


World War II



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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

Hunger Winter

by Rob Currie

J F CURRIE

When his older sister Els, a Resistance fighter, is arrested by the Gestapo, 13-year-old Dirk takes his little sister, Anna, across the war-torn Netherlands seeking their father, who is also in the Dutch Resistance. 253 pages

My Nest of Silence

by Matt Faulkner

J F FAULKNER

A young Japanese-American man fights on the battlefields of Europe while his ten-year-old sister, held with her family in an internment camp, decides to stop speaking until he returns. 373 pages

All He Knew

by Helen Frost

J F FROST

In 1939 six-year-old Henry, who is deaf, is taken from his family and placed in a home for the feeble-minded where, years later, his friends include a conscientious objector serving there during World War II. 254 pages

Navaio Code Talkers

by Stuart A. Kallen

J INFO 940.548 KAL

In the South Pacific during World War II, a group of Navajo Marines sent secret messages for the Allies using a code based on the Navajo language. Their unbreakable code helped win the war. 300 pages

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

Code Talker

by Joseph Bruchac

YA F BRUCHAC

After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue. 231 pages

The Book of Pearl

by Timothee De Fombelle

YA F FOMBELLE

Joshua Pearl is not from this world. He is from a place only children believe in – a world of fairy tale. He is now stuck in an old-world marshmallow shop in Paris on the eve of World War II. As his memories start to fade he seeks out objects connected to tales that have been told in order to save him and his love. 355 pages

This Light Between Us

by Andrew Xia Fukuda

YA F FUKUDA

Alex Maki and Charlie Levy have been pen pals since they were ten-years-old, sharing hopes and dreams in their letters. The memories of those letters help them hold on as Alex is placed in an internment camp in the states and eventually joins the army and Charlie endures the Nazi occupation in France. 382 pages

Among the Red Stars

by Gwen C. Katz

YA F KATZ

Female Russian air pilot Valka signs up to join an all-female aviation group, but as the war intensifies she has to decide how much she is willing to risk to defend the skies she calls home. 376 pages

A Separate Peace

by John Knowles

YA F KNOWLES

Set at a boys' boarding school in New England during the early years of World War II, A Separate Peace tells the story of Gene, a lonely, introverted intellectual and Phineas, a taunting, daredevil athlete. What happens between the two friends one summer, banishes the innocence of these boys and their world. 204 pages

Traitor

by Amanda McCrina

YA F MCCRINA

In 1944, the Polish city of Lwów has been liberated from Germany but is caught among the insurgent armies of several countries and its resistance fighters; in this city, loyalty comes second to self-preservation. In order to eat, Tolya joins the Red Army but is rescued by Ukrainian freedom fighters after he murders a Soviet officer in the street. That doesn't mean he trusts them, though. 355 pages

Resistance

by Jennifer Nielsen

YA F NIELSEN

After a smuggling mission to a Jewish ghetto goes wrong and her colleagues are arrested, Chaya Lindner, a Jewish girl living in Nazi-occupied Poland, decides to go to Warsaw, the location of an uprising. 385 pages

Thirteen Doorways, Wolves Behind Them All

by Laura Ruby

YA F RUBY

Left alone in an orphanage after their mother dies and their father leaves them, Frankie and her sister Toni, are doing everything to survive. As the Great Depression turns into World War II Frankie must find something worth holding on to in the ruins of this shattered America. 365 pages

The Hunger Between Us

by Marina Scott

YA F SCOTT

When her best friend disappears in the summer of 1942, Liza resolves to rescue her, entangling herself in a dangerous web with two former classmates, one a member of the militia, and the other forced to live in Leningrad's tunnels. 298 pages

The Paper Girl of Paris

by Jordyn Taylor

YA F TAYLOR

Sixteen-year-old Alice spends the summer in Paris, not for the pastries and walks, but to solve the mystery of why her grandmother abandoned her home after World War II. However, the more time she spends digging through the mysteries of the past, the more she realizes there are secrets in the present that her family is still refusing to talk about. 359 pages

