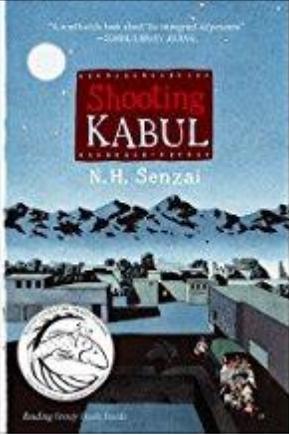
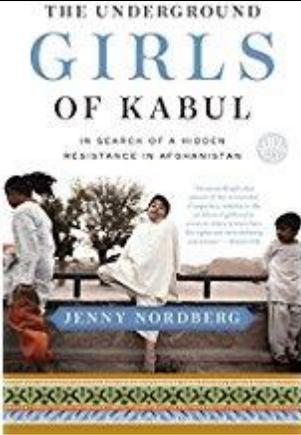
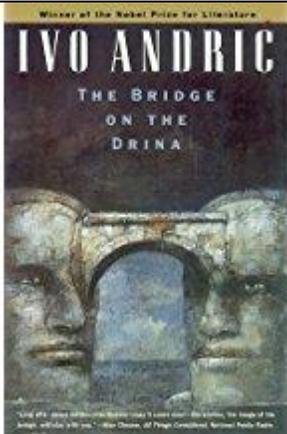


## Reading the World – The Complete List

This summer, the church library is highlighting excellent books set in, or written by authors from, countries outside the U.S. – some, like Canada, that we know well, or others, such as Sri Lanka or Cameroon, that are little known to most Americans. The books are fiction and nonfiction, memoirs and mysteries, for children and for adults.

AFGHANISTAN	
 <p>Find it on the library shelf at: C Sen</p>	<p><b>Shooting Kabul.</b> N. H. Senzai. Simon &amp; Schuster, 2010. Ages 8-12. FICTION</p> <p><b>Shooting Kabul</b> follows an Afghan family's emigration to San Francisco. After receiving a PhD in the U.S. and returning to Kabul to help rebuild the country, Fadi's father has grown disillusioned with the Taliban (“These are not true Muslims”), and he pays human traffickers to smuggle his family into Pakistan. During the terrifying escape, Fadi's six-year-old sister, Mariam, is lost. After fruitless, life-risking searches, the grief-stricken family tries to begin anew in California, while overseas efforts to find Mariam continue.</p>
 <p>Find it on the library shelf at: UMW Nor</p>	<p><b>The Underground Girls of Kabul.</b> Jenny Nordberg. Broadway, 2014. Adult. NONFICTION</p> <p>In Afghanistan the birth of a son is cause for celebration and the arrival of a daughter is often mourned as misfortune. A <i>bacha posh</i> is a third kind of child--a girl temporarily raised as a boy and presented as such to the outside world. <b>The Underground Girls of Kabul</b> tells the story of these girls: Zahra, the tomboy teenager who struggles with puberty and refuses her parents' attempts to turn her back into a girl; Shukria, now a married mother of three after living for twenty years as a man; and Nader, who prays with Shahed, the undercover female police officer, as they both remain in male disguise as adults. Astonishing and heartbreaking.</p>

**BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

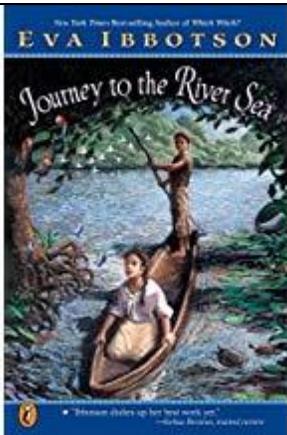


Find it on the library shelf at:  
1 And

**The Bridge on the Drina.** Ivo Andric. University of Chicago, 1945. Adult/Young Adult. FICTION

Set in the town of Višegrad in what is today Bosnia, Ivo Andric's classic story tells the tale of the building of a bridge over the river Drina; of the people who live in the village, now under the domination of the Orroman Empire; and of the generations that follow up until the fall of the Ottomans at the end of World War I. A fascinating introduction to the nations and empires that claimed, shaped and suppressed this part of the world, giving a better understanding of why the Balkans are still riven today by faith, by language, by culture, and by their global allies.

