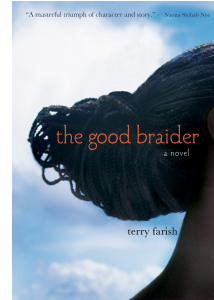


Literature of War

Texas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts January 24, 2015

with writers Terry Farish, Lyn Miller-Lachmann, and J.L. Powers



"Our books, our presentations, and our reading guides are birthed from our long-term explorations of war. We seek to support children and teens to grow as global citizens, deeply connected to issues of war, peace, consequences of conflict, and paths to reconciliation."

Books for Children and Young Adults

Young Adult

Jennifer Armstrong

Shattered: Stories of Children and War

This collection includes stories by Ibtisam Barakat writing about Palestine and Suzanne Fisher Staples writing about Afghanistan.
Knopf, 2002

Leah Bassof and Laura DeLuca

Lost Girl Found

The story of the "lost boys" of Sudan has been documented and is fairly well-known but this is the story of a "lost girl" of Sudan, whose story is both profoundly similar and profoundly different. Poni must leave her village when war comes and walk miles across the desert in search of safety.

Groundwood Press, 2013

Brian Crawford

The Weaver's Scar

A Tutsi boy finds an unexpected ally in his flight from his destroyed village during the 1994 Rwandan Genocide.

Royal Fireworks Press, 2013

Deborah Ellis

The Breadwinner trilogy

The story of Parvana, a young girl in Afghanistan, growing up under Taliban rule and during a time of war. It is a story of both hope and survival.

Groundwood Press

Farish, Terry

Either the Beginning or the End of the World

This tale of first love features Sofie, the 17-year-old daughter of a Cambodian immigrant and a Scottish fisherman, and a young army medic back from Afghanistan.

Carolrhoda, 2015

Farish, Terry

The Good Braider

In this free verse novel a young girl tells her family's story of escape from war-torn Sudan and her first steps on the cusp of two cultures as she enters high school in Portland, Maine.

Skyscape and Recorded Books, 2012, 2014

Nancy Bo Flood

Warriors in the Crossfire

An indigenous Chamorro teenager witnesses the impact of World War II bombing on the flora and fauna of his island of Saipan as he tries to lead his family to safety in a remote cave after the death of his father.

Front Street, 2010

I Remember Warm Rain: 15 teenagers, 15 coming to America Stories

Teenagers write their own stories of escape to safety and coming to America.

The Telling Room, 2007

J.L. Powers

That Mad Game: Growing Up in a Warzone, an anthology of essays from around the world

A collection of essays about growing up and coming of age in conflict zones by various writers from around the world.

Cinco Puntos Press, 2012

Kazeerooni, Abbas

On Two Feet and Wings

In this memoir, Kazeerooni tells the story of the year he was 10-years old, in exile from his home in revolutionary Iran and living by his wits in Budapest.

Skyscape, 2014

Lyn Miller-Lachmann

Gringolandia

A refugee teenager from Chile in the 1980s confronts the reality of his father's imprisonment and torture under the brutal Pinochet dictatorship.

Curbstone/Northwestern University Press, 2009

Lyn Miller-Lachmann

Surviving Santiago

Visiting her father in Chile for the first time in nearly a decade, 16-year-old Tina finds herself in the middle of conflict between supporters of the dictator in his last months of power and those who brought down his regime.

Running Press, 2015

Irfan Master

A Beautiful Lie

A Muslim teenager tries to keep news of the 1947 partition of India and Pakistan and the accompanying violence from his dying father, a man of peace.

Albert Whitman, 2011

McKay, Sharon, illus by. Daniel LaFrance

War Brothers: The Graphic Novel

The story of 14-year-old Jacob's brutal abduction and forced servitude as a child soldier in Uganda under the Lord's Resistance Army.

Annick Press, 2013

Maria Testa

Something About America

A young girl from Bosnia finds her own strength in the U.S. The closing lines of this story of a family's and a city's hard efforts toward assimilation: "I'll be just fine./I am ready/ to make my heart whole/ all by myself."

Greenwillow, 2005

A. B. Westrick

Brotherhood

At the end of the U.S. Civil War, a 14-year-old from the defeated South follows his brother into the Ku Klux Klan, where he sees the results of its violence and terrorism on people he has come to like and respect.

Viking, 2013

Martin Zusak

The Book Thief

Death narrates the story of a young teenage girl, her friends, and a Jewish refugee who experience the Second World War in a suburb of Munich, Germany.

Random House, 2007

Middle Grade

Skila Brown

Caminar

Novel-in-verse that portrays 12-year-old Carlos, the lone survivor of a 1980s-era government massacre of his Guatemalan village, who escapes through the jungle to warn the people of his grandmother's village that they may be next.

Candlewick, 2014

Deborah Ellis

The Cat at the Wall

A young American girl dies and wakes up as a cat in Palestine, able to view the Israeli-Palestine conflict up-close and personal but also with a God's-eye view.

Groundwood, 2014

Christina Díaz González

A Thunderous Whisper

In Guernica during the Spanish Civil War, 12-year-old outcast Ani meets Mathias, whose family has fled the Nazis; the two become spies and witness firsthand the Nazi bombing of their city.

Random House, 2012

Kekla Magoon

The Rock and the River.

In Chicago in 1968, 13-year-old Sam is torn between his father's nonviolent civil rights activism and his older brother, who has joined the Black Panthers.

Simon & Schuster, 2009

J.L. Powers

Through My Eyes: Amina

Amina, a young graffiti artist growing up in Mogadishu, Somalia, overcomes her fear to persist in her art and becomes a voice of hope in the city.

Allen & Unwin, 2013

Barbara Wright

Crow

In this little-known chapter of U.S. history, 11-year-old Moses's black family is under attack from white supremacists seeking to overthrow the liberal, multiracial government of Wilmington, North Carolina in 1898.

Random House, 2012

Picture Books

Youme Landowne

Selavi: A Haitian Story of Hope

A young homeless child bands together with other homeless children to create a home and a radio program to alleviate the plight of homeless children in war-ravaged Haiti.
Cinco Puntos Press, 2005

Youme Landowne

Mali Under the Night Sky: A Lao Story of Home

Mali has to leave her home in Laos and become a refugee in Thailand, but her memories of home give her a sense of identity and a place of belonging even in the horrors of the refugee camps.

Cinco Puntos Press, 2010

Icy Smith, illus. by Sopaul Nhem

Half Spoon of Rice: A Survival Story of the Cambodian Genocide

A boy from a privileged background and an orphaned girl endure four years in a work camp after the Khmer Rouge take over their country in 1975.

East-West Discovery Press, 2010

Terry Farish

The Alleyway

Nico doesn't have to join the Army to see the world—that's what younger brother Luis tries to show by painting a mural in the neighborhood alley. But Nico is deployed and his small brother paints the world in the alleyway to hold on to him.

Carolrhoda, forthcoming, 2015

Mary Williams and R. Gregory Christie

Brothers in Hope: The Story of the Lost Boys of Sudan

An eight-year-old orphan from the violence in southern Sudan joins others in the perilous journey to a refugee camp and a new life far from home.

Lee & Low, 2005

Here are links to Educator's Guides to presenter's books:

[Gringolandia by Lyn Miller-Lachmann, A Teacher's Guide](#)

[The Good Braider by Terry Farish, Discussion Guide](#)

[The Good Braider Guide, especially for Teachers of English Language Learners](#)

[Amina by J.L. Powers, Educator's Guide](#)