

World War II/Japanese American Internment Resource Guide

Digital Stories of Our Heroes

Print, Web, & Video Resources

Easy Fiction

Hoobler, Thomas. [*Aloha Means Come Back: The Story of a World War II Girl*](#). Silver Burdett, 1991.

Laura and her mother join her Navy father in Hawaii in 1941, where suspicion against the Japanese American residents runs high in an atmosphere of expectation that the United States and Japan will go to war.

Mochizuki, Ken. [*Baseball Saved Us*](#). Lee & Low, 1993.

A Japanese American boy learns to play baseball when he and his family are forced to live in an internment camp during World War II; his ability to play helps him after the war is over.

Mochizuki, Ken. [*Heroes*](#). Lee & Low, 1995.

Japanese American Donnie, whose playmates insist he be the "bad guy" in their war games, calls on his reluctant father and uncle to help him get away from that role.

Say, Allen. [*Home of the Brave*](#). Houghton Mifflin, 2002.

Following a kayaking accident, a man experiences the feelings of children interned during World War II and those living on Indian reservations.

Uchida, Yoshiko. [*The Bracelet*](#). Philomel, 1993.

Emi, a Japanese American in the second grade, is sent with her family to an internment camp during World War II. The loss of the bracelet her best friend has given her proves that she does not need a physical reminder of that friendship.

Fiction

Cooper, Susan. [*Dawn of Fear*](#). Aladdin, 1989.

A compelling story of a family that decides to stay in London during the bombing.

Garrigue, Sheila. [*The Eternal Spring of Mr. Ito*](#). Bradbury, 1985.

A young British girl evacuated to Vancouver, Canada, during World War II tells of the suffering of a Japanese Canadian family that is shipped to a remote settlement.

Houston, James D. & Jeanne Watsaki. [*Farewell to Manzanar: A True Story of Japanese American Experience during and after the World War II Internment*](#). Houghton, 1973.

Farewell to Manzanar is the true story of one spirited Japanese American family's attempt to survive the indignities of forced detention and of a native-born American child who discovered what it was like to grow up behind barbed wire in the United States.

Lowry, Lois. [*Autumn Street*](#). Dell, 1980.

This partially autobiographical tale of life in a small town in central Pennsylvania during the war years is also a story about racism and the death of an innocent child.

Salisbury, Graham. [*Under the Blood-Red Sun*](#). Delacorte, 1994.

Tomikazu Nakai's biggest concerns are baseball, homework, and a local bully, until life with his Japanese family in Hawaii changes drastically after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941.

Uchida, Yoshiko. [*A Jar of Dreams*](#). Atheneum, 1981.

A young girl grows up in a closely-knit Japanese American family in California during the 1930s, a time of great prejudice.

Fiction (continued)

Uchida, Yoshiko. [*The Best Bad Thing*](#). Atheneum, 1983.

At first dismayed at having to spend the last month of her summer vacation helping out in the household of the recently widowed Mrs. Hata, Rinko discovers there are pleasant surprises for her. Later, however, bad things start to happen. Sequel to *A Jar of Dreams*.

Uchida, Yoshiko. [*The Happiest Ending*](#). Atheneum, 1985.

When 12-year-old Rinko learns that a neighbor's daughter is coming from Japan to marry a stranger twice her age, she sets out to change this arrangement and gains new insights into love and adult problems.

Uchida, Yoshiko. [*Journey Home*](#). Atheneum, 1978.

After their release from an American concentration camp, a Japanese American girl and her family try to reconstruct their lives amidst strong anti-Japanese feelings that breed fear, distrust, and violence.

Uchida, Yoshiko. [*Journey to Topaz*](#). Atheneum, 1971.

After the Pearl Harbor attack an eleven-year-old Japanese-American girl and her family are forced to go to an internment camp in Utah.

Westall, Robert. [*The Kingdom by the Sea*](#). Farrar, 1990.

Electing to live on his own rather than be taken in by a distant relative, Harry, whose family is killed in the bombing of Britain, and a stray dog travel the coast of England, narrowly surviving their ordeal.

Nonfiction

Alonso, Karen. [*Korematsu v. United States: Japanese-American Internment Camps*](#). Enslow Publishers, 1998.

Profiles the case of Fred Korematsu, who sought compensation from the American government for his time spent in a Japanese American internment camp during World War II.

Nonfiction (continued)

Banim, Lisa. [*American Dreams*](#). Silver Moon Press, 1993.