The Enigma Game

by Elizabeth Wein

YA F WEIN

In the small Scottish village where she cares for an elderly German woman, fifteen-year-old Jamaican Louisa Adair uncovers an Enigma machine and helps solve a puzzle that could turn the tide of World War II. 437 pages

White Rose

by Kip Wilson

YA F WILSON

White Rose is a non-violent resistance group and Sophie Scholl, a young German college student, joins the group to challenge the Nazi regime during World War II. 358 pages

ADULT FICTION

To the Edge of Sorrow

by Aharon Appelfeld

F APPELFEL

A heroic novel about four-dozen resistance Jewish fighters hiding in a Ukrainian forest who are determined to survive the war, sabotage the German war effort, and rescue as many Jews as they can from the trains taking them to concentration camps. 291 pages

  **Chasing Shadows**

by Lynn N. Austin

F AUSTIN

A powerful novel about three women whose lives are instantly changed when the Nazis invade the neutral Netherlands, forcing each into a complicated dance of choice and consequence. The Nazi invasion propels these women onto paths that cross in unexpected, sometimes-heartbreaking ways. 420 pages

The Secret Guests

by Benjamin Black

F BLACK

Children are sent to the countryside for safety ahead of the German Blitz. No one is excluded, not even the royal children. They are sent with a security detail to the estate of Duke of Edenmore in Ireland. 291 pages

  **The Animals at Lockwood Manor**

by Jane Healey

F HEALEY

Thirty-year-old Hetty Cartwright is tasked with the evacuation and safekeeping of the natural history museum's collection of mammals which has been moved from London because of the threat from Germany. But once they arrive at Lockwood Manor, Hetty realizes she's taken on more than she'd bargained for. 340 pages

  **The Lost Girls of Paris**

by Pam Jenoff

F JENOFF

After losing her husband in the war, Grace Healey is trying to rebuild her life. She happens upon a suitcase at Grand Central Terminal that has photographs of women who were secret agents during the war, their fates a mystery. Determined to find out the truth, Grace meets with an agent named Marie to learn her story. 377 pages

 **The Light Over London**

by Julia Kelly

F KELLY

Unable to confront the challenges in her own life, Cara Hargraves immerses herself in work for her antiques-dealer boss, uncovering relics from the life of World War II British "Gunner Girl" Louise Keene and her complicated relationship with a man named Paul. 293 pages

 **The Last Bookshop in London**

by Madeline Martin

F MARTIN

August 1939: London prepares for war as Hitler's forces sweep across Europe. Grace Bennett has always dreamed of moving to the city, but the bunkers and drawn curtains that she finds on her arrival are not what she expected. Through blackouts and air raids as the Blitz intensifies, Grace discovers the power of storytelling to unite her community in ways she never dreamed. 325 pages

Shadow Child

by Rahna R. Rizzuto

F RIZZUTO

A haunting and suspenseful literary tale set in 1970s New York City and World War II-era Japan, about three strong women, the dangerous ties of family and identity, and the long shadow our histories can cast. 341 pages

Angels of the Resistance

by Nicole Salazar

F SALAZAR

When Nazis invade the Netherlands, fourteen-year-old Lien joins the Dutch resistance with her older sister. As she becomes entrenched in the underground movement and takes on a deeply personal mission, her connection with a kindred spirit named Charlie endangers everything she holds dear. 368 pages

  **The Book Thief**

by Markus Zusak

F ZUSAK

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. 552 pages

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Gaijin: American Prisoner of War

by Matt Faulkner

YA COMICS FAULKNER

After the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, a thirteen-year-old California boy who is half Japanese is sent to an internment camp. Story based on the history of the author's great-aunt. 144 pages

Displacements

by Kiku Hughes

YA COMICS HUGHES

Kiku is on vacation in San Francisco when suddenly she finds herself displaced to the 1940s Japanese-American internment camp that her late grandmother, Ernestina, was forcibly relocated during World War II. She witnesses the lives of Japanese-Americans who were denied their civil liberties and suffered greatly, but managed to cultivate community and commit acts of resistance in order to survive. 274 pages