**BRAZIL**

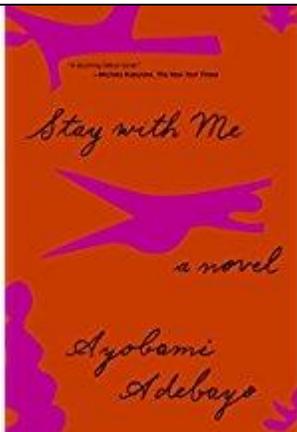


Find it on the library shelf at:  
D Ibb

**Journey to the River Sea.** Eva Ibbotson. Puffin, 2001. Ages 8-12. FICTION

Accompanied by Miss Minton, a fierce-looking, no-nonsense governess, Maia, a young orphan, sets off for the wilderness of the Amazon, expecting curtains of orchids, brightly colored macaws, and a loving family. But what she finds is an evil-tempered aunt and uncle and their spoiled daughters. It is only when she is swept up in a mystery involving a young Indian boy, a homesick child actor, and a missing inheritance that Maia lands in the middle of the Amazon adventure she's dreamed of.

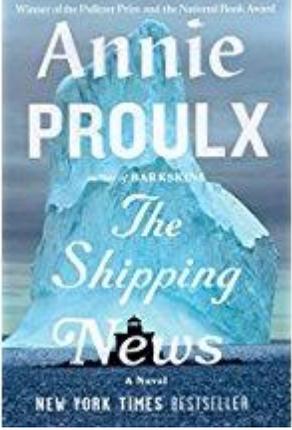
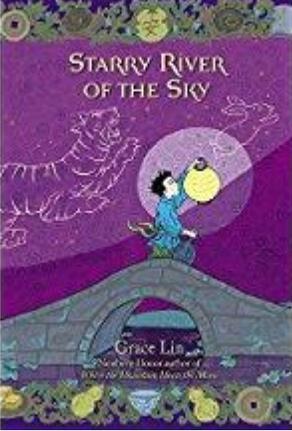
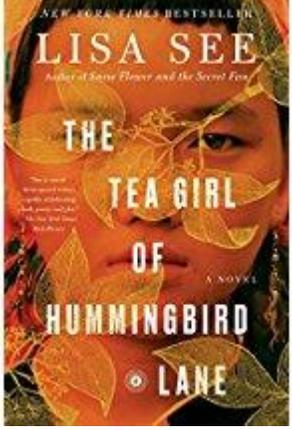
**CAMEROON**



Find it on the library shelf at:  
1 Ado

**Stay With Me.** Ayobami Adobayo. Knopf, 2017. Adult. FICTION

Yejide and Akin have been married since they met and fell in love at university. Though many expected Akin to take several wives, he and Yejide have always agreed: polygamy is not for them. But four years into their marriage--after consulting fertility doctors and healers, trying strange teas and unlikely cures--Yejide is still not pregnant. She assumes she still has time--until her family arrives on her doorstep with a young woman they introduce as Akin's second wife. Furious, shocked, and livid with jealousy, Yejide knows the only way to save her marriage is to get pregnant.

