

Books

Fiction

Ashes of Roses by Mary Jane Auch

Sixteen-year-old Margaret Rose Nolan, newly arrived from Ireland, finds work at New York City's Triangle Shirtwaist Factory shortly before the 1911 fire in which 146 employees died.

Behind the Mountains by Edwidge Danticat

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 arrives there to be reunited with her father.

The Braid by Helen Frost

Two Scottish sisters living on the western island of Barra in the 1850s relate, in alternate voices and linked narrative poems, their experiences after their family is forcibly evicted and separated. One sister accompanies their parents and younger siblings to Cape Breton, Canada, and the other stays behind on the small island of Mingulay.

A Step from Heaven by An Na

A young Korean girl and her family find it difficult to learn English and adjust to life in America.

Habibi by Naomi Shihab Nye

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.

Non-fiction

Dying to Live: A Story of U.S. Immigration in an Age of Global Apartheid by Joseph Nevins

Dying to Live chronicles the journey of a man who dies in the Imperial Valley trying to meet up with his family in Los Angeles. This book puts a human face on a growing crisis in which both political parties seem to be supporting strict regulations over the U.S.-Mexico border.

“They Take Our Jobs!” and 20 Other Myths About Immigration by Aviva Chomsky

Chomsky breaks down the myths surrounding immigration including those revolving around the economy, the law, race and current policies. Included is a case study from the Philippines and an immigration timeline.

Brother, I'm Dying by Edwidge Danticat

The story of Danticat's “second father” Joseph and his travel to the United States to seek refuge from problems in Haiti, where he is eventually imprisoned by the Department of Homeland Security and ultimately dies in custody.

Our Beckoning Borders: Illegal Immigration to America by Brent Ashabranner

Examines the problems connected with illegal immigration in the United States, from the perspectives of the immigrants themselves as well as from law enforcement officials.

Every Day Lasts a Year: A Jewish Family's Correspondence from Poland edited by Christopher R. Browning
Letters and postcards from a Jewish family living in Poland during the Holocaust to Joseph Hollander, who had emigrated to the United States.