Resistance: Book 1

by Carla Jablonski

YA COMICS JABLONSK

Paul and Marie's bucolic French town is almost untouched by the ravages of WWII. When the Jewish parents of their friend Henri disappear, and Henri goes into hiding, Paul and Marie realize they must take a stand. 121 pages

Freiheit!: The White Rose Graphic Novel

by Andrea Grosso Ciponte

YA COMICS 943.086 GRO

Disillusioned by the propaganda of Nazi Germany, Sophie Scholl, a young German college student, her brother, and his fellow soldiers formed the White Rose, a group that wrote and distributed anonymous letters criticizing the Nazi regime and calling for action from their fellow German citizens. 111 pages

Black Cotton Star

by Steve Cuzor

GRAPHIC NOVELS CUZOR

A Revolutionary War-era secret sends three soldiers on an epic quest across 1940s Europe to recover a piece of American history. Black Cotton Star is a magnificent war drama, unfolding a fictional tale of struggle, resilience, and sacrifice with themes that resonate deeply in a divided modern-day America. 168 pages

The Night Witches

by Garth Ennis

GRAPHIC NOVELS ENNIS

As the German Army smashes deep into the Soviet Union and the defenders of the Motherland retreat in disarray, a new squadron arrives at a Russian airbase. Like all night bomber units, they will risk death flying obsolete biplanes against the invader--but unlike the rest, these pilots and navigators are women. In the lethal skies above the Eastern Front, they will become a legend--known to friend and foe alike as the Night Witches. 231 pages

Onward Towards Our Noble Deaths

by Shigeru Mizuki

GRAPHIC NOVELS MIZUKI

A semi-autobiographical account of the desperate final weeks of a Japanese infantry unit at the end of World War Two. The soldiers are instructed that they must go into battle and die for the honor of their country, with certain execution facing them if they return alive. 204 pages

Papaya Salad

by Elisa Macellari

GRAPHIC NOVELS BIO SOMPONG

Papaya Salad tells the story of the author's great-uncle Sompong who found himself in Europe on military scholarship on the eve of World War II. Sompong, a gentle and resolute man in love with books and languages, is in search of his place in the world. He chronicles his life during the war. 223 pages

They Called Us Enemy

by George Takei

GRAPHIC NOVELS BIO TAKEI

Long before he braved new frontiers in Star Trek, George Takei woke up as a four-year-old boy to find his own birth country at war with his father's—and their entire family forced from their home into an uncertain future. In a stunning graphic memoir, Takei revisits his haunting childhood in American concentration camps, as one of over 100,000 Japanese Americans imprisoned by the U.S. government during World War II. 204 pages

NONFICTION

The Correspondents

by Judith Mackrell

070.4499 MAC

On the front lines of the Second World War, the lives of six remarkable women are intertwined. The Correspondents paints a vivid, intimate, and nuanced portrait of these pioneering women, from chasing down sources to conducting clandestine love affairs. 433 pages

Atomic Women

by Roseanne Montillo

YA 355.8251 MON

Meet the women who came from across the country and foreign lands to work in the secret sites of the Manhattan Project. These scientists played a critical role in the development and success of the atomic bomb.

266 pages.

Fly Girls

by Keith O'Brien

629.13 OBR

High adventure and high ideals merge when a corps of intrepid female aviators battle to take part in the hugely popular air shows of the 1920s and 1930s. Ultimately, one of our heroines would win a race that earned her the right to be called America's best pilot. 338 pages

Bridge to the Sun

by Bruce B. Henderson

940.5308 HEN

The true story of the Japanese American soldiers who helped fight the war in the Pacific in World War II. 448 pages

Women Heroes of World War II

by Kathryn J. Atwood

YA 940.5309 ATW

Meet the courageous women and girls who risked their lives through their involvement in the Pacific Theater of Operations during World War II. 235 pages