Chin, Steven A. [*When Justice Failed: The Fred Korematsu Story*](#). Raintree Steck- Vaughan, 1993.

Cooper, Michael L. [*Fighting for Honor: Japanese Americans and World War II*](#). Clarion Books, 2000.

Examines the history of the Japanese in the United States, focusing on their treatment during World War II, including the mass relocation to internment camps and the distinguished service of Japanese Americans in the American military.

Cooper, Michael L. [*Remembering Manzanar: Life in a Japanese Relocation Camp*](#). Clarion, 2002.

Uses firsthand accounts, oral histories, and essays from school newspapers and yearbooks to tell the story of the Japanese Americans who were sent to live in government-run internment camps during World War II.

Dolan, Edward F. [*America in World War II 1941*](#). Millbrook, 1991.

Begins with the bombing of Pearl Harbor and ends with the establishment of American and Philippine troops in Bataan.

Dunnahoo, Terry. [*Pearl Harbor: America Enters the War*](#). Franklin Watts, 1991.

Discusses the buildup of the Japanese military, the move of America's Pacific fleet to Hawaii, and relations between the two nations prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Maki, Mitchell T. [*In America's Shadow*](#). Thomas George Books, 2002.

Presents the unforgettable story of a young Japanese girl and how her family never gave up hope as they struggled to make life as normal as possible in the harsh environment of Manzanar.

Nonfiction (continued)

Ng, Wendy L., [*Japanese American Internment during World War II: A History and Reference Guide*](#). Greenwood Press, 2002.

Examines and chronicles events in Japanese American history.

Perl, Lila. [*Behind Barbed Wire: The Story of Japanese-American Internment during World War II*](#). Benchmark Books, 2003.

Discusses the forced internment of Japanese Americans in camps following the attack on Pearl Harbor and the entry of the United States into World War II.

Sakurai, Gail. [*Japanese American Internment Camps*](#). Lucent Books, 1998.

Discusses the mass relocation of thousands of Japanese Americans during World War II, profiling individuals such as Daniel Inouye, Yoshiko Uchida, and George Takei.

Stanley, Jerry. [*I Am An American: A True Story of Japanese Internment*](#). Crown, 1994.

Relates the story of Shiro Nomura, who was interned when he was a senior in high school with his family in Manzanar.

Stein, Conrad. [*Nisei Regiment*](#). Childrens Press, 1985.

A history of the 442nd "Nisei" Regiment, which was almost entirely made up of Japanese American men and received more medals for bravery than any other American unit its size during World War II.

Sullivan, George. [*The Day Pearl Harbor Was Bombed: A Photo History of World War II*](#). Scholastic, 1991.

This book also covers the Holocaust and the dropping of the atomic bomb.

Taylor, Theodore. [*Air Raid – Pearl Harbor! The Story of December 7, 1941*](#). Harcourt Brace, 1991.

A look at the beginning of war in the Pacific from a predominantly Japanese point of view.

Nonfiction (continued)

Terkel, Studs. "A Caveat: Sam S. Ozaki." [*Hope Dies Last: Keeping the Faith in Difficult Times*](#). The New Press, 2003.

Sam Ozaki, the first Asian principal in the Chicago Public Schools, relates his experiences during World War II as an internee in a relocation camp and as a soldier in the highly decorated 442nd Combat Regimental Team.

Tunnell, Michael O., and George W. Chilcoat. [*Children of Topaz: The Story of a Japanese American Internment Camp, Based on a Classroom Diary*](#). Holiday House, 1996.

The diary of a third-grade class of Japanese American children being held with their families in an internment camp during World War II.

Yancey, Diane. [*Life in a Japanese American Internment Camp*](#). Lucent Books, 1998.

A discussion of the course of Japanese immigration into the United States, the events leading to the relocation of Japanese Americans during World War II, and the conditions they faced in the internment camps.

Periodicals

Daniels, Roger. "Incarceration of the Japanese Americans: A Sixty-Year Perspective." *The History Teacher*. May 2002: 297-310.

A discussion of the incarceration of Japanese-Americans during World War II and the contemporary regret for that action.

Maga, Timothy P. "Ronald Reagan and Redress for Japanese-American Internment, 1983-1988." *Presidential Studies Quarterly*. Summer 1998: 606-619.

A discussion of the attempts made during the presidency of Ronald Reagan to secure redress for the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

Periodicals (continued)

Otaka, Sandra. "Japanese Find Belated Dignity in United States." *Chicago Sun-Times: 20th Century Chicago*. November 10, 1999. Access:
<http://www.suntimes.com/century>

During and after World War II, Chicago became an unfamiliar but safe haven for more than 20,000 Japanese internees hoping to find jobs and escape prejudice.