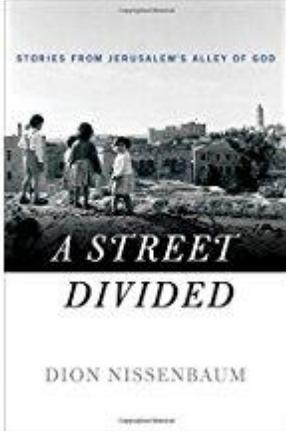
<p><b>CANADA</b></p>	
 <p>Find it on the library shelf at: 1 Pro</p>	<p><b>The Shipping News.</b> E. Annie Proulx. Scribner, 1993. Adult. FICTION</p> <p>Quoyle, a third-rate newspaper hack, with a “head shaped like a crenshaw, no neck, reddish hair...features as bunched as kissed fingertips,” is wrenched violently out of his workaday life when his two-timing wife meets her just deserts. An aunt convinces Quoyle and his two emotionally disturbed daughters to return with her to the starkly beautiful coastal landscape of their ancestral home in Newfoundland. Here, on desolate Quoyle’s Point, in a house empty except for a few mementos of the family’s unsavory past, the battered members of three generations try to cobble up new lives.</p>
<p><b>CHINA</b></p>	
 <p>Find it on the library shelf at: D Ibb</p>	<p><b>Starry River of the Sky.</b> Grace Lin. Little, Brown, 2012. Ages 9-12. FICTION</p> <p>The moon is missing from the remote Village of Clear Sky, but only a young boy named Rendi seems to notice. Rendi has run away from home and is now working as a chore boy at the village inn. He can't help but notice the village's peculiar inhabitants and their problems. But one day, a mysterious lady arrives at the Inn with the gift of storytelling, and slowly transforms the villagers and Rendi himself.</p>
 <p>Find it on the library shelf at: 1 See</p>	<p><b>The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane.</b> Lisa See. Scribner, 2017. Adult. FICTION</p> <p>In their remote mountain village, Li-yan and her family align their lives around the seasons and the farming of tea. Li-yan, one of the few educated girls on her mountain, begins to reject the customs that shaped her early life. When she has a baby out of wedlock—conceived with a man her parents consider a poor choice—she rejects the tradition that would compel her to give the child over to be killed, and instead leaves her, wrapped in a blanket with a tea cake tucked in its folds, near an orphanage in a nearby city. This is a lovely story of family, of pursuing dreams, and of the famed Pu'er tea of China.</p>

<p><b>CONGO (DEM. REP.)</b></p>	
<div data-bbox="261 191 553 625" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="250 632 561 688">Find it on the library shelf at: 1 Kin</p>	<p data-bbox="651 191 1230 268"><b>The Poisonwood Bible.</b> Barbara Kingsolver. HarperPerennial, 1998. Adult. FICTION</p> <p data-bbox="651 317 1433 562"><i>The Poisonwood Bible</i> is a story told by the wife and four daughters of Nathan Price, a fierce, evangelical Baptist who takes his family and mission to the Belgian Congo in 1959. They carry with them everything they believe they will need from home, but soon find that all of it—from garden seeds to Scripture—is calamitously transformed on African soil.</p>
<p><b>DOMINICAN REPUBLIC</b></p>	
<div data-bbox="272 800 537 1234" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="250 1262 561 1318">Find it on the library shelf at: 1 Dia</p>	<p data-bbox="651 800 1328 877"><b>The brief wondrous life of Oscar Wao.</b> Junot Díaz. Riverhead, 2006. Adult. FICTION</p> <p data-bbox="651 905 1433 1199">Oscar is a sweet but disastrously overweight ghetto nerd who—from the New Jersey home he shares with his old world mother and rebellious sister—dreams of becoming the Dominican J.R.R. Tolkien and, most of all, finding love. But Oscar may never get what he wants. Blame the fukú—a curse that has haunted Oscar’s family for generations, following them on their epic journey from Santo Domingo to the USA.</p>
<p><b>EGYPT</b></p>	
<div data-bbox="266 1409 545 1843" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="250 1850 561 1906">Find it on the library shelf at: 1 Mah</p>	<p data-bbox="651 1409 1385 1486"><b>Palace Walk. (Cairo Trilogy, Vol. 1).</b> Naguib Mahfouz. Doubleday, 1956. Adult. FICTION</p> <p data-bbox="651 1535 1433 1948"><i>Palace Walk</i> is the first novel in Nobel Prize-winner Naguib Mahfouz’s magnificent Cairo Trilogy. It traces three generations of the family of patriarch al-Sayyid Ahmad Abd al-Jawad, who rules his household with a strict hand while living a secret life of self-indulgence; his gentle, oppressed wife, Amina; his cloistered daughters, Aisha and Khadija; and his three sons—the tragic and idealistic Fahmy, the dissolute hedonist Yasin, and the soul-searching intellectual Kamal. The family’s trials mirror those of their turbulent country during the years spanning the two world wars, as change comes to a society that has resisted it for centuries.</p>