The Girls Who Stepped Out of Line

by Mari K. Eder

940.5309 EDE

See inside the lives and experiences of 15 unknown women heroes from World War II. The women who served, fought, struggled, and made things happen during WWII, both in and out of uniform, will inspire and empower generations of women to come. 378 pages

Children of Manzanar

by Heather Lindquist

YA 940.5317 CHI

Captures the experience of the children and young adults held at Manzanar during World War II under Executive Order 9066. 146 pages

The Eagles of Heart Mountain

by Bradford Pearson

940.5317 PEA

A painstakingly researched account details the tragic and triumphant story of the Eagles, a high school football team from Cody, Wyoming's World War II Japanese-American incarceration camp. 388 pages

Ravensbrück: Life and Death in Hitler's Concentration Camp for Women

by Sarah Helm

940.5318 HEL

Traces the sobering history of World War II's largest female concentration camp, revealing the torturous experiences and deaths of thousands of women prisoners of more than twenty nationalities. 743 pages

Half American

by Matthew Delmont

940.5403 DEL

Over one million Black men and women served in World War II, only to be denied housing and educational opportunities on their return home. Half American shares the inspiring and galvanizing stories of African Americans' bravery and patriotism in the face of unfathomable racism. 374 pages

Facing the Mountain

by Daniel Brown

940.5412 BRO

In this unforgettable chronicle of war-time America and the battlefields of Europe, Daniel Brown portrays the journeys of Japanese American soldiers abroad, Japanese American immigrants in US concentration camps, and Japanese American resisters who stood up in defense of their own rights. 540 pages

Standing Up Against Hate

by Marie Cronk Farrell

YA 940.5412 FAR

Standing Up Against Hate tells the stories of the African American women who enlisted in the newly formed Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) in World War II. These women left loved ones and careers to face unknown and sometimes dangerous territory, making crucial contributions to the military war effort. 196 pages

Taking Paris

by Martin Dugard

940.5421 DUG

May 1940: The world is stunned as Hitler's forces invade France with a devastating blitzkrieg aimed at Paris. Within weeks, the French government has collapsed and the City of Lights, revered for its carefree lifestyle, intellectual freedom, and love of liberty, has fallen under Nazi control--perhaps forever. 385 pages

The Bomber Mafia

by Malcolm Gladwell

940.5425 GLA

In Bomber Mafia, Malcolm Gladwell weaves together the stories of a Dutch genius and his homemade computer, a band of brothers in central Alabama, a British psychopath, and pyromaniacal chemists at Harvard to examine one of the greatest moral challenges in modern American history. 240 pages

Last Mission to Tokyo

by Michel Paradis

940.5425 PAR

An account of the brave Doolittle Raiders and their raids during World War II. It depicts the attack on mainland Japan, the fate of the crew members who survived the mission, and the international war crime trials that defined Japanese-American relations and changed history. 469 pages

The Storm on Our Shores

by Mark Obmascik

940.5428 OBM

The amazing true story of two World War II soldiers – one Japanese and one American – who fought in the Battle of Attu, also known as the Forgotten Battle, which had thousands of casualties. One such casualty was a Japanese medic whose war diary would lead a Silver Star-winning American to find solace. 236 pages

Fly Girls

by P. O'Connell Pearson

YA 940.544 PEA

Patricia Pearson offers an account of the remarkable, but often forgotten, group of female fighter pilots who flew for the United States during World War II. 198 pages.

