

International Fiction for Teens

Out of Bounds *Naidoo, Beverly* (South Africa)
Seven stories, spanning the time period from 1948 to 2000, chronicle the experiences of young people from different races and ethnic groups as they try to cope with the restrictions placed on their lives by South Africa's apartheid laws.

Memories of Sun *Kurtz, Jane* (Africa)
A collection of short stories and poems by authors from two continents about life in various African countries and some of the experiences and impressions of Americans in Africa and of Africans in America.

A Girl Named Disaster *Farmer, Nancy* (Mozambique)
While fleeing from Mozambique to Zimbabwe to escape an unwanted marriage, Nhamo, an eleven-year-old Shona girl, struggles to escape drowning and starvation and in so doing comes close to the luminous world of the African spirits.

Song of Be *Beake, Lesley* (Namibia)
Be, a young Bushman woman searching in the desert for the peace she remembers from her childhood, realizes that she and her people must reconcile new personal and political realities with ancient traditions.

Chandra's Secrets *Straton, Allan* (Sub-Saharan Africa)
When Chandra's youngest sister dies, the first hint of HIV/AIDS emerges in the small fictional city of Bonang in Southern Africa and she must confront undercurrents of shame and stigma. Not afraid to explore the horrific realities of AIDS, Chandra's Secrets also captures the enduring strength of loyalty, friendship and family ties. Above all, it is a story about the corrosive nature of secrets and the healing power of truth.

Colibri *Cameron, Ann* (Guatemala)
Kidnapped when she was very young by an unscrupulous man who has forced her to lie and beg to get money, a twelve-year-old Mayan girl endures an abusive life, always wishing she could return to the parents she can hardly remember.

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When My Name was Keoko *Park, Linda Sue* (Korea)
With national pride and occasional fear, a brother and sister face the increasingly oppressive occupation of Korea by Japan during World War II, which threatens to suppress Korean culture entirely.

Homeless Bird *Whelan, Gloria* (UK/India)
When thirteen-year-old Koly enters into an ill-fated arranged marriage, she must either suffer a destiny dictated by India's tradition or find the courage to oppose it.

Shizuko's Daughter *Kyoko, Mori* (Japan)
After her mother's suicide when she is twelve years old, Yuki spends years living with her distant father and his resentful new wife, cut off from her mother's family, and relying on her own inner strength to cope with the tragedy.

Before We Were Free *Alvarez, Julia* (Haiti)
In the early 1960's in the Dominican Republic, twelve-year-old Anita learns that her family is involved in the underground movement to end the bloody rule of the dictator, General Trujillo.

Behind the Mountains *Danticat, Edwidge* (Haiti/USA)
Writing in the notebook which her teacher gave her, thirteen-year-old Celiane describes life with her mother and brother in Haiti as well as her experiences in Brooklyn after the family finally immigrates there to be reunited with her father.

Thief Lord *Funke, Cornelia* (Italy)
A detective hired by their aunt seeks two brothers, having run away from the aunt who plans to adopt the younger one, but they have found shelter with--and protection from--Venice's "Thief Lord."

Habibi *Nye, Naomi Shihab* (Jerusalem)
When fourteen-year-old Liyane Abboud, her younger brother, and her parents move from St. Louis to a new home between Jerusalem and the Palestinian village where her father was born, they face many changes and must deal with the tensions between Jews and Palestinians.

Stone in My Hand *Clinton, Cathryn* (Gaza Strip)
Eleven-year-old Malaak and her family are touched by the violence in Gaza between Jews and Palestinians when first her father disappears and then her older brother is drawn to the Islamic Jihad.

Iqbal: a Novel *D'Adamo, Francesca* (Pakistan)
A fictionalized account of the Pakistani child who escaped from bondage in a carpet factory and went on to help liberate other children like him before being gunned down at the age of thirteen.

Shabanu *Staples, Suzanne Fisher* (Pakistan)
When eleven-year old Shabanu, the daughter of a nomad in the Cholistan Desert of present-day Pakistan, is pledged in marriage to an older man whose money will bring prestige to the family, she must either accept the decision, as is the custom, or risk the consequences of defying her father's wishes.

The Whale Rider *Ihimaera, Wili* (New Zealand)
As her beloved grandfather, chief of the Maori tribe of Whangara, New Zealand, struggles to lead in difficult times and to find a male successor, young Kahu is developing a mysterious relationship with whales, particularly the ancient bull whale whose legendary rider was their ancestor.

Looking for Alibrandi *Marchetta, Melina* (Australia)
During her senior year in a Catholic school in Sydney, Australia, seventeen-year-old Josie meets and must contend with the father she has never known.

What about Anna? *Simoen, Jan* (Belgium)
In Belgium in 1999, upon learning that her brother who was reported killed by a landmine in Bosnia may still be alive, sixteen-year-old Anna resents that she is the only one strong enough to try to uncover the truth.

The Fire-Eaters *Almond, David* (England)
In 1962 England, despite observing his father's illness and the suffering of the fire-eating Mr. McNulty, as well as enduring abuse at school and the stress of the Cuban Missile Crisis, Bobby Burns and his family and friends still find reasons to rejoice in their lives and to have hope for the future.

The Return *Levitin, Sonia* (Ethiopia)
Desta and the other members of her Falasha family, Jews suffering from discrimination in Ethiopia, finally flee the country and attempt the dangerous journey to Israel.

The Real Plato Jones *Bawden, Nina* (Greece)
Thirteen-year-old Plato Jones tries to come to terms with his mixed heritage while visiting Greece, as he finds out more about his Welsh grandfather, a World War II hero, and his Greek grandfather, a supposed traitor.

The Letters *Yumoto, Kazumi* (Japan)
In Japan, the death of her former landlady triggers a young woman's memories about her father's death when she was six years old, and the special way the old lady helped her to cope with the loss.

The Baboon King *Quintana, Anton* (Kenya)
Son of a Kikuyu mother and a Masai herdsman father, Morengaru the hunter lives on the edges of tribal society until an actual banishment forces him to make a life for himself among a troop of baboons.

The Long Season of Rain *Kim, Helen S.* (Korea)
When an orphan boy comes to live with her family, eleven-year-old Junehee begins to realize that the demands placed on Korean women can destroy their lives.

Many Stones *Coman, Carolyn* (South Africa)
After her sister Laura is murdered in South Africa, Berry and her estranged father travel there to participate in the dedication of a memorial in her name.