

CIVIL WAR HISTORICAL FICTION BOOKS FOR MRS. REILLY'S BOOKTALK.

The following is a list of books (not in any particular order as in keeping with the way Mrs. Reilly would present the booktalk) about Civil War historical fiction.

LYDDIE. – Katherine Paterson, Lodestar Books, c1991, 182p

Lyddie Worthen, a poor Vermont farm girl, wants to buy back the family farm lost by her father's neglect. His wanderlust has taken him to parts unknown and the family is dispersed to various jobs and relatives' homes. Lyddie, unhappy as a tavern worker, decides to seek work in the Lowell factories in Massachusetts. At first, she, an outdoor girl, cannot imagine working in such a dark, musty, and noisy factory. Over time, she becomes the Overseer's best worker. She learns how to read, attends various lectures and saves her money. Eventually, she is forced to leave the factory and set out for an Ohio college for women to become a teacher.

JIP; HIS STORY. – Katherine Paterson, Lodestar Books, c1996, 181p.

Jip lives on a Vermont poor farm. No one knows where he came from or who his family is. Someone named him "Jip", short for Gypsy, because some townspeople thought that he had fallen off of a wagon in a Gypsy caravan. Because his skin is a deep olive tone, this assumption seems to make sense. One day, a Southern gentleman comes to this little Vermont town and takes an interest in Jip. The townspeople begin to notice that Jip resembles this man. Jip learns that his mother was a runaway slave who was recaptured. She pushed her baby out of the wagon, instead of taking him back to slavery. The Southern gentleman is actually Jip's father, who wants to bring him back as one of his plantation workers. Lyddie Worthen, now the town schoolteacher, and Luke, a Quaker Abolitionist, want to help Jip escape. Will their plan help to keep him from slavery?

CHARLIE SKEDADDLE. – Patricia Beatty, Morrow, c1987, 186p.

Charlie Quinn is a tough twelve-year-old from the Bowery in New York City. He runs away from home and joins the Union Army as a drummer boy. Will this tough city boy be able to stick it out as he participates in the deadly battles of the Civil War?

JAYHAWKER. – Patricia Beatty, Morrow, c1991, 214p.

Lije Tulley, a farm boy from Kansas, becomes a "Jayhawker" – an Abolitionist freeing slaves across the river in Missouri. During the Civil War, he becomes a spy for the Union. Will he avoid capture and live to see the end of the Civil War?

TURN HOMEWARD, HANNALEE. – Patricia Beatty, Morrow, c1984, 193p.

After Sherman begins his "March to the Sea" in Georgia, twelve-year-old Hannalee and her ten-year-old brother Jem are sent to Indiana to work in a northern textile mill. The Southern workers are considered Prisoners-of-war and are treated little better than slaves. Hannalee remembers her grandmother's last words to her, "Turn

homeward, Hannalee!” and vows to find a way to get back to Georgia. Will she be successful?

A LIGHT IN THE STORM; THE CIVIL WAR DIARY OF AMELIA MARTIN. – Karen Hesse, Scholastic Books, c1999, 169p.

Amelia Martin is fifteen years old and her father is a lighthouse keeper on an island off the coast of Delaware. Delaware is a border state and the people are divided in their loyalties to the Union or the Confederacy. Amelia’s diary describes the effect that the Civil War has on the islanders’ lives. Will they remain loyal to the Union or join the Confederacy?

ACROSS FIVE APRILS. – Irene Hunt, Follett Books, c1964, 223p.

Jethro Creighton is a nine-year-old farm boy from southern Illinois when the Civil War starts. Many family members support the Union, but his older brother, Bill, with whom he is very close, leaves to fight for the Confederacy. His father is shot and disabled by an angry townspeople because of Bill and Jethro, being the last son at home, must take over the farming tasks. How will he be able to manage such a big job?

WHICH WAY FREEDOM? – Joyce Hansen, Walker Books, c1986, 120p.

Obi is a young black slave who yearns to be free. During the battle at Fort Pillow, Tennessee, he joins a Union regiment. Will Obi survive this deadly fight and realize his dream of freedom?

RIFLES FOR WATIE. –Harold Keith, Crowell, c1957, 332p.

Jeff Bussey wanted to become a soldier and fight for the Union. After becoming one and losing many of his friends, he realizes that the war is not going to be over anytime soon. He becomes a scout and meets Stand Watie, a member of the Cherokee Indian Nation and rebel troop leader. Jeff is accused of being a spy. How will he escape?

PINK AND SAY. – Patricia Polacco, Philomel Books, c1994. unpaginated

Say Curtis is a young white Union soldier who is wounded in battle. He is rescued by Pinkus Aylee, a young black soldier. Pink takes Say home to his mother, Moe Moe Bay, who nurses both of them back to health. Before they can return to the war, Southern marauders come to the cabin looking for Northern soldiers. The two boys are hidden, but Moe Moe Bay is shot and killed. The two friends head back to the Union lines and are captured. They are sent to Andersonville Prison, one of the worst prisons in the Confederacy. What will become of them?