomatic goals. He also discusses the possible outcomes of its aggressive standoff with the world superpowers. 290 pages*

### **Nothing to Envy**

by Barbara Demick

951.9305 DEM

*Follows the lives of six North Koreans over 15 years, a chaotic period that saw the rise to power of Kim Jong-Il and the devastation of a famine that killed one-fifth of the population, illustrating what it means to live under the most repressive totalitarian regime today. 314 pages*

### **The Rebel and the Kingdom**

by Bradley Hope

BIO HONG

*After reading a harrowing account of life inside North Korea, Adrian Hong realized he had found a cause so pressing that he was ready to devote his life to it. What began as a trip down the safe and well-worn path of organizing soon morphed into something more dangerous. This is an exhilarating account of a man who turns his back on the status quo—to instead live boldly by his principles. 242 pages*

### **Dear Leader**

by Jin-Sung Jang

BIO JANG

*In this rare insider's view into contemporary North Korea, a high-ranking counterintelligence agent describes his life as a former poet laureate to Kim Jong-Il and his breathtaking escape to freedom. 339 pages*

### **Under the Same Sky**

by Joseph Kim

BIO KIM

*An inspirational memoir chronicling the life of Joseph Kim, who not only survived and escaped the devastating famine in North Korea as an abandoned young boy, but made it to the United States and is now thriving in college. 274 pages*

### **Without You, There is No Us**

by Suki Kim

BIO KIM

*A memoir of teaching English to the sons of North Korea's ruling class during the last six months of Kim Jong-Il's reign. 291 pages*

### **Every Falling Star**

by Sungju Lee

YA BIO LEE

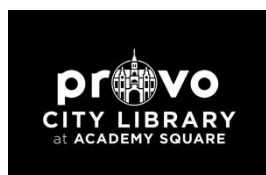
*The memoir of Sungju, who grew up in North Korea and, at the age of 12, was forced to live on the streets and fend for himself after his parents disappeared. Finally, after years of being homeless and living with a gang, Sungju is reunited with his maternal grandparents and, eventually, his father. 314 pages*

### **Escape from Camp 14**

by Blaine Harden

BIO SHIN

*Twenty-six years ago, Shin Dong-hyuk was born inside Camp 14, one of five sprawling political prisons in the mountains of North Korea. This is the gripping, terrifying story of his escape from this no-exit prison to freedom in South Korea. 205 pages*



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