<p><b>ETHIOPIA</b></p>	
<div data-bbox="264 184 548 617" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="248 646 565 709">Find it on the library shelf at: C Zep</p>	<p data-bbox="651 184 1369 258"><b>Refugee Boy.</b> Benjamin Zephaniah. Bloomsbury, 2001. Ages 10-16. FICTION</p> <p data-bbox="651 296 1433 768">Alem is on holiday with his father for a few days in London. He has never been out of Ethiopia before and is very excited. They have a great few days together until one morning when Alem wakes up in the bed and breakfast they are staying at to find the unthinkable. His father has left him. It is only when the owner of the bed and breakfast hands him a letter that Alem is given an explanation. Alem's father admits that because of the political problems in Ethiopia both he and Alem's mother felt Alem would be safer in London - even though it is breaking their hearts to do this. Alem is now on his own, in the hands of the social services and the Refugee Council. He lives from letter to letter, waiting to hear from his parents.</p>
<p><b>GHANA</b></p>	
<div data-bbox="264 850 548 1283" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="248 1312 565 1375">Find it on the library shelf at: 1 Gya</p>	<p data-bbox="651 850 1385 892"><b>Homegoing.</b> Yaa Gyasi. Vintage, 2016. Adult. FICTION</p> <p data-bbox="651 930 1433 1402">Ghana, eighteenth century: two half sisters are born into different villages, each unaware of the other. One will marry an Englishman and lead a life of comfort in the palatial rooms of the Cape Coast Castle. The other will be captured in a raid on her village, imprisoned in the very same castle, and sold into slavery. <i>Homegoing</i> follows the parallel paths of these sisters and their descendants through eight generations: from the Gold Coast to the plantations of Mississippi, from the American Civil War to Jazz Age Harlem. Yaa Gyasi's extraordinary novel illuminates slavery's troubled legacy both for those who were taken and those who stayed—and shows how the memory of captivity has been inscribed on the soul of our nation.</p>
<p><b>INDIA</b></p>	
<div data-bbox="264 1470 548 1902" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="248 1911 565 1974">Find it on the library shelf at: 1 Sid</p>	<p data-bbox="651 1470 1287 1543"><b>Cracking India.</b> Bapsi Sidhwa. Milkweed, 1991. Adult/Young Adult. FICTION</p> <p data-bbox="651 1581 1433 1984">The 1947 Partition of India is the backdrop for this powerful novel, narrated by a precocious child who describes the brutal transition with chilling veracity. Young Lenny Sethi spends her days with Ayah, her beautiful Hindu nanny, visiting with the large group of admirers that Ayah draws. It is in the company of these working-class characters that Lenny learns about the differences between the Hindus, Moslems, and Sikhs engaging in political arguments all around her. Soon Lenny's world erupts in violence. Your librarian considers this one of the most powerful and poignant portrayals of Indian Partition in literature.</p>