A Thousand Sisters

by Elizabeth Wein

YA 940.544 WEI

Discusses the contributions, obstacles, missions, and legacy of Soviet airwomen, the only women to fly in combat during World War II. 388 pages

The Women with Silver Wings

By Katherine Sharp Landdeck

940.5449 LAN

The thrilling and inspiring true story of the daring female aviators who helped the United States win World War II despite not being cleared for combat. They fought for their country and then they fought for recognition as military veterans and for their place in history. 435 pages

World War II at Sea

by Craig L. Symonds

940.545 SYM

Offers a definitive naval history of the Second World War that presents the chronology of the naval war. 770 pages

A Game of Birds and Wolves

by Simon Parkin

940.5451 PAR

Ten members of the Women's Royal Naval Service developed a winning strategy, similar to the boardgame Battleship, that defeated Nazi U-boats and delivered a decisive victory in the Battle of the Atlantic. 309 pages

Flowers in the Gutter

by K.R. Gaddy

YA 940.5485 GAD

Teenagers living in Germany under Hitler's rule stood up and said no to joining the Nazi party. They became known as the Edelweiss Pirates. Although the Gestapo pursued and arrested hundreds of Pirates they continued to join in sabotage and armed resistance risking the ultimate punishment. 301 pages

War of Shadows

by Gershom Gorenberg

940.5486 GOR

Tells the story of the Nazis' brutal march into Egypt, which seemed bound for Israel--until the Allies discovered the one American man who unwittingly made it all happen. 474 pages

Asian American Spies

by Brian Masaru Hayashi

940.5486 HAY

Tells of the vital role Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Americans played in US intelligence services in Asia during World War II. 281 pages

Information Hunters

by Kathy Lee Peiss

940.5486 PEI

An unlikely band of librarians, scholars, soldiers, and spies pushed to acquire foreign publications and information such as books and documents in World War II Europe. It was the beginning of book and document acquisition as part of the apparatus of national security, military planning, and postwar reconstruction. 277 pages

Geniuses at War

by David Price

940.5486 PRI

Geniuses at War is the dramatic, untold story of the brilliant team who built the world's first digital electronic computer at Bletchley Park, during a critical time in World War II. Decoding the communication of the Nazi high command was imperative for the success of the Allied invasion of Normandy. 243 pages

Eight Days in May

by Volker Ullrich

943.086 ULL

On April 30, 1945, in a bunker deep beneath the Old Reich Chancellery, Adolf Hitler and his newly wedded wife, Eva Braun, killed themselves. But Nazi Germany lived on, however briefly, and the subsequent eight days were among the most turbulent in history. In a taut, propulsive narrative, eminent historian Volker Ullrich depicts the final days of the Nazi empire through the eyes of Germans, both famous and ordinary. 322 pages

The Princess Spy

by Larry Loftis

BIO GRIFFITH

Chronicles the extraordinary life of OSS spy Aline Griffith, who performed deep-cover intelligence missions during and after World War II. 361 pages

A Woman of No Importance

by Sonia Purnell

BIO HALL

Virginia Hall was of the greatest spies in American history. She came to be known as Madonna of the Resistance and coordinated a network of spies to blow up bridges, report German movements, and recruit and train fighters. She risked her life time and time again to bring down the Nazis. 352 pages

Dutch Girl

by Robert Matzen

BIO HEPBURN

The story of young Audrey Hepburn from the beginning of the war till the end. The book examines her parent's Nazi past, Audrey's career as an acclaimed ballerina, her involvement in the Dutch Resistance, and the dark months in the line of fire as the war came to an end. 373 pages

The Life and Death of Adolf Hitler

by James Griblin

YA BIO HITLER

Traces Hitler's life from his childhood in Austria to his final days in Berlin, exploring how his promises of prosperity and power along with anti-Semitic rhetoric allowed him to lead the nation of Germany into World War II. 246 pages

A Light in the Darkness

by Albert Marrin

YA BIO KORCZAK

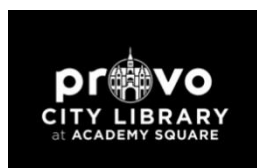
A Polish Jew on the eve of World War II, Janusz Korczak turned down opportunities for escape in order to stand by the children in his orphanage as they became confined to the Warsaw Ghetto. 388 pages

Code Name Lise

by Larry Loftis

BIO ODETTE

The extraordinary true story of Odette Sansom, the British spy who operated in occupied France and fell in love with her commanding officer during World War II. 360 pages



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