Wasch, Hillary. "Japanese-American Veteran Recalls Internment Camp." *The Daily Northwestern*. Access:

<http://www.dailynorthwestern.com/daily/issues/2001/11/05/campus/n-asian.shtml>

Sam Ozaki, an Asian-American World War II veteran, discusses his fear that Arab Americans may face prejudice after September 11 similar to the prejudice experienced by Japanese Americans during World War II.

Websites

A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution

<http://americanhistory.si.edu/>

From the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, an online archive of over 800 artifacts that includes classroom activities, copyright © 2004 National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

American Concentration Camps http://www.csuohio.edu/art_photos

A collection of photographs, audiotapes, and maps related to the experiences of Japanese Americans in the internment camps of World War II, copyright © Masumi Hayashi 1985-1997.

Websites (continued)

Camp Harmony Exhibit

<http://www.lib.washington.edu/exhibits/harmony/exhibit/>

This online exhibit tells the story of Seattle's Japanese American community in the spring and summer of 1942 and includes newspaper articles, photographs, correspondence, books, and documents, copyright © 1998-2004 University of Washington Libraries.

Children of the Camps Project <http://www.naatanet.org>

The experiences of Japanese American children are depicted in documentary videos highlighted at this Web site, copyright © 2004 National Asian American Telecommunications Association.

Dear Miss Breed: Letters from Camp

<http://www.janm.org/exhibits/breed/title.htm>

An online exhibit from the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles includes letters sent by Japanese American children in the internment camps to Clara Estelle Breed, the Children's Librarian at the San Diego Public Library from 1929 to 1945, copyright © Japanese American National Museum

Decision to Evacuate the Japanese from the Pacific Coast

<http://www.army.mil/CMH-PG/BOOKS/70-7%5F05.htm>

Presents excerpts from "The Decision to Evacuate the Japanese from the Pacific Coast," written by Stetson Conn and published online by the U.S. Army Center of Military History.

Executive Order 9066: The Internment of 110,000 Japanese Americans.

<http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/aasc/ex9066/>

A collection of photographs on the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, copyright © the Asian American Studies Center, University of California, Los Angeles.

Websites (continued)

Go For Broke Educational Foundation <http://www.goforbroke.org/>

Provides information to students and teachers about the involvement of Japanese-American soldiers in World War II, the Japanese-American internment, and related issues of civil liberties, copyright © 2004 Go For Broke Educational Foundation.

San Francisco Museum

<http://www.sfmuseum.org/war/evactxt.html>

A collection of news articles detailing the evacuation of ethnic Japanese from San Francisco in 1942, copyright © 1995-2004 sfmuseum.org, LLC.

Utah State Library

<http://www.lib.utah.edu/spc/photo/9066/9066.htm>

A collection of archival photographs and other documents from internment camps in Tule Lake, California and Topaz, Utah, copyright © 2003 J. Willard Marriott Library, University of Utah.

Videos

American at Its Best: Legacy of Two Nisei Patriots. Videocassette. Electric Shadow Productions, 2001.

A commemoration of Medal of Honor winners William Nakamura and James Okubo and the thousands of other Nisei who served in the 100/442nd Regimental Combat Team and Military Intelligence Service during World War II.

The Color of Honor: The Japanese-American Soldier in World War II.

Videocassette. National Asian American Telecommunications Association, 1987.

Relates the experiences of Japanese Americans who served in the U.S. armed forces as translators and interpreters in military intelligence.

Videos (continued)

Heart Mountain: Three Years in a Relocation Center. Videocassette. National Asian American Telecommunications Association, 1997.

A documentary of the incarceration of more than 10,000 Pacific Coast Japanese Americans in Wyoming during World War II.

Looking Like the Enemy. Videocassette. Japanese American National Museum (Los Angeles, CA), 1997.

American soldiers of Asian descent who fought in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam Wars share their personal experiences with prejudice and discrimination in the military.

Nisei Soldier: Standard Bearer for an Exiled People.. Videocassette. Vox Productions, 1984.

An examination of the moral and political contradictions experienced by a group of Americans of Japanese ancestry who, during World War II, proved their loyalty by heroic military service while their families were imprisoned by their own government.

Rabbit in the Moon. Videocassette. Wabi-Sabi Productions, 1999.

A documentary/memoir about the lingering effects of the World War II internment of the Japanese-American community.