<p><b>INDIA, continued</b></p>	
<div data-bbox="264 184 548 617" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="250 625 563 680">Find it on the library shelf at: 1 Des</p>	<p data-bbox="651 184 1328 260"><b>The Inheritance of Loss.</b> Kiran Desai. Grove, 2006. Adult/Young Adult. FICTION</p> <p data-bbox="651 310 1430 667">In a crumbling, isolated house at the foot of Mount Kanchenjunga in the Himalayas lives an embittered judge who wants only to retire in peace, when his orphaned granddaughter, Sai, arrives on his doorstep. The judge’s cook watches over her distractedly, for his thoughts are often on his son, Biju, who is hopscotching from one gritty New York restaurant to another. The characters of <i>The Inheritance of Loss</i> face choices that illuminate the consequences as colonialism collides with the modern world.</p>
<p><b>IRAN</b></p>	
<div data-bbox="264 737 548 1169" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="250 1199 563 1253">Find it on the library shelf at: 1 Nay</p>	<p data-bbox="651 737 1377 812"><b>A Teaspoon of Earth and Sea.</b> Dina Nayeri, Riverhead, 2014. Adult. FICTION</p> <p data-bbox="651 846 1425 1245">Growing up in a small village in 1980s Iran, eleven-year-old Saba Hafezi and her twin sister Mahtab are captivated by America. So when her mother and sister disappear, leaving Saba and her father alone in Iran, Saba is certain that they have moved to America without her. But her parents have taught her that “all fate is written in the blood,” and that twins will live the same life, even if separated by land and sea. As she grows up in the warmth and community of her local village, falls in and out of love, and struggles with the limited possibilities in post-revolutionary Iran, Saba envisions that there is another way for her story to unfold.</p>
<p><b>ISRAEL AND PALESTINE</b></p>	
<div data-bbox="264 1310 548 1743" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="250 1772 563 1827">Find it on the library shelf at: 1 Aly</p>	<p data-bbox="651 1310 1398 1381"><b>Salt Houses.</b> Hala Alyan. Simon &amp; Schuster, 2017. Adult. FICTION</p> <p data-bbox="651 1419 1414 1633">On the eve of her daughter Alia’s wedding, Salma reads the girl’s future in a cup of coffee dregs. She sees an unsettled life for Alia and her children; she also sees travel, and luck. While she chooses to keep her predictions to herself that day, they will all soon come to pass when the family is uprooted in the wake of the Six-Day War of 1967.</p>

**ISRAEL AND PALESTINE,  
continued**

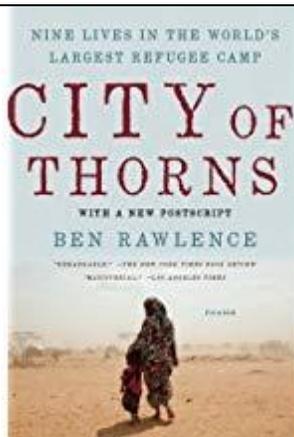


Find it on the library shelf at:  
14 Nis

**A Street Divided: Stories From Jerusalem's Alley of God.** Dion Nissenbaum. St. Martin's, 2015. Adult. NONFICTION

A one-time shepherd's path between Jerusalem and Bethlehem has been a dividing line for decades. Arab families called it "al Mantiqa Haram." Jewish residents knew it as "shetach hefker." Peacekeepers that monitored the steep fault line dubbed it "Barbed Wire Alley." For nearly two decades, coils of barbed wire ran right down the middle of what became Assael Street, marking the fissure between Israeli-controlled West Jerusalem and Jordanian-controlled East Jerusalem. In a beautiful narrative, Dion Nissenbaum's *A Street Divided* offers a more intimate look at one road at the heart of the conflict, where inches really do matter.

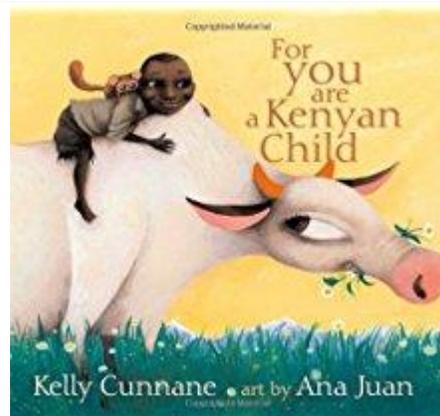
**KENYA**



Find it on the library shelf at:  
11 Raw

**City of Thorns: Nine Lives in the World's Largest Refugee Camp.** Ben Rawlence. Picador, 2016. Adult. NONFICTION

Deep within the inhospitable desert of northern Kenya where only thorn bushes grow, Dadaab is a city like no other. Its buildings are made from mud, sticks, or plastic. And its citizens survive on rations and luck. Among the residents are Guled, a former child soldier who lives for football; Nisho, who scrapes an existence by pushing a wheelbarrow and dreaming of riches; Tawane, the indomitable youth leader; and Kheyro, a student whose future hangs upon her education. In *City of Thorns*, Rawlence interweaves the stories of nine individuals to show what life is like in the camp, sketching the wider political forces that keep the refugees trapped.

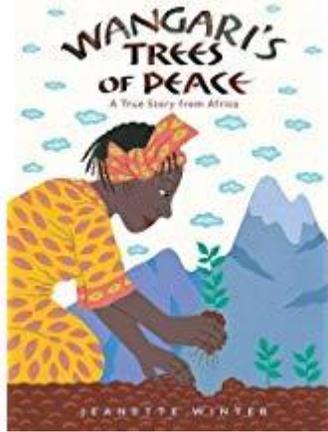


Find it on the library shelf at:  
A Cun

**For You Are A Kenyan Child.** Kelly Cunnane. Athenaeum, 2006. Ages 3-8.

Through vivid, descriptive text that highlights the Kenyan countryside and culture, this story about one day in the life of a Kalenjin boy unfolds.

**KENYA, continued**



**Wangari's Trees of Peace.** Jeannette Winter. Harcourt, 2008. Ages 4-7. NONFICTION

As a young girl growing up in Kenya, Wangari was surrounded by trees. But years later when she returns home, she is shocked to see whole forests being cut down, and she knows that soon all the trees will be destroyed. So Wangari decides to do something—and starts by planting nine seedlings in her own backyard. And as they grow, so do her plans. This true story of Wangari Maathai, environmentalist and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, is a shining example of how one woman's passion, vision, and determination inspired great change.

**LAOS**

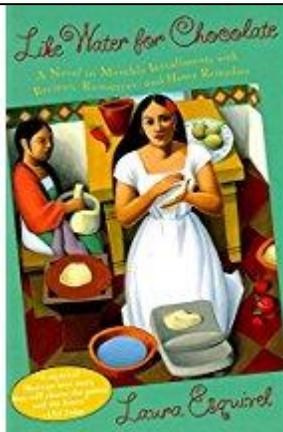


Find it on the library shelf at:  
4 Yan

**The Latecomer: a Hmong Family Memoir.** Kao Kalia Yang. Coffee House Press, 2008. Adult/Young Adult. MEMOIR

Driven to tell her family's story after her grandmother's death, *The Latecomer* is Kao Kalia Yang's tribute to the remarkable woman whose spirit held them all together. It is also an eloquent, firsthand account of a people who have worked hard to make their voices heard. Beginning in the 1970s, as the Hmong were being massacred for their collaboration with the United States during the Vietnam War, Yang recounts the harrowing story of her family's captivity, the daring rescue undertaken by her father and uncles, and their narrow escape into Thailand where Yang was born in the Ban Vinai Refugee Camp.

**MEXICO**



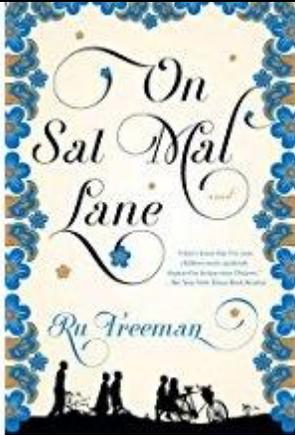
Find it on the library shelf at:  
1 Esq

**Like Water for Chocolate: A Novel in Monthly Installments with Recipes, Romances, and Home Remedies.** Laura Esquivel. Doubleday, 1992. Adult. FICTION

This classic love story takes place on the De la Garza ranch, as the tyrannical owner, Mama Elena, chops onions at the kitchen table in her final days of pregnancy. While still in her mother's womb, her daughter to be weeps so violently she causes an early labor, and little Tita slips out amid the spices and fixings for noodle soup. This early encounter with food soon becomes a way of life, and Tita grows up to be a master chef, using cooking to express herself and sharing recipes with readers along the way.

<p><b>NIGERIA</b></p>	
<div data-bbox="264 191 548 625" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="250 632 563 688">Find it on the library shelf at: 1 Ach</p>	<p data-bbox="651 191 1318 268"><b>Things Fall Apart.</b> Chinua Achebe. Penguin, 1959. Adult/Young Adult. FICTION</p> <p data-bbox="651 327 1430 653"><i>Things Fall Apart</i> is a classic narrative about Africa's cataclysmic encounter with Europe as it establishes a colonial presence on the continent. Told through the fictional experiences of Okonkwo, a wealthy and fearless Igbo warrior of Umuofia in the late 1800s, <i>Things Fall Apart</i> explores one man's futile resistance to the devaluing of his Igbo traditions by British political and religious forces, and his despair as his community capitulates to the powerful new order.</p>
<p><b>RWANDA</b></p>	
<div data-bbox="264 747 548 1178" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="250 1184 563 1241">Find it on the library shelf at: 4 Ili</p>	<p data-bbox="651 747 1398 852"><b>Left To Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust.</b> Immaculée Ilibagiza. Hay House, 2006. Adult. MEMOIR</p> <p data-bbox="651 894 1409 1184">Immaculée Ilibagiza was a young woman at the time of the 1994 Rwandan genocide of the Tutsi people by the Hutu majority government. She describes growing up in a loving family and community, and tells of the suddenly darkening political climate culminating in the appalling massacre of perhaps 1 million Rwandans. A staunch Catholic, Ilibagiza holds on to her faith in order to cope with a time of terror nearly too great to be borne.</p>
<p><b>SOUTH AFRICA</b></p>	
<div data-bbox="264 1287 548 1717" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="250 1751 563 1808">Find it on the library shelf at: 4 Ili</p>	<p data-bbox="651 1287 1382 1392"><b>Born A Crime: Stories of a South African Childhood.</b> Trevor Noah. Spiegel &amp; Grau, 2016. Adult/Young Adult. MEMOIR</p> <p data-bbox="651 1434 1430 1833">Comedian Trevor Noah was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison. Trevor was kept mostly indoors for the earliest years of his life, bound by the extreme and often absurd measures his mother took to hide him from a government that could, at any moment, steal him away. Noah's colorful, honest memoir unforgettably portrays his family, especially his fearless, rebellious mother, the crazy-quilt milieu of South Africa, and the climb of a restless young man out of a punishingly racist environment.</p>

**SRI LANKA**

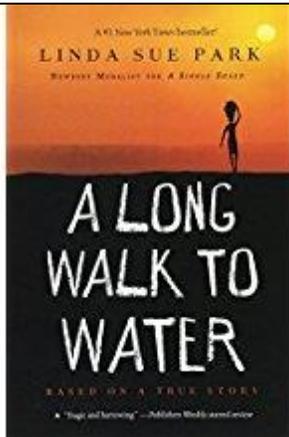


Find it on the library shelf at:  
1 Fre

**On Sal Mal Lane.** Ru Freeman. Graywolf, 2013. Adult. FICTION

On the day the Herath family moves in, Sal Mal Lane is still a quiet street, disturbed only by the cries of the children whose triumphs and tragedies sustain the families that live there. As the neighbors adapt to the newcomers in different ways, the children fill their days with cricket matches, romantic crushes, and small rivalries. But the tremors of civil war are mounting, and the conflict threatens to engulf them all. An exquisite depiction of Sri Lanka, a country few of us know.

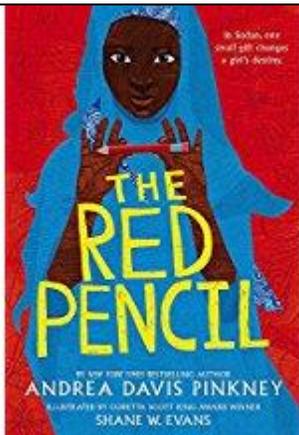
**SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN**



Find it on the library shelf at:  
D Pin

**A Long Walk To Water.** Linda Sue Park. Houghton Mifflin, 2010. Ages 9-12. FICTION

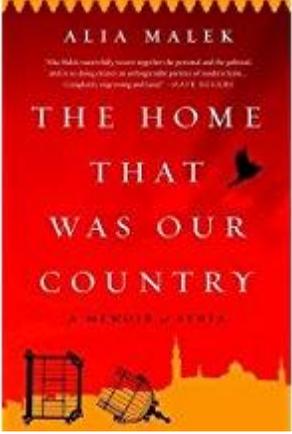
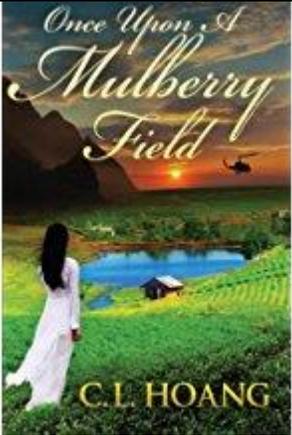
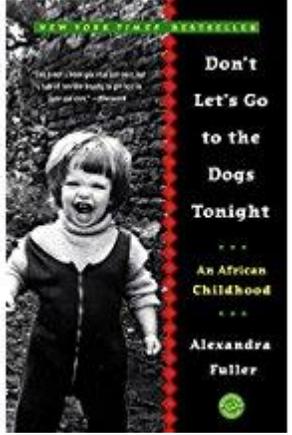
*A Long Walk to Water* begins as two stories, told in alternating sections, about two eleven-year-olds in Sudan, a girl in 2008 and a boy in 1985. The girl, Nya, is fetching water from a pond that is two hours' walk from her home: she makes two trips to the pond every day. The boy, Salva, becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan, refugees who cover the African continent on foot as they search for their families and for a safe place to stay. Enduring hardships from loneliness to attack by armed rebels to contact with killer lions and crocodiles, Salva is a survivor, and his story intersects with Nya's in an astonishing and moving way.



Find it on the library shelf at:  
D Pin

**The Red Pencil.** Andrea Davis Pinkney. Little, Brown. 2014. Ages 10-14. FICTION

In this lyrical “novel told in poems, pictures, and possibilities,” 12-year-old Amira’s family life and dreams of going to school are shattered when Janjaweed militants attack her Sudanese village and force the survivors to flee to a refugee camp. Silenced by her grief, the girl’s voice and spirit are slowly restored by the amazing gift of a tablet and a red pencil. A heartening and powerful read.

<p><b>SYRIA</b></p>	
 <p>ALIA MALEK</p> <p>THE HOME THAT WAS OUR COUNTRY</p> <p>Find it on the library shelf at: 4 Mal</p>	<p><b>The Home That Was Our Country.</b> Alia Malek. Nation Books, 2017. Adult. MEMOIR</p> <p>At the Arab Spring's hopeful start, Alia Malek returned to Damascus to reclaim her grandmother's apartment, which had been lost to her family since Hafez al-Assad came to power in 1970. In chronicling the people who lived in the Tahaan building, Alia portrays the Syrians--the Muslims, Christians, Jews, Armenians, and Kurds--who worked, loved, and suffered in close quarters, mirroring the political shifts in their country. Restoring her family's home as the country comes apart, she learns how to speak the coded language of oppression that exists in a dictatorship.</p>
<p><b>VIETNAM</b></p>	
 <p>Once Upon A Mulberry Field</p> <p>C.L. HOANG</p> <p>Find it on the library shelf at: 1 Hoa</p>	<p><b>Once Upon A Mulberry Field.</b> C. L. Hoang. Willow Stream, 2014. Adult. FICTION</p> <p>From the jungles of Vietnam through the minefields of the heart, "Once upon a Mulberry Field" follows one man's journey to self-discovery. A powerful depiction of the Vietnam War era but also of Vietnam itself, its peoples and culture.</p>
<p><b>ZIMBABWE</b></p>	
 <p>Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight</p> <p>An African Childhood</p> <p>Alexandra Fuller</p> <p>Find it on the library shelf at: 4 Ful</p>	<p><b>Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight.</b> Alexandra Fuller. Random House, 2001. Adult. MEMOIR</p> <p>In <i>Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight</i>, Alexandra Fuller remembers her African childhood with visceral authenticity. Though it is a diary of an unruly life in an often inhospitable place, it is suffused with Fuller's endearing ability to find laughter, even when there is little to celebrate. Fuller's debut is unsentimental and unflinching but always captivating. In wry and sometimes hilarious prose, she stares down disaster and looks back with rage and love at the life of an extraordinary family in an extraordinary time. One of your librarian's absolute favorites